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*Horace Walpole, Earl of Orford!*

ROYAL ILLUSTRATED

HISTORY OF EASTERN ENGLAND,

CIVIL, MILITARY, POLITICAL, AND ECCLESIASTICAL,

FROM THE EARLIEST PERIOD TO THE PRESENT TIME,

INCLUDING

A SURVEY OF THE EASTERN COUNTIES:

PHYSICAL FEATURES, GEOLOGY, AND NATURAL HISTORY OF

CAMBRIDGESHIRE, ESSEX, NORFOLK, AND SUFFOLK,

DESCRIPTIONS OF ANTIQUITIES,

CASTLES, CAMPS, FORTS, CHURCHES, ABBEYS, MONASTERIES,

MARKET TOWNS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,

AND THE SEATS OF THE NOBILITY AND GENTRY;

AN ACCOUNT OF

AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, TRADES, &c.,

MEMOIRS OF

COUNTY FAMILIES AND EMINENT MEN

OF EVERY PERIOD.

v. 1

BY A. D. BAYNE

Author of "A History of Norwich."

JAMES MACDONALD & Co.,

MARKET-PLACE, GREAT YARMOUTH.

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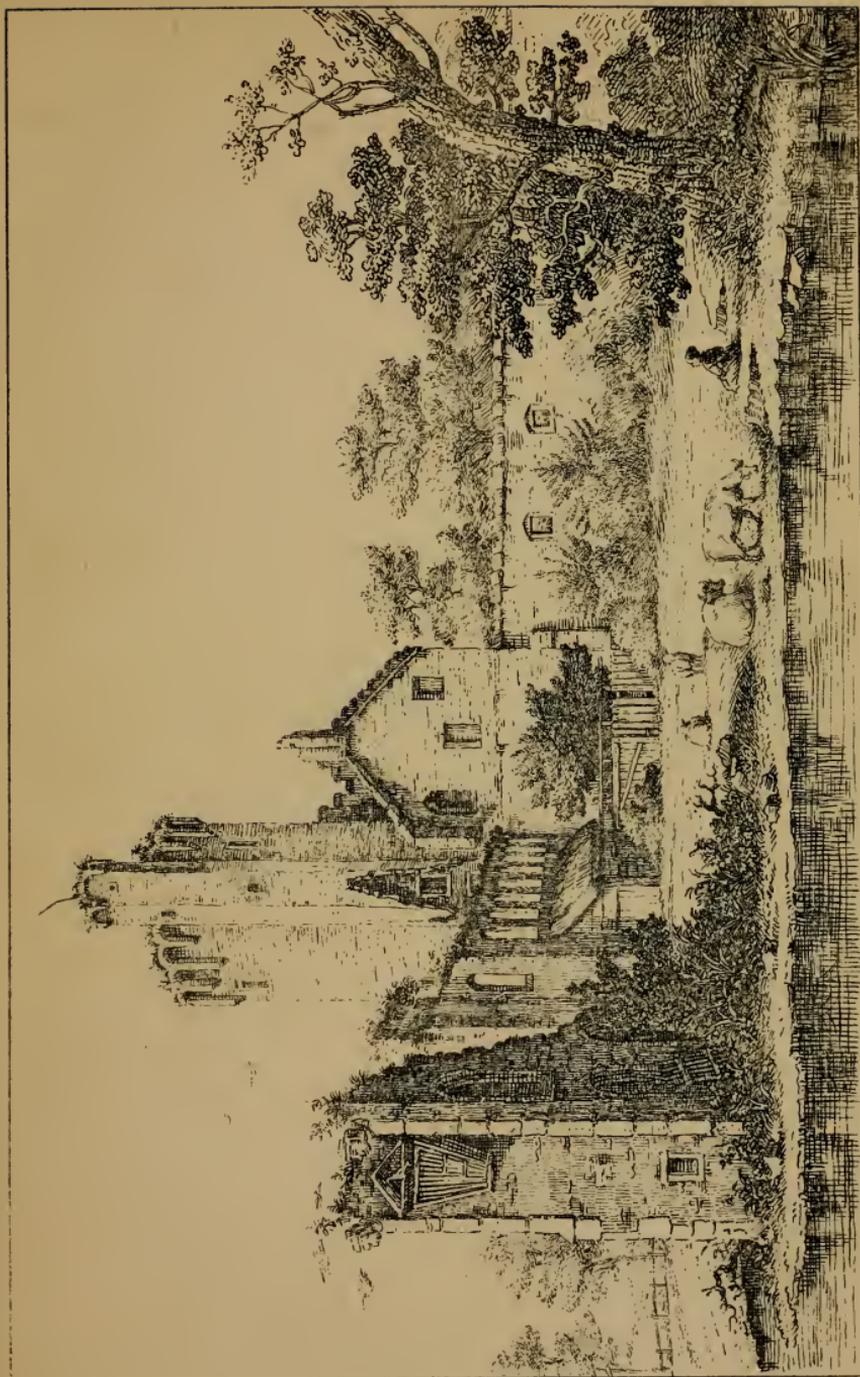
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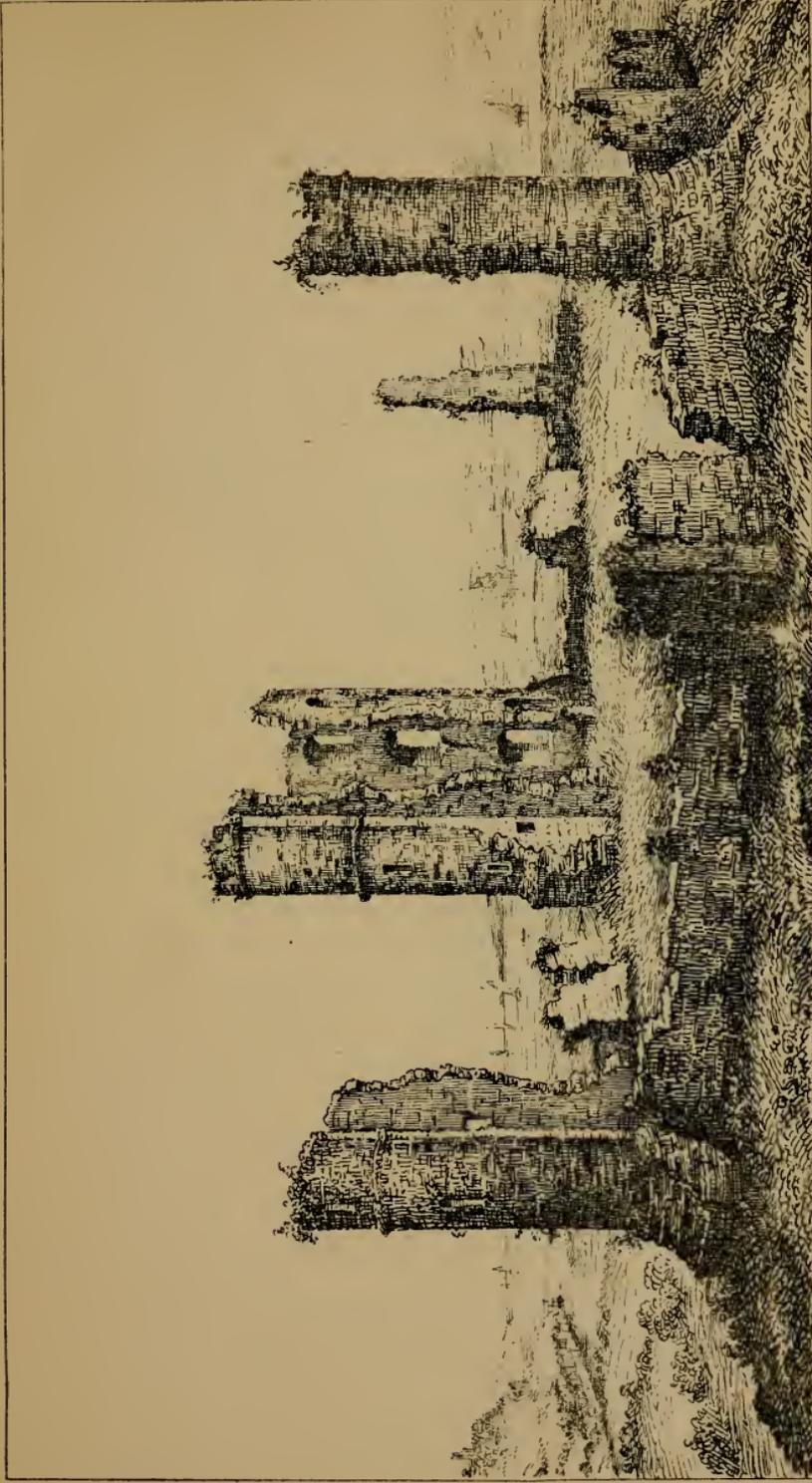


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CAISTER CASTLE.  
View from S.E.

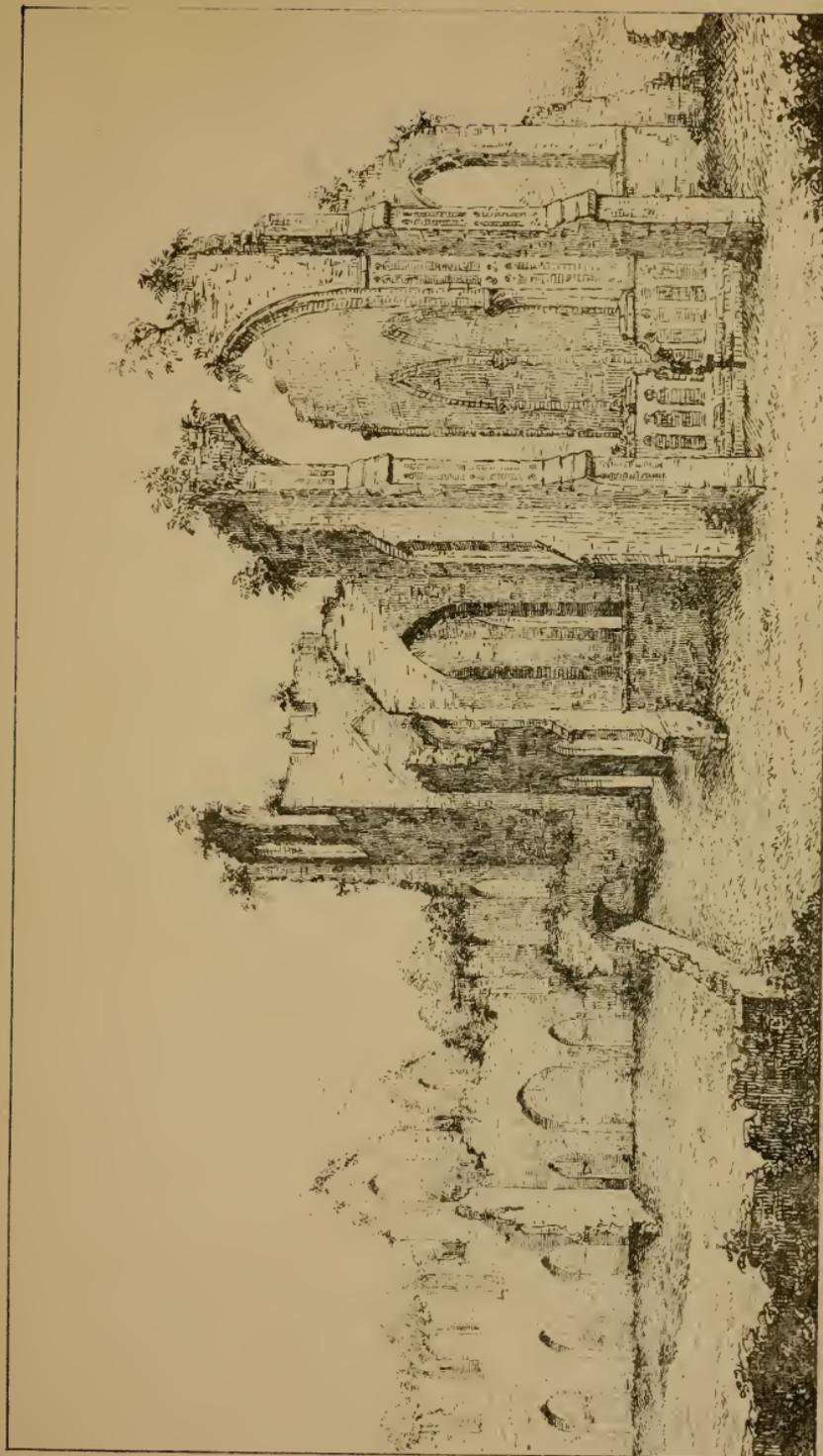




HADLEIGH CASTLE, ESSEX.

NORTH VIEW.

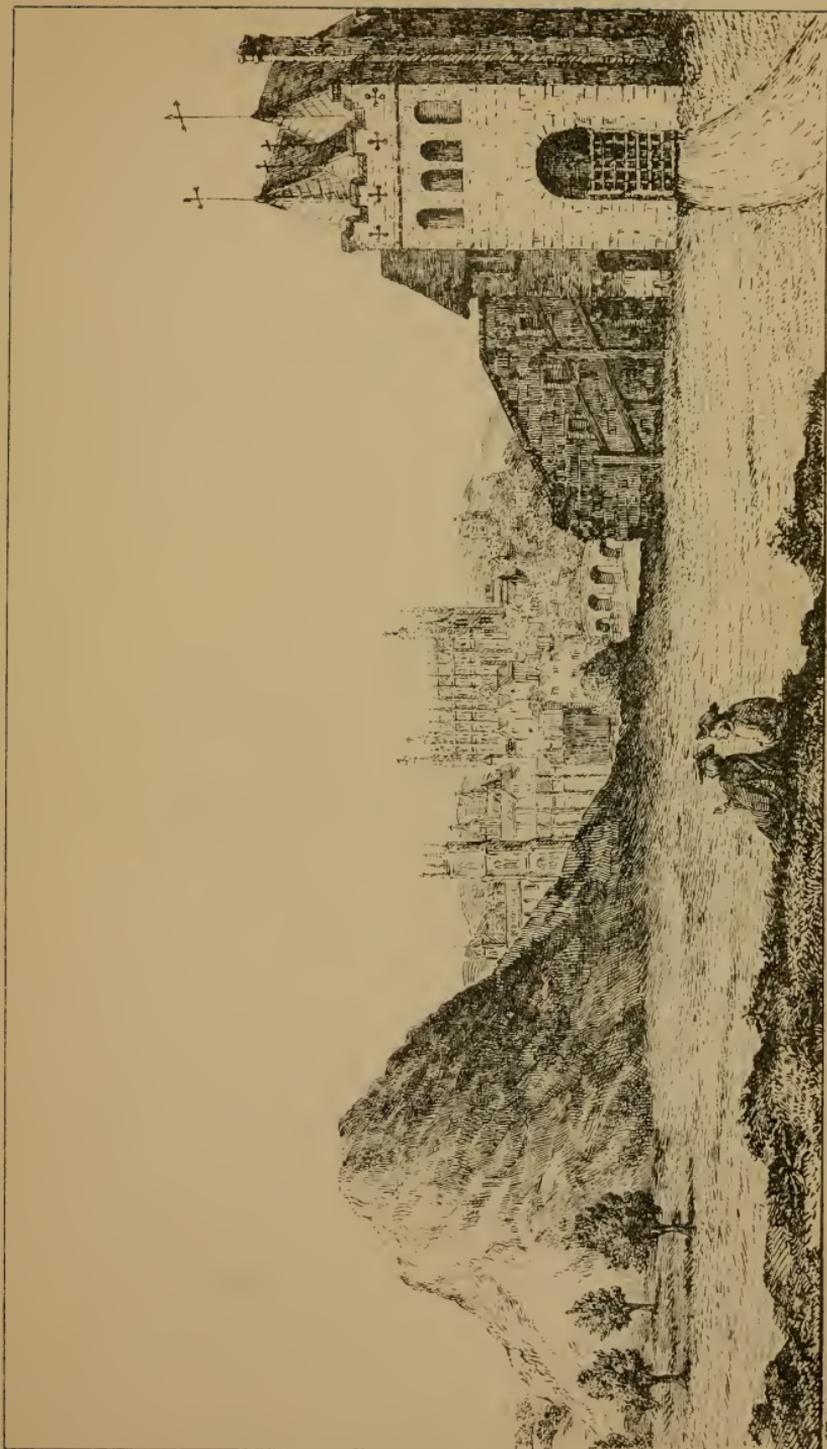




C. W. W. LITTON

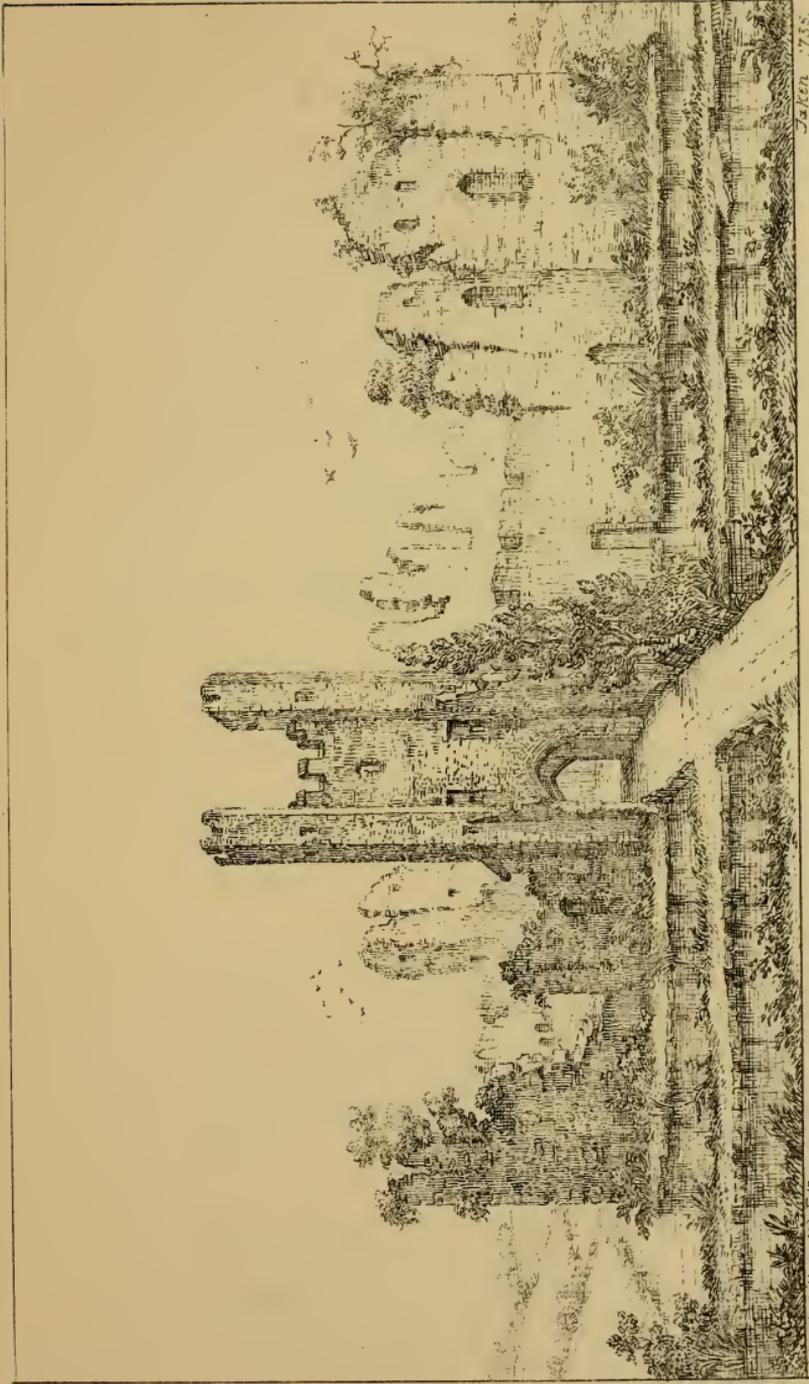
LEISTON ABBEY  
ENGRAVED BY W. LITTON





CAMBRIDGE CASTLE.



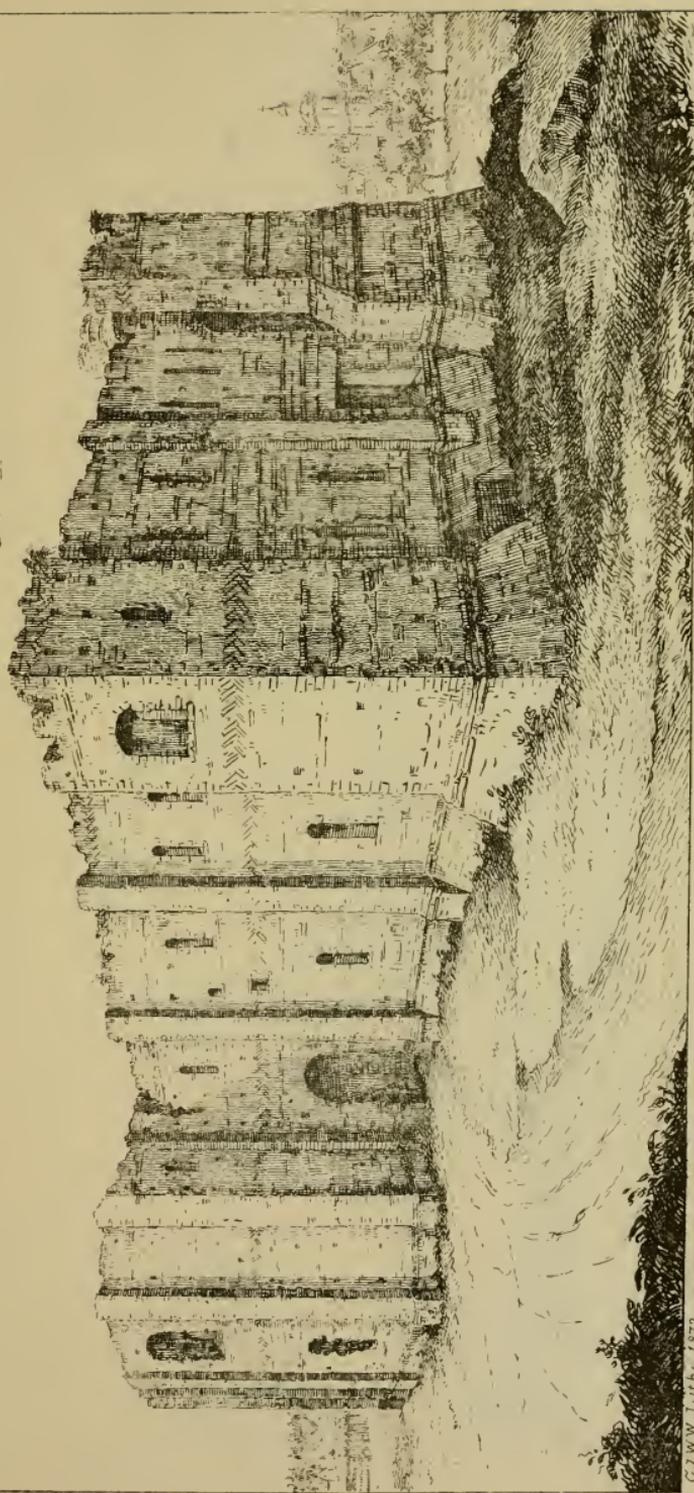


Taken 1735.

METTINGHAM CASTLE & COLLEGE.  
North View.

C. J. W. Litho. 2nd Edn.



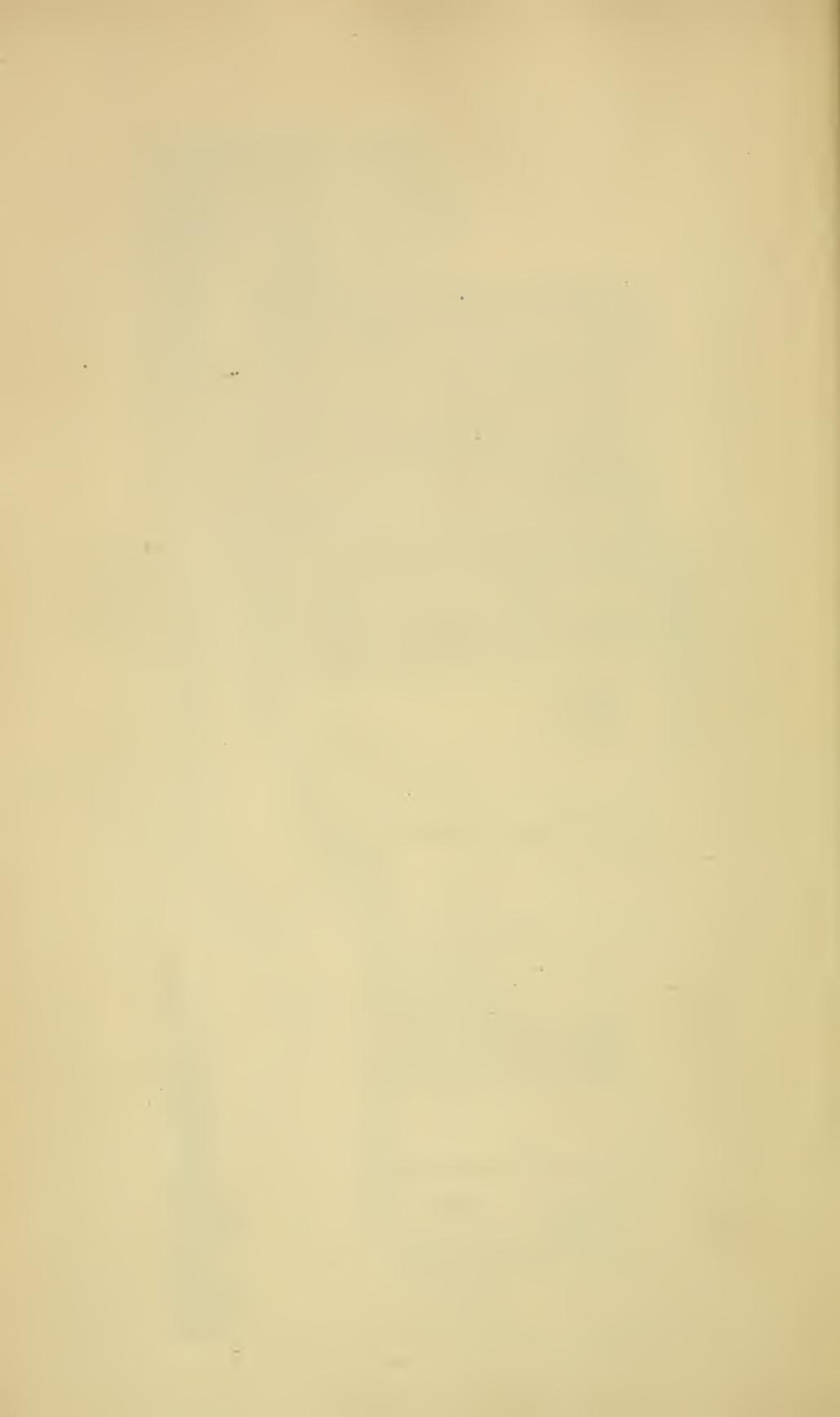


C. W. W. Litch / 1872

COLCHESTER CASTLE.  
N.E. View

Taken 1735

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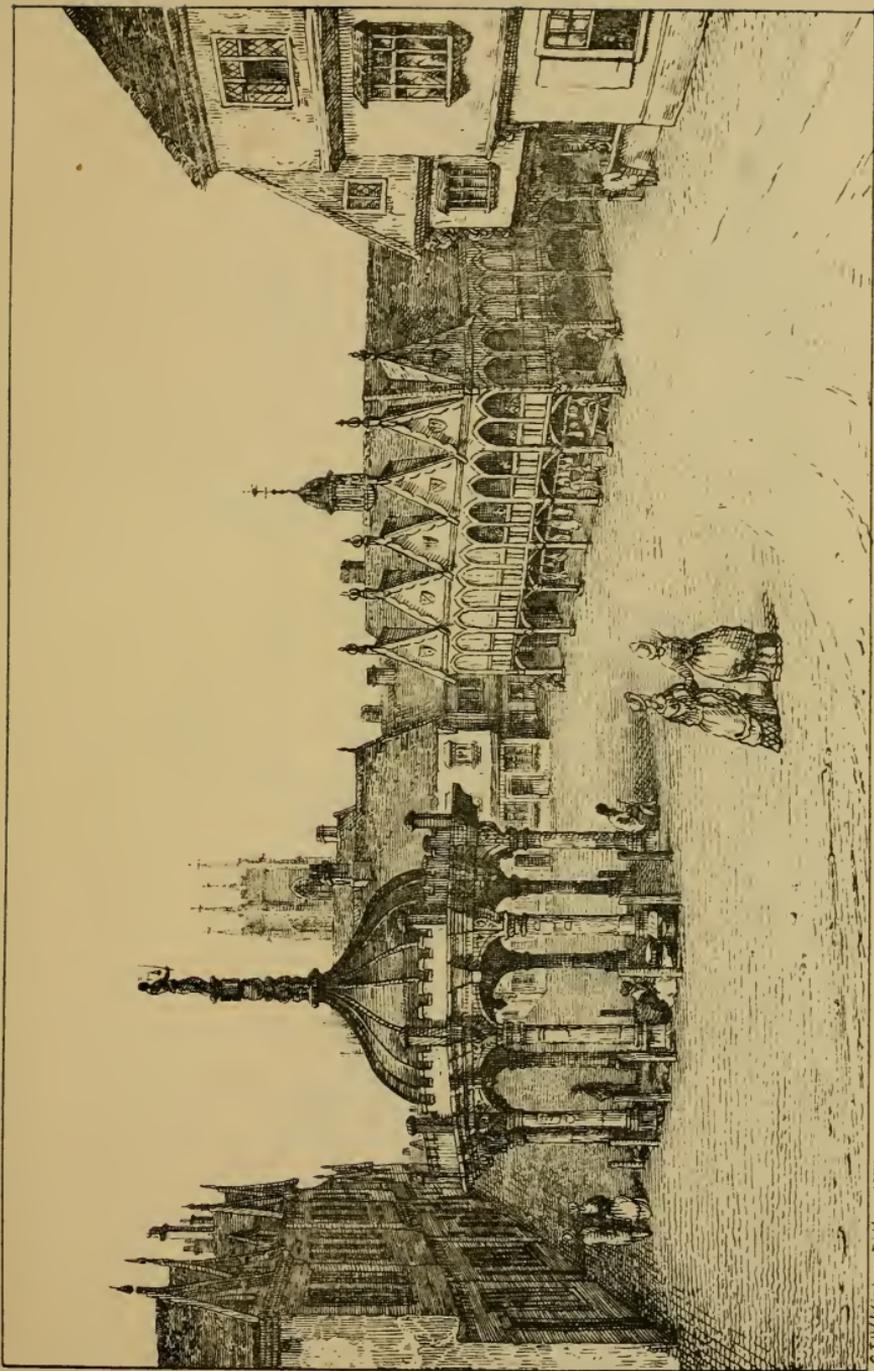




CASTLE ACRE CASTLE, 1735.

W. P. W. 1735



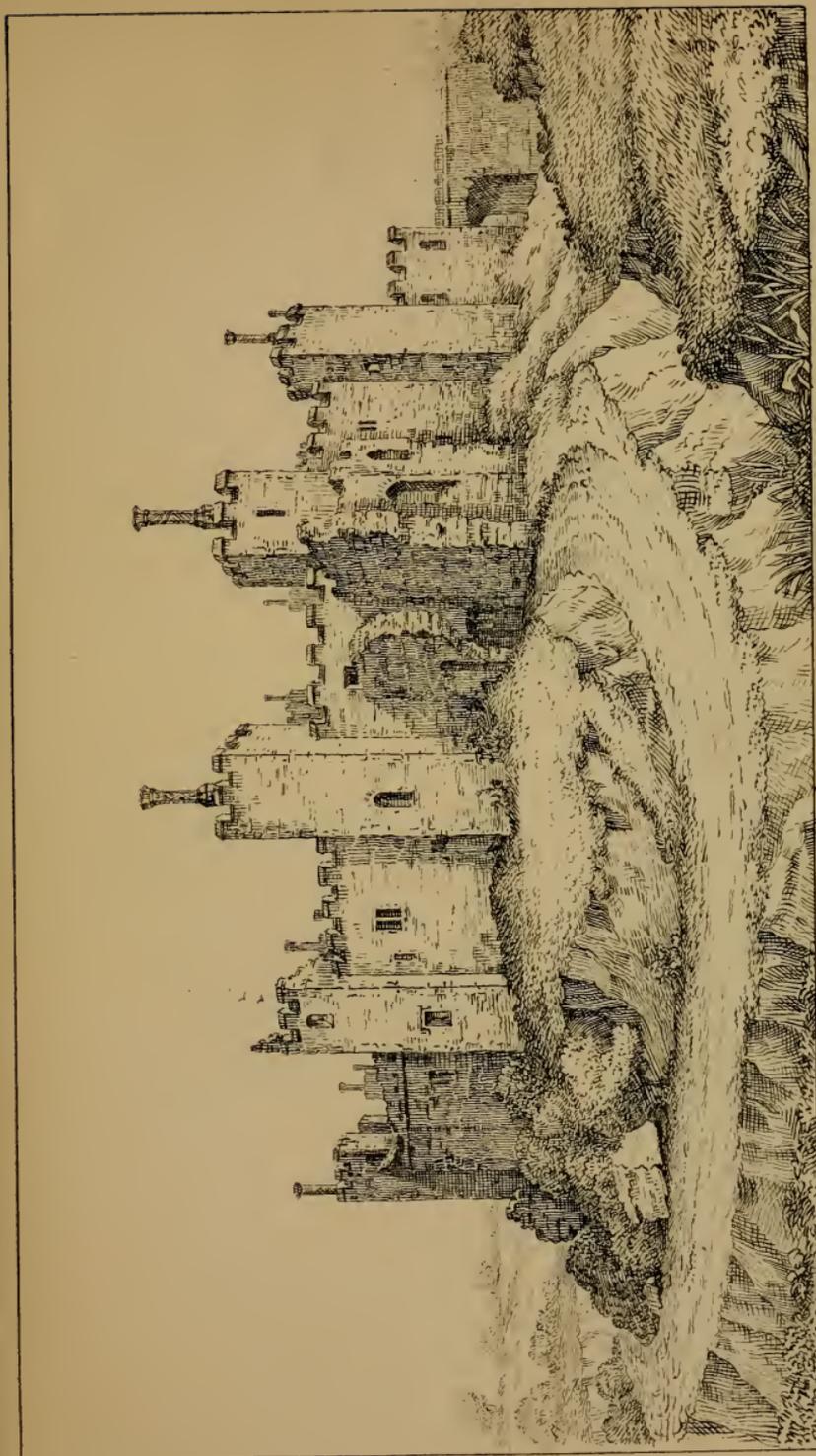


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CROSS, & SHAMBLES, IPSWICH,

1773.

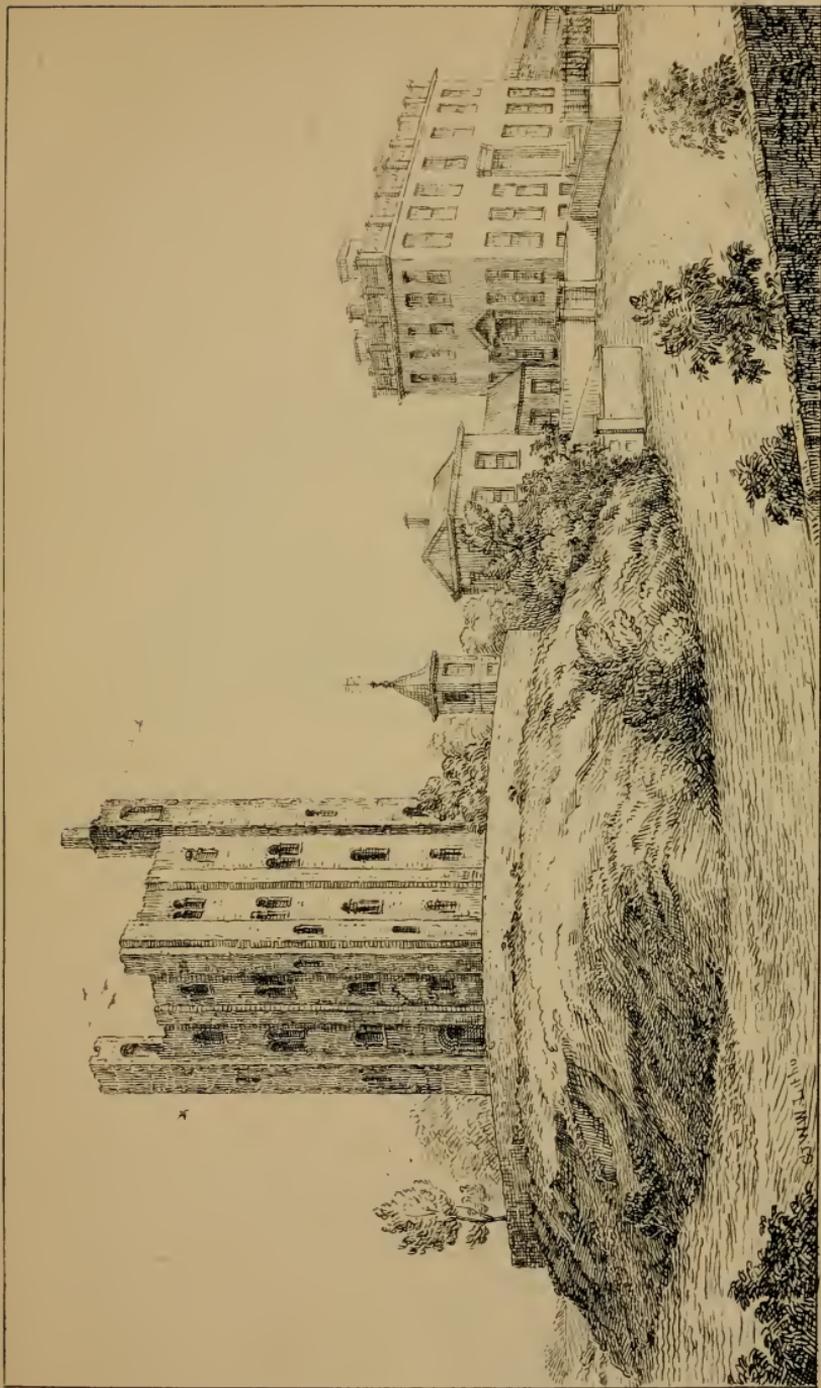




FRAMLINGHAM CASTLE. W. View.  
1750.

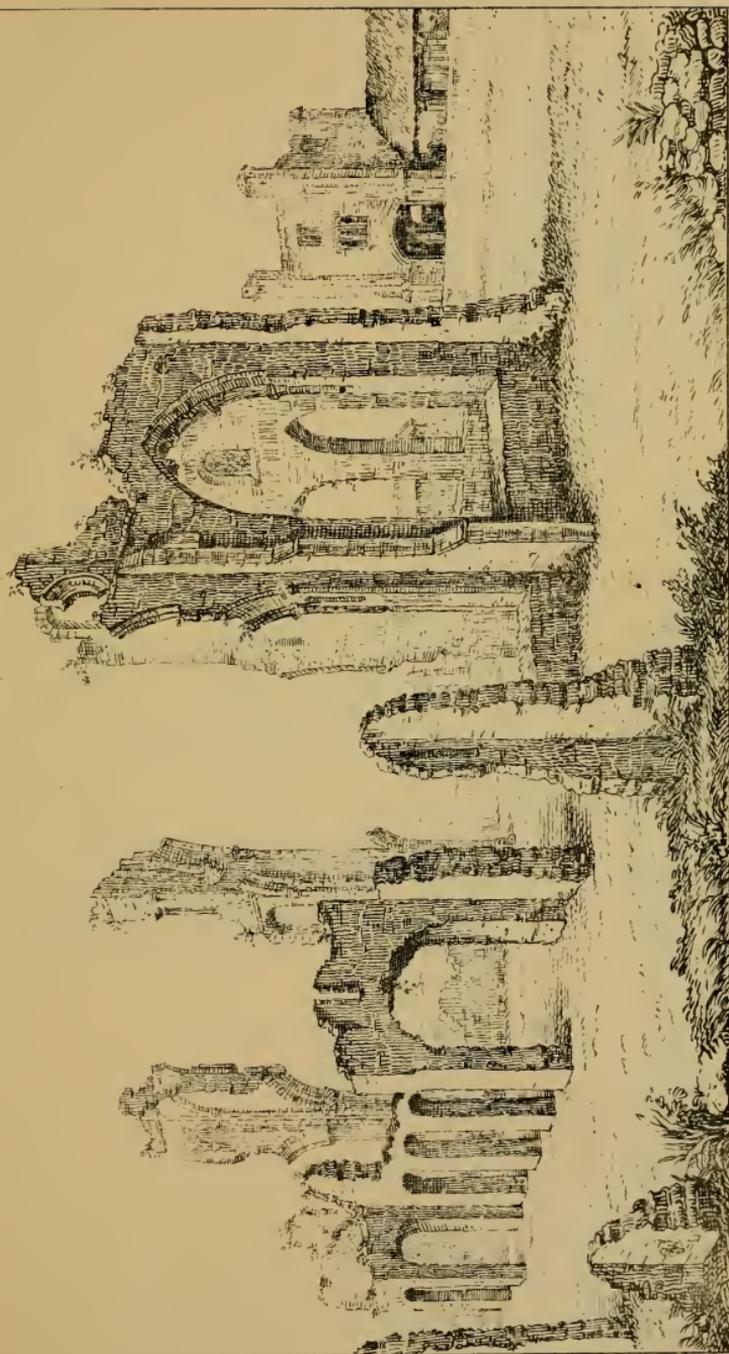
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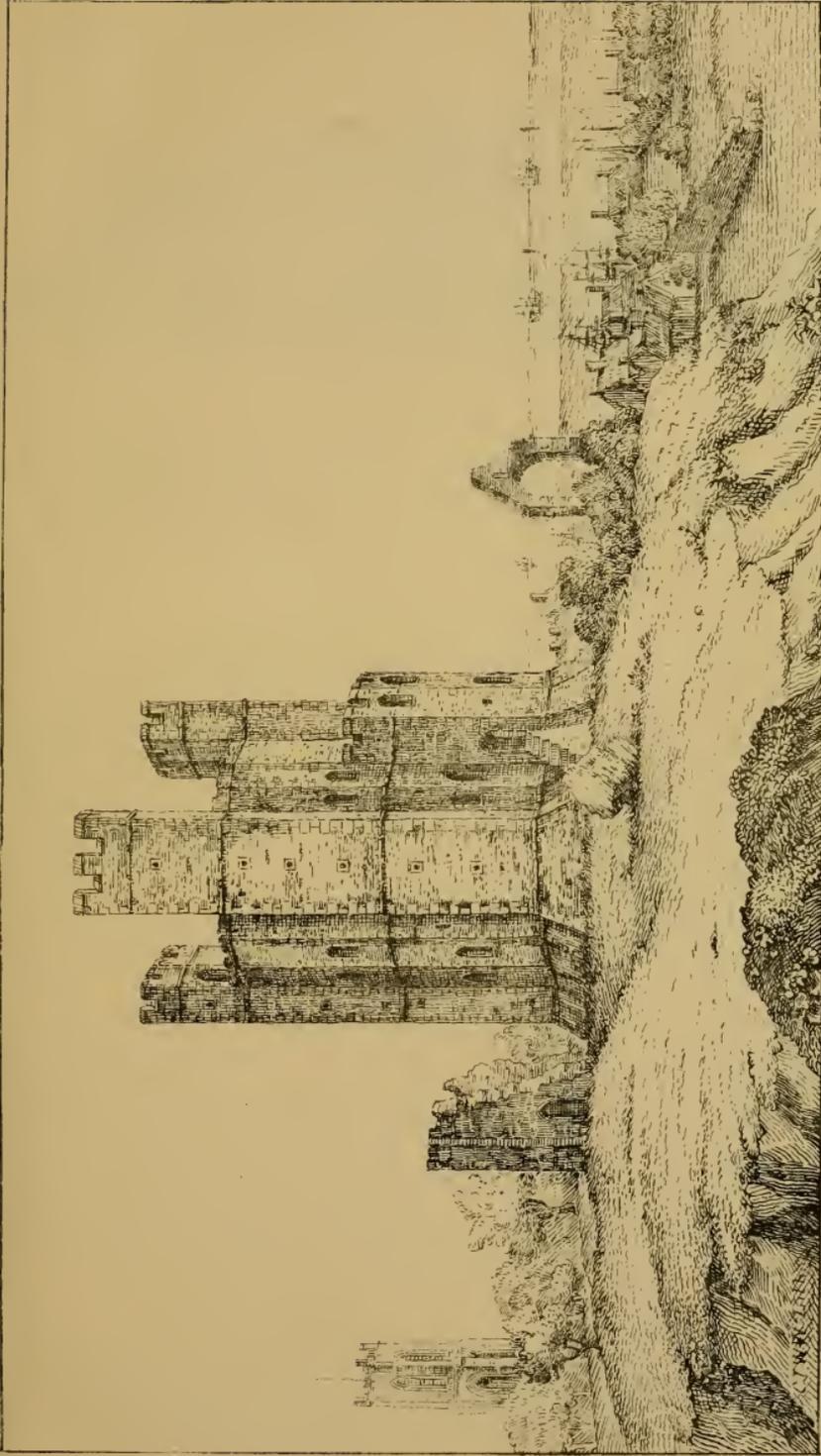
HEDINGHAM CASTLE.  
S.W. View. 1736





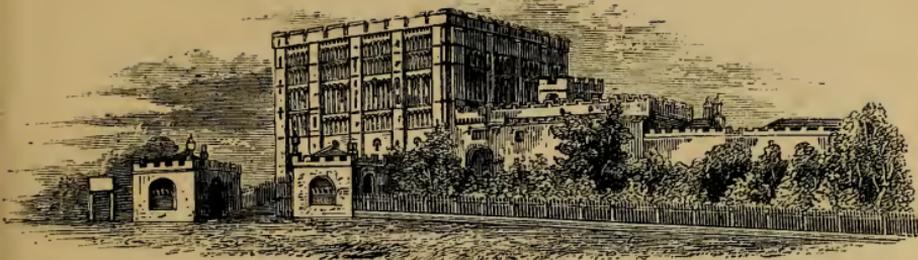
THE TTFORD PRIORY.  
S.E. View, 1738.





ORFORD CASTLE.  
*W View, 1737.*





# A HISTORY OF EASTERN ENGLAND.

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## INTRODUCTION.

MANY histories have been published of different counties and towns in the eastern part of this island, but no connected narrative of events has yet appeared, presenting a view of the state of provincial society in every age. Nearly all the local books are merely topographical, descriptive of counties, or towns, or villages, or antiquities. But the races of men were similar at different periods all over the district, and similar events occurred at different places, in Cambridgeshire, Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk.

It is generally admitted that the physical features of a country influence in a great degree the physical, mental, and moral character of its inhabitants, and thus to some extent determine their history. A district without mountains, mines, or broad rivers, is adapted by nature to be chiefly agricultural, and yet, being surrounded by the sea, must be to some extent suited for the purposes of commerce. Therefore, if it holds good at all that there is a relation between the physical character of a country and its people, some account should be given of its physical features.

The first part of this work contains a general survey of Eastern England considered as one district or tract of land, with a description of its physical features, its extent, situation, soils, and climate, its geology, botany, and natural history. This is followed by a brief description of

each county, the political and ecclesiastical divisions, the government, the market towns, the population, the roads, railways, &c. Thus the whole district is presented to the reader as the scene of a varied history of events.

Dr. Arnold has very ingeniously developed the parallel between the life of individual man and that of society in general, and it applies to British society. As man has his birth, infancy, childhood, youth, manhood, so has society. The ancient British period was the infancy of the British nation, the Roman period that of its childhood, the Anglo-Saxon period that of its youth, when the various elements of national life began to be developed; the Norman period was that of the early manhood of the nation, when order arose out of chaos, when the jarring elements of society were blended together into one people. To show this growth of national life in Eastern England is the object of the following pages.

The British element is shown to be the first basis of English society. This element is found in the physical organization of the natives of the Eastern Counties, and in their language. The natives were not all exterminated, for many of them remained on the soil and mingled with the Roman invaders, who, if they killed the fighting men, kept the women as slaves.

The Roman element was the second basis of English society, and it is found in our language, literature, laws, and municipal institutions. The Romans introduced roads, with many improvements in the useful arts, especially in the southern and eastern counties.

Then came the third, barbarian, Gothic or Teutonic, element; the strong nature, the fresh manhood, which used these roads and adopted these institutions, introducing also a new language, new laws, and institutions, embracing also the Christian religion.

The Normans, a superior race, introduced a fourth new element, more especially the feudal system, which established law and order, consolidating English society.

The materials for an enquiry respecting the colonization of East Anglia are chiefly the names of places, which if properly handled might lead to some important results, and rectify many mistakes in history. The evidence of the names of places might be supplemented by such scanty historical records as we now possess, for unfortunately many of the original

records have been lost, so that we cannot even trace the succession of East Anglian kings. We discover what was the earliest mention of the division of East Anglia into Northfolk and Southfolk. We find that they had the same designations in their own native country whence they came.

The Eastern Counties have taken part in many historical events since the Norman Conquest, chiefly in the long resistance to Norman tyranny. East Anglia has been the theatre of many important movements deeply affecting the welfare of the country. The meeting of the Barons at the shrine of St. Edmund preparatory to Magna Charta; the great riots in the reign of Richard II. under Jack Straw, in connection with the insurrection of Wat Tyler; the insurrection in the reign of Edward VI., under Robert Kett, in Norfolk, will show that the men of East Anglia have not been deficient in spirit to resist any semblance of oppression.

The Eastern Counties were all combined or associated in the great rebellion against the tyranny of Charles I., and kept the Civil War outside their borders. Oliver Cromwell was the chief leader in this eastern district for some years before he was called to act elsewhere on behalf of the Parliament. He visited most of the eastern towns, and conducted or directed military operations.

The plan of this history requires some explanation in order that the reader may better understand its design, which is to present a complete narrative of events that took place in the Eastern Counties in every period. The course of events appears to have been from the south to the north, in Essex, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, and Norfolk, and therefore each county is made the scene in succession. The order of time is followed as far as necessary to preserve the continuity of the narrative, but the leading events are separated from minor details which may have happened in the same year. The state of society is considered at the end of every period, and also the state of religion.

The history of the Eastern Counties is divided into twelve periods :

1. The Ancient British Period before the invasion of the Romans, when this island was all a wilderness. An account is given of the origin and various tribes of the aborigines, especially of the Icenii; of their modes of life and warfare; of their government, religion, manners, customs, habitations, costumes, weapons, burial places, antiquities, &c. It is proved that the Icenii were a very warlike people and not savages; that they had many useful arts, agriculture, and manufactures; that the

Iceni were not exterminated nor driven away from the land, but mingled with their invaders.

2. The Roman Period for 400 years, including the invasions of Cæsar, Claudius, Agricola, and other Roman Emperors, the subjugation of the natives, the introduction of useful arts, the formation of roads, the building of forts, camps, and towns in the Eastern Counties. The course of events is shown to be from the south to the north, from Kent to Essex, thence to Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Norwich, and Norfolk. An account is given of Roman antiquities, of the remains of Roman roads, forts, camps, towns, &c. It is shown that the Romans first made roads and built towns, which were the earliest seats of civilization. Municipal institutions were first established in the towns.

3. The Anglo-Saxon Period for 600 years, including the invasions of the North European tribes, first in the south, next in the east of England, the formation of eight Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, then the establishment of the monarchy all over England. A full account is given of the early settlements of the Angles, Saxons, and Danes in East Anglia. The Danes are proved to be the parent stock of the people. A sketch is added of Anglo-Saxon antiquities, of the hints derived from the names of places, &c. The state of society in the Anglo-Saxon period is described, with ample details as to the establishment of the Church of Rome in East Anglia.

4. Norman Period, including the Norman Conquest of England, the leading events in the reigns of William I. and William II., the grants of land to Norman nobles in the Eastern Counties, the rebellion at Norwich Castle, the siege of the castle, the state of agriculture, the state of society and religion, county families in Eastern England, Norman antiquities, castles, abbeys, priories, churches, monasteries, bishops, and eminent men.

5. The Twelfth Century, including the leading events in the reigns of Henry I., Stephen, Henry II., Richard I.; historic scenes in Suffolk, state of agriculture, state of society and religion in that century, county families, and eminent men.

6. The Thirteenth Century, including the leading events in the reigns of John, Henry III., Edward I.; eminent men, state of agriculture, state of society and religion in that century, county families in Eastern England.

7. The Fourteenth Century, including the leading events in the reigns of Edward II., Edward III., Richard II.; industrial progress, state of agriculture, state of society and religion, county families, and eminent men of the period.

8. The Fifteenth Century, including the leading events of the reigns of Henry IV., V., and VI., of the House of Lancaster; also of Edward IV., Edward V., and Richard III., of the House of York; state of agriculture, society, and religion, commencement of the Reformation, county families, and eminent men. It is shown that the Reformation commenced in England in the fourteenth century, and extended to Eastern England in the fifteenth century.

9. The Sixteenth Century, including the progress of the Reformation, the leading events of the reigns of Henry VII., Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth, all of the House of Tudor; state of agriculture, society, and religion, county families, and eminent men of the period.

10. The Seventeenth Century, with the leading events in the reigns of James I., Charles I., Charles II., James II., all of the House of Stuart; the Commonwealth, the Revolution, state of agriculture, society, religion, county families, and eminent men of the period. The progress of society is traced in the government, laws, legislation, literature; religion, industry, and trade of the period.

11. The Eighteenth Century, including the leading events in the reigns of George I., George II., George III., all of the House of Hanover; the lives of eminent statesmen, Sir Robert Walpole, Lord Townshend, and others; state of agriculture, society, and religion, county families, and eminent men of the period.

12. The Nineteenth Century, with the leading events in the reigns of George III., George IV., William IV., and Queen Victoria; sketches of the progress of agriculture, of society, of religion, literature, science, and art in Eastern England.

If the history of a nation can be fitly exhibited in the lives of its eminent men, if the charms peculiar to biography can be transferred to national annals, and if the unity of purpose so necessary to history can be imparted to biography, the same may be done in a provincial history of the Eastern Counties. Therefore, memoirs are introduced of eminent men and county families in this work. All the memoirs given are grouped

together in different periods after the Norman Conquest, forming as many distinct epochs in the narrative down to the accession of Queen Victoria. All the eminent men and county families are noticed in the periods when they flourished, and thus greater interest is conferred on the narrative of leading events.

These memoirs show not only the characteristics of each epoch, but the details of the lives of men who guided the course of events, and were instrumental in producing changes in the state of society. These memoirs are drawn from many sources, and constitute what properly belongs to the history of each county. There are few eminent men or distinguished ancient county families to be noticed in Essex or Cambridgeshire, compared with the number of those in Norfolk and Suffolk, and therefore those in the last-named counties are the most prominent in this work.

Norfolk can boast of the most distinguished historical characters and ancient families in Eastern England. The Dukes of Norfolk are all historical, and some of them are identified with the general history of the country for many ages. They had large possessions in both Norfolk and Suffolk, and lived in palaces at Norwich and Kenninghall till a late period. The Jerninghams, Le Stranges, Pastons, Walpoles, Townshends, Windhams, Cokes, Mortimers, and many others, were historical characters of rank and station, and filled conspicuous positions in public life at various times.



## NATURAL HISTORY OF EASTERN ENGLAND.

When we travel over any district of any extent in this island, we first observe its physical features, and the more prominent objects, the mountains, hills, valleys, rivers, and lakes; but there are few of these remarkable in Eastern England, which is a vast projection of undulating land, spreading out from London to the North Sea. The whole area, including the Counties of Essex, Cambridge, Suffolk, and Norfolk, is the largest level tract of land in Britain, and it is all cultivated like one vast garden, diversified by woods and plantations, rivers, streams, hills, and dales.

There is a natural history of every country and every district which should be first investigated. The physical influences which have affected any people must not be overlooked. What nature has done for the inhabitants of any country should be an enquiry preceding every other. If there be any purely natural causes, arising from geographical position, climate, soil, productions, or other circumstances, they must form the basis of any history. We may find that in these natural causes and influences, the history of any people has been pre-determined in a particular direction.

First, then, we find that Eastern England possesses all the advantages of this island, as to its position, its insularity, and its climate. The district is in the temperate zone, and has all the benefit of the Gulf stream, a broad warm river in the ocean, flowing from the Gulf of Mexico, round Great Britain. Thus we have here a warmer temperature than we should be otherwise entitled to in our northern latitude, for the gulf stream flowing round our island keeps back the icebergs, which would otherwise come down upon us and dash against our coasts.

## THE GEOLOGY OF EASTERN ENGLAND.

Geologists, after exploring a great part of the earth, arrived at the conclusion that it has existed in five or six different states or conditions, in as many periods of vast duration, long before the present state of our planet. These periods were divided into primary, secondary, and tertiary, the last, though very remote, being as it were only the yesterday of geology. The special interest of the study of the geology of the eastern district is that of the tertiary strata. At one time it was thought that the geological divisions termed Primary, Secondary, Tertiary, &c., represented separate periods of time, and at the close of each period great changes of the earth and of its flora and fauna were followed by a new world called suddenly into existence by the Almighty Creator. But geologists were then

groping in the dark, and now believe that the natural history of our island is a continuous and unbroken one, and shows a very gradual progress of nature, the gaps which exist merely arising from the destruction of physical records in this small part of the earth. The earliest geological formation, near enough to the surface in Norfolk, for us to know anything about, is the chalk, the uppermost member of the Cretaceous series in England. Beginning with the Cretaceous series, we have the Eocene, the Miocene, and the Pliocene, or the less recent and the more recent formations. In the Eocene formation we have the London Clay and the Plastic Clay. In the Pliocene we have the Coralline Crag in Suffolk, the Red Crag, the Norwich Crag at Bramerton, the Forest Bed along the coast from Southwold in Suffolk to Cromer in Norfolk. The chalk extends under the bed of the German Ocean, and forms the under strata of a great part of Europe; and wherever it is found it proves that the land composed of it was for myriads of ages under the sea, because chalk is the deposit of marine animalculæ in the lowest form of animal life. There is evidence that at one time, before man appeared on the earth, the Straits of Dover did not exist, the greater part if not all the bed of the North Sea was dry land, that into one vast estuary between Norway and North Britain flowed all the rivers of North-eastern Europe, the Elbe, the Weser, the Rhine, the Scheldt, the Seine, the Thames, Ouse, Welland, Nene, Cam, and Humber. The first proof of this is from what may be seen in the rivers of the Eastern Counties. The Rivers Yare, Ouse, and Cam contain bream, roach, and other white fish, and the pike which feeds on them. Now this class of white fish is peculiar to one class of rivers. Their principal home is in the rivers of North-eastern Europe. They must have come into this island by fresh-water streams when the bed of the North Sea was dry land, and were the original progenitors of the fish in our rivers in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire. After these white fish got into our rivers, the land of this island appears to have been raised on the eastern side, and the whole of the present bed of the North Sea was overflowed from the Atlantic Ocean, which spread over the vast plain for 100 miles in breadth from south to north, and flowed in broad arms up the valleys of Norfolk and Suffolk. Then whole forests were submerged on the Norfolk coast, as proved by the Forest Bed near Cromer.

East Anglia, including Norfolk and Suffolk, is one compact region, geologically and ethnologically, and forms part of the slope of the North Sea basin, for the North Sea valley is a true physical depression, compared with its breadth, and the depth of the North Sea is very small. The channel running parallel with the coasts of Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk has a maximum depth of only 180 feet, so that a change to that amount of sea level would lay bare the whole of the sea bed from the coast of

Norfolk across to Holland. A depression of 120 feet would extend the great Germanic plain nearly to our area. A deep submarine trough has been traced at a mean distance of fifty miles from the coast of Norway.

Across the line of greatest depth the change is abrupt. This curious feature is just what would have been produced by the subsidence of the whole of the southern portion of the Scandinavian region, together with fifty miles of area around to a depth of 600 or 700 feet. There are good grounds for supposing that such has been the process; and the geological history of the basin seems to supply the precise date of the subsidence in question.

The whole of the eastern district lies in a vast basin of chalk, above which there is every variety of strata and soil. Above the chalk in Norfolk and Suffolk, there are extensive beds of crag, which is a name for any sandy or gravelly soil, but the early geologists soon found that it was something more; its very perfect shells were recognised as similar to those in the neighboring seas in part as foreign or unknown. Mr. Charlesworth proposed a sub-division of the crag in 1834, and it was amended in 1838 as follows: "Upper Crag of Norfolk and Suffolk, without mammalian remains; beds with mammalian remains: Red Crag, containing 150 to 200 species of marine shells; Coralline Crag, containing 300 to 400 marine shells." Thus far back Mr. Charlesworth separated the Norwich Crag from that of Suffolk. The Red Crag at Tattingstone, Rumsholt, and Sudbourne was said to overlie a worn and uneven surface of the White or Coralline Crag; and from this consideration their relative dates and ages was inferred. This nominal sub-division has been adopted from 1838 to the present time. The Bryozoan Crag overlies London Clay, and is under twenty feet thick. It is a good division, because it is an indication of a definite range of depths, where the sea bed was not within reach of surface disturbance, yet where the drifting power was considerable, and having its own proper fauna, of which the Bryozoa form a very large proportion. The examples of this condition of sea bed occur only in Suffolk, where they are now about forty feet above the sea level. Assigning to these beds depths of forty fathoms, a difference of 300 feet is the least that can be assumed as that of their original, compared with their present positions. It is the lowest condition or the deepest of which our English area offers any illustration. The Red Crag is a complex assemblage in spite of its small vertical dimensions. Of all that was so grouped, originally a very small portion only can now be referred to as such; namely, the crag at Walton-on-the-Naze. In this alone is to be found an old sea bed, a marine life zone, undisturbed since its original accumulation. The Red Crag beds of the valleys of the Stour, Orwell, and Deben, though referable to some part of the same general period, are wholly re-arranged beds,

and of the later stages of the crag sea. They are, relatively to the Walton beds, very shallow water accumulations presenting that diagonal mode of accumulation in varying directions indicative of surface disturbance and tidal movements. Above them in places, and on the land side of them, are certain accumulations of red coarse sands which have also been referred to the Red Crag. The shell gravel of Antwerp corresponds with the Red Crag of Suffolk. Additions were subsequently made, as in the case of the Chillesford Crag of Prestwick and the Bridlington Crag. With respect to the recognition of the fossil shells of the crag, and the use made of such guides, M. Deshayes, in 1831, proposed three zoological groups for the whole of the marine series of formations above the chalk. The oldest or Nummulitic contains a marine fauna wholly extinct. The middle may be termed older Kainozoic, and it was in this upper or modern group, which included the sub-Appennine and other continental sea beds, that the whole of the English Crag was included as comprising a large proportion of marine forms.

The Norwich or Fluvio-marine Crag was for many years the subject of various opinions as to its value and distinctness as a division. It had also been made to include any bed containing either mammalian or molluscan remains, or even an admixture of fresh and salt water molluscæ, in any part of Norfolk or Suffolk. General opinion seems now to have come round to the view which some geologists had long since taken. Mr. S. Wood, writing in 1865, states that "the Norwich Crag is not geologically distinct from the Red, but the Fluvio-marine condition of the same period." He considered the Fluvio-marine accumulation in some parts of Suffolk to be of the same age as that of Norwich. More recently, the Norwich sections, as at Bramerton, have been subjected to a closer examination; and according to Mr. J. E. Taylor, a diligent explorer, these admit of a twofold division. The upper is a coarse and rubbly accumulation, with well-rounded pebbles of flint; the lower consists of finer sands. A band of white cross bedded sand intervenes. Such a change in the character of successive beds would not by itself have been of much importance, but zoologically the differences they present are much more significant.

In 1849, Mr. Prestwick made known some marine beds in the parishes of Iken and Chillesford. At Iken, these beds are superposed upon a worn surface of the older or Bryozoan Crag. There is no such direct evidence as to their relation to the Red Crags, but there is no doubt that they are unconformable to both divisions. These beds are in striking contrast to the true crag in respect of their composition and the condition of the shells which they contain; they were tranquil depositions, the bivalves at every place constantly exhibiting the two shells in contact, and in the position in which the animals lived.

Mr. O. Fisher, from a careful study of the country from Orford to Thorpe, convinced himself that the Chillesford Crag was in an intermediate position between true Red Crag and the Fluvio-marine Crag at Thorpe, near Aldborough, in Suffolk. Bridlington Crag was a name given to a set of marine clay beds occurring at that place, about thirty feet thick, that overlie an accumulation of chalk flints derived from the subjacent chalk.

Mr. S. P. Woodward first directed attention to these fauna beds in his general list of the Norwich Crag accumulations.

Mr. Trimmer adopted the theory of submergence and emergence, which, guiding his observation, enabled him to arrange and harmonise all that confused mass of materials called "drift." For the whole of the period and its products, he proposed two groups of drift—a lower and an upper. He seems to have recognised certain distinctive characters in the lower drift, which are the indications of the different conditions of accumulation concerned, such as "the masses of fragmentary chalk with little or no admixture of other matter," "angular fragments slightly worn," &c. The lower drift overlaid the chalk, except near Norwich, where it had been designated the Norwich Crag, at its base. Beyond, and on to the coast, the lower drift is of sand; above, on the coast section, is a blue till with boulders, horizontally bedded, passing up into very contorted beds. These lower sands west of Cromer contain the *débris* of the underlying lignite beds. In the Nene Valley which joins the Ouse at Lynn is met with a set of marine depositions of this age. They extend some miles along its course, and occupied what had been a creek when the whole of the Bedford Level was covered by the sea. In West Norfolk, near Lynn, the geological formation is called "the lower or inferior green sand," usually 100 feet in thickness, frequently of a green colour (whence its name), but generally of the usual dingy brown and white, like any other bed of sand. Sometimes it is full of fossil shells, and remains of fishes are in the vicinity of Cambridge. The quantity of fossils is so great as to cause some portions of this deposit to be worked for artificial manures. The coprolite beds occur in the green sand, and their value is well known. The green sand lies beneath the chalk and rests upon a formation called the "Upper Oolite."

The inferior green sand commences near Lynn, and trends along the shore as far as Hunstanton on the coast. It extends inland to a distance of about four or five miles, and forms a belt bordering the Norfolk side of the Wash. On account of the softness of this deposit, we find the country which it underlies chequered by a series of hills and dales, distinguishing it from the flat tracts which indicate a chalk district. The upper beds of green sand are composed of "car stones," which are used

for house building. These car stones lie in the higher grounds, and we may see the pits dug there from which these flat stones are quarried.

The centre of Suffolk is composed of a substratum of chalk, and the crag or gravel full of fossil shells is found in the eastern part of the county. The crag rests on the London Clay, which extends to Southtown and Yarmouth. When an Artesian well was bored at Lacon's brewery some years since, the men bored through 300 feet of solid clay, which contained few shells to distinguish it. After passing through about 320 feet, they came to the Reading and Woolwich series, formerly called the Plastic Clay, and it was then determined that the clay was in Norfolk and Suffolk. This informs us what was the climature of the period, and what was the flora and the fauna in former ages. It was almost a tropical climate, with a tropical flora and fauna. The Coralline Crag rests upon the London Clay in Suffolk, and sometimes on chalk. The Red Crag rests on the Coralline Crag, and the Mammalian Crag rests upon the Red Crag, which contains very perfect shells. A considerable interval has elapsed between the Coralline Crag and the London Clay. For instance, the upper and middle portions of the London Clay of the Eocene period have been washed away or never laid down, and thus we have the Coralline Crag resting on the London Clay. The Coralline Crag consists merely of a very indurated mass of beautiful shells cemented with lime. No mammalian remains have been found as yet in the Coralline Crag. In this crag the percentage of shells is 52, but it is much less in the London Clay, so that an enormous interval must have intervened between them. As soon as coprolite nodules were found in the Coralline Crag, geologists began to sift it, and then the bones of animals of the mammalian order were found—the Hippotherium and others. By this system it was proved that they were in a matrix, differing from the Red Crag, and which has nothing to do with it. They were washed out of the London Clay or one of the Miocene formations, and were probably so destroyed. But in the crag at Bramerton the remains of the Mastodon and the Hippopotamus have been found, and of these Mr. Roper, of West Tofts, has a fine collection. The Norwich Crag, as at Bramerton, rests on the same kind of crag as that at Aldborough in Suffolk. The Norwich Crag contains a bed of shells firmly compacted together, sometimes very friable and sometimes very perfect, breaking out here and there; but sometimes we may travel many miles without seeing any shells at all.

At the bottom of the Norwich Crag there is invariably a bed of large stones, and it is in that bed that the most ancient remains of mammals have been found. The percentage of recent to extinct species is 60 in the Red Crag and 89 in the Norwich Crag. Some of the most eminent

geologists are of opinion that there is very little difference between the Red Crag and the Norwich Crag; but others, after minute examination, thought they were very different. Mr. J. E. Taylor, indeed, proved a great difference between them.

That gentleman found many specimens of the remains of mammals in the Norwich Crag, which as yet has been very imperfectly worked. Most beautiful specimens of the Mastodon have been found in the Stone Bed. A few years since, five teeth of the Mastodon and of the Elephas, like the Mastodon, were found. Remains have been discovered of the lion, the boar, the fox, and several species of the deer, in the Stone Bed.

The first Mastodon was found in Norfolk by the celebrated William Smith, the father of modern geology. He was on a visit to Norfolk, and at Whitlingham he met with a specimen of the Mastodon. He took it to London and gave it to Cuvier, who said it never could have been found at so late a period as the Norwich Crag, and that it had been found in the Miocene. There is an immense difference between the first Mastodon and the last Elephant, and yet it is impossible to define where one begins and the other ends. They are a proof of the wisdom of the Creator, who gave such a plasticity of nature to those animals that they were able to adapt themselves to changes of climate and changes of food, and it is in a marvellous manner that the Mastodon gradually grew into the Elephant. The Rev. J. Gunn found many bones of the Elephant in the Forest Bed, and he made a collection from it which now occupies a room in Norwich Museum.

Remains of the Mammoth and of other extinct animals have been found along the Suffolk coast, especially in Lothingland. Indeed, this part of Suffolk has afforded several specimens of the Mammoth or fossil elephant, which geologists believed to be formerly a native of this island before it was separated from the continent. The upper part of the femur of one of these animals was taken up before 1826 on a manor belonging to the late Sir Thomas Gooch, Bart., of Benacre, in Suffolk.

The remains of the Mammoth have been found in all the diluvian beds of this island, as well as the rest of Europe, generally in a decayed state, owing to the percolation of water through these beds, which usually consist of gravel and sand. The fragments are never rolled or worn by the action of water, which proves that they were not brought to us from the tropics by the current of some great cataclysm, but that the animal lived to a good old age, and perished on the spot where his remains were discovered.

The Forest bed near Cromer is one of the most interesting points in Norfolk geology. It is the proof of a terrestrial surface before the period

of the accumulations of the "glacial drift." This old land surface near Cromer is exposed at the sea level, but it extends inland, and has been met with at considerable depths in the offing. The arboreal vegetation buried in these beds comprises the Norway spruce, Scotch fir, yew, oak, alder, all of them common trees in Europe. The Cromer coast section demonstrates that by process of change of level of the land and sea, a forestal condition of the surface had been brought down to the sea margin, that the trees had died, and that mud deposits had formed partly under fresh, partly under brackish water lagoons. Subjacent to the "Forest bed," and covering the surface of the chalk, there is a layer of chalk flints; a like accumulation is seen resting in the chalk in numerous other places, as in the sections at Bramerton below Norwich, Holy Cross, Thorpe, &c., and are all referable to the same period and agency. The flints have been dissolved out of the chalk by the action of rain water, and left *in situ*. These beds appear to indicate the introduction of the great glacial period when so many kinds of huge animals perished, and seem to prove that a reversal of the relative levels of the northern and southern parts of the Eastern Counties was taking place, so that which was under water during the crag period became land, and what was land became covered with the sea. Evidences of the coast line of this northern sea are found in Suffolk, near Southwold, in an ancient pebbly beach. There was a gradual refrigeration of climate from the early Tertiary epoch, and with these pebbly sands there came a period of ice and snow, as in Greenland. This was the glacial period, the beds deposited during which have been divided by Mr. S. Wood into lower, middle, and upper. The lower beds developed in the coast between Happisburgh and Cromer, sometimes 200 feet thick, are represented by the brick earth at Sprowston, near Norwich, and are supposed to have been deposited in or near the mouth of some river, draining the newly-made land to the east; while to the west and south-west of Holt they are represented by an immense sheet of chalky clay, often unstratified, sometimes containing large boulders of rock from a distance of broken flints, evidently due to a sheet of ice developing what was then the land, grinding down the solid chalk, and spreading out the detritus in a similar manner to that of the ice sheet of Greenland. A little further west lie hills of solid chalk, with the upper parts broken and shattered, and the flints disturbed and contorted, showing the proofs of the force which produced the sheet of chalky mud. In Cromer cliff may be seen masses of marly clay, which were lifted from their resting places and dropped into the brick-earth deposit. What carried these boulders to their resting place in the cliffs, shattered the surface of the chalk, and spread out the great sheet of chalky clay? Only one agency at work upon the earth is competent to bring about such results, and that is ice—

ice enveloping the surface of the old chalk land, grinding over it, pushing out the chalky mud before it; and ice in the form of icebergs floating out to sea with masses of chalk and marl frozen to them, which, as they become detached, sunk down into the muddy bottom. The features of the middle glacial beds prove that the excessive cold must have received some amelioration, at least, in the sea waters. The return of comparative warmth, with doubtless its accompanying vegetation, was succeeded by a still more severe and long-continued cold, which was sufficiently prolonged to cover the whole of Europe with the ruins of the destroyed rocks, and to allow a great part of England to sink below the level of the sea.

The Upper Glacial (or Boulder Clay) extends in an almost unbroken sheet, often of great thickness, from Norwich to Dereham, southwards as far as the brow of the Thames Valley, forming the stiff clay lands of Suffolk and Essex, while in the other direction it stretches to North Wales and Scotland. The Boulder Clay in Eastern England is invariably full of fragments of chalk, proving that, like the chalky clay of the Lower Glacial period, it had its origin in the glaciation or grinding down of the chalk by ice. The fact of the sands upon which the Boulder Clays were deposited being undisturbed and perfect, proves a greater depth of sea, a sea deep enough to allow icebergs to float freely. The angular condition of the Boulders found in these clays proves that they were not deposited by water in the clays, but that they had been torn from their parent rocks by ice, and dropped by melting icebergs into the mud. At this period, the rocky backbone and mountainous parts of this island were above the sea; those portions of the land were then covered with ice and snow, and when the sea rolled over these countries its bottom was covered with boulder clay. When the period of submergence was fulfilled, the land slowly rose from the waves, the awful winter of the glacial period passed away, then came a fitful spring time, and at last the genial summer which England now enjoys.

Since the bottom of the glacial ocean began to emerge from the waves, the principal part of the valleys of Eastern England have been formed. There is a controversy as to the formation of these valleys, some geologists asserting that they were very different in former periods to the present, some believing that they were always the same. Now it is clear that when the sea bottom rose high enough to be affected by the action of the tides, those currents would exercise great power in scouring out any inequalities that previously existed in the sea bottom, and thus give rise to valleys, which formed the channels for the natural drainage of the district, and wherein the mud or silt brought down by the drainage would accumulate. During the post-glacial period, and again at a very late date, the sea appears to have filled the great valleys of Suffolk and Norfolk,

such as those of the Orwell and Yare. It is probable that all the low-lying marshes in the valleys of the Waveney, the Yare, and the Bure, were covered with sea water during the Roman occupation of Eastern England. Since that time, arms of the sea appear to have receded, leaving only the present narrow, shallow streams flowing into the sea along the eastern coast. At some places, as at Dunwich, the sea has made constant encroachments on the land. There the sea now covers a great part of the former site of the ancient city.

The east coast, from the Thames to the estuary of the Wash, has undergone many changes. Southwold was a large tidal estuary, with two arms of the sea covering the present marshes long before they were enclosed, and the deterioration of the port is attributed to the enclosure.

Lowestoft Ness has grown out subsequent to the erection of the church in the fifteenth century. There has been at this point a great extension of trade, due to the formation of the harbour and the admirable natural roadstead formed by the outlying sands, the extension of which southwards is remarkable. This parallel extension southwards of the sands, coincident with that of the littoral deposits, cannot, however, be attributed to the same cause, but a parallel one, for the main course of the great Atlantic tidal wave from north to south towards the Thames produces this effect on the sands, and the wind waves similarly affect the littoral deposit. The combined roadsteads formed by these sands are well known to mariners.

The great changes at Yarmouth are remarkable; founded on a sea sand opposite the mouth of what was an estuary when the Romans occupied these islands, with stations at Caister north and Burgh south. The sands, five miles in length and 1000 acres in area, have been subject to great vicissitudes. The harbour at one period had two entrances, sometimes entirely blocked up, with different entrances at various periods. The motion of the sands is progressively in a south direction, and at one time, before the formation of Lowestoft Ness, the outfall was as low down the coast as Corton, or four miles south of the existing outfall. This was at last confined by the present works, first commenced in the reign of Elizabeth, and the harbour is now one of the most important on the coast, with ten feet depth at low water.

For sixteen miles north-west of Yarmouth the peculiarity of the coast is a continuous belt of "Marrams," or sand hills, forming a fluctuating defence to the various valleys and marsh land, situated between the outcrops of the tertiary downs. At Caister these sand hills have been very much wasted by the sea, the hillocks represented entire in the ordnance survey being now cut in half. There have been abrasions of the "Marrams" at Winterton Ness, at Waxham, and at Eccles. At Happis-

burgh the tertiary cliffs have been wasted at the rate of two-and-a-quarter yards in depth yearly during the last sixty years.

At Trimmingham, more northward, the cliff, 200 feet high, forms a continuous avalanche of sand. At Sidestrand the undercliffs and chasms increase, and past Overstrand the same enormous slips are met with. Cromer has suffered much, standing on the north-east salient angle of Norfolk. The portion of town now remaining is dependent on sea walls, forming a projecting point, as the cliffs rapidly wasted east and west of it. At East Runton and Beeston, where the chalk crops out in more defined masses, the diminution amounts to two-and-a-half yards per annum over the last quarter of a century. At Sherringham commences a line of beaches travelling westwards towards the Wash, forming the beaches at Weybourn, Salthouse, Cley, and Blakeney, which beaches are the outworks to natural harbours at those places. Between Blakeney and Wells, an thence westward to Brancaster, a range of "Marrams" forms an outer barrier at high water parallel to the high land, enclosing tidal estuaries of considerable area, the low water channels from which have formed harbours from the earliest historic periods.

Sherringham Cliff is a very high steep shore. It looks on one side full on the sea, and on the other over a varied country, presenting undulating ground, many hills scattered widely about, and numerous highly cultivated inclosures.

The Rev. John Gunn, M.A., F.G.S., contributed the following interesting paper on the Relative Position of the Forest-Bed and the Chillesford Clay in Norfolk and Suffolk, and on the Real Position of the Forest-Bed :—

At a meeting of the Geological Society, held May 20th, 1868, I stated, in opposition to the view entertained by Mr. Prestwich of the Forest-bed being placed above the Chillesford Clay, that I had seen it at Easton Bavent, in Suffolk, upon the beach, at a lower level than the Chillesford Clay in the cliff, and also that I had seen it at Kessingland and Pakefield, on the beach and at the foot of the cliff, underlying the Chillesford Clay.

I have visited these places several times since; and a fall of the cliffs and the partial clearing away of the beach at Kessingland have exposed the strata in the following ascending order:—The Forest-bed on the beach; the freshwater Unio-bed, similar to those at Mundesley and Runton; the Fluvio-marine bed; the Marine (including the Chillesford Clay, both the blue-laminated below and the brown-laminated above); the sands and gravels which contain the *Tellina balthica* crag at Wroxham Weybourne; and the Glacial series, which, as it does not enter into the present inquiry, I have not particularized.

The Forest-bed at Kessingland and the adjoining parish of Pakefield is one of the richest depôts of Elephantine and Cervine remains, and also of the *Rhinoceros etruscus*\*; and, judging from its position on the same horizon, and from its mineral and fossil contents, it can scarcely be doubted that it is an extension or continuation of the Bacton and Mundesley Forest-bed.

The Chillesford Clay here and in a gorge between Kessingland and Pakefield, a few yards inland, is well developed. As Mr. Prestwich admits the presence of the Chillesford Clay at Kessingland, and the Forest-bed is to be seen there on the beach beneath it, it is unnecessary for me to add more in support of my statement; but I am desirous to submit to the Geological Society some observations and suggestions with respect to the real position of the Forest-bed.

In order to ascertain the true position of the Forest-bed, it is requisite to have an insight into its

\* A specimen described by Mr. Boyd Dawkins (Proceedings of the Geological Society, January 8th, 1868) was obtained at Pakefield.

very complex nature. The soil of the Forest-bed appears to consist of an argillaceous sand and gravel, or a compound of both, and to have been deposited in an estuary. Bones of *Elephas meridionalis*, together with a great variety of deer and other mammals, sharply fractured, but not rolled, are found in it, especially in the gravel, which is called the "Elephant-bed" on that account. These are associated with the bones of whales and fragments of wood, indicating that the estuary was open to the sea, most probably northwards, for the admission of the whales; while it appears to have been closed at the Straits of Dover and Calais, to afford a passage for the mammals into this country.

This deposit of the soil may be regarded as the first phase of the Forest-bed; and here, we may observe, a long interval may have intervened between this and the second phase, which dates from the raising of the soil to the surface of the waters and the growth of the forest upon it. In this the remains of the *E. antiquus* are most abundant; other varieties of the elephant are found here, which it is unnecessary for the subject of the present inquiry to particularize, together with *Rhinoceros etruscus* and *Trogontherium Cuvieri*. This may be regarded as the true Forest-bed; the stools of the trees belonging to it are visible along the coast at various places from Kessingland to Cromer.

The third phase commences with the gradual going down and submergence of the Forest-bed on the gathering of waters upon it. First freshwater, then fluvio-marine, and lastly marine beds (including the Chillesford Clay) were successively deposited, and contain their respective faunas. A fourth phase might be added, which consists in the continuance of the undulating ridges of the Forest-bed above water after the deposit of the freshwater and fluvio-marine beds. This may be observed at Kessingland and Happisburgh. At the latter place the bones of a goat, or some ovine animal, were found, together with hazel-nuts.\*

From this brief description it is obvious that the term "Forest-bed" is inadequate to express so varied a formation, which, judging by its changes of level and of its fauna, must have continued a very long time; and I beg to suggest that the "Forest-bed series" would be a better name. The want of proper divisions has led to many complications, especially in the palæontological department.

It might be supposed that it would be easy to ascertain the position of a bed of such duration and extent; but such is far from being the case. It has a nearly uniform horizon on the level of the water, and every attempt to reach the bottom of it has been foiled by the water rising.

It is evident that it must lie between the Chalk, or London Clay, below and the Chillesford Clay above. In the inland section the only two intervening beds are the supposed Mammaliferous Crag of Mr. Charlesworth and the Marine Crag, which may be seen to advantage at Bramerton and Thorpe. Between these two beds there does not appear to be any break for the intercalation of the Forest-bed series; for they are deposited in succession upon each other in increasingly deeper water. The Mammaliferous Crag was supposed to contain the *Mastodon arvernensis*, and has, therefore, been regarded as older than the Forest-bed, which has not been known to yield the Mastodon. Where, then, can the Forest-bed be placed in the inland section, either in point of time or of superposition?

I beg to suggest the following solution. All the specimens of *Mastodon arvernensis*, so far as I can ascertain, have been found, together with *Elephas meridionalis* and several species of *Cervus*, in a stony bed, one or two feet thick, between the surface of the Chalk and the Fluvio-marine and Marine Crag; and, consequently, those crags, with the exception of a few water-worn fragments and the teeth of *Arvicolæ*, are nearly non-Mammaliferous. It seems probable, therefore, that *here* may be a break for the intercalation of the Forest-bed, and that the Fluvio-marine and Marine Crag ought to be detached from this stony bed, with which they have hitherto been incorporated under the name of Mammaliferous Crag. The stones appear to be derived from the disintegrated chalk, which is worn down both by the chemical and mechanical action of water.

The highly mineralized and decayed condition of the bones and teeth indicates long exposure to the atmosphere; and, together with the disintegration and wearing down of the chalk by pluvial and atmospheric action, may account for their not being found in the upper part of the chalk hills. An act of justice may still be done to the memory of the illustrious Cuvier, who expressed his utter incredulity when the Mastodon's tooth found at Whitlingham, near Norwich, by the father of English geology, was shown to him, and he was assured that it came from the Norwich Crag. He affirmed that it was next to impossible; and the result of the above observations tends to prove that Cuvier was correct in his opinion that the Mastodon belonged to an older deposit.

A break is here established between the stony bed which contains the Mastodon and the Fluvio-marine which contains no proboscidean remains, and an opening is made for the Forest-bed between them.

It might be supposed to be easy to trace the Fluvio-marine Crag to the coast-section, and so to prove whether it dips beneath the Forest-bed or whether it overlies it, and is identical with the Fluvio-marine of the coast-section; but much difficulty arises from the Fluvio-marine Crag inland being cut off and intercepted by the valleys of the Bure and of the Wensum, and several of

\* A fuller description was given in a paper entitled "The Anglo-Belgian Basin," read at the Meeting of the British Association at Nottingham.

their tributaries; and this difficulty appears to be increased by a slight upheaval of the chalk to the west of those rivers. This may be seen by the elevation of the Chillesford Clay at Bramerton about fifteen feet above its level at the Brundall station; and the same may be noticed at Horstead and Wroxham, on the west side of the Bure, and at Hoveton St. John, on the east side.

### THE CLIMATE AND AIR OF EAST ANGLIA.

The climate of any district depends partly on its situation, on its physical features, its mountains and rivers, its distance from the sea, and its geological formation. The climate of England was very different to what it is at present, when the whole country was covered with forests, bogs, and morasses, as in the Roman period. After centuries of cultivation and extensive drainages, more especially in the Fen districts, the climate has been much ameliorated.

The climate of any district is much modified by its geological character and by the drainage of land. On heavy clay lands and in the Fens, where the air was formerly saturated during the greater part of the year with watery vapour, a cold piercing keenness was experienced which was very unfavourable to persons of delicate health, and productive of respiratory diseases. In consequence of the extensive system of drainage by the Eau Brink Cut, some thousandſ of acres have been laid quite dry, the air is not so damp as formerly, and the climate is more favourable to health and longevity.

North and north-easterly winds are more prevalent in Norfolk than in other parts of the country. These are severely felt in winter, and vegetation is consequently backward. The contiguity to the sea and the marshes and fens, with the vapours coming from Holland, accounts for the frequent rains during the summer months, when storms of thunder, lightning, wind, and rain are of frequent occurrence, but they are seldom of such long duration as in more hilly districts. The county on the whole is as healthy as any part of England.

### THE FLORA OF EASTERN ENGLAND.

The stratification, soil, air, and climate of the Eastern Counties being similar, except in the Fens, the trees, plants, flowers, &c., which flourish in one county may be expected to grow in another, but there are some differences in the flora of each county. In the Fens there is a wide level of blue gault clay impervious to water; and, of course, almost void of vegetation.

This eastern district is very remarkable for the extreme beauty of rural scenery, which has been ever celebrated by our descriptive writers and poets, especially in Norfolk and Suffolk. It is, moreover, one of those characteristics of which the inhabitants may be proud, because of

their own efforts in aid of the bounty of nature, for much of the charm which is owing to the high cultivation of the land and the consequent fertility which is the prominent feature of the landscape ; but, irrespective of that trait, there is no other part of England that can boast of such an extent and diversity of fascinating scenery, undulating plains and swelling heights, sparkling rivulets and grassy nooks. One who has often painted our landscape in words says : "There is no greater pleasure than that of wandering in the deep woods and beneath the shady hedge rows, through dell or dingle, or in those cool secluded places where a calm twilight ever seems to sleep in the burning noon of day."

The aspect of the country is generally very beautiful, more especially in Essex, where it is well enclosed, and for the most part displays verdant pastures. The hills, none of which are high, are cultivated to the tops, and there are abundance of trees of every kind, most of them being oak and chestnut, which impart a rich appearance to the view. There is very little waste land, and even the woods are to some extent cultivated. The forests of Epping and Hainault belong to the Crown, though the inhabitants of the villages near have the right of pasturing their cattle.

The Rev. Kirby Trimmer was the author of the "Flora of Norfolk." In treating of the geological formations of the county with reference to the distribution of plants, he thus describes the peat in the alluvial district of East Norfolk : "The peat of the Yare borders both sides of the river with an average breadth of about a mile-and-a-half from the Yare and Waveney Canal to Surlingham ; above which, to Trowse near Norwich, it contracts to half-a-mile. The widest part of the peat of the Bure is below the confluence of the Ant and the Hundred stream with that river, the breadth varying from three miles at its northern and southern extremities to about a mile-and-a-half in the centre. Along the separate course of these streams, the breadth of the peat varies from half-a-mile to a mile on the banks of the Bure from its junction with the Ant to Wroxham ; on the banks of the Ant from the junction before-mentioned to Stalham Broad, and on the banks of the Hundred stream to Hickling and Horsey Broads. The upper parts of the Yare and Wensum above Norwich, and of the Bure and Ant above Wroxham and Stalham, as well as their tributary streams, are in many places fringed with peaty meadows, varying from one-eighth to one-fourth of a mile in breadth."

This county affords a rich and abundant flora, although not possessing all the natural advantages for the production of those rarer wild plants that are seldom found except in the more favoured localities. Norfolk is said to be far above the average in the number of its flowering plants, when compared with other counties of equal extent. About 1767 species are known as growing wild in England, Scotland, and Ireland. Of these,

1027 species have been found in this county. Therefore, the number of flowering plants found in Norfolk is more than half of the whole number of species in this island.

It is generally admitted that the geological character of a district has very great influence over its vegetation, but plants are more affected by the surface soil in which they grow than by the strata over which they occur, unless the latter happen to be near to the surface soil. To mark the distribution of the species throughout the county, it may be divided into three parts:—First, the eastern division; second, the central division third, the western division—each of which presents a different flora. The great diversity of the soil produces a corresponding diversity in the vegetation.

The eastern division contains the alluvium of the valleys of the Yare, the Bure, and the Waveney; the Blue Clay or Wreck of the Lias, which occupies the higher ground of the same valleys; next to which we meet with the larger part of the Crag formation, and then a small portion of the Upper Chalk at the south-western corner of the division. The plants of a considerable part of this division, with the exception of the Fungi, have been investigated by Messrs. C. J. and J. Paget in their “Sketch of the Natural History of Yarmouth.” This work embraces a radius of ten miles.

The central division, with the exception of the north-east corner, which is crag, lies entirely in the Upper and Medial Chalk formations. Mr. R. J. Mann has given its botany in “The Flora of Central Norfolk,” printed in the fourth volume of “London’s Magazine of Natural History.” This embraces no more than could be observed in a day’s walk from Norwich. This is nearly all we have of the Flora of Central Norfolk, leaving the plants of three-fourths of this division as yet unnoticed, except by the casual observer.

The western division comprises all the rest of the county, and presents geological features of a much more varied kind; thus, the north-east corner is occupied by a small portion of the Medial Chalk, to which succeeds a belt of the hard chalk, running from Hunstanton to the banks of the Little Ouse; then follows a narrower belt of the Chalk Marl, succeeded by about the same width of Green Sand or Car Stone; and the series ends with a very narrow line of Kimmeridge Clay and Oolite, which runs from Heacham till it reaches the River Wissey.

The extreme west of the county is occupied by the alluvium of Marshland and the valleys of the Ouse, the Wissey, and the Nar. In 1841, “A List of the Flowering Plants Growing Wild in Western Norfolk” was printed in the “Annals and Magazine of Natural History;” and in 1843, “A Flora of the Neighbourhood of Sandringham” was printed in the first volume of the “Phytologist,” by Mr. James Moxen. This flora embraces a radius of three miles from Sandringham Church.

## THE FAUNA OF EASTERN ENGLAND.

East Anglia is the Paradise of sporting men, the whole district being one vast preserve for every kind of game. Extensive plantations are everywhere full of pheasants, partridges, and other winged game. Hares and rabbits swarm all over the country, and eat up a great part of the produce of the soil. There are wide heaths in Norfolk and Suffolk, interminable ranges of marshes full of water fowl, rivers and broads full of fish. The Eastern Counties have long retained the reputation of possessing as rich and varied a fauna as any other parts of the British Isles. The three great departments of natural history are there presented under circumstances very favorable for observations. Less attention appears to have been paid to the wild animals by naturalists than to the birds which visit the Eastern coasts.

The Rev. Richard Lubbock, rector of Eccles, delivered some lectures on this subject, published in 1848. In giving a sketch of the animals, birds, and river fish to be found in Norfolk, he said the first division—that of MAMMALIA—might be comprised within a narrow compass, as species grew gradually scarcer and scarcer. When we looked at the trim fences and high cultivation of a great part of this district, a wide stretch of imagination was necessary to carry the mind back to the time when the urus, the bear, and the wolf ranged the forest or traversed the marsh, pursued by hunters nearly as savage as themselves. “The Norwich Museum contains very fine skulls of the animal first mentioned, the urus, dug up during the excavation of the North Walsham Canal, and it would seem to have been formerly not an uncommon animal here. It should be remembered that the skulls of this animal, which from time to time have been found, betoken a very different creature in size to the present wild cattle of Chillingwork Park, although these are, no doubt the legitimate descendants and sole remnant in Britain of the urus or unrochs so famous formerly for gigantic size, unrivalled swiftness, and ferocity.”

Mr. Lubbock before noticing wild species in detail gave an account of domesticated animals. “With regard to Black Cattle,” he said, “we have not in this country any peculiar breed of the district. Suffolk has its own peculiar cow, which is in high repute with dairymen in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. The Norfolk horse used to be a low and rather thick-set animal, with great trotting powers; but of late years blood has been the order of the day here as elsewhere. It has been usual to decry Norfolk horses, but that celebrated sportsman, Henry Goodricke, who was a heavy man, and a very hard rider, used to ride horses purveyed for him by a dealer at Swaffham with great satisfaction. The fair in spring, at Downham, always attracts all the London dealers. The reason that Norfolk horses

so often disappoint those who breed them is the too common plan of keeping them badly when young. No animal can develop its powers if unfairly stinted in food whilst growing rapidly." It may here be added that Suffolk can boast of a very fine breed of cart horses, as well as the best riding horses.

"There is one species of dog very common here, though not entirely peculiar to the county—the Yarmouth water dogs, as they are generally termed in other parts of England. The sagacity of these dogs in pursuit of wounded birds and their hardihood in the water must be seen to be believed."

"The pole cat or founmart is much more common than it at first appears. It is strictly nocturnal, and then so erratic in its habits that detection and capture are difficult. Formerly it was supposed that this animal, having established itself in a wood, preyed in that very cover without straying far away; but the pole cat is similar in its habits to the fox, and, like that animal, will travel miles for booty, when it might satiate itself close at home."

"Some naturalists supposed that the ferret is nothing more than the polecat domesticated. The one is certainly a most active, the other a slow and torpid animal, but this may arise from close confinement."

"The stoat, here provincially called the lobster, makes head against constant persecution and the increasing efforts of the gamekeepers. Probably the extensive rabbit warrens and the open nature of a great part of the county have encouraged its increase. Where the country is enclosed, and a trapper knows his business, it is easily caught."

"The Norfolk sheep is, indeed, *sui generis*. This is the most remarkable of our domesticated animals, possessing nearly the agility and erratic propensities of the deer. These qualities have led to its disappearance; very few remain, and those only in the open country. They are penned with difficulty. Deer hurdles will hardly confine them, and if they get out they must be sought in the next county." We may add that the native breed has been almost entirely superseded by the Southdown and Leicester sheep.

"Hares are most plentiful, as might be expected in a county which is almost entirely a game preserve; and rabbits have long been reckoned one of the staple commodities of the district. The variety, a black rabbit with white hairs intermixed, called silver grey, would seem to have been long established here."

There are very extensive rabbit warrens in the neighbourhood of Thetford and Brandon. The rabbits breed rapidly, and hundreds of thousands are killed every year, and sent to all the markets.

Mr. Lubbock mentioned among other animals found in Norfolk, the wild cat, the martin cat, the weasel, and the otter.

“The wild cat has long been extinct, not only in Norfolk, but in the greater part of England. Every now and then mention is made of an immense cat of a cypress colour taken by a gamekeeper; but these are merely individuals which have left the cottage fireside for liberty and plunder, and have fattened by their marauding course of life.”

“The otter is taken at intervals, was formerly very common upon our rivers and broads, and is still much more frequent than it appears. Sir T. Browne, in his letters on the Natural History of Norfolk, notices the abundance of this animal. If in a narrow stream, with a host of pursuers on each bank, and a pack of veteran dogs in full pursuit in the water, an otter will elude capture for two or three hours, we see that in the interminable reed beds surrounding our broads he must completely defy enemies of this kind.”

Rats of different kinds are common in Norfolk and Suffolk.

“The brown rat is too common everywhere, and the black rat, the original rat of Britain, is still found in the City of Norwich.”

“The water rat is abundant everywhere in low grounds.”

“The common mouse occurs everywhere of course. The long-tailed field mouse is general.”

“The common shrew is general. The water shrew, however, occurs not so generally; and the third lately-discovered species, the oared shrew, has been taken near Norwich.”

“The hedgehog is still common, though much persecuted for its depredations upon the eggs of game.”

“The squirrell is found more or less in all plantations.”

“The mole is abundant, particularly in our low wet grounds. Its powers of swimming render it fearless of common floods. An Albino variety is not unfrequently found.”

“The seal is mentioned by Sir Thomas Browne as occurring in the Norfolk rivers, and coming up to Surlingham, within six miles of Norwich. In those days probably fish were far more abundant, and there is reason to suppose that salmon often visited our rivers. These, as the owners of Scotch and Irish fisheries know to their cost, are the favourite prey of the seal.”

#### THE BIRDS OF NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK.

The birds that are resident all the year round in either Norfolk or Suffolk, or any of the eastern counties, are nearly all of the same species, and are all well known, such as every kind of winged game and the common birds; but there are many visitors to the sea coasts and broads of Norfolk and Suffolk which are not found in the interior of the country. The greater variety of birds in Norfolk appears to have very early

attracted the attention of naturalists, among whom may be mentioned the following :—

D. Gurney, Esq., who published extracts from the Household Privy Purse Accounts of the L'Estranges of Hunstanton from 1519 to 1578, containing notices of birds of the county.

Sir Thomas Browne, "An Account of Birds found in Norfolk," published in 1682.

"John Hunt's British Ornithology," published in 1815.

"A Catalogue of the Norfolk and Suffolk Birds, with Remarks," by the Rev. R. Sheppard and the Rev. W. Whitear, 1826.

"Transactions of the Linnæan Society."

"A List of Birds contributed by Mr. Hunt to History of Norfolk," published by Stacey.

"Sketch of the Natural History of Yarmouth," by C. J. and James Paget, 1834.

"Observations on the Fauna of Norfolk," by the Rev. R. Lubbock, 1845.

"An Account of the Birds found in Norfolk," by Messrs. J. H. Gurney and W. R. Fisher, published in the *Zoologist* for 1846.

The bold projecting coast line, extending from the Wash of Lincoln to the Thames, is very favourable to the advent of every migratory species of birds. Along the coast there are strange alternations of sand and shingly beaches, salt marsh, cultivated land, and low sandy hills, or lofty cliffs, with rich grassy summits, and thick woods near the sea. Migratory visitants find an inexhaustible supply of food on the banks of the tidal channels of Lynn, Blakeney, and Breydon; and, more inland, the shallow waters and reedy margins of the "broads" form the natural resort of many of the aquatic tribes.

Messrs. Gurney & Fisher, in their "Account of the Birds found in Norfolk," published in the "*Zoologist*" for 1846, give the total number of species at that time as 277; and the total number at the present time has been estimated at 293. The progress of drainage and cultivation have to some extent diminished the wild denizens of the marshes. Reclaimed salt marshes no longer afford feeding grounds for the various tribes of wild fowl. The enclosure of waste lands and commons, as well as improvements in agriculture, have also affected other classes of birds.

The great bustard, within the present century, was a resident in Norfolk, and might often be seen flying over the county; but that fine bird is now extinct in its last abiding place in this island. The last bustard killed in Norfolk was a female, obtained at Lexham, near Swaffham, in 1838, the remnant of a small flock of hens which had for some years frequented that neighborhood. The bustard is now only an accidental visitant. The rage for wholesale shooting has also caused

many birds to disappear, except as temporary sojourners in their migratory course.

In Norfolk and Suffolk, on most of the estates, game is strictly preserved. Consequently pheasants and partridges are abundant. The dense woods kept up for game afford both food and shelter for smaller birds—the finches, buntings, larks, sparrows, and others. Of these there has been at times a barbarous slaughter. But it has been found very unwise to destroy the insect-eaters for the sake of saving a little corn.

The birds resident and breeding in Norfolk and Suffolk are the kestrel, the sparrow hawk, marsh harrier, owl, missel thrush, song thrush, black-bird, redbreast, great tit, golden-crested regulus, various tits, wagtail, lark, bunting, chaffinch, greenfinch, bullfinch, linnet, redpole, crow, rook, jackdaw, magpie, jay, woodpecker, wren, nuthatch, kingfisher, ringdove, stockdove, pheasant, grouse, partridges, peewit, king dotterel, oyster catcher, heron, redshank, snipe, waterrail, moorhen, coot, mute swan, sheldrake, shoveller, wild duck, teal, great-crested grebe, little grebe, gull, sparrow.

The spring and autumn migrants in Norfolk and Suffolk are the osprey, merlin, goshawk, buzzard, hen harrier, fly-catcher, ouzel, hoopoe, rose-coloured paster, plover, turnstone, sunderling, white stork, white spoonbill, curlew, whimbrel, spotted redshank, sandpiper, woodcock, snipe, knot, strut, grebe, common guillemot, razorbill, cormorant, gannet, tern.

The summer migrants in Norfolk are shrikes, spotted fly-catchers, redstarts, storechats, wheaterns, various warblers, nightingales, pepits, wagtails, wrynecks, swallows, martins, swifts, great plovers, landrails, crakes, cuckoos.

The autumn migrants are numerous, including most of the gulls, branlings, hawfinches, mealy redpoles, philacopes, geese, pintails, widgeons, velvet scoters, common scoters, pochards, ducks, golden eyes, smews, red-breasted mergansers, divers, auks, puffins, skuds, fulmar petrels, cappedpetrels, manx shearwaters, stormy petrels.

The winter migrants in Norfolk are the redwing, fieldfare, common crossbill, swan, hoopoo, and others.

There are many accidental and irregular migrants appearing at various seasons of the year.

Among the accidental visitants to Norfolk and Suffolk may be mentioned falcons, kites, woodchat, shrikes, common dippers, golden orioles, pine grosbeaks, nutcrackers, rollers, white-winged crossbills, bee-eaters, Alpine swifts, bustards, sand grouse, collared pratincoles, herons, avocets, stilts, strays, Polish swans, eider ducks, hooded mergansers, ringed guillemots, Caspian terns, roseate terns, gull-billed terns, whiskered terns, capped petrels, fork-tailed petrels.

There are various lakes in Norfolk and Suffolk the resort of water birds. Fritton Lake is more than two miles in length, and in some places of considerable breadth. The banks of this water, fringed with woods and glades, are highly picturesque and beautiful. It abounds with a great variety of fish, and is the resort of widgeons, ducks, teal, and every other denomination of wild fowl. During the season, which begins in October, and continues till April following, vast numbers are caught, and produce a considerable sum to the proprietors.

The method of taking the wild fowl is as follows:—Creeks or canals are cut in particular parts of the decoy, over each of which is a long net or pipe, wide at the entrance, and tapering at the further end like a purse. Into these the fowls are enticed by ducks bred up tame for the purpose, who are constantly fed at these places, with which they are quite familiar. As soon as the decoy-man perceives the flock fairly settled in the water, he goes down secretly behind a reed fence, and throws into such places as the decoy ducks are accustomed to, a quantity of corn, to which they immediately resort, followed by the strangers until they are all at length insensibly led into the pipe without perceiving it above them. When the decoy man has ascertained that they are all within the net, a dog, who is perfectly trained, rushes from behind the reeds into the water swimming directly after the fowl, and barking at them, they immediately take wing, but being beat down by the net naturally swim forward to avoid the dog, until they are hurried into the purse, and there become an easy prey to the decoy man, who immediately sets the tame ducks at liberty. The whole business is conducted with so little noise as not to alarm the fowl in the other parts of the decoy.

#### FISHES OF NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK.

Mr. T. E. Gunn, Naturalist, of Norwich, contributed the following account of Fishes in Norfolk and Suffolk:—

The County of Norfolk has long retained the reputation of possessing as rich and varied a fauna as any in the British Isles; the three great departments of Natural History being here presented under circumstances especially favourable for development and observation. But while the study of ornithology has been well and ably worked out, and has perhaps received more attention here than in any other locality in Britain, the original observations on the other branches—the mammalia, fish, reptiles, and insects—from want of efficient publication, are lost to the public. Selecting one branch, "The Fishes," I will endeavour to give a brief outline of the extent and importance of this valuable order.

The north, east, and part of the western boundary of Norfolk, formed

by an extensive and irregular coast line ranging from lofty chalk cliffs, sand banks, and shingly beaches, intersected by rivers and numerous inlets or bays, is peculiarly favourable to the capture of both resident and migratory species. Beside the large number of rare and accidental visitors to this coast, the products of the fisheries are important and extensive, giving employment to a great number of men and boats in the herring, mackerel, and trawl fisheries, a large proportion of the population near the coast being engaged for a great part of the year in catching, preparing, and packing the fish.

Sir Thomas Browne, who wrote some two hundred years ago, published in his work a list of the coast and river fish of Norfolk; but as far as I am aware, no further particular information on this subject was published until 1834, when a catalogue of the species, with reference to the occurrences of the rarer ones, was included in Messrs. Paget's "Sketch of the Natural History of Yarmouth and its Neighborhood." Subsequently, notices of rarities have occasionally appeared in the *Zoologist* and our local newspapers. In 1848, the Rev. R. Lubbock published his "Fauna of Norfolk," which embraced several notices of both coast and river fish, especially treating of those inhabiting our broads and rivers. During the last few years, I have collected notes and observations on the fishes, and having received valuable information from several gentlemen, particularly from J. H. Gurney, Esq., who has kindly placed his MS. notes at my disposal, I venture to offer the following catalogue.

The fisheries, as I have before observed, are of great importance, and form the principal occupation of the inhabitants along this coast. The seaport towns of Yarmouth and Lowestoft are the largest and perhaps the most important fishing marts in Britain. The produce from this branch of industry has so greatly increased of late years that in 1860 the exports to foreign parts from Yarmouth alone were 54,684 barrels of herrings, and 20,399 tons weight of other sea fish, beside the enormous quantities used for home consumption.

The whitebait, the subject of much contention amongst ichthyologists as being no true species, has recently been identified by Dr. Gunther as the fry of the herring. Thousands of these fry, which are so much prized in London, are thrown away on this beach and wasted. They are caught by the fishermen about August, when fishing inshore for other fish.

The sprat, which is also taken in immense numbers on this coast soon after the herring season is over, is still considered by some as the young of the herring, as very few specimens are found with the roe or milt fully developed; but according to Dr. Gunther's recent classification of the clupeidæ, it is constituted a genuine species.

The sturgeon, apparently a rarity in the time of Sir T. Browne, has

of later years been obtained frequently. A few large specimens are taken every season, particularly about Yarmouth and Lowestoft (I have seen three very fine ones and heard of a fourth this season). An extract from "Harrod's Gleanings," p. 32, states that in the eighth and ninth years of the reign of King Edward III., when that king visited his mother at Castle Rising, the commonalty of Lynn presented him with *sturgeons* and falcons.

Amongst the varieties occurring about this coast, recorded by Sir T. Browne, Messrs. Paget, and others, may be mentioned, the two gilt heads, mailed gurnard, sword fish, pilot fish, sea horse, trumpet fish, gemmeous and sordid dragonetts, anchovy, fire-bearded rockling, spotted dog fish, hammer-headed shark (the head of the only specimen obtained in Europe in late years is preserved in the Norwich Museum, being the specimen figured by Yarrell), blue and porbeagle sharks (a skull of this latter is in this Museum), angel fish, saw fish (the only British specimen was obtained off Lynn in the time of Sir T. Browne), short sun fish, and the shagreen, sandy, and eagle rays. Of recent years the following varieties have been noticed:—The Spanish, black, and rays sea breams, tunny (one in Museum), plain bonito, sword fish, opah (one specimen in Museum), spotted goby, flying fish (of which one specimen taken this season off Yarmouth is believed to be the only one caught on the Eastern coast. One of the pectoral fins only was preserved by a fisherman, and this has passed into my possession; Dr. J. E. Gray has identified the species to which it belongs as *Exocetus solitans*, specimen exhibited), anchovy (a single specimen captured this season in the Lynn river), lesser forked beard, blue and fox sharks, tope, short sun fish, and the eagle ray.

Of accidental varieties a double-headed haddock, and a whiting with three eyes, obtained off this coast, are now in the Sailors' Institute at Yarmouth, and J. H. Gurney, Esq., mentions in the *Zoologist* a singularly malformed casse, wanting the superior maxillary and intermaxillary bones. This is preserved in the Norwich Museum.

The broads and rivers are abundantly supplied with fish, affording excellent sport for anglers: these are the pike (for which the Norfolk broads have long been famous), perch, carp, tench, bream, roach, dace, gudgeon, rudd, melt, and the sharp and broad-nosed eels. Among the river fish rarely occurring are the German carp, Pomeranian bream (specimen in this Museum), chub, bleak, and snig eel.

In May, 1866, I obtained specimens of what Yarrell calls the smooth-tailed stickleback from the stomach of a spoonbill, and, in referring to Dr. Gray, I find he considers it only one of the many varieties of the common three-spined species; and in dissecting a heron I also found some speci-

mens of the ten-spined stickleback, including one with nine spines only. This specimen greatly differed from the others; first, in the number of spines; secondly, by having the throat and under parts of a deep black instead of white minutely spotted with black, as in the ten-spined; and, thirdly, by being much stouter built in proportion to its length. This, if fully investigated, might prove a distinct species. My specimen was, unfortunately, too far advanced in decomposition for preservation.

In August, 1866, a very large specimen (apparently the largest on record) of the broad-nosed eel was taken in the River Bure, at Horning. It weighed  $7\frac{1}{4}$  lbs., and measured 3 feet 8 inches in length and 10 inches in girth.

The total number of species in my catalogue is 123, which is, I think, a fair proportion of the total number of the British species known, especially considering the narrow limits within which the working out of their knowledge has been confined, leaving a reasonable hope that when this subject is more fully investigated we shall be enabled to make several further additions to our Norfolk list.

#### ANGLING IN SUFFOLK AND NORFOLK.

The rivers of the two counties are generally full of small fish, and angling is a popular sport. The Waveney, which divides Suffolk from Norfolk, is a river of considerable length, and its waters in the upper course are singularly transparent. It produces eels of a delicate flavour, with pike, perch, and roach in abundance. Smelts are taken in the season, and occasionally a salmon strays up the stream. The perch are unrivalled for the brilliancy of their colours, and sometimes attain a considerable weight. Sturgeons seven feet in length have been captured; and large lampreys are frequently caught. The Waveney, after a long winding course between the two counties, flows into the Yare at Reedham.

The Yare, up the stream to Norwich, produces several kinds of small fish, more especially bream, plaice, perch, and roach. Reedham, Cantley, Coldham Hall and Buckenham, are favourite fishing stations in the summer season. Nine stone of fish have been caught at Buckenham by one angler in a day.

“ A day with not too bright a beam,  
A warm but not a scorching sun,  
A southern gale to cool the stream,  
And half the fisher's work is done.”

Coldham Hall is a favourite resort of anglers from all parts of the country.

## CHAPTER I.

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### A DESCRIPTION OF ESSEX.

**E**SSEX is bounded on the north by Suffolk and part of Cambridgeshire, on the south by the River Thames, on the west by Middlesex and Hertfordshire, and on the east by the German Ocean, to which its coast line presents many deep and winding indentations, in and near the estuaries of the Thames, the Crouch, the Blackwater, the Colne, and the Stour, with many small islands. The eastern parts of the county are generally level, but the other portions are picturesquely undulated, and present a varied and pleasing succession of fine rural landscapes.

Essex forms part of that wide tract of country on the eastern side of England, which is the largest space of level ground in the whole island; but it has many gentle hills and dales, and towards the north-west, whence most of its rivers proceed, the country rises, and presents a continued inequality of surface. The most level tracts in the county are those of the southern and eastern hundreds. Extensive salt marshes border most of the coast, and are mostly protected by embankments or sea walls. The banks of the Thames are low and marshy.

Geologists have distinguished the eastern district, which includes Essex, as that on which the superior strata rest on chalk. The London Clay extends nearly all over Essex, and has been pierced in many places and found to be of great thickness. This formation chiefly, and sometimes wholly, consists of bluish or blackish clay, in general very tough, and containing nearly horizontal layers of ovate or flattish masses of argillaceous limestone called *Septaria*, from having been apparently traversed by cracks, now partially or wholly filled up with calcareous spar or sulphate of barytes. Amongst the super-strata, besides the London Clay and vegetable mould, are found brickearth, sand, crag, pipe clay, and the plastic clay formation. The alternation of fresh-water formations with those of marine origin, establish a complete and highly important analogy between the French and English series. The crag is a stratum of sand and gravel; and the north-east coast is covered with this upper marine formation, which, with the enclosed organic remains, often exhibits impregnation with iron. The various formations contain quantities of organic remains, both vegetable and animal, showing that at one period the flora and fauna of the eastern district were very different to the present flora and fauna. Marine remains are found in great variety

near the coast on the northern part of Essex. Remains of the larger Mammalia, the Mammoth, the Rhinoceros, and various species of deer, are found in the crag deposits at Walton-on-the-Naze, where many of the fossils agree with those in the upper marine formation of the Paris basin.

According to the Roman authors, the Trinobantes were the aborigines of the territory now called Essex, but few remains of that people have been traced. There is extant a list of kings or chiefs of the Trinobantes before and after the Roman invasion, of whom little is on record of historical importance. In the reign of Augustus (B.C. 31) a king of that people lived, who appeared, from the number of coins dug up with his name inscribed, to have had a considerable acquaintance with Grecian and Roman art. He was named Cunuboline, or Cunubelinus, and sometimes Cunbelinus, and had his royal seat at Camulodunum, so called from a temple of Mars, there worshipped under the name of Camulus.

The first Roman camp and colony in this island appears to have been established at Camulodunum, on the site where Colchester now stands in Essex. The ruins of the Roman camp may be traced all round the town. If any antiquary should have any doubt on the subject, it must be dispelled by inspecting the Roman remains or relics deposited in the Castle Museum; the group of cinerary urns, with a fine gladiatorial vase, found by Mr. Taylor at the West Lodge; the imperial coins found in the neighborhood; and, above all, by the researches of Dr. Duncan, who has traced the cloaca of one of the Roman villas, who has identified the sites of the Roman cemeteries, traced their roads, piled up their coins, and pointed their footsteps everywhere in and around the town in a manner which proves beyond question that this must have been the great seat of the imperial power in England. The ancient walls, of which some interesting relics yet remain, though in many parts crumbled into ruins, were no doubt planned and built by the Roman conqueror when he had decided on settling in this part of the country. The foundations seemed to have been preserved, and they enclose a space of 118 acres, representing the extent of the city of Camulodunum.

There are also Roman remains at Leyton, Wanstead, Great Burstead, Tolleshunt Knights, West Mersea, Harwich, and other places; and tumuli, or barrows, at Lexden, Bures and Montem, West Mersea, and Wigborough. The remarkably large tumuli called Bartlow Hills are in this county, though taking their name from the neighboring village of Bartlow in the county of Cambridge. On the exploration of these mounds between 1832 and 1840, all the remains discovered were evidently of Roman origin, and from their funereal character prove that they were

raised in memory of warriors buried beneath, which fact is corroborated by the remains of a Roman encampment near the spot.

It is generally acknowledged that at an early period this island was intersected in various directions by British trackways, which were afterwards improved by the Romans. The four principal Roman roads which traversed England were Watling Street, extending from the Kentish Coast to London, York, Carlisle, &c. ; Ermyrn Street, which extended from London to Lincoln, and the Humber ; the Fosse Way, which passed from Bath to Lincoln and Newark ; Ickniel Street, which extended from London, through Essex viâ Stratford, Romford, Ingatestone, Chelmsford, and Colchester, to Caistor in Norfolk.

Two Roman roads branched from Colchester, one through Dunmow to St. Albans and Cambridge, and the other crossing the Stour to Combretonium. Another Roman road passed from London through Leyton, Hornsey Lane, Bishop Stortford, Chesterford, into Cambridgeshire. Iciana is supposed by Horsley to be Chesterford. Dr. Gale says Saffron Walden is seated on two military ways running north and east. Many Roman antiquities have been found at Chesterford, and the military way at Gogmagog Hills points to that place. At Kinghill near Audley End is a Roman camp near a road, which is traced to Chesterford.

The road which passed from Colchester to St. Alban's (Verulanium) may be traced through Stanway, Coggeshall, Braintree, Dunmow, and Stortford. A military way has been traced from Colchester to Colne, Sible-Hedingham, Yeldham, Ridgewell, and Haverhill. The foundations of a Roman villa were found at Ringwell in 1794. At Colchester, there is a profusion of Roman bricks, and other antiquities, and many urns, coins, tessellated pavements, &c., have been found near Billericay and in many other parts of Essex.

From the Itinerary of Antoninus five principal stations appear to have been either formed or occupied by the Romans in Essex. These were Durolitum, Cæsaromagus, Canonum, Camulodunum, and Ad Ansum, all seated on the road which formed the fifth Iter from London to Venta Icenorum in Norfolk. The sites of most of them are subjects of dispute among antiquaries, but they generally agree that Camulodunum, the principal station, was at Colchester, and that it had been previously the capital of the Trinobantes.

When the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes came from the regions on either side of the Elbe nearly fourteen centuries ago, our island was imperfectly governed. The inhabitants, now deserted by their Roman conquerors, were in no condition to offer any lengthened resistance. The military chieftains who came over rewarded their followers with land, a portion called a mark being given to each clan or kinsfolk ; and it is believed that

the chief towns of many of these marks are traceable at the present day in their names, which denote the kin or family to whom the land was given. Hence the names of Malling, Steyning, Bocking, Ealing, Halling, Epping, Gidding, Reading, which names are believed to denote the marks or land, or kinships. The relation between the chief and the follower was very intimate among the Teutons of old. The leaders of the emigration to Britain had each his band of devoted liegemen, who would be sure to vie with each other in deeds of perilous daring, and to whom, when the enemy was subdued, the chief apportioned rewards in land or booty. The marks or land of the kinships Mælo, Stœna, Boca, and the like are believed to have in this way received the names of Malling, Steyning, Bocking, &c. Many other names which do not end in "ing," such as Endington, the ton or clearing of the kindred of Enteu Arlington, the homestead of the Arlings. The towns of Essex, and indeed of all Eastern England, are all of Anglo-Saxon origin, as proved by their names, sometimes taken from rivers on which the places are situated—as Colchester, from the River Colne; Chelmsford, from the River Chelmer. Many places were named from meadows and marshes where rushes grew—as Rushall, Rushbrooke, Rushbury, Rushford. Other places were named from fens—as Fen Ditton, Fen Stanton, Fensbury (now Finsbury) in London. Some places were named from meres or small lakes—as Hazlemere, Livermere, Mereston; others from fords over rivers—as Deptford (Deepford), Thetford, Larlingford.

Essex being almost wholly an agricultural county, the greater number of the inhabitants reside in villages.

The face of the county is generally very beautiful; it is well enclosed, and for the most part presents good verdant pastures; the hills, none of which rise to great heights, are cultivated to the tops, and there is abundance of trees, especially oak and chestnut. The proportion of waste land is smaller than in any other county in England. The forests do not amount to more than 14,000 acres, which are not all uncultivated. These forests belong to the Crown, though the inhabitants of many surrounding parishes have the right of pasturing their cattle in them.

The Sovereign has the right of keeping deer in all the enclosed woods, and the occupiers of land in the various parishes included within the ancient boundaries of the forests have a right to feed horses and cows, but not cattle. The numerous common rights have led to considerable devastation of the timber in those forests, and occasioned no small injury to the property of the Crown; but plans have been adopted for preserving the trees and converting a part into a nursery for growing timber for the Royal Navy. In ancient times, it would appear that the whole county was forestal; and the following rhyming charter of Edward the Confessor,

relating to a remoter part of it, is said to be taken from the Forest Rolls of Essex :—

“ Ic Edward Koning,  
 Have given of my forest the keeping,  
 Of the Hundred of Chelmer and dancing,  
 To Randolph, piper king, and his kindling,  
 Wyth heose and hynde, doe and bock,  
 Hare and foxe, cut and brocke,  
 Wylde fowel with his flock,  
 Partrich, fesant hen and fesant cock,  
 Wyth green and wylde stob and stock,  
 To keepers and to yemen by all her might,  
 Both by day and eke by night.  
 And hounds for to hold  
 Good and swift and bold ;  
 Four greyhounds and six racches  
 For hare and foxe and wilde cattes,  
 And therefore iche made him my broke,  
 Witness the bishop Wolston  
 And brooke ylced many on  
 And Swein of Essex our brother  
 And taken him many other,  
 And our Steward Howelm  
 That by sought me for him.”

Edward the Confessor is also said to have had a park at Havering, enclosing it from the forest. Tendring Hundred was disafforested by Stephen ; all that part of the forest which lay to the north of the highway from Stortford to Colchester met with the same treatment at the hands of John ; and Henry III. allowed the making of another park at Heydon Mount, at the same time giving John de Lexington leave to hunt in what was still the Forest of Essex. Then came another large enclosure for the great people at Heydon Gurnon, but the Mountfitchets of Havering seem to have been hereditary grand wardens of Epping Forest so far back as King Stephen. Then it passed to the de Clares ; from them, diminished to the wardenship of Epping Forest, to the Earls of Oxford ; but Henry VIII. took so kindly to it that the earl of the period surrendered his wardenship to the king for the time, in order that the royal hunter might have it all his own way. Elizabeth was like-minded with her father about it, and hunted in it constantly. King James gave it back to the Oxfords ; they conveyed it to the Exeters ; one of those earls in turn to the Earl of Lindsay, from whom it passed to Sir R. Child, and descended through the families of Tylney and of Long to the Earls of Mornington, with whose representative it must now be, if the office still exists.

From several perambulations made in the 13th century, it appears that the greater part of Essex was at that time one continuous forest. Several districts were disafforested at different periods. The forests

of Epping and Hainault (sometimes called Waltham Forest) still retain about 10,000 acres of old woods and large tracts of open commons in which the timber has been mostly grubbed up. Though the natural woods have been rapidly disappearing during the last hundred years, the woodlands of Essex are still extensive, and would supply a vast quantity of well-grown straight timber if the trees were suffered to remain till grown to their full size. Though but few new plantations of wood have been made during the present century, solely with the view of future profit, there are in all parts of the county abundance of clumps and belts of fir and forest trees for the decoration of gentlemen's seats, which are numerous in the county.

The district now known as Epping Forest lies to the north and north-east of London, and comprises a series of woodland ranges which may be said to begin at Leytonstone, seven miles from London, and end at Epping, eight miles further on; a tract on an average of three or four miles wide, the wood being thickest about Loughton or Buckhurst Hill.

The county comprises about 420 parishes, twenty market towns, and more than 1,000 villages and hamlets, altogether inhabited by a population of 404,851 people, chiefly engaged in agriculture. The county was formerly an important seat of the woollen manufacture, and it still has a portion of the silk trade, and has near London some extensive chemical works, iron foundries, machine and engineering works, gun-powder mills, &c. Many of the people on the sea-coast and on the banks of the Thames, the Colne, and other rivers and creeks, derive employment from the valuable oyster and other fisheries.

The principal corn and cattle markets are held at Colchester, Chelmsford, Braintree, Saffron Walden, Dunmow, and Romford. Colchester, the largest town and borough in Essex, has about 24,000 inhabitants; but the most populous part of the county is near London, in Stratford, West Ham, and Plumstow. Southend, Harwich, and Walton-on-the-Naze, are the principal bathing-places in Essex; and its principal ports are Colchester, Manningtree, Harwich, Maldon, Burnham, Purfleet, and the London Victoria Docks.

As early as 1304, a number of Flemings, who had emigrated from Bruges, landed at Harwich, and established their craft at Bocking and Shalford in Essex, from whence they spread to Braintree, Halstead, Coggeshall, Dedham, and East Bergholt. These foreigners were an industrious race of people, and being well-skilled in the making of cloth, as well as in agricultural pursuits, they proved a valuable acquisition to the country. Before this, our wool had been bought up by the Dutch and Flemish traders, who supplied us with cloth; but these settlers soon consumed the growth of this district, and required large supplies from other counties.

## POLITICAL DIVISIONS.

Since the passing of the Reform Act in 1832, the county has been divided into the northern and southern districts, each sending two representatives to Parliament. Six other members are sent to the House of Commons from this county by the three small boroughs of Colchester, Maldon, and Harwich. The polling places comprise all the principal market towns in the county. The number of electors registered for the county in 1847 was 10,858—viz., 5,644 in the northern and 5,214 in the southern division. The county at one period returned ten Conservatives to Parliament, and their return was celebrated by a grand banquet at Chelmsford in September, 1841.

## ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS.

Essex is in the province of Canterbury, and in the diocese of Rochester, except the ten parishes of Barking, Chingford, East and West Ham, Great and Little Ilford, Leyton, Walthamstow, Wanstead, and Woodford, which are in the diocese of London. Until a few years since, the whole county was in the diocese of London. The change was effected by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of England appointed and incorporated by an Act of Parliament passed in the 6th and 7th of William IV. to carry into effect the reports of the Commissioners appointed to consider the state of the Established Churches of England and Wales. They obtained in 1836 the sanction of his Majesty in Council to certain schemes and decrees, of which the following is the substance:—That all parishes which are locally situated in one diocese, and are under the jurisdiction of another, be made subject to that See within which they are locally situated; that certain new dioceses should be created; that such apportionment or exchange of ecclesiastical patronage should be made among the archbishops and bishops as should be consistent with the relative magnitude and importance of their Sees, so as to leave an average yearly income of £15,000 to the Archbishop of Canterbury, £10,000 to the Archbishop of York, £10,000 to the Bishop of London, £8,000 to the Bishop of Durham, £7,000 to the Bishop of Winchester, £5,000 to the Bishops of Ely, Worcester, and Bath and Wells respectively, £5,200 to the Bishop of St. Asaph and Bangor; and that out of the funds arising from the said diocese over and above the said incomes, the Commissioners should grant such stipends to the other bishops as should make their average annual incomes not less than £4,000, nor more than £5,000. The Commissioners are also empowered to create new district parishes, and to augment all poor church livings to the value of £150 each per annum, out of the funds falling into their hands from the rich bishoprics and benefices. About 1845, they purchased a large and elegant

mansion at Danbury, which is now the palace of the Bishop of Rochester, whose former residence was at Bromley, in Kent. His diocese now comprises a large part of Hertfordshire, as well as nearly all Essex, and forty-seven parishes in Kent. The Essex portion of the diocese of Rochester comprises more than 420 parishes, chapelries, and new ecclesiastical districts, nearly equally divided in the two Archdeaconries of Colchester and Essex.

The County of Essex, with an area of 1,060,549 acres, contained in 1861 a population of 404,851 persons, including 203,143 males and 201,708 females, showing an increase in 60 years of 177,169 persons. The towns containing over 2,000 inhabitants in 1861 were—Colchester, 23,809; Chelmsford, 6,033; Harwich, 5,070; Maldon, 6,261; Saffron Walden, 5,454; Barking, 5,076; Braintree, 4,305; Brentwood, 2,811; Coggeshall, 3,166; Halstead, 5,707; Romford, 4,361; Stratford, 15,994; Waltham Abbey, 2,873. All these towns arose in the Anglo-Saxon period, long before the Norman Conquest.

#### ESTATES IN ESSEX.

Though many noble families have estates in Essex, but few of them now reside in the county. Of those who do reside may be mentioned Lord Braybrooke, of Audley End; Viscount Maynard, of Euston Hall; Lord Petre, of Thorndon Hall; and Lord Rayleigh, of Terling Place. The county, however, has many handsome seats of wealthy Commoners, and a long list of Baronets, among whom are Sir J. P. Wood, LL.D., Bart., of Rivenhall Place; Sir J. T. Ibbetson-Selwin, of Down Hall, near Harlow; Sir W. B. Smith, of Hill Hall; Sir C. C. Smith, of Suttons; Sir B. J. H. Soame, of Heydon Hall; Sir R. A. Allyn, of Mesner Hall; Sir C. W. C. De Crespigny, of Wivenhoe Hall; Sir B. Hartwell, of Dale Hall; Sir B. P. Henniker, of Newton Hall; Sir T. Barrett Lennard, of Bell House.

#### HUNDREDS IN ESSEX.

The county of Essex is divided into twenty hundreds for the purposes of civil government. Surveying them from east to west, they may be named in the following order:—1, Tendring; 2, Lexden, 3, Winstree; 4, Thurstable; 5, Dengie; 6, Rochford, all eastern near the sea, and the rivers Thames, Crouch, Blackwater, and Stour; 7, Chelmsford; 8, Witham (Midland); 9, Hinckford; 10, Freshwell; 11, Uttlesford; 12, Clavering; 13, Harlow; 14, Dunmow (all north); 15, Ongar; 16, Waltham (west); 17, Becontree; 18, Barstable; 19, Chafford; 20, Havering all south near the River Thames.

## TENDRING HUNDRED

Is a pleasant and fertile district, forming a little peninsula, separated from Suffolk on the north by the estuary of the Stour, bounded on the east and south-east by the German Ocean, and washed on the south and west by the waters of the Colne and its estuary, by which it is separated from Lexden Hundred and Colchester. It is nearly circular, being about fifteen miles in length and thirteen in breadth, with a tongue of land at its extreme point, jutting into the sea, and upon this stands the town of Harwich. To the southward a fine promontory extends about five miles, the sea forming within a bay of winding creeks, surrounding several small islands; and at the end of this head-land rises Walton-on-the-Naze, the pleasantest bathing place along the coast. It might naturally be supposed that, being so close to the ancient Colonia, Tendring Hundred would have been the scene of Roman habitations and settlements; but except at a few points by the sea, which they occupied for defensive purposes, no traces of this people are found. By the Normans, the Hundred was attached to Colchester Castle; and the present owner, Charles Gray Round, Esq., has the right to appoint a steward and bailiff. Though disafforested by King Stephen, the land seems to have remained in a half-reclaimed state down to a recent period. At the beginning of the last century, it was described as being much covered with wood, and full of fir and bushy ground; but drainage and modern enterprize have made it one of the best cultivated and most fertile districts of the country. It contains the following twenty-eight parishes:—Tendring, Alresford, Ardleigh, Beaumont, Great Bentley, Little Bentley, Bradfield, Brightlingsea, Great Bromley, Little Bromley, Great Clacton, Little Clacton, Elmstead, Frating, Frinton, Great Holland, Little Holland, Lawford, Manningtree, Mistley, Great Oakley, Little Oakley, Great Osyth, Ramsey, Tharrington, Weeley, Wix, Wrabness.

## LEXDEN HUNDRED

Comprises the large tract which extends from Kelvedon and Coggeshall up to Colchester, and partly around it, but not including Lexden, from which it may be presumed it originally received its name. It sweeps on the right between Winstree and Thurstable, and the boundary of the borough up to Wivenhoe; and it takes in all the rural parishes on the left nearly up to Halstead. On the north skirts the Stour, which divides it from Suffolk, up to Tendring Hundred. It is intersected by the Colne, and touched along part of its western border by the Blackwater. Although its soil varies, it has a large portion of rich corn lands. It comprises the following thirty parishes:—Coggeshall, Aldham, Chappel, Earl's Colne, Colne Engaine, Wake's Colne, White Colne, Copford,

Feering, Inworth, Markshall, Messing, Pattiswick, Great Tey, Little Tey, Mark's Tey, West Bergholt, Boxted, Dedham, East Dongland, Easthorpe, Fordham, Great Horkesley, Little Horkesley, Langham, Mount Bures, Stanway, Wivenhoe, Warmingford.

#### WINSTREE HUNDRED

Is only about nine miles long by five at the broadest part, and partakes of the mixed maritime and agricultural character of that of Thurstable, to which it adjoins west; and it is bounded on the east and south by the estuary of the Colne and the ocean.

The name of the Hundred is generally believed to be derived from two Saxon words signifying "Victory" and "A Wood," probably an allusion to an important battle with some of the fierce marauders who in early ages found access to this district from the sea. The Danes were driven to Mersea Island, and besieged there after their defeat by King Alfred. The Saxons had many salt works—then an important branch of manufacture—along this coast. Considerable commerce, according to the capabilities of that day, appears to have been carried on here; and there is no doubt that the inhabitants had acquired some of the civilisation and luxurious taste of the neighboring city of Camulodunum, so that the exposed tract was peculiarly tempting to the sea-rover seeking for plunder. Thus, at a later period, Mersea Island, which had been a sort of suburban residence for some of the great officers and Roman aristocracy of Colchester, became a place of importance for resisting the entrance of the northern pirates into the Colne or the bay. At the present time, the remains to be found in that island of the magnificence of the Imperial rulers, and the stately towers of Layer Marney, memorials of the splendour which prevailed here nearly two thousand years later, are the chief objects of interest in the Hundred.

It contains the following thirteen small parishes:—Layer Marney, Layer Breton, Layer-de-la-Hay, Abberton, Fingringhoe, Langenhoe, Peldon, Great Wigborough, Little Wigborough, Salcat, Virley, West Mersea, East Mersea.

#### THURSTABLE HUNDRED

Is a small district, partly agricultural and partly maritime, lying on the verge of the river and Blackwater Bay, along which it extends from Heybridge to Tollesbury and Tiptree Heath, and it is bounded on other sides by Lexden and Winstree and Witham Hundreds. It is about eleven miles long from west to east, and from three to six miles broad. The Hundred includes a pleasant tract of country. Along the estuary of the Blackwater lies a large extent of rich marsh land, running from the

vicinity of Malden up to Salcot Creek ; and beyond this rises a range of undulating high lands, upon which can be seen the villages and church towers of the various parishes. The district was no doubt the scene of some very early settlements, and it was often over-run and ravaged by the Danes, but there is little or no interest attached to its ancient history. Its local records are little more than a dry detail of births and burials of families who have long since departed and left few footprints on the lands they owned. There is scarcely a ruin to be seen, and the mansions and parks of the modern world are almost as scarce. Salt works are often mentioned amongst the possessions and grants in Domesday Book, and the Conqueror had three large factories of the kind here ; but this branch of industry has dwindled away before the competition of other parts of the kingdom, and the inhabitants are now employed either in maritime pursuits—oyster dredging and the coal carrying trade—or in agriculture.

The Hundred comprises the following ten parishes:—Heigbridge, Goldbanger, Langford, Tollesbury, Tolleshunt d'Arcy, Tolleshunt Major, Tolleshunt Knights, Great Totham, Little Totham, Wickham Bishops.

#### DENGIE HUNDRED

Has been the scene of some important events in the history of the nation, but in ages so remote that there is no written record to identify them with the locality ; and in traversing the district, we find few of those ancient relics by the aid of which their memorials may be traced out. On the shores beyond Bradwell stood the city of Ithanchester, in which Cedde, the first bishop of the diocese, in 658, baptised Mary in the new faith, built a church, and endowed priests and deacons to minister in it. In a later age, the Danes took possession of the Hundred, and long made it their head-quarters or camp along the coast, from which they sent forth their expeditions and plundered the other parts of the country. It was in a manner their recognised home in their earlier struggles for the mastership of the land, as its present name implies—Dengie being derived from Danes-ig, “the Danes’ island.” A thousand years have passed since that time, and a great change has been wrought in the scene. Flocks graze undisturbed on the rich marshes beyond which the long narrow war-vessels were moored. The carol of the ploughman and the tinkle of the sheep-bell are heard at twilight, instead of the martial signal. The fierce chieftain has subsided into the skilful farmer. The steel that glitters in the sun is that of the sickle or the scythe ; and instead of the wild warrior returning to his den with his prey, the rich heavy wheats of Dengie are sent forth to help to feed and fatten other parts of the kingdom.

This Hundred contains the following twenty-one parishes, irrespective

of the borough of Maldon, which is described separately:—Woodham Walt, Woodham Mart, Hazeleigh, Purleigh, Cold Norton, Stow Maries, North Frambridge, Latchingdon, Snoreham, Mundon, Steeple, Mayland, Althorne, Cricksea, Burnham, Southminster, Asheldham, Dengie, Tillingham, St. Lawrence, Bradwell.

#### ROCHFORD HUNDRED

Is bounded on three sides by water—on the south by the lower part of the Thames and the sea, eastward by the German Ocean, and on the north by the River Crouch. Its length from east to west varies from ten to seventeen miles; in width, it is about seven miles. It is a rich wheat-growing district, with its lands relieved in many places by dark woods; it is finely undulated, and there are marshes along the vale of the Crouch and the coast of the Thames and the ocean, where the population assumes a mixed agricultural and maritime character. Formerly the Hundred was regarded as a seed-bed of all kinds of aguish diseases, and this character still lingers about the islands formed by the winding of the rivers and creeks along the coast; but the progress of drainage and other agricultural improvements has removed this reproach from the mainland, and brought a healthier atmosphere with increased fertility. In old times, the care and custody of a Hundred brought substantial power and profit to noble and royal personages. In 1380, the Earl of Oxford held this bailwick on condition that he should, “at his own cost and charge, keep the fences and lodges of the King’s parks at Rayleigh, Hadleigh, and Thundersley, in repair.” Three hundred years before this, and in the earliest record, we find it and most of the land in the possession of the great Baron Twene, the reputed Dane, who saved his estates by adroitly succumbing to the Norman.

It contains the following twenty-four parishes:—Rochford, Barling, Canewdon, Eastwood, South Frambridge, Foulness Island, Hadleigh, Hawkwell, Hockley, Leigh, Paglesham, Prittlewell, Rawreth, Rayleigh, North Shoebury, South Shoebury, Shopland, Southchurch, Great Stambbridge, Little Stambbridge, Sutton, Great Wakering, Little Wakering, Ashingdon.

#### CHELMSFORD HUNDRED

Lies as nearly as possible in the centre of the country—if we lop off Tendring, which juts out to Harwich and Walton; being situate about twenty-seven miles from Bow Bridge on the one side, the same distance from Bullingdon Bridge, the Suffolk boundary on the other, twenty-four miles from Hertfordshire on the north-west, and twenty-two miles from the River Thames on the south.

The lands are for the most part fair and fertile, lying in general low,

and being well-watered by the Chelmer, the Can, the Wed, and other tributary rivulets. There are gentle valleys and graceful slopes to be found in it; and here and there the land swells up into picturesque eminences, as at Danbury Hill, at Galleywood Common, at Little Baddow, and the Church of Fryerning, from which views can be obtained stretching even into other counties.

In early times, like other districts, this formed a little local government of its own. The Hundred court was held for the trial of offences, and the inhabitants were organized for the maintenance of order, and held responsible for the escape of criminals—a liability of which a remnant survives in the action which still lies against them for damage committed by a mob. It does not, however, appear to have been a favourite spot with the old military barons. At least, they have left here none of those castle ruins which are the footprints of the race. But the cowed monks fastened thickly upon it; and their religious halls and cloistered homes were erected on many a fair spot and sheltered nook of the Hundred.

The Hundred comprises the following thirty parishes:—Great Baddow, Little Baddow, Blackmore, Boreham, Broomfield, Buttsbury, Chelmsford, Chegnal St. James, Chegnal St. Mary, Danbury, Fryerning, Hanningfield East, Hanningfield South, Hanningfield West, Ingatestone, Great Leighs, Little Leighs, Margaretting, Mountnessing, Rettendon, Roxwell, Runwell, Sandon, Springfield, Stock, Great Waltham, Little Waltham, Wedford, Woodham Ferris, Writtle.

#### WITHAM HUNDRED,

Or half-hundred, as it was anciently called, is a rich and fertile tract, skirted at one part by Chelmsford Hundred, the Chelmer flowing eastward along its border, and bounded on the west by the Hundred of Dunmow, on the north and east by the Hundreds of Hinckford, Lexden, and Thurstable, and on the south by that of Dengie. It is of a somewhat circular form, extending about nine miles each way.

The Hundred has been described as “one of the pleasantest and most fertile divisions of Essex;” and its good and varying soil, with the rich vales through which flow the Blackwater and the little streams of the Brain and the Ter, are proofs that this character has not been lightly bestowed. There are no records of its very early settlement; but its situation on the great military highway, and relics of the imperial rulers that have been found within its borders, are signs that it was not altogether unknown to the Romans; and its proximity to the strongholds and haunts of the Danes renders it probable that the first buds of civilization which had begun to sprout amidst its fairest lands were often trodden down by those fierce marauders. The Hundred comprises the

following fourteen parishes:—Witham, Cressing, Hatfield Peverel, Terling, Little Braxted, Kelvedon, Uting, Bradwell, Rivenhall, Faulkbourne, Fairstead, White Notley, Black Notley.

#### HICKFORD HUNDRED

Is the most extensive in the county: so extensive that for practical and judicial purposes it is divided into two—North Hinckford and South Hinckford.

The Hundred, which partakes of a mixed agricultural and manufacturing character, is about eighteen miles in length, by fourteen or fifteen broad, and is computed to contain one-eighth of the whole county. It reaches from Chelmsford and Witham Hundreds, adjoining it on the south and south-west down to the River Stour, which bounds it, and separates Essex from Suffolk on the north and north-east. On the north it touches on Dunmow and Freshwell, and on the east upon Lexden Hundreds. The whole tract is in general finely undulated and richly wooded; and in the fertile vales toward the lower part of the district, the hop is cultivated to some extent.

The Hundred includes the forty-seven following parishes:—Ashen, Alphamstone, Braintree, Brunden-cum-Ballingden, Belchamp St. P., Belchamp Otten, Belchamp Wait, Birdbrook, Bocking, Borley, Bulmer, Bures Hamlet, Felstead, Fenchingfield, Foxearth, Gestingthorpe, Gasfield, Halstead, Hedingham Great, Hedingham South, Great Henny, Little Henny, Lamarsh, Liston, Maplestead Great, Maplestead Little, Middleton, Ovington, Panfield, Pebmarsh, Pentlow, Rayne, Ridgewell, Great Saling, Steeple Bumpstead, Shalford, Stambourn, Stebbing, Stisted, Shirmer, Tilbury, Toppesfield, Twinstead, Weathersfield, Wickham St. Paul's, Great Yeldham, Little Yeldham.

#### FRESHWELL HUNDRED,

Or, as it is sometimes called, Half-Hundred, is a small district, about ten miles long from north to south, and six in breadth at the widest part, lying between the Hundreds of Hinckford, Dunmow, and Uttlesford, and touching at its extreme points on Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. It is of a purely rural character, with its fertile farms and pleasant hills and vales interspersed with fine woodlands. It takes its name from a spring rising in a valley near Radwinter called Freshwell, which, after joining several other rivulets, falls into the Blackwater. It includes the following ten parishes:—Bardfield Great, Bardfield Little, Bardfield Saling, Ashden, Helions Bumstead, Hadstock and Bartlow Hamlet, Hempstead, Radwinter, Great Sampford, Little Sampford.

## UTTLESFORD HUNDRED

Lies between Clavering Hundred, and those of Dunmow and Freshwell; at one point it touches upon Herts, and its extreme point borders upon Cambridgeshire. The old Roman military way known as Ikene-street traversed part of this district, and the tract from Littlebury through the Chesterfords is rich with the remains of those imperial rulers of the land.

This Hundred contains the following twenty-five parishes:—Takeley, Arkesden, Birchanger, Great Chesterford, Little Chesterford, Great Chishall, Little Chishall, Debden, Elmden, Elserham, Haydon, Henham, Littlebury, Newport, Quendon, Rickling, Stansted, Mountfitchet, Strethall, Wendens, Ambs, Wenden Lofts, Wicken Benant, Widdington, Wimbish with Thundersley.

## CLAVERING HUNDRED

Is the smallest Hundred in the county, and lies on the north-western side, and is bounded on the west and south by Hertfordshire. The Hundred comprises the narrow tract of land lying on the north side of the railway between Bishop Stortford and Newport, extending about nine miles, but not more than four, and in some places only two, in breadth. This lordship was part of the possessions of Suene, and Claveringbury Castle was of some note as one of the strongholds of feudal days. It gave name to the family of De Clavering, which dwelt here; and at different periods it was in the hands of various noble owners till it came, through a grant of Queen Mary, to the Barringtons of Hatfield Broad Oak. The Castle, which stood near Clavering Church, fell with the feudalism it represented and upheld. The only traces left by the ancient lords of Clavering are traces of the works round the area of their Castle home, and of the deep trench by which it was defended.

It comprises the following six parishes:—Clavering, Berden, Farnham, Langley, Manewden, Ugley.

## HARLOW HALF HUNDRED

Does not exceed in extent some of the larger parishes in the county. Joining Dunmow Hundred on the east, it skirts the forest woodlands, and westward is bounded by the Stort, which divides Essex from Hertfordshire. It is eleven miles long, by from three to six broad. The district is conveniently situated for communication with the neighbouring counties; the railway, which twines with the Stort along its border, occasionally plunges into it, and throws out its stations here and there. The scenery in the summer months is exceedingly picturesque. As we ascend some of the hill-tops of the Hundred, we catch glimpses of rich vales, quiet farms, and

scattered villages, with a dark mass of forest land in the distance. There are no striking historical events connected with the locality, no battlefields to wander over, nor castle ruins to inspect; but we find it to have been in Roman Catholic times a perfect nest of monks, there being five monastic institutions within it, while the neighbouring Abbey of Waltham drew much of its fatness from tracts of its land.

It contains the following eleven parishes:—Harlow, Great Hallingburg, Little Hallingburg, Hatfield Broad Oak, Latton, Matching, Rettswell, Great Parndon, Little Parndon, Roydon, Sheering.

#### THE HUNDRED OF DUNMOW

Is composed of a long narrow tract of land, stretching from the outer verge of Thaxted towards Saffron Walden at one end, and to Mashbury, within five miles of Chelmsford, on the other, a distance of nearly twenty miles. It is not more than eight miles across at the broadest part, and at some points it narrows to little more than half this distance.

The Hundred is intersected at some points by deep valleys, which give picturesqueness to its high lands and variety to its soil; and through some of these lower grounds, the Roden and the Chelmer, which take their rise in this part of the county, flow. Much of this land is loam or chalky clay, and a large quantity of the barley supplied to the maltings of Stortford and Ware is grown in the district. Lying midway between the two great arteries of traffic, the high roads and railways communicating with Suffolk, Norfolk, and Cambridgeshire, its inhabitants are chiefly employed on local trades and the pursuit of agriculture; but it is a Hundred rich in remains and memories of the past. Its two chief towns, Dunmow and Thaxted, still bear in their streets marks of the quaint style of olden times. Many of its churches are beautiful specimens of the magnificence and architectural taste of former ages. The choir of the Priory Church at Little Dunmow, with its laughable legend, and the ruins of Tilty Abbey, tell of the ecclesiastical splendour which once adorned the district; and as we ascend the green turf which covers the huge mound of rubbish at Pleshy and Canfield, we stand upon all that remains of the power of the Lord High Constables of England, and the splendour of the once mighty De Veres.

Dunmow comprises the following twenty-five parishes:—Burnston, Broxted, Great Canfield, Little Canfield, Chickney, Great Dunmow, Little Dunmow, Good Easter, High Easter, Great Easton, Little Easton, Landsell, Mashbury, Pleshy, High Roothing, Aythorp, Berners, Leaden, Margaret, White, Morrell Hamlet, Shellow Bowels, Thaxted, Tilty, Willingale Doe, Willingale Spain.

Great Dunmow is pleasantly situated on an eminence close to the river Chelmer, one of the finest trout streams in England. A number of Roman coins have been found here, and some antiquaries suppose it to be the Roman station *Cæsaromagus*, which others fix near Widford, not far from Chelmsford. On the road from hence to Colchester are the remains of a Roman Causeway. Dunmow consists principally of two streets. It has a Market-cross in the centre of the town, erected in 1578, and repaired in 1761. The Church is a large building of considerable antiquity. Some portions of this edifice (including the east window, which is a very fine one) are in the decorated English style, and others in the perpendicular. It has an embattled tower at the west end, and over its entrance are the arms of several noble families carved in stone. Dunmow has meeting-houses for Independents, Baptists, and Quakers. Baize and blankets were manufactured here in great quantities; but this branch of trade has been given up. The manufacture of sacking and a species of coarse cloth is, however, carried on.

Little Dunmow stands two miles east of Dunmow, where a Priory of Augustine Canons was founded in 1104 by the Lady Juga, sister to Ralph Baynard, the then lord of the manor. This pious lady built a Church also, a large and stately fabric, the roofs sustained with rows of columns, whose capitals were ornamented with oak leaves elegantly carved, some of which still remain in the part now used as the parish church. This was the eastern end of the ancient choir, with the north aisle. Under an arch in the south wall is an old tomb, said to contain the body of the foundress. The Church contains some curious monuments; one to the memory of Walter Fitzwalter, a powerful baron of the reign of Henry III., who died in 1198, and is said to have been a descendant of the Lady Juga. To this noble is ascribed the institution of the ceremony of giving a fitch of bacon to any married persons who would, in the presence of the prior, kneeling upon two sharp stones in the churchyard, take the following oath:—

“ You shall swear by the custom of your confession,  
 That you never made any nuptial transgression  
 Since you were married man and wife,  
 By household brawls, or contentious strife;  
 Or otherwise in bed or at board,  
 Offended each other in deed or word;  
 Or since the parish clerk said amen,  
 Wished yourself unmarried again;  
 Or in a twelvemonth and a day  
 Repented not in thought any way.  
 But continued true, and in desire,  
 As when you joined hands in holy choir.

If to these conditions, without all fear,  
 Of your own accord you will freely swear,  
 A whole gammon of bacon you shall receive,  
 And bear it hence with love and good leave ;  
 For this our custom at Dunmow well known,  
 Though the pleasure be ours, the bacon's your own."

The fitch, which is a side of bacon, was the express reward of this uncommon nuptial agreement ; though the word gammon (a ham) is used in the oath, perhaps as more suitable to the rhyme. The first persons on record who claimed this reward were Richard Wright and his wife, of Bradbourn, in Norfolk, in the reign of Henry IV. The last time it was claimed was in 1751, when a large print was engraved of the ceremony which took place on the occasion—the parties, after they had taken the oath, being carried in procession through the town on men's shoulders, with the bacon borne before them. Of late years attempts have been made to revive the ancient custom, but these were only theatrical exhibitions. The old fun and spirit of the ceremony were entirely gone.

#### ONGAR HUNDRED

Extends from that of Dunmow on the north to Havering on the south, a distance of about fourteen miles ; but in breadth from Waltham on the west to the verge of the Hundreds of Chelmsford, Chafford, and Barstable, which it skirts on the east, it narrows in parts to about seven miles. The Hundred is exceedingly pleasant, being finely undulated, and touching at several points upon the forest. Of the part towards Epping, it was written a hundred years ago—"It may with propriety be called the garden of Essex, from the pleasing variety of the hills and vales, the fertility of the soil, the goodness of the roads, the neatness of the buildings, and the many additional ornaments it receives from the number of noblemen's and gentlemen's seats with which it abounds."

In this and some of the neighbouring Hundreds, various estates were held by the tenure of "attending the wardstaff," a curious old ceremony intended, as far as we can judge from the allusion to it in records, to secure an annual muster and brief training of the men upon whom devolved certain duties at a time when the preservation of the peace and the protection of property were left very much in the people's own keeping. A description of this proceeding has been preserved in a manuscript account of the rents of the Hundred at the time they were granted to John Stoner of Loughton in the reign of Henry VIII. It is there described as having been observed "not only in the time of King Edward III. and Robert the Bruce, some time King of Scots, but also in the time of his noble progenitors, kings of England, long before which the

Saxons inhabited this realm, as manifestly may appear more at large by ancient records thereof made by Humphrey de Bohun, the Earl of Hereford and Essex, and Constable of England, lord of the said Hundred, dated at Pleshy the 10th of July, in the eleventh year of the reign of the same King Edward, as also by divers other records in the Saxon tongue."

This Hundred contains the following twenty-six parishes:—Ongar Chipping, Ongar High, Chigwell, Fyfield, Greenstead, Kelvedon Hatch, Lambourne, High Laver, Little Laver, Magdalen Laver, Loughton, Moreton, Navestock, Bobbingworth, North Weald, Norton Mandeville, Abbess Roothing, Beauch Roothing, Shelley, Stanford Rivers, Staple Abbots, Staple Tawney, Stondon Massey, Thordon Bois, Thoydon Garnon, Thoydon Mount.

## WALTHAM HALF HUNDRED

Lies at the western corner of the county, where it is bounded by the River Lea, and joins on the other side the Hundreds of Harlow and Ongar. From north to south, it is about ten miles; its breadth at the widest part is only six miles, which is narrowed in some places to two. Though small in extent, the Hundred was of considerable importance in old times as the seat of the great Abbey of Waltham, and the scene through which kings and courtiers, issuing from the neighbouring hunting place of Chigwell, were seen following the stag through the forest glades. In monkish times, the forest lands hereabout had the reputation of being a favourite promenade of visitors from the other world; but the rule of the dark vale and the wood was shared by beings of more substantial shape—the Waltham Blacks, as they were designated, from the blacking their faces, a sort of lawless community of Robin Hoods. The poet has thus described a night scene in the locality:—

“Deep in the forest’s dreary tracks,  
Where ranged at large fierce Waltham Blacks,  
There passengers with wild affright  
Shrunk from the horrors of the night;  
Where o’er the marsh false meteors beam,  
And glowworms in the bushes gleam:  
There, through the woods, o’er meadows dank,  
The merry devils frisk and prank.”

The muse, too, has added an anecdote of the kind of ghost that walked the marsh, in the account of the escape of the Lady Millisent from the neighbouring nunnery:—

“Behold a maid still fearless rove,  
Fair Millisent, the child of love;  
From Cheston’s dome she wanders darkling,  
Arrayed in white, her eyebeams sparkling;

Astound, the curate and mine host  
 Exclaim that they have seen a ghost !  
 Yet Munchensey does soon discover  
 She's mortal to her favoured lover."

The ghosts appear to have left the scene in disgust after the suppression of the religious houses. The Hundred comprises only four parishes—Waltham Holy Cross, Epping, Nazing, Chingford.

#### BECONTREE HUNDRED,

From the smallness of its extent, has sometimes been called a Half Hundred, but is described as a Hundred in Domesday Book. For its size, it is the most thickly-populated Hundred in the whole county. The Hundred occupies the south-west corner of the county, between Havering Liberty, Ongar, and Waltham Hundreds, and the Lea, and is bounded on the south by the Thames. Its name is derived from an important beacon—one of the telegraph posts of ancient times—which stood upon a hill now occupied by a mill at Woodford; and the district appears to have long been, as now, a favourite suburban retreat of the London merchants.

The Hundred is the last in the county Londonward, and contains the following nine parishes:—Barking, Dagenham, East Ham, West Ham, Leyton, Little Ilford, Wanstead, Walthamstow, Woodford.

#### BARSTABLE HUNDRED

Is of a straggling character, a narrow strip of it extending across the high road below Brentwood; and skirting Chelmsford Hundred, it runs 17 miles up to that of Rochford, at Rayleigh and Hadleigh. From this point it extends along the river up to Grays, and on the west it adjoins to Chafford. It is pleasantly undulated, and the south and south-eastern parts command a series of fine water-side views.

It contains the following thirty-three parishes:—Bemfleet South, Bemfleet North, Bowers Gifford, Bulphan, Burstead Great and Billericay, Little Burstead, Chadwell, Curringham, Doddinghurst, Downham, Dunton, Fobbing, Horndon East, Horndon West, Horndon-on-Hill, Hutton, Ingrave, Laindon Hills, Laindon, Basildon, Mucking, Nevendon, Orsett, Pitsea, Ramsden Crays, Rams, Bellhouse, Shenfield, Stanford-le-Hope, Thundersley, Thurrock Little, Tilbury East, Tilbury West, Vange, Wickford.

At the furthest part of the Hundred, on the river side, is Little Thurrock, adjacent to Grays; and below it are the Tilburys, East and West, originally forming one parish. At East Tilbury there was an ancient ferry across the Thames, leading to the famous Roman road on the opposite shore, known as Higham Causeway; and this is believed to have been the spot where the Emperor Claudius, A.D. 45, crossed the river

in pursuit of the Britons. West Tilbury lies just above it, and this locality was the site of one of the ancient cities of the land, named Tillabury, which, from its name, appears to have been a Roman station, and from hence the Imperial rulers made a road to Billericay. Bede, in the seventh century, mentions Tillabury as a place of importance, and as one of the first storehouses from whence the riches of the Christian religion were distributed over the land. A later historian says: "Certain it is that here was, in the seventh century, a considerable town, though now reduced to a poor village, for when Cedd, or St. Chad, came, and again converted the Saxons to Christianity, and was consecrated bishop of this diocese, he fixed one of his episcopal sees at Tillabury." This Cedd flourished about 654, and we find little notice of Tillabury after that date. Probably it was destroyed by the incursions of the Danes in the succeeding ages. We do not find that any remains of its ancient strength or dignity have been brought to light. That the parish, however, long continued more populous than it is now may be inferred from the fact that a free Chapel, said to have been founded in the time of St. Thomas à Beckett, formerly stood a mile from the Church, on the very spot in which the battlements of Tilbury Fort have been raised since. This formidable fortress, which effectually guards the passage of the river, was originally erected by Henry VIII. as a block house. When the country was menaced by the Spanish Armada, great efforts were made to get the fort into order, so as to repel the expected attack of the enemy. Of this a full account is given, under the proper date, in our historical narrative.

## CHAFFORD HUNDRED

Is a long narrow strip of land, strangely intersected and intermixed, as if marked out at random on the map, extending thirteen miles from Brentwood, in a southerly direction to the Thames at Grays. On the northern point at South Weald, it is little more than two miles wide; and at its broadest part, from west to east, it is about seven.

The parish of Shenfield, belonging to Barstable, is thrust in between it and Chelmsford Hundred; and its boundary ends away to a sharp narrow point by the side of Havering, where it touches upon Ongar district. The name of the Hundred, like the parish of Chadwell, is believed to have been derived from Bishop Cidd—or, as the vulgar pronounce the name, Chad—the planter of Christianity in the district in the early Saxon period. He was the second Bishop of London, being appointed in 658, and he is stated by Bede to have been very active in this district. So highly was the bishop venerated for the doctrine and

civilization he sowed, that his name was placed in the list of Saxon saints. It might, therefore, naturally be used to give distinction to the district; and with the addition of the ford through the Ingrebrun on the river to Purfleet, in time gave name to the Hundred. Most of the land is good, with rich marsh pasture towards the river. Indeed, there is arable land in West Thurrock, which produces continuous heavy crops without manure; and nearly the whole tract on the level stretching from Purfleet to Tilbury is of the same character. The northern part is thickly studded with mansions and parks, abounding as it does with scenes of rich rural beauty, and combining easy access to the Metropolis, with all the enjoyments of country life. There is not a trace left of monastic ruins, nor a remnant of baronial prison-walls, which remind us of the system and sufferings of departed days.

The Hundred comprises the following fifteen parishes:—Aveley, Childer-ditch, Cranham, Ockendon North, Ockendon South, Rainham, South Weald, Brentwood, Stifford, Thurrock (Grays), Thurrock West, Upminster, Warley (Great), Warley (Little), Wennington.

#### LIBERTY OF HAVERING-ATTE-BOWER.

This ancient Liberty, which is ruled by a high steward, deputy steward, clerk of the peace, and a coroner, and has the singular privilege of appointing its own magistrates by popular suffrage, is situate about twelve miles from London. It is bounded by Becontree, Ongar, and Chafford Hundreds, but extends to the Thames on the south, where it is less than a mile in width. It is about four and a-half miles from east to west, and extends about nine miles inland to the northward. Romford, with its Town Hall, in which the quarter sessions and other courts are held, is now virtually the capital, as it has been for ages past, though Hornchurch was the mother parish, this being originally an offshoot or chapelry. It has been generally thought that in early times the high road passed through Hornchurch, and so on by Upminster, Warley, and Hutton, to Ingatestone; but we are disposed to believe that the Romans carried their road from London to Colchester very nearly along the present track, and that close to this spot they fixed their station of Durolitum, mentioned by the Itinerary. The tradition of the neighbourhood states this to have been at Old Church, situate half-a-mile from Romford, on the green lane or Roman road running from Great Ilford to Hornchurch; and this tradition is in some degree confirmed by an old map of Romford of the date 1696, on which about forty acres of land are variously described as "Ruin Meadow," "Great Ruings," "Lower Ruings," and "Three Little Ruings," all being near the Church. The whole of this peculiar district was in the earliest

ages one manor under the king, and formed a part of Becontree Hundred ; but as the palace at Havering gradually grew into greater importance, and became more frequently a place of royal resort, it was erected into a liberty, with courts of its own to administer justice in ecclesiastical, civil, and criminal matters, even to the inflicting of the punishment of death—the object being to give greater security to the court, and dignity to the officers who dwelt around it. This, however, being royal demesne, and often the home of the Sovereign, there is reason to believe that privileges were enjoyed and local powers were exercised not usual in a simple manor, and which the charters afterwards granted did little more than consolidate and confirm.

The Liberty comprises the three following parishes :—Romford, Havering, Hornchurch.

### THE TOWNS IN ESSEX.

These are generally of small size, situated near rivers or roads, or the railways from London to Harwich eastward, or from London to Cambridge northward. Along the Colchester line of railway there are stations at Stratford, Ilford, for Barking, Brentwood, Ingatestone, Chelmsford, Witham, Kelvedon, Marks Tey, for Sudbury, Colchester, Ardleigh, Manningtree, and Harwich, all in the direction from west to east. We now proceed to describe the towns in the above order, briefly noticing their antiquities.

#### STRATFORD

Stands at the junction of the roads leading through the middle of Essex eastward, and into Cambridgeshire northward. It is one of the wards of West Ham parish in Essex, only three miles distant from London, and has become a very important place, crowded with factories, chemical works, and other trading establishments ; but foremost amongst these are the extensive works of the Railway Company for the repair of their engines, trucks, &c. These railway works cover an area of twenty acres of land, the engine rooms alone occupying an acre. The continual departure and arrival of trains causes a great bustle at the railway station both day and night.

West Ham is the most thickly populated parish in Essex, doubling the whole population of some of the smaller Hundreds in the county. Its hamlets have grown into towns, and it has become a busy suburb of the great Metropolis, which pours its redundant population into this part of the county.

Stratford Abbey stood in marshes near a branch of the River Lea, and

was founded about the year 1134 by William de Montfitchet for brethren of the Cistercian Order, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Saints. It was endowed with the Manor of West Ham.

The village of Stratford, or Stratford Langthorn, may be regarded as a prolongation of the suburbs of the Metropolis, being joined to it by an almost continuous line of buildings, constituting the village of Bow, or Stratford-le-Bow, in Middlesex. A bridge was built over the River Lea at Bow, by Matilda, wife of Henry I.; it was repaired by Queen Eleanor, but was taken down thirty-six years ago, and a neat one of granite erected in its place. The old bridge was so high in its centre that it resembled a bent bow. Hence the name of the village, Stratford-le-Bow.

#### BARKING PARISH

Lies below East Ham upon a short sheltered creek of the Thames formed by a debouchement of the River Roden. It has become a town, recently much improved, with good houses and shops, and a population of 5000, independent of its outlying wards, which form goodly villages of themselves. The land around is chiefly devoted to the production of vegetables for the London markets. Fishing is the chief business of the inhabitants, about 200 smacks of from 40 to 60 tons each, carrying ten men and boys, being engaged in this healthy employment in the North Sea.

The parish was formerly divided into four wards, namely, Barking Town, Ilford, Ripple, and Chadwell, now divided into two parishes, Barking and Ilford. Barking has figured conspicuously in our ancient annals, chiefly in consequence of the noble Abbey that once graced it, and said to have been the first convent for women in England. The Abbey was founded about A.D. 670, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary in the reigns of Sebba and Segber, Kings of the East Saxons, by Erkenbald, Bishop of London, in compliance with the earnest desire of his sister Ethelburgh, who was appointed the first Abbess.

#### ILFORD

Is a ward and chapelry in the parish of Barking, seven miles by road distant from London. It contains few places of note, being chiefly occupied by farmers and market gardeners. There is, however, in the village, a paper mill, a house of correction, a chapel, and some alms houses. Great Ilford is a town equalling the mother parish in population, and has a handsome Church, built in 1831 at a cost of £3500. This district includes Chadwell Ward; Barking Side, where a new Church was erected in 1840 at a cost of £3,000; and Alborough Hatch, where there

is a Chapel-of-Ease. Within its circuit there are many handsome residences.

ROMFORD (ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR),

A market town and parish, and the head of a union, in the Liberty of Havering-atte-Bower, south division of the County of Essex, seventeen miles south-west from Chelmsford, and twelve east-north-east from London. It is situated on the road from London to Norwich, and consists chiefly of one long wide street, which is well paved and lighted with gas. The houses are tolerably good, and the inhabitants are well supplied with water. A brewery for ale and porter has been established for nearly a century. The Eastern Counties Railway crosses the road near the town. In 1836, an Act was passed for making a railway from Romford to Shellhaven, and for constructing a tide-dock at its termination. The work is commonly called the Thames Haven Railway. The market, held on Wednesday, was granted in 1247, and is the general market for all kinds of agricultural produce, cattle, &c.; there is also one on Tuesday for calves; and one for hogs was formerly held on Monday, but is now discontinued. A fair takes place on Midsummer-day for horses and cattle, and a statute fair for hiring servants on the market-days next before and after September 29th. The parish, which with the parishes of Hornchurch and Havering constitutes "The Liberty of Havering-atte-Bower," was formerly considered one of the wards of Hornchurch; but by an Act of Parliament passed for the regulation of the poor in 1786, it is recognised as a separate parish, although as regards ecclesiastical affairs it is still partly dependent on Hornchurch. The earliest charter was granted by Edward the Confessor, which has received several confirmations and additions, and the government is vested in a high steward, deputy steward, and justice, who are a corporation exercising magisterial authority, and have a patent authorising them to hear and determine, every three weeks, all actions for debts, trespasses, ejectments, and replevins, in a court of ancient demesne. The tenants of the liberty claim exemption from toll everywhere throughout the realm, both for goods and cattle sold, and provisions purchased; from payment towards the county expenses; and also a personal exemption from being empanelled on juries and inquests, save within their own liberty; with various other privileges.

The living is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the Warden and Fellows of New College, Oxford, to whom all the tithes were given by William of Wykeham. The Church was erected in 1407, and consists of a nave, north aisle, and chancel, with a tower at the west end; in the east window is the figure of the patron saint, in fine old painted glass, and there are several ancient monumental tablets and effigies, of which the

most remarkable are, one to Sir Anthony Coke, Ambassador to Elizabeth, who died in 1576, and was interred here; and two others to the memory of George Hervey, Knight, and his daughter. The edifice was re-pewed in 1841, and 680 additional sittings obtained, of which 534 are free, in consideration of a grant of £500 from the Incorporated Society. There are places of worship for Independents and Wesleyans. A free school for children of both sexes was erected in 1728, and has been endowed with various benefactions amounting to more than £1,300; it is further supported by subscription, and is on the national plan. An almshouse was founded by Roger Reed in 1483 for the support of five men and their wives, and re-built in 1784; the value of the endowment is £422 10s. per annum. The new Union Workhouse was erected at a cost of £10,000, and the Union comprises ten parishes or places.

Here were anciently a guild and a chantry, the revenue of the former of which was valued at the dissolution at £4 10s. 2d., and of the latter at £13; also an hospital, a cell to that of Mount St. Bernard, in the Savoy, London, founded at an early period, and dedicated to St. Nicholas and St. Bernard. There is a mineral spring in the Park of Gidea Hall of some repute among the poor. Francis Quarles, the poet, and author of "The Divine Emblems," who was cupbearer to the Queen of Bohemia, and afterwards secretary to Archbishop Usher, was a native of the place. Many ancient mansions formerly stood in the neighbourhood, but most of them were demolished and replaced by modern seats of the gentry. These all lack the savour of historical interest.

#### BRENTWOOD,

Though only a hamlet of South Weald, is yet the principal town in the Hundred, and may be regarded as the head of it. It is situated at the extreme northern corner, about eighteen miles from London, on picturesque high ground, and is surrounded by park lands, woods, and commons, and pleasant alternations of hill and dale, with scenery as fine as can be found anywhere in the county. The place was of some note in very early ages. South Weald is stated to have been one of the first inhabited spots in the Forest of Essex, and as it lay upon the old Roman way, it was probably a halting station for the Imperial legions on their march; possibly, at times, a point of more permanent occupation. A few earthen vessels and other relics of that people have been dug up in the neighbourhood. In later times, when the county had become Christianized, Brentwood was the halting-place of pilgrims to the shrine of St. Thomas à Becket, whence a gate across the road to Ongar obtained the name of Pilgrim's Hatch, which appellation the hamlet still retains. The

manor of Brentwood, or Costhall, was given by William de Wockendon to the Abbey of St. Osyth, and to catch the offerings of the religious travellers who took this direction to cross the river into Kent, and partly to accommodate their own tenants, the monks in 1221 built the little chapel which, embrowned with the storms of 600 years, still stands in the main street. It was dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, and a priest was to officiate there daily. After the cessation of pilgrimages and prayers for the dead, the place continued to be used as a place of public worship by the inhabitants of Brentwood; but in 1835 they had completely outgrown it, and a neat new Church was erected on the south side of the town, at a cost of £3,500, which was raised by subscription; and the living is now a perpetual curacy in the patronage of C. T. Tower, Esq.

Brentwood is generally thought to have been once the assize town; and the assize house, which still exists on the south side of the street, is pointed to as a proof of its claim to this dignity. A trustworthy historian of the last century thus adopts and confirms the tradition:—

“The assizes have been sometimes kept in this town, but the unreasonable expense of obtaining that favour, the want of proper and sufficient accommodation, and the distance of the place from the northern and largest parts of the shire, have generally caused them to be fixed, as well as the sessions, at Chelmsford.” Even in the last century, Brentwood had its public races in rivalry of those at Chelmsford, a course being formed on Warley Common; and we find from a detail of the sports in September, 1765, that they were kept up for two days, and plates of £50 were run for. These have long been discontinued, and the memory of them has almost departed. The town, however, has not decayed. It is one of the few places which have drawn life and vigour from the railway. The Crown Inn, which was a hostelry for 400 years, and was for two centuries in the occupation of the family of Salmon, is now the County Bank; but another very ancient inn, the White Hart, which for some ages has kept its hospitable door open for the traveller, still flourishes. The old houses have been much improved; new villas have sprung up around, almshouses, industrial schools, and asylums of city companies have been built in the vicinity; and the town bears about it the appearance of prosperity, and the signs of further extension.

The Grammar School which stands at the entrance of the town, on the road leading to Ingrave, was founded by Sir Anthony Browne, who obtained the property of the Abbey here after the suppression, he having procured a royal license for the purpose in 1557. The master was to be a priest, nominated by him and his heirs. Two guardians of lands and possessions, inhabitants of South Weald, were to be put in and out at the discretion of the patron; and the body was to be a perpetual corporation,

with a common seal. It was endowed with the tithes of Dagenham and Chigwell Grange. By a decree in Chancery in 1570, the Bishop of London and the Dean of St. Paul's were made visitors; and in 1622 the institutions of the school, which had been drawn up in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, were published by authority. It was to be open to all boys of the parish, or any other parish within three miles of the school-house, and they were to be taught "Grammar learning gratis." The value of the tithes of Dagenham in the last century was stated to be £400 a-year, and Chigwell Grange was set down at £80; but by the increase in the value of property, the first now yields more than £1000, and the other £330. When the Charity Commissioners made their inquiry they found the benefits of the school fell far short of the requirements of the district and the capabilities of the endowment. At their instance an attempt was made to shake off the cobwebs which had been woven around the institution and crippled its usefulness. A long course of litigation followed, spreading over more than twenty years; decrees, appeals, and fresh suits protracted the case, till at last in 1848 it was found necessary to resort to an Act of Parliament to give effect to a new scheme of the Court of Chancery to vary and extend the trusts, enlarge the charitable uses, and regulate the property of the institution. By this, new life has been given to the whole. C. T. Tower, Esq., as lord of the manor and owner of the property, which belonged to Sir Anthony, continues the patron, but the affairs of the trust are administered by wardens, selected from gentlemen of the district.

The Church is a fine ancient building, its stone tower rising above the trees on the hill top—a sacred landmark to the country around. Entering the yard by a lich or corpse gate of the fifteenth century, we approach the Church, which is well calculated to arrest the attention of the antiquarian. The tower was built in the reign of Henry VII., but the other parts of the edifice are of more ancient date. The early English pillars, which divide the chancel and nave, north chapel and aisle, rest on Norman foundations. The building contains several elegant monuments, one to Hugh Smith, Esq., a former lord of the manor; another to the Neave family; and in the centre of the chancel stands the tomb of Sir Anthony Browne, of delicate workmanship, the top covered with a black marble slab, but the figures are much mutilated, and most of the brasses, which contained shields and a legend, are gone. At the feet of the figures is the following inscription in Latin:—

Sir Anthony Browne, Knight,  
Justice of the Queen's Bench.  
He died May 16th, 1567, aged 57.  
And Johanna his wife.

The County Lunatic Asylum. To the south of Brentwood, on the brow of a hill, finely adapted for the purpose, stands the County Lunatic Asylum. A building as noble in its object as in its architecture. The first stone of the building was laid by C. G. Round, Esq., on the 2nd of October, 1851, and it was opened for the reception of patients on the 23rd of September, 1853. The style of the building is mediæval of the Tudor period. The total cost of the asylum was £89,557. It is capable of containing between four and five hundred patients. The staff consists of a doctor, medical superintendent, a chaplain, a medical assistant and dispenser, a steward and clerk, with twenty-seven male and twenty-six female attendants and servants.

## INGATESTONE

Is an ancient place, but it has fallen on evil days. The Market-place is partly enclosed; the cattle market has entirely disappeared, and a formerly flourishing town is now a small village. The parish Church is in the perpendicular style of the fifteenth century, and it contains many monuments to the Petre family, who once resided in the neighbourhood. Near the railway station are the park and plantations of the Hyde, the seat of Edgar Disney, Esq. The mansion, which is quadrangular, of red and black brick, was built in its modern style by Timothy Brand, Esq., in 1713, and it contained many curious remains of past times.

## CHELMSFORD (ST. MARY),

A market town and parish, and the head of a union in the hundred of Chelmsford, south division of the county of Essex, of which it is the chief town, twenty-nine miles (north-east by east) from London on the road to Yarmouth, containing, with Moulsham, 6789 inhabitants. In the reign of Edward the Confessor, and at the time of the Norman survey, it was in the possession of the Bishops of London; and two buildings, still called Bishop's Hall and Bishop's Mill, seem to indicate its having been either permanently or occasionally their residence. In other respects it was an inconsiderable place till the reign of Henry I., when Maurice, Bishop of London, built a stone bridge of three arches over the river Cam; and diverting the road, which previously passed through Writtle, made Chelmsford the great thoroughfare to the eastern parts of the county, and to Suffolk and Norfolk. From this period the town increased in importance; and its trade so much improved, that in the reign of Edward III. it sent four representatives to a grand council at Westminster. A Convent for Black or Dominican Friars was established at an early period, the foundation of which has been erroneously attributed to Malcolm, King of Scotland; its revenue at the dissolution was £9 6s. 5d. In

this convent, of which only the site is visible, Thomas Landford, a friar, compiled a universal chronicle, from the creation to his own time. During the war with France, two extensive ranges of barracks for 4000 men were erected near the town, both of which have been taken down; and at a short distance from it, a line of embankments, defended by star batteries, of which some traces are still remaining, was raised to protect the approaches to the metropolis from the eastern coast. The town, which is surrounded by interesting scenery, is well paved and lighted with gas; the houses are in general modern and well built, and the inhabitants are amply supplied with water.

Considerable improvements have been made of late years in the appearance of the town and neighbourhood; a handsome iron bridge has been erected over the Chelmer; and more recently a road has been formed, commencing at the twenty-eighth milestone on the London road, and after crossing the River Cam, by an elegant iron bridge (about 100 yards from the stone bridge erected in 1787, and connecting Chelmsford with the hamlet of Moulsham), enters the town about the centre of the High Street. An elegant building, called the Institute, has been built for the delivery of lectures, for concerts and public meetings; and near the Eastern Counties Railway, which passes a little to the west of the town, numerous villas have been erected. Races, which continued for two days, were held in August, on Galleywood Common, about two miles from the town, where there is an excellent two-mile course. The trade consists principally of corn, which is sent to London, and in the traffic arising from the situation of the town as a great public thoroughfare; there are several large corn mills on the banks of the Chelmer. A navigable canal to the River Blackwater, twelve miles distant, was constructed in 1796. The market is held on Friday, for corn, cattle, and provisions; fairs are held on May the 12th and November the 12th. The town is within the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold petty sessions for the division every Tuesday and Friday; and constables and other officers are appointed at the court leet of the lord of the manor, who also holds a court baron occasionally. The assizes and sessions for the county, and the election of Knights for the Southern Division of the Shire, are held here. The Shirehall is an elegant and commodious structure, fronted with Portland stone, and having a rustic basement, from which rise four handsome pillars of the Ionic order, supporting a triangular pediment: the upper part of the front is ornamented with appropriate figures, in basso-relievo, of wisdom, justice, and mercy: in the lower part is an area for the Corn Market. The old County Gaol, completed in 1777 at an expense of upwards of £18,000, is a spacious and handsome stone building, in the hamlet of Moulsham; it is appropriated exclusively to the reception of persons confined for debt,

and to prisoners committed for trial. Adjoining the gaol and incorporated with it, is the House of Correction, used for convicted female prisoners. It was built in 1806 at an expense of £7500. The new Convict Gaol at Springfield Hill, on the road to Colchester, is a very extensive and well-arranged building of brick ornamented with stone, begun in October, 1822, and completed in 1825, at an expense of £55,739 17s. 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., and capable of containing 254 prisoners, of whom 218 may be confined in separate cells. A building has lately been erected for the reception of vagrants.

The parish comprises 2348 acres, of which the soil is generally a deep rich loam, occasionally intermixed with gravel, and producing fair average crops. The living is a rectory, valued in the King's books at £31 2s. 6d.; it is in the patronage of Lady John Mildmay. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £500, and the glebe contains 15 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres, valued at £25 per annum, to which there is a glebe house. The body of the Church has been re-built, at the cost of £15,000, the former having fallen down in 1800 from the unskilfulness of some workmen, who in digging a vault undermined two of the principal pillars. It is a stately structure of the later English style, with a square embattled tower, crowned with pinnacles, and surmounted with a lofty spire. A Chapel-of-Ease, in a modern style of architecture, has been erected in the hamlet of Moulsham, on a site given by Lady Mildmay, and was consecrated in 1839. There are places of worship for Independents, Baptists, Irvingites, the Society of Friends, and Wesleyans; there is also a Roman Catholic Chapel at Newhall. The Free Grammar School was founded and endowed in 1551 by Edward VI.; the income is about £488. In common with those of Maldon and Brentwood, it has an exhibition of £6 per annum to Caius College, Cambridge. The school-house was re-built by R. Benyon, Esq., in 1782, on the site of a more ancient one erected by Sir John Tyrrell, Bart. Philemon Holland, translator of Camden's *Britannia*, and a native of Chelmsford; John Dee, the celebrated mathematician; Sir Walter Mildmay, Bart., founder of Emmanuel College, Cambridge; and Dr. Plume, Archbishop of Rochester, received the rudiments of their education in the establishment. A school for the maintenance and instruction of boys, founded in 1713, and a school for girls, founded in 1714, are supported by endowment and subscription. A school on the national plan for boys, girls, and infants was erected by subscription in 1841, and there is a Lancastrian school. Six alms-houses in the hamlet of Moulsham, founded by Sir Thomas and Lady Mildmay in 1565, were re-built by William Mildmay, Esq., in 1758; four in Baddow-lane, erected by the sale of a barn given by William Davis in 1520 for the use of the poor, have also been re-built, and two tenements added at the expense of the

parish. Chelmsford Poor Law Union comprises thirty-one parishes or places, and contains a population of 30,603. The inhabitants of an island in the river have from time immemorial practised the form of electing a representative in Parliament, which takes place either on a dissolution of Parliament or the vacation of a member for the county.

#### WITHAM,

The capital of the Hundred, owes its origin as a town to the precautions taken to guard against the incursions which the Danes were accustomed to make from the creeks and marshes of Dengre. The ancient Britons, it is clear, encamped in the pleasant spots of the forest hereabouts. Cinerary urns of that people, 2000 years old, have been dug up recently in the fields. The old Saxon chronicle states that in 913, "in the summer, betwixt gong day (Ascension) and Midsummer, King Edward came with some of his forces into Essex to Meldunes, and abode there while men worked and built a town at Witham. And a good deal of the folks submitted to him that were before under the dominion of the Danes." This, however, has little to do with the modern town of Witham, which in the course of time grew up near the highway. In 1380 it had attained so much importance that the Prior of St. John, as lord of the manor, obtained a license to hold a market. From this time the hamlet gradually drew off the trade of the little town. Hostelries arose to accommodate the passing traffic; houses were erected in the quaint style of the age with their gables to the street, and the old town at Chipping Hill was deserted.

A great change appears to have come over the character of the houses in the last century (1737) by the discovery of a mineral spring, which was represented by Dr. Taverner to be of surpassing power in the cure of a variety of diseases; and speculators built a pump-room, and reared lodging-houses for the crowds of patients who were expected to come for relief, but the whole scheme failed. Witham is now a clean and handsome country town, with some pleasant walks and picturesque scenes around it, including a stately avenue of limes leading from the town to Chipping Hill. There is a branch line from this place to Braintree.

#### BRAINTREE (ST. MICHAEL),

A market town and parish, and the head of a union in the Hundred of Hinckford, North Division of the county of Essex, eleven miles (north by east) from Chelmsford, and forty (north-east) from London. This place is described in Domesday Book under the head of "Raines," including also the village of "Raine," to which it was at that time a hamlet, and from which it was separated in the reign of Henry II,

In consequence of its situation, on the road leading from London into the counties of Suffolk and Norfolk, it is supposed to have derived considerable benefit from the numerous pilgrims who passed through it on their way to the shrines of St. Edmund at Bury, and Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk, and the population having consequently increased, it was made a market town early in the reign of King John.

In the early part of the reign of Elizabeth, the Flemings, fleeing from the persecution of the Duke of Alva, settled at Braintree, and introduced the manufacture of woollen cloth; but it appears that that manufacture had existed long before, and was extensive as early as 1389, it being noticed in an Act of Parliament intituled "The clothes of certain counties packed and folded shall not be put to sale before they be opened." The town is pleasantly situated on an eminence, and consists of several streets irregularly formed and inconveniently narrow; the houses in the central part of the present town, now the only remaining portion of the old town, are in general ancient, and many of them are built of wood; but in the principal street, which is the grand thoroughfare, are many well-built modern houses.

The woollen trade has given place to the manufacture of silk, which has been introduced into this neighbourhood within the last 50 years, and in its various branches now affords general employment to a rapidly-increasing population. In 1810, Messrs. Wilson and Courtauld erected on the little river Pant the first silk-throwing mill, in which from 300 to 400 persons, chiefly young women and children, are employed. Silk weaving in its general branches was subsequently introduced into this and the neighbouring towns. The manufacture of silk crape has more recently been established; in this branch about 1,400 workpeople are employed by the Messrs. Courtauld in the towns of Braintree, Bocking, and Halstead, in machine making, spinning, weaving, dyeing, and crape finishing.

The total number of persons employed in the silk trade in these three towns, in 1838, was about 2,210, of which about 660 were crape weavers in hand and power looms, 450 silk weavers in other branches, and 1,110 factory hands. Straw platting has also been lately introduced, and affords employment to a considerable number of females. The market, which is equal to any in the county, is on Wednesday. The fairs take place on the 7th of May and October 2nd, each lasting for three days; the latter is a great mart for cattle and hops. The Government was formerly vested in twenty-four of the principal parishioners, anciently called "headboroughs," but in 1584 styled "governors of the town, and town magistrates;" this body has, however, long been dissolved. The

county magistrates now hold a petty session here for the division on alternate Wednesdays.

Braintree is the place for nominating and returning two knights for the Northern Division of the Shire.

The parish comprises 2,249a. 1r. 19p. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at £12 3s. 4d.; present net income £212. It is in the patronage of Lady Stewart; impropiator, Earl of Winchelsea. The present Church of Braintree, as appears by the will of John de Naylinghurst, an inhabitant, in which he gave two bullocks towards the work, was built about 1349, in the reign of Edward III.; the ancient edifice having fallen into decay, and being inconvenient for the new town which was growing up, large additions have since been made to it, as appears by the variations of style; and we find that in the reign of Henry VIII. plays were acted in the sacred edifice, as was common in those days, in order to swell the fund for the erection of the south aisle. The Church is altogether an interesting specimen of the architecture of other days, but it is more interesting from its name having become in our times famous throughout the county, and a text word in the law books of the land. For more than twenty years, from 1836, when the first vestry meeting on the subject was held within its walls, down to 1853, when final judgment was given in the House of Lords, Churchmen and Dissenters were fighting the battle of Church-rates over its half-prostrate pillars, its mouldering aisles, and dilapidated roof; and when at length the struggle ended, and it was broadly decided that a rate for its repair could not be levied without the consent of the majority in vestry, the sacred pile was left in a state of ruin. Thus it lay for a time, to the great discomfort of the worshippers; but within the last few years, by means of a subscription raised by the vicar and a committee, the nave has been new roofed, the north aisle renovated, the tower and spire repaired and restored, at a cost of £1,670. The trustees of the Felstead charities, who receive the great tithes, have, too, voted £240 for an arched roof and a new east window for the chancel; so that the parochial temple begins to stand forth in renewed strength and its ancient beauty; but to complete the work on the north and south side, and in the north and south chancel aisles, and to re-construct and fit up the interior, requires a further sum of £2,500.

Most of the monuments in the Church are of comparatively modern date. Against the chancel above the altar-tomb, enclosed in a grating, is the following inscription on a brass plate:—

“This grate was ordered to be set up by the last will and testament of Samuel Collins, late Dr. of physick, eldest son to Mr. Samuel Collins, hereunder buried, who served about nine years as principal physician to

the great Czar, Emperor of Russia, and after his return from thence taking a journey into France, died at Paris, October 26th, 1670, being the 51st year of his age."

There are places of worship for Baptists, the Society of Friends, Independents, and Methodists. An ancient Grammar School, in which the eminent naturalist, John Ray, received his education, is supported partly by an endowment of land, now let for £18 a year, bequeathed by J. Coker, Esq., partly by an annuity of £45 left by the Rev. James Burgess, and partly by voluntary contributions. In the reign of Charles I., Henry Smith, alderman of London, who, from the habit of going about like a beggar accompanied by his dog, obtained the name of "Dog Smith," bequeathed £2,800 to the poor of this, and thirteen other parishes. There are many other charities in the town, yielding altogether nearly £200 per annum. The poor law union of Braintree comprises fourteen parishes or places, under the care of twenty-two guardians. The Workhouse, erected at a cost of £6342, will contain 300 inmates. About half a mile distant some years ago might be seen the ruins of a very ancient Church, founded before the conquest, and formerly the parish church. The site of a Roman camp (now called the Cherry Orchard) is pointed out, and many sepulchral coins, fragments of Roman pottery, and Roman coins, have been found, besides three British gold coins, supposed to be those of Boadicea; one gentleman in the course of a few years has collected coins of twenty-three Emperors and one Empress, from Agrippa, A.D. 37 to Honorius, A.D. 395; and there are several other collections. This was the scene of the martyrdom of Richard Piggott, in the reign of Mary. Samuel Dale, M.D., editor of the "History and Antiquities of Harwich," resided here, and assisted Mr. Ray in collecting rare plants in Essex; he was also the author of a "Pharmacologia," which passed through three editions in his lifetime, and has since been several times re-printed.

The Rev. Mr. Challis, Professor of Astronomy at Cambridge, is a native of this place.

#### COGGESHALL, GREAT (ST. PETER).

A market town and parish in the union of Witham, Witham Division of the Hundred of Lexden, north division of the county of Essex, three miles (north) from Kelvedon, and forty-four (north-east) from London. This place is within the Duchy of Lancaster; it is supposed by some antiquaries to have been the Roman station Ad Ansam, and by others the Canonium of Antoninus, with the distance of which latter from Cæsaromagus its situation precisely corresponds. Numerous vestiges of Roman antiquity have been discovered. The present town appears to have risen

from the establishment of an abbey in 1142 by King Stephen and his Queen Matilda, for monks of the Cistercian order, and dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, to the abbot and monks of which King John granted several privileges, among which was probably the power of life and death, as is inferred from the ancient name of one of the streets, which is still by some called Gallows Street. Henry III. granted them free warren, a weekly market, and an annual fair for eight days. The revenue of the abbey at the dissolution was £298 8s.; the remains, which exhibit specimens of early English architecture, are now occupied as a farm-house; the exterior has some lancet-shaped windows in good preservation, and in the interior are some good windows and vaulted and groined roofs. Near the abbey is an ancient bridge of three arches, built by King Stephen, over a canal cut for conveying water from the river to the monastery. The town is situated near the River Blackwater, from which it rises gradually to a considerable elevation, and consists of several narrow streets; it was lighted with gas in 1837, and the inhabitants are amply supplied with water from springs in the neighborhood. The manufacture of baize and serge, formerly extensive, is now extinct; the principal branch of trade is silk weaving, which has been established about twenty-five years. In 1838, Mr. John Hall erected a silk-throwing mill capable of employing 500 persons. Messrs. Westmacott and Co. have 100 looms at work, weaving broad silks and velvets; and in 1826 Mr. Bankes commenced the tambour work on lace net. An extensive iron foundry and steam flour mill have been erected by Charles Newman, Esq. This place is noted for its vegetables and garden seeds, which are abundant. The market is on Thursday; the spacious market place contained an ancient cross, which was taken down in 1787. A fair for cattle and pedlery is held on Whit Tuesday.

Coggeshall anciently comprised the parishes of Great and Little Coggeshall, now consolidated; in the latter, now only a hamlet, were two churches, built by the monks—one for their own use, which has been demolished; and the other for a parochial church, of which the remains have been converted into a barn. The parish comprises by computation about 2,300 acres, 300 of which are woodland; the soil is various, in some parts a strong loam resting on a clay bottom, in others a stiff wet loam on a whitish marl, and in the neighbourhood of the town a rich deep loam of great fertility. The living is a vicarage, valued in the King's books at £11 3s. 4d.; net income, £215; patron, Peter Du Cane, Esq., lord of the manor; impropiators, Charles Ekingley, Esq., and Mrs. Cuswell. The Church is a spacious, handsome structure, in the later English style, with a large, square tower; the aisles are embattled, and strengthened with enamelled buttresses; the interior contains several ancient monuments.

There are places of worship for Baptists, the Society of Friends, Independents, and Wesleyans. A school, under the direction of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, was founded in 1636 by Sir Robert Hitchman, Knt., who bequeathed land producing £300 per annum. There is a National School for boys, and a Lancastrian School is supported by subscription. There are six unendowed almshouses; and among the charitable bequests for the use of the poor is one now amounting to £58 per annum, given by Thomas Paycocke, Esq., in 1580; and one of £20 per annum, the gift of Sir Mark Guyon, Knt., which, with £15 per annum payable out of the rectory of East Tilbury, is distributed in bread every Sunday.

## COLCHESTER,

A borough market town, having separate jurisdiction, and the head of a union, locally in the Colchester division of the Hundred of Lexden, north division of the county of Essex, twenty-two miles (north-east by east) from Chelmsford and fifty-one (north-east by east) from London. It was called by the Britons *Caer Colun*, and appears to have been a town of considerable importance prior to the invasion of the Romans, who, according to Tacitus and other historians, having under the conduct of Claudius subdued the Trinobantes and taken possession of this town, garrisoned it with the 2nd, 9th, and 14th Legions, styled by him the conquerors of Britain. The Roman name of the place is said to have been derived from an altar dedicated to Mars, under the name of *Camulus*, by which also that divinity is designated on some coins still extant of *Cunobeline*, king of the Trinobantes, who, prior to the conquest by the Romans, had his residence here. Claudius, having reduced the adjacent country to a Roman province, appointed *Plautius* his *proprætor*, and returned in triumph to Rome. After his departure, *Boadicea*, queen of the *Iceni*, taking advantage of the absence of part of the Roman legions, attacked *Camulodunum*, which after a feeble resistance she entirely demolished. According to *Pliny*, and the evidence of Roman coins and other ancient inscriptions, it appears to have been soon re-built with increased splendour, and to have been adorned with public edifices—a temple to *Claudius*, a triumphal arch, and a statue to the Goddess of *Victory*. *Constantine the Great* is traditionally said to have been born in the city, which continued to flourish as a principal station of the Romans till their final departure from Britain. The Saxons, by whom it was afterwards occupied, gave it the name of *Colne-ceaster*, and it retained its consequence as a place of strength for a considerable time, but began to decline in proportion as London rose in importance. On the irruption of the Danes, it became a principal residence of that people, who by treaty with *Alfred* were established in the city and county adjacent; but re-commencing their

barbarous system of plunder and devastation, Edward the Elder in 921 took the town by assault, and putting them all to the sword, re-peopled it with West Saxons. According to the Saxon chronicles, he repaired the walls in 922, at which time he is stated to have erected the Castle, now falling into decay, but the remains of that edifice are evidently of Norman character. Colchester was a considerable town at the time of the Norman survey, but suffered greatly in the wars of the succeeding reigns. During the turbulent reign of John, Saher de Quincy, Earl of Winchester, having assembled an army of foreigners, laid siege to the place in 1215; but on the approach of the barons, who were advancing from London to its relief, he drew off his forces and retired to Bury St. Edmund's. He afterwards got possession of the town, and having plundered it, left a garrison in the castle, which having been invested by the King, was compelled to surrender. It was subsequently besieged and taken by the troops of Prince Louis, whom the barons had invited into England to their assistance, and who, thinking the opportunity favourable for conquest kept possession of it for himself, and hoisted the banner of France upon its walls; but the barons having submitted to their new Sovereign, Henry the Third retook the castle from the Prince, and expelled him from the kingdom. In the reign of Edward III., the town contributed five ships and 170 mariners towards the naval armament for the blockade of Calais. The inhabitants, during the attempt to raise Lady Jane Grey to the throne, stedfastly adhered to the interests of Mary, whose cause they supported with so much zeal that, very soon after her accession, that Queen visited the town for the express purpose of testifying her gratitude. Her Majesty was received with every public demonstration of joy, and on her departure was presented with a silver cup and £20 in gold. During her reign many of the Protestant inhabitants were put to death on account of their religious tenets. In 1648, the inhabitants, who had during the contest between the King and the Parliament generally espoused the cause of the latter, for whose support they had raised considerable supplies of money, but, finding it necessary to restrain its inordinate power, formed an alliance with the Royalists, who, being closely pressed by the Parliamentarians, took up their station in the town, into which they were admitted by the inhabitants by treaty. The town was soon afterwards besieged by the Parliamentary army under Fairfax, who had been joined on his march by Colonel Whalley and Sir Thomas Honeywood with 2000 horse and foot, and after a close blockade for eleven weeks, during which period it was gallantly defended by the Earl of Norwich, Lord Capel, Sir Charles Lucas, and Sir George Lisle, the garrison, reduced to the extremity of want and suffering, surrendered to Fairfax, when Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle were shot under the Castle walls.

This is supposed to be a borough by prescription. It was first incorporated in 1189 by charter of Richard I., who conferred on the inhabitants many valuable privileges, which were confirmed by succeeding sovereigns, and extended by Henry V.; the charter, having been forfeited on several occasions, was renewed by George III. in 1818. The government was vested in a Mayor, High Steward, Recorder, Chamberlain, twelve Aldermen, eighteen Assistants, and eighteen common Councilmen, aided by a Town Clerk, two Coroners, a Water Bailiff, four Sergeants-at-Mace, and other officers. By the Act of the 5th and 6th of William IV., cap. 76, the Corporation now consists of a Mayor, six Aldermen, and eighteen Councillors; and the borough is divided into three wards, the Municipal and Parliamentary boundaries being co-extensive. The Mayor for the time being, and for the previous year, are justices by virtue of their office; and there are seven others. The borough first exercised the elective franchise in the 23rd of Edward I., since which time it has, with occasional intermissions, returned two members to Parliament. The right of election was formerly vested in the free burgesses generally, whose number was about 1400; but by the Act of the 2nd of William IV., cap. 45, non-resident burgesses, except within seven miles, have been disfranchised, and the privilege extended to the £10 householders of the borough, the limits of which comprise 11,055 acres. The voters formerly consisted of £10 householders and freemen; the Mayor is the returning officer. The Recorder holds quarterly courts of session for the borough and liberties, together extending over sixteen parishes; and the Mayor and Recorder hold two courts of pleas for the recovery of debts to any amount, the jurisdiction of which was extended by Edward IV. to the adjoining parishes of Bere-Church, Greenstead, Lexden, and Myland. These courts are held at stated periods: one, called the Law-Hundred, for actions against free burgesses, is held on Monday; and the other, called the Foreign Court, for actions against strangers or non-freemen, is held on Thursday. The petty sessions for this division of the county are also held in the town every Saturday. The Moot Hall is an ancient edifice, originally erected by Eudo Dapifer; underneath is the town jail. The town is a polling-place for the Northern Division of the County. Colchester, upon very disputed authority, is supposed to have been the seat of a diocese in the early period of Christianity in Britain. Henry VIII. made it the seat of a suffragan bishop, and two bishops were successively consecrated. The town comprises within the walls the twelve parishes of All Saints, containing 24,000 inhabitants; St. James', 1959; St. Martin, 994; St. Mary-at-the-Walls, 1505; St. Nicholas', 1096; St. Peter, 2127; St. Runwald, 320; the Holy Trinity, 875; St. Botolph, 6228; St. Giles', 2736; St. Leonard-on-the-Hythe, 1492; and St. Mary Magdalen, 473;

and four other parishes without the walls, viz., Lexden, Bere-Church, Myland, and Greenstead, which are considered as part of the town, but are described under their respective heads. The living of All Saints is a rectory not in charge, net income £291; patrons, Masters and Fellows of Balliol College, Oxford; the tithes have been commuted for a rent charge of £35. The Church, erected in the year 1309, near the east gate of the monastery of Grey Friars, which had been founded by Robert Fitzwalter in that year, consists of a nave, north aisle, and chancel, with a handsome tower of flint and stone; the south wall, though now covered with cement, is of Roman bricks, laid in the herring-bone style. The living of St. James is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at £11 10s., and in the patronage of the Crown; net income £98. The Church is a spacious structure, built prior to the reign of Edward II. It consists of a nave with north and south aisles and a chancel, with a tower of Roman brick and stone, and has a fine altar-piece representing the adoration of the shepherds. The living of St. Martin's is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at £6 3s. 4d.; net income £72. The Church was much damaged during the siege of the town in 1648; it was re-pewed in 1841, when fifty free sittings were added. The steeple, which was built with Roman bricks, is in a ruinous state. The living of St. Mary's-at-the-Wall is a rectory valued in the King's books at £10; net income £212; patron, Bishop of London. The Church was re-built in 1713, with the exception of the ancient steeple, which, becoming ruinous, was repaired in 1729. It contains some ancient monuments. The church-yard is surrounded with avenues of lime-trees, and is much frequented as a promenade. The living of St. Nicholas is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at £10; net income £92; patrons, Masters and Fellows of Balliol College, Oxford. The Church is ancient; the tower some years since fell down upon the nave and chancel, the latter of which is still in a ruinous state. The Chapel of St. Helen in this parish, re-built by Eude in 1076, was lately used as a place of worship by the Society of Friends, and now for a Sunday School. The living of St. Peter's is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at £10; net income £285; patrons, trustees of the late Rev. Charles Simeon. The Church, an ancient structure, was erected before the conquest, and in Domesday-book is noticed as the only church in Colchester. It was extensively repaired and modernized in 1758, when the tower of the west end was erected, and was some time since greatly beautified at a cost of £3,000. The altar-piece is embellished with a fine painting (by Halls) of the raising of Jairus' daughter. The living of St. Runwald's is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at £7 13s. 4d.; net income £160; patron, Charles Grey Round, Esq. The Church, which is small, was erected about the

close of the 13th century. It is partly of brick and partly of stone, with a wooden turret rising from the centre. The living of the parish of the Holy Trinity is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at £6 13s. 4d.; net income £158; patrons, Masters and Fellows of Balliol College, Oxford. The Church was erected in the year 1349, and consists of a nave, south aisle, and chancel, with a tower, but only a part of the tower, the west door (now closed up) and a small portion about it, are of early date; but this small part is curious from its near approximation to Roman work, being plastered over bricks, and also from its having a straight-lined arch. The arch into the church is semi-circular, and of flat tiling. It contains several ancient and interesting monuments, among which is one to the memory of Dr. William Gilbert, chief physician to Queen Elizabeth and James I., and author of many learned works. The living of St. Botolph's is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the Masters and Fellows of Balliol College, Oxford; net income £21. The tithes have been commuted for a rent charge of £230 7s. A new Church in the Norman style of architecture, lately built under the superintendence of Mr. Mason, of Ipswich, at a cost, including the purchase of the site, of above £7,000, the doorway and other portions of the western elevation are taken from the Norman tower at Bury St. Edmund's. There are 1079 sittings, of which 815 are free, the Incorporated Society having granted £1000 towards the expense. The old Church, which has been in ruins since the siege in 1848, exhibits indications of its original magnificence and of the antiquity of its style, which appears to have been the early Norman, and of the same date as the neighbouring priory; it was built with bricks of extraordinary hardness, supposed to have been taken from the Roman station. The living of St. Giles is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at £30; patron and incumbent, Rev. John Woodroffe Morgan; the tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £200; and the glebe comprises one acre and a-half, to which is attached a good glebe house. The Church, a very ancient structure, which has been repaired and enlarged, contains a monument to the memory of Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle, who were shot by order of Fairfax, under the walls, after the siege of the town. The living of St. Leonard's is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at £10; net income, £100; patrons, Masters and fellows of Balliol College, Oxford. The Church is a spacious structure, in good preservation, and was formerly remarkable for the exquisite carved work of the roof; which, having fallen into decay, was removed. The living of St. Mary Magdalen is a rectory, valued in the King's books at £11, and in the patronage of the Crown. The small Church is pleasantly situated on Magdalen Green. On the site of the Chapel of St. Anne, which stood in the parish of St. James, and

was formerly a hermitage, a barn has been erected, part of the Chapel having been incorporated with the building. There are two places of worship for Baptists, two for Independents, and one each for the Society of Friends and Wesleyans.

The Free Grammar School was founded and endowed by the Corporation, to whom Queen Elizabeth, in the 26th year of her reign, granted several ecclesiastical revenues for that purpose; the income amounts to £181 10s. Dr. Harsnet, Archbishop of York, received the rudiments of his education in the school. Two schools for boys and girls were established in 1708; towards the purchase of the school-house, Mr. Samuel Rush, in 1711, gave £100, and £50 were given for the same purpose by his widow. Mr. William Ruggs, in 1747, gave a freehold messuage and twenty-five acres of land for the better maintenance of the school, to which fourteen other benefactions have been added. The two national central schools are an extension of the original plan of the charity school. There is another national school in St. Peter's parish, a Lancastrian school is supported by subscription, and there are schools supported by the several Dissenting congregations. Mr. John Winnock founded, and in 1679 endowed, almshouses for twelve aged widows, with a rent-charge of £41, to which several other benefactions were added subsequently, and with one of them, by Mrs. Mary Barfield, four new houses were erected; the income now amounts to £235 13s. 8d. Mr. Arthur Wonsley, in 1726, founded and endowed almshouses for twelve men, to which six others have since been added. In 1791, Mr. John Kendall erected and endowed eight almshouses for widows, whose husbands had died in Winsley's almshouses, or in default of such, for other single women; the small original endowment having been considerably augmented, the annual income amounts to £166, and eight additional houses have been erected. Four almshouses for aged women were erected and endowed in 1552 with £6 6s. 8d. per annum by Ralph Fynch, to which £5 per annum has been added by John Lyon, and the interest of £262 10s. new 4 per cent. annuities by W. Godwin, together with £1000 3 per cent. consols, for four additional houses; the income now amounts to £51 3s. 8d. The Essex and Colchester General Hospital, completed in 1820, and supported by subscription, is a neat building of white brick, situated on the south side of the London Road. The Poor Law Union of Colchester comprises the twelve parishes within and the four without the walls. Of the monastic establishments anciently existing here, the hospital, originally founded at the command of Henry I. for a master and leprous brethren, and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen by Eudo, who had been a principal officer of the household of William the Conqueror, and his two sons William and Henry, and the revenue of which at the dissolution was £11, was refounded in 1610 by James I. for

five poor brethren and a master, who is always the clergyman of the parish. The almshouses have been lately re-built, and are tenanted by five widows, who receive 1s. per week each; and the remainder of the income, which is very considerable, is appropriated to the master's use. Of the other ancient establishments, the principal was St. John's Abbey, founded in the reign of Henry I. by the same Eudo for the monks of the Benedictine order, the revenue of which was at the dissolution £523 17s.; of this only the gateway is remaining, a handsome structure in the later English style, and, consequently, either re-built since the foundation of the abbey, or a subsequent addition to it. To the south of the town was a monastery of Augustine canons, founded in the reign of Henry I., and dedicated to St. Julian and St. Botolph by Ernulphus, who afterwards became prior; at the dissolution its revenue was £113 12s. 8d.; the only remains are its stately church, now in ruins, which was previously the parish church of St. Botolph. Without the walls was an hospital, or priory, of Crutched Friars, an order introduced into England about 1244, the revenue of which at the dissolution was £7 7s. 8d. The priory of Franciscan, or Grey Friars, was founded in 1309 by Robert Fitz-Walter, the only probable remains of which is the parish church of All Saints. Of the walls by which the borough was surrounded, and in consideration of repairing which Richard II. is recorded to have exempted the burgesses from sending members to three of his parliaments, considerable portions still remain; they were strengthened by bastions, and defended on the west by an ancient fort of Roman construction, the remaining arches of which are built with Roman bricks; and the north and west sides, where the town was most exposed, were protected by deep intrenchments. The entrance to the town was by four principal gates and three posterns, which have mostly been demolished. The ruins of the Castle occupy an elevated site on the north side of High Street; the form is quadrilateral, and the walls of the keep, twelve feet in thickness, are almost entire; the building is of flint, stone, and Roman bricks intermixed, and is supposed to have been originally erected by the Romans, though subsequently repaired by Edward the Elder; the solidity of the structure has frustrated repeated attempts to demolish it for the sake of the materials. The town and environs abound with relics of antiquity, among which is a quantity of Roman bricks in several of the churches and other buildings; and tessellated pavements, sepulchral urns, statues, lamps, rings, coins, medals, and almost every other species of Roman antiquities have been discovered. William Gilbert, born in 1540, physician to Elizabeth and James I., and author of a work on the qualities of the loadstone, entitled "De Magnete," and other publications; and Dr. Samuel Harsnet, Archbishop of York, were natives of this place. The late Right Hon. Charles

Abbot, Speaker of the House of Commons (whose father is rector of All Saints), was elevated to the peerage, June 3rd, 1817, by the title of Baron Colchester, which is now enjoyed by his son.

The town is built on the summit and northern acclivity of an eminence rising gently from the river Colne, over which are three bridges, and occupies a quadrilateral area inclosed by the ancient walls, within which the houses to the south and south-east are irregularly disposed; the streets are spacious, and the High Street contains many excellent houses; the town is well paved, and lighted with gas, and well supplied with water. The theatre, a neat and commodious edifice, erected in 1812, was opened annually by the Norwich Company of comedians. A botanical society was instituted in 1823; and there is a medical society, established in 1774. The barracks, with a park of artillery, was capable of accommodating 10,000 troops; but since the conclusion of the war they have been taken down. The woollen manufacture appears to have been carried on so early as the reign of Edward III.; but the weaving of baizes, for which it was afterwards distinguished, was probably introduced by the Flemings in the reign of Elizabeth, and at that time employed a considerable number of the inhabitants. This manufacture was subject to certain regulations prescribed by the Baize Hall; but it has been transferred to other towns. A large silk throwing mill was established in 1825, and employs about three hundred hands; there is a distillery, employing about fifty men; also a rectifying house. The oyster fishery on the river Colne, granted to the free burgesses by Richard I., confirmed by subsequent charters, and for the preservation of which Courts of Admiralty were and are still occasionally held at Mersea Stone, about eight miles from the borough, but now generally at the Moot Hall, affords employment to about six hundred licensed dredgemen; and numerous smacks are engaged in conveying to London the oysters, for which there is a very great demand, especially for those of Pyfleet, which are found in a small creek, and are remarkable for their goodness and flavour. The river is navigable to the suburb called the Hythe, where are a spacious quay and a custom house. The market days are Wednesday and Saturday, the latter being the principal, for corn and provisions, and also a large mart for cattle and sheep. The Market Place is on the north side of High Street, and is commodiously arranged. The Corn Exchange, erected a few years since, is a handsome building supported on columns. The fairs are on July 5th and the following day; July 23rd and two following days for cattle; and October 20th for cattle, and the three following days for general merchandize.

#### ARDLEIGH,

The last parish in the hundred of Tendring, has a railway station. It is

a large parish, being thirty-eight miles in circumference. The Manor of Picotts, which takes its name from a family which held it in ancient times, belongs to E. Reeve, Esq.; Bovills, a title also derived from an owner in the time of Henry II. to W. S. Lamb, Esq.; and Martells Hall to Lord Ashburton. The park, a good mansion, is the residence of J. P. Osborne, Esq. The Church is a handsome modern structure, having been rebuilt some years ago. The parish has the right of sending twelve free scholars to Dedham Grammar School; and the poor have £2 10s. a-year from Love's Charity.

## MANNINGTREE,

Though it has a customary market for corn and cattle on Thursdays, comprises but about twenty acres, and is only a hamlet of Mistley, which forms, in fact, its eastern suburb, while Lawford constitutes the western. With their fine ports and extensive quays they form, combined, a place of considerable business; the Stour, on whose southern bank they stand, being accessible for vessels of 250 tons up to this point, and navigable twenty miles further up to Sudbury. It is at this spot that the river begins to expand into a broad estuary, and it has been truly said that on the first break of morning,

“When the waking sunbeams fringe  
With gold the trembling waters,”

and we turn our gaze up the Stour, with the cliffs on the right wooded to their summits, busy life awakening all along the spacious quays, where many of the 500 vessels which belong to the port are beginning to move, the scene is altogether the most picturesque to be found along this part of the coast, abounding, as it does, with views of maritime life and rural beauty. At the Domesday survey, Manningtree and a part of Mistley were held by Adeliza, the half-sister of the Conqueror, but subsequently went to an Augustine nunnery in Devonshire, and the other Manor of Mistley belonged to the Priory of St. Osyth. After the Reformation the property was granted away, and about 1680 it was purchased by Edward Rigby, Esq., whose son built Mistley Hall. The pretty little hamlet, too, known as Mistley Thorn, was the creation of this gentleman. He erected fifty good dwellings there, made a quay, built granaries and warehouses, and also a handsome Church, in place of the old one. The Bigby's were succeeded by the Earls Rivers, who partially deserted the place; and the hall, which stood on an eminence about half-a-mile above the Stour, and was surrounded by a park of 700 acres, extensive gardens and plantations, was pulled down in 1845, the materials sold, and the property lotted out to the highest bidders. This was regarded at the time as a misfortune to the neighbourhood. It has been found, however, that ever since the place has been growing in business and importance. The land thus set

free gave greater scope to industry—allowed commerce more elbow room for its efforts. Dwellings, wharves, warehouses, maltings, and mills have been built, and the population has largely increased.

Various good county seats adorn the neighborhood: Mistley Place, occupied by E. Norman, Esq.; the New Hall, by Robert Page, Esq.; Lawford Hall, a large mansion standing in a fine park, the home of Mrs. Greene, the lady of the ancient manor; and Lawford House, the elegant residence of Thomas Nunn, Esq. The Chapel of Manningtree, in which is a monument to Thomas Ormond, one of the martyrs of the time of Queen Mary, was built about 1616, out of the ruins of the old one, which stood on a rising ground near the site of the present, and it was considerably enlarged some years ago. The curacy was consolidated with Mistley up to 1840, but in that year it was constituted a separate benefice. Anciently there was a guild here called Trinity Guild, with an income of £8 5s. 4d., which passed into lay hands. The Church of Lawford is an ancient structure, and the walls are still ornamented with various elaborate old stone carvings.

The only charity at Manningtree is a house occupied by poor people (formerly the workhouse), believed to have been given by — Smith about 1680.

Richard Rigby, Esq., who died in 1732, directed by his will the establishment of six almshouses, the inmates to have six chaldrons of coals, twenty-four bushels of wheat, and twenty-four bushels of barley or malt, out of the profits of the wharf; but the charity was not carried out, and since the inquiry of the Charity Commissioners, a decree of the Court of Chancery has directed the value of the coals, wheat, and barley to be distributed amongst the poor parishioners.

#### HARWICH,

A seaport, borough, and market town, having separate jurisdiction, locally in the Hundred of Tendring, Union of Tendring, North Division of the County of Essex, forty-two miles (north-east by east) from London. The name of this place, which is expressive of circumstances connected with its early history, is by Camden derived from the Saxon Harewic, signifying a station or harbour for soldiers; and from the same authority it is supposed that during the time of the Romans, the Counts of the Saxon shore had a stronghold, or castle, here, in which a force was stationed to repel the Saxons and Danes, who at that time made frequent incursions from the opposite coast. This opinion is in some degree confirmed by the remains of a Roman camp and tumulus in the vicinity of the town, near which coins and fragments of tessellated pavements have been found at various times, and by the discovery of teeth and bones of large animals in the

southern cliff, which are by some antiquaries thought to be remains of elephants brought into England by the Emperor Claudius. After the departure of the Romans, Harwich, with the district adjoining, was wrested from the Britons by Erchenwine, or Erchwine, a Saxon chief, who held it under Octa, grandson of Hengist, till with the rest of the kingdom of East Saxony, it fell into the possession of Egbert in 740. In 885, a considerable battle was fought near this port between the fleet of Alfred and sixteen Danish ships, which terminated in the entire defeat and capture of the latter. In 1326, Prince Edward and his mother, Queen Isabel, landed here from Hainault with a force of 2750 soldiers, and being joined by several of the nobility, and headed by Thomas de Brotherton, Duke of Norfolk, then lord of the manor, and resident in the town, proceeded to Bristol to make war against the King. In 1338, the same Prince, then Edward III., embarked at this port, with a fleet of 500 sail manned with archers and slingers, on his first expedition against France; and in the year following, the French, in retaliation, made an unsuccessful attempt with eleven galleys to set fire to the town. In 1340, the French navy, consisting of 400 ships, having been stationed near Sluys, in Flanders, to intercept the King's passage to France, Edward assembled here his naval forces, and sailing on Midsummer eve, and forming with the northern squadron, under the command of Lord Morley, encountered the enemy, destroyed one-half of their ships, and killed or captured nearly 30,000 of their men. Henry VIII. visited Harwich in 1543; and in 1558, preparations were made here for the reception of Philip, King of Spain, on his arrival to celebrate his nuptials with Mary, Queen of England. Queen Elizabeth was sumptuously entertained here in 1561 by the Corporation, who escorted her as far as the windmill on her return. In some of the naval engagements between the English and the Dutch, in the reign of Charles II., the contending parties approached so near the town as to render their operations visible to the spectators on the cliffs. When Harwich was fortified against the Dutch in 1666, Charles II. having proceeded from Newmarket to Languard Fort, sailed hither in his yacht, accompanied by the Dukes of York, Monmouth, Richmond, and Buckingham, and, with others of his suite, attended divine service at the parish church; in the evening they embarked for Aldborough, whence they proceeded by land to Ipswich. William III., and Georges I. and II. visited Harwich on their respective tours to the Continent; and the Princess Mecklenburgh-Strelitz landed at this port on her arrival in England to celebrate her nuptials with King George III. In 1808 the Countess de Lille, consort of Louis XVIII., the Duke and Duchess of Angoulême, the Count and Countess de Demas, and others of the nobility of France, seeking an asylum in this country, in the reign of Napoleon Bonaparte, arrived

in the *Euryalus* frigate, commanded by the Hon. Captain Dundas. On the 16th of August, 1821, the remains of Queen Caroline, consort of his late Majesty, George IV., were brought to this place, whence they were conveyed by the *Glasgow* frigate to be interred at Brunswick. Harwich is situated on a peninsular projection on the north-eastern extremity of the Essex coast, bounded on the east by the North Sea, and on the west and north by the estuaries of the Stour and the Orwell, which, uniting previously to their influx into the sea, form a spacious and secure harbor, nearly three miles in breadth. The town is in general well built, and consists principally of three streets; an Act of Parliament was obtained in 1819 for watching, paving, and lighting it, and for supplying the inhabitants with water. An Assembly and a Reading-room have been erected in West-street, and a Theatre was opened in 1813. The foundations of a castle and fortifications by which the town was defended was seen previously to the encroachment of the sea at an extraordinary ebb of the tide in 1784; but of its ancient walls and gates, with the exception of a very small portion serving to indicate their former strength, the memorial is preserved only in the record of tolls levied in the reign of Edward III. for their repair. Harwich is much resorted to during the season for sea-bathing; and hot and cold baths, arranged with every accommodation, are supplied from a large reservoir of sea water; there are also bathing machines near the jetty. The harbour is protected on the east by the isthmus on which the town is built, verging towards the north, and on the west by a similar projection of the coast towards the south; the entrance is defended by Landguard Fort, erected on the eastern promontory of the opposite coast, by a large martello tower, and by a number of shoals near the fort, which so much contract the passage as to admit of only one large vessel at a time, rendering the harbour difficult of access, except to expert navigators. Though of unequal depth, the harbour and bay together form a capacious roadstead for the largest ships of war, 100 of which were assembled here during the war with Holland in the reign of Charles II., exclusively of their attendant vessels, and 300 or 400 sail of vessel carrying coal. To facilitate the entrance into the harbour by night, two lighthouses were erected under letters patent of Charles II. On the eastern part of the town, where these are situated, is a convenient stone quay, and near it is a delightful promenade called the Esplanade. By means of these lights, vessels are guided off a sandbank called the "Andrews," forming a bar across the entrance to the harbour, from Landguard Fort into the rolling grounds, from which the passage leading into good anchorage is safe. The custom-house establishment consists of a collector, comptroller, and other officers. The trade of the port principally arises from the quantities of stone obtained here, from

which cement is manufactured; about 100 small vessels and boats are employed in and near the harbour in dredging for stone for making it. The North Sea fishery, though it has materially declined, still affords employment for a considerable number of vessels; and a constant traffic is carried on by means of steamers and wherries with Ipswich and Manningtree. The number of vessels above fifty tons burden is sixty-one, and their aggregate tonnage 5497. Ship building is carried on to a considerable extent; the dockyard is well provided with launches, store-houses, and other requisites; several third-rate and other vessels have been built, and a patent slip has been recently constructed, on which ships of very large burden may be hauled up for repair with great facility. The manufacture of copperas from stones which are found in abundance on the shore was carried on in the seventeenth century, about which time an attempt was made to obtain potash from various sea-weeds; but it was soon abandoned. The market days are Tuesday and Friday; the fairs, principally for toys, are on May the 1st and October the 18th, each for three days. The borough was first incorporated by charter of Edward II., which was renewed, with additional privileges, by James I., through the interest of Sir Edward Coke, and subsequently confirmed by Charles II., by which the government was vested in a Mayor, eight Aldermen (including the Mayor), and twenty-four capital Burgesses, together forming the common council, assisted by a Recorder, High Steward, Town Clerk, Chamberlain, Clerk of the Market, and other officers. By the Act of the 5th and 6th of William IV., cap. 76, the corporation now consists of a Mayor, four Aldermen, and twelve Councillors; the Mayor and late Mayor are justices of the peace, and the total number of borough magistrates is twelve. The borough first sent members to Parliament in the seventeenth of Edward III., but discontinued till the twelfth of James I., since which time it has made regular returns. The right of election was formerly vested in the Mayor, Aldermen, and capital Burgesses, thirty-two in number; but by the Act of the 2nd and 3rd of William IV., cap. 45, it was extended to the £10 householders of the borough, the limits of which contain 1461 acres. The Mayor and eleven of the corporation, until the passing of the Municipal Reform Act, which abolished admiralty jurisdictions, possessed conjointly the powers of the Court of Admiralty, with all its privileges and profits, without accounting to the Exchequer; and at the Admiralty Sessions the Mayor was usually preceded by a person bearing a silver oar, which was kept for that purpose in the town chest. A court of record is held under the charter of Charles II. every Tuesday for the recovery of debts not exceeding £100, but from the expensiveness of the proceedings it has almost fallen into disuse. Petty sessions are held weekly. A new Guildhall was erected some years

since, of which the lower part is used as a prison for the borough, chiefly for the confinement of prisoners previous to their committal to the county gaol, and the upper is appropriated to the holding of the courts, and to the transaction of the public business of the corporation. In the old Guildhall, a small brick building, were several buckets bearing the arms and names of members of the corporation, among which were those of Sir Edward Coke, Attorney-General in the reign of James I.; Christopher Monk, Duke of Albemarle, Colonel Sir Charles Lyttleton, Governor of Languard Fort in the reign of Charles II.; Sir Harbottle Grimstone, Master of the Rolls in the same reign; the Duke of Schomberg, Lord Bolingbroke, and Edward, Earl of Oxford, who were recorders of the borough.

The borough comprises the parishes of Dovercourt (All Saints) containing 1231, and St. Nicholas 3839 inhabitants. The living of Dovercourt is a vicarage, with the perpetual curacy of St. Nicholas annexed, valued in the King's books at £5 0s. 10d.; net income, £221; it is in the patronage of the Crown; impropiator, N. G. Garland, Esq. The Church, which is an old building, contains several ancient monuments, and it was celebrated for a rood held in high veneration, for the destruction of which three men from Dedham, who had stolen it from the Church and burnt it, were hanged for sacrilege in 1532. The Church of St. Nicholas, re-built in 1820 at an expense of £18,000, is a handsome edifice, in the later English style, with a lofty square embattled tower; in the chancel are three finely-painted windows, presented by John Hopkens, Esq., and containing severally the arms of that gentleman, those of the town, and of Dr. Howley, then Bishop of London. Among the monuments is a well-sculptured bust of Sir William Clarke, Secretary of War to Charles I. and II. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyans. A school-room was built in 1724 by Sir Humphrey Parsons, and a national school is supported by subscription. A fine spring of clear water, which was much esteemed for its medicinal properties, and possessed a petrifying quality, is noticed in the Philosophical Transactions for the year 1669. Quantities of amber, and, according to some, ambergris, are occasionally found on the shore; and in the vicinity of Languard Fort transparent pebbles are found, which were formerly set in rings by the inhabitants.

#### SOUTHEND,

In the Hundred of Rochford, is a pleasant and greatly-improved watering-place. It is a hamlet of Prittlewell, but throws that parish into the shade, in its general character, its public buildings, and population. The place is a growth of the last century. We read in a journal of 1768: "A scheme

is on foot to render Southend a convenient place for bathing, the situation being esteemed the most agreeable and convenient for the purpose on the Essex coast." Buildings were erected accordingly, but the plans and projectors alike failed, and the matter slumbered till 1800. A member of the Heygate family then purchased the buildings and improved the place. In 1804 Southend was visited by Queen Caroline and the Princess Charlotte. This event stamped upon it a fashionable character, and since then it has been much extended. First arose the fine range of buildings called the Terrace on the high cliff towards Leigh. A pier was carried a mile-and-a-quarter into the sea in 1835; a handsome Church was built in 1840, and a railway to the Metropolis was opened a few years ago, and now a new town is rising upon a pleasant spot in the vicinity.

Of late in August, when all Londoners get away from the city to the sea-side as soon as they can, and for as long a period as possible, many of them go by the pleasantest of routes to Southend, one of the prettiest of watering places, where they gladden their eyes and freshen their hearts with a sight of the sea, and inhale the invigorating breeze. The scenery along the railway to Southend is full of interest, presenting pleasant glimpses of Barking, Rainham, Purfleet, Stanford-le-Hope, with its old Church on the hill, Benfleet, and the ruins of Hadleigh Castle. All the way travellers may indulge in the peaceful associations of rural prosperity suggested by the pastoral seclusion of Low Street, and the rich fields of waving corn beyond, brightened in colour by the crimson poppies, and made musical by the thrilling songs of soaring skylarks. On the one side are quiet country lanes and scattered homesteads embosomed in rich foliage; on the other, ships high up in the Hope, bearing the fruits of commercial industry and enterprise to remote regions. Passing the ruins of Hadleigh Castle, the river Thames becomes the sea, and fishing smacks are glancing in the sunlight, and the old fashioned houses of Leigh emerge into sight. Now the travellers feel the sea breeze fanning their pallid faces, leaving the smart taste of salt on their lips; and before the keen relish of it is gone they arrive at Southend. They soon find their way to excellent hostelries, where they can secure all creature comforts. For amusements there are the usual watering-place facilities. For a promenade there is the pier, one and a quarter mile in length, where they may enjoy a breezy walk. They may walk on and on, over the rippling or foam-crested waves below; they may enjoy the sight of the trembling waters, breaking over the black beams of the jetty beneath, and watch the transparent sea anemone floating amidst the timbers and eddying past. Looking backward, they may watch the landscape diminish in the perspective, and see the town afar off.

## MALDON

Is a port borough and market town situated on an eminence near the confluence of the rivers Blackwater and Chelmer, in the southern division of Essex, 38 miles from London. This place is supposed by Camden to have been the Roman Camulodunum which other later antiquaries with more reason have fixed at Colchester. Maldon is an ancient place, but is not remarkable for any important events. It claims to be a *borough* by prescription. Its burgesses are mentioned in Domesday book, and in 1086 they held 180 houses and 18 demolished manses. The earliest known charter was granted in 1155 by Henry II., who gave to the burgesses all the possessions which they then held of the Crown, and all their liberties by tenure of free burgage, the service reserved being the supply of one ship for forty days when summoned by the King, to which liberties and customs was then added a complete exemption from the county jurisdiction. This charter was afterwards confirmed several times. Under the Act of 5th and 6th William IV., c. 76, the borough is now governed by a Mayor, four Aldermen, and twelve Councillors. The borough first had the franchise in the 2nd of Edward III., since whose time it has continued to send two members to Parliament. The old borough comprises the parishes of All Saints, St. Peter, and St. Mary, each parish having an ancient spacious Church. The port is small, but has considerable trade chiefly in coals.

## WALTON-LE-SOKEN, OR WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE (ALL SAINTS),

A parish in the Union and Hundred of Tendring, North Division of the County of Essex,  $13\frac{1}{2}$  miles (south-east by east) from Manningtree. This parish, which is bounded on three sides by the sea, forms a noted promontory, called the Naze, from the Saxon term signifying a nose of land. Imbedded in the clay which forms the basis of the cliffs, there have been discovered, usually after the ebbing of very strong tides, some curious fossils, the tusks of elephants, with the horns, bones, and teeth of other huge animals. The shore abounds with pyrites, chiefly of wood, of which immense quantities have been here manufactured into the crystal, commonly called green copperas, or sulphate of iron; and nodules of argillaceous clay, which continually fall from the cliffs and harden into stone, are gathered and conveyed to London and Harwich for making Roman cement. The manufacture of copperas is now discontinued at Walton, and it is now sent to London for that purpose. The ground upon which the old copperas works stood is sufficiently apparent, an almost indelible mark being attached to it.

Mr. T. Wilmshurst, in an interesting description of the place and its productions, says:—"The cliffs of Walton abound in the vestiges of a former state of this planet. In consequence of the crumbling nature of the cliffs, here termed 'Antediluvian,' these vestiges are laid bare to the eye, and fossil shells are always to be found, either projecting from the cliff, from which some ponderous mass has been recently detached, or strewn upon the beach. In a private collection of the late Mr. John Brown, F.C.S., of Stanway, is deposited the tusk of a mammoth; it is eight feet long and twenty-four inches in circumference, and was found here on the beach, between low and high water mark. The shells are found generally in excellent preservation, among which are the terebratula, about one-and-a-half inches long, and thick, nearly oval, roughly striated transversely, and having a large foramen defined by a distinct border. The fossil oyster, or *ostrea deformis*, and the reversed whelk, *murex contrarius*, also furnish abundant specimens. On the north and north-west of Walton lies a comparatively inland sea, formed by a series of creeks, extending from a spot called Stone Point, about five miles along the northern shore. Many small vessels may here be observed dredging for the young oyster, or 'spat,' as it is termed, which is thence conveyed to the celebrated oyster beds of the River Colne, where they in due time arrive at maturity."

Walton has grown into one of the most pleasant watering-places on the coast. A century ago it was a dreary tract, the resort of smugglers, and a point upon which the sea was making rapid inroads. Houses and fields, and even its church, have, in fact, been carried away by the waves, the foundations of the latter being at times visible far out in the waters. Modern energy and enterprise have changed the whole character of the place. A neat little new Church has arisen, and the land has been protected from the further ravages of the sea. Excellent hotels, terraces, and villas have been built. A handsome pier has been provided. Altogether its bracing air, with its fine beach and bold open sea, its pleasing walks, its brick octagonal building on the Naze, rising to the height of 80 ft., and from its summit affording splendid views inland and to seaward; its martello tower, a remnant of the old war, on the north, and the rich fossil treasures of its cliffs, combine to render it a summer resort as picturesque as it is becoming popular.

The charities consist of ten acres of land given by John Sadler in 1563, and Thomas Goulding in 1582; and twenty-five acres by unknown donors; a rent-charge of £2, out of Pulpit Field, purchased with money left by Charles Stevens in 1613; an acre adjoining, given by an unknown donor in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; and four cottages built on the site of ancient almshouses which fell down in 1843.

Returning to Stratford junction we start on what is commonly called the Cambridge line, which runs near some towns in the northern division of Essex. On our left are thin hedgerows, beyond which is the broad expanse of Hackney marshes, and the old clock tower and new Church or Hackney conspicuous beyond. On the right of the line are the wooded clusters about Leyton and Leyton Park House, home of old annuitants, who there find a respite from the cares of the weary world, a noble home, and charming pleasure grounds, for the payment of a small sum. A little further on we come to Lea-bridge station.

#### TOTTENHAM

Is a long straggling hamlet on the banks of the Lea, the western end of which is called Tottenham High Cross, from a cross that has stood there from time immemorial. At Tottenham the Lea is very beautiful, and the country presents the appearance of a highly cultivated, rich, and variegated garden. Old Izaak Walton mentions the High Cross. In his time, he says, "there was a sweet shady arbour which nature herself has woven with her own fine fingers; it is such a contexture of woodbine, sweet briar, jessamine, and myrtle, and so interwoven as will secure us both from the sun's violent heat and from the approaching shower." Here Piscator used to solace and refresh himself, he says, with "a bottle of sack, milk, oranges, and sugar, which all put together made a drink like nectar; indeed too good for any but us anglers." This, however, has alas! long since departed, and the sweet shades he speaks of live only in the fervid imagination of the Cockney poets, who come here as to classic ground, to peruse the pages of that lover of rural beauty, who has made so many thousands of the Londoners take to the gentle sport.

#### WALTHAMSTOW

Is a parish in the Hundred of Beacontree in Essex. It adjoins Woodford on the verge of the forest, and abounds in beautiful woodland scenery, with a tract of marshland towards the Lea, by which river it is separated from Middlesex. Its population has vastly increased within the last twenty years, and is scattered over a series of separated villages named Church End, Chapel End, North End, Marsh Street, Higham Hill, Clay Street, Whips Cross, and Wood Street. The Church is a noble and imposing structure, believed to have been partly erected by Sir George Monix, Lord Mayor of London, in 1514, who sleeps with his lady in the chapel at the east end. Waltham is a Saxon term signifying a dwelling in a wood. The parish was once a forest, the property of Harold, the son of Earl Godwin, and the last of the so-called Saxon Kings;

and now the whole parish, with the adjoining ones, may be compared to a rural city. Country seats, farm-houses, and cottages are so blended together, and the paths encompassed with trees and hedges are so delightful, that we are not surprised so many people choose to reside in this healthy spot. It contains the residences of many London citizens, who here retire from the scenes of business.

## EDMONTON

Stands in Middlesex, but so near the borders of Essex, for which it has a railway station, that it demands some notice. The village is pleasantly situated on the high road to Hertford, along which it extends for more than a mile, comprising several ranges of respectable houses, and in detached situations many elegant mansions and handsome villas. The New River winds through the parish, producing a pleasing and picturesque effect in the pleasure grounds through which it flows. Edmonton, as everybody knows, was immortalized by Cowper in "The Diverting History of John Gilpin," that citizen of "credit and renown," who met with such memorable adventures. The "Bell Inn" exhibits the sign of John Gilpin, and the house is commonly known as "Gilpin's Bell," where weary travellers often refresh. We have often stopped there when visiting Edmonton, for there Charles Lamb, the author of "Elia," who lived in the village, was wont to accompany such friends as called on him, on their way to their own homes, and to take with them a stirrup cup at parting. Lamb is buried in the village churchyard, in a spot which, about a fortnight before his death, he had pointed out to his sister, in an afternoon walk, as the place where he wished to be interred.

## ENFIELD

Is a parish (formerly a market town) in the Hundred of Edmonton. The town, which is situated to the west of the road from London to Ware, consists of two streets, in which are several handsome houses, and is well supplied with water from springs. The parish comprises the town, the Chase, Bull's Cross, Baker Street, and Green Street, with Ponder's End. Enfield is a liberty belonging to the Duchy of Lancaster, and the inhabitants appoint their own coroner. In 1816, a royal manufactory for small arms was established in this parish, and here the Enfield rifles were produced in large quantities by about 1,000 hands.

## WALTHAM ABBEY

Is a small but ancient and interesting town, in the low lands of the Lea. It is divided into four wards:—Waltham, Holyfield, Sewardstone, and Upshire, with Galley and Mangham Hills. The latter are occupied by

the Government powder mills and magazines, which also extend in detached branches three or four miles along the little islands of the marsh lands.

The name of King Harold has generally been associated with the establishment of Waltham, and he was the first who brought it into prosperity and repute. He founded the Abbey; and it was at its altar he knelt to offer up his last prayer when he went forth to meet his death at the hands of the Normans. It was in this spot that his body found a tomb when it was brought from the battle-field. But pioneers had been at work here before the time of Harold. In the early ages the waters of the Lea and the tide flowing up from the Thames formed here a broad estuary; and in 876 some of the ships of the Danish spoilers lay at anchor in the waters which then covered the rich marsh and meadow lands where droves of cattle now graze. These vessels had sent forth hordes which were ravaging the country around, when King Alfred, by an adroit use of the spade, cut and diverted the feeding streams of the Lea, and left the ships upon dry land, thus compelling the crews to abandon their plunder and save themselves by an overland flight. Blackwall, too, was raised by the same monarch to shut out the inundating flow of the tide; some of the lands were drained; and about a century-and-a-half afterwards, Toor, a rich Saxon, standard bearer to the Danish King Canute, found it so fertile and fair a spot, with the forest around about so thickly stocked with deer, that he built a number of houses—the nucleus of the future Waltham—and settled a colony of sixty inhabitants upon it. He also founded a Church for two priests; and, says the page of olden history, “committed to their keeping a miraculous cross said to have been discovered in a vision to a carpenter far westward, and brought hither in a manner unknown, which was reported to work many wonders; and on account of that cross, the place attained the name of Holy Cross” —though, perhaps, some may be disposed to think the appellation was derived from the beautiful memorial cross, the defaced remnants of which still stand just over the border, in Hertfordshire, erected in 1291, to mark one of the resting-places of the body of Queen Eleanor on its way from Lincoln. The son of Toor, however, had little of his father’s thrift. By means akin to the gaming table and the turf he scattered his patrimony, and Waltham coming to the Crown, Edward the Confessor gave it to Earl Harold on condition that he should “build a monastery in the place where was a little convent, subject to the canons and their rulers, and furnish it with all the necessary relics, dresses, and ornaments, in memory of Edward and his wife Edith.” Accordingly, in 1062, a college for a dean and eleven secular canons was founded, and in time it became endowed with a large part of the property of the Hundred, with lands,

advowsons, tithes, and manors in various parts of this and other counties, though the Conqueror appears to have stripped them of most of the lands in Waltham given them by Harold. Its character of a college was maintained for little more than a century. Rome at this period began to entertain some jealousy of the secular orders; and branding them with irreligion and looseness of life, it was resolved to supplant them wherever possible by regular monks. Henry II. took advantage of this feeling. He had made a pious vow to build an abbey as an act of expiation for the murder of Thomas à Becket; and he contrived to do it at a cheap rate, and compromise with his conscience and the Pope by changing the Dean of Waltham into an abbot, and replacing the secular canons by sixteen Augustine monks. This was in 1177. The Abbey, as rich in privileges as in possessions, continued to flourish till the Reformation.

It had been from its foundation a chapel royal. It was independent of all bishops, and yielded obedience to none save the Pope and the King. The chief was one of the twenty-eight mitred abbots of the kingdom; and had a house in London for his residence when he went to Court. He had often, too, the King for a neighbour or guest. Henry III., especially, often made Waltham his place of residence; and to compensate the inhabitants for the high prices occasioned by his presence, he granted them a weekly market and a seven days' fair. The abbey continued 362 years, under a succession of twenty-seven abbots; and at last, close by its walls, tradition says a thought was hatched and presented to the mind of Henry VIII., which had a great influence in bringing about the Reformation, and with it the destruction of this and other conventual establishments. "The King," as runs the tale, "had a small house on Rome-land, a parcel of land near the abbey, so-called from having been granted by Henry II. to Pope Alexander, to which he occasionally resorted for his private amusement," as may be inferred from Fuller, who says, "Waltham bells told no tales when the King came there." He took this place in his way when he commenced a journey to dissipate the chagrin he felt from the obstructions to his divorce from Queen Catherine. Stephen Gardiner, his Secretary of State, and Edward Fox, his Almoner, by whom he was accompanied, spent the evening at the house of Mr. Cressy, to whose sons Dr. Cranmer was preceptor. As the divorce became the subject of conversation, Cranmer observed that the readiest way to quiet the King's conscience, or to extort the Pope's consent, would be to consult the universities of Europe on this controverted point. If they approved of his marriage with Catherine his remorse would naturally cease; if they condemned it, the Pope would find it difficult to resist the solicitations of so great a monarch, seconded by the opinion of all the learned men in christendom. When the King was informed of this proposal, he was

delighted with it, and with more alacrity than delicacy swore that Cranmer had got the right sow by the ear. He sent for that divine, adopted his opinion, and ever afterwards entertained for him the highest regard. Mr. Cressy's house, where this transaction occurred, has long since been entirely unknown.

Robert Fuller, the last abbot, a man of some literary pretensions, wrote a history of the abbey. He surrendered his estate and trust to Henry VIII. in March, 1540, the revenues of the abbey then amounting to £1,079 12s. 1d.—showing it to have been the richest in Essex. The site of the monastery, Waltham Park, and much of the property of the house in the district, were granted to Sir Anthony Denny, a favourite gentleman of the King's Privy Chamber. It was afterwards sold to Sir William Jones, from whom it passed to the Wake family, and Sir Charles Wake is the present lord. The site of the abbey is now a market garden.

Between Waltham and Cheshunt is a rich undulating country, park-like in its scenery, very picturesque when the sun glances on the green hill sides and throws long tremulous shadows of the trees on the rich pastures where the cattle browse. Cheshunt in recent times is most noticeable for the college for the education of young Nonconformist preachers which the old Countess of Huntingdon so liberally endowed.

#### ROYDON

Is a parish in the Hundred of Waltham, but chiefly in that of Harlow, County of Essex. The River Stort divides the parish from Hertfordshire. The ground above the river is very elevated, and commands extensive views over the Rye House and for many miles beyond it. Roydon is an extensive parish, but the village is a small straggling place, there being few houses in it. The Church (St. Peter) is an ancient edifice. East of the church, on the village green, stands Temple Roydon House. The manor of the hall now belongs to Earl Mornington, and T. A. Houblin, Esq., is lord of Downes and Nether Halls.

#### BROXBOURNE

Is pleasantly situated on the Lea in Hertfordshire, but close to the county of Essex, and near the railway station. The parish is extensive, and its inhabitants are nearly all engaged in agricultural pursuits. The Church is a handsome edifice, and comprises a nave, aisle, and chancel; at the west end there is a tower with a plain spire and beacon turret. There are several good houses in the village, which lies along the high road. The River Lea here retains its ancient piscatory fame, and "Want's Inn" is still much frequented by London anglers. Many fish of various kinds

are preserved here, which have been stuffed on account of their extraordinary size.

#### HARLOW,

Which lies on the high road to Cambridge and Newmarket, at about twenty-three miles from London, and gives name to the Hundred, is a parish of some extent, and an ancient market town, though changing circumstances and the shifting allegiance of trade have reduced it to the quietude and dimensions of a large village. Its market, held on Saturdays, was, in the early part of the last century, of considerable importance. The woollen manufacture which was carried on here largely at that period gave an air of activity to the place and employment to the poor. The factories, however, are closed; the manufacture departed; the market decayed; the wool fair, which long survived, was at last discontinued; the rail came and robbed the town of its through traffic, and it is now a clean little country town, with its spindles and looms almost forgotten, and little to distinguish it from an ordinary Essex village, save that it is the capital of the Hundred, and has a neat little police-station, which was built and presented to the county by J. Perry Watlington, Esq. An attempt made some years ago to revive its market was a failure; but its cattle fairs yet command considerable trade. They are held on Bush Common, near the hamlet of Potter Street, which takes its name from the potteries formerly carried on there, and is two miles from the town. From the many coins of that people found in the parish and neighbourhood, it appears that the Romans had a halting or dwelling place here while they held the land; and many families of note lorded it over the serfs of Harlow in Saxon and Norman times. Harlow Bury was given to the abbey of Bury St. Edmund's by Thurston, son of Wina, in the time of Edward the Confessor; and the lordly abbot of that house appears to have made it a halting-place, where he feasted and sojourned for a time as he travelled to and fro in attending Parliament. The ecclesiastical owner had peculiar concessions made to him in respect to this manor. "King Stephen remitted to him the assarts of Harlow. King John granted that the woods here should be exempt from the regards of the forest, hunting only excepted; that they might assart the wood of Rokey, belonging to this manor; and that they might make their land wainable—that is, turn it to tillage—without being subject to the regards." The abbot and his retinue, however, appear to have eaten up the estate on these periodical visits; as we find that Pope Boniface IX. appropriated the proceeds to the abbot's table. But if not a place of fasting, it was occasionally one of prayer. A large Chapel was built close to the mansion—partly it is probable for the use of the

tenants and partly that the abbot and his followers might there chant the mass and sing the vesper hymn during their stay. This Chapel still remains, with its fine circular-headed door and its small antique windows; but Mr. Barnard, the owner and occupier of the estate, uses it, as it has been used for a number of years, for the purpose of a granary. Sacks occupy the site of the altar, and the aisles and the chancel receives the produce of the neighbouring fields.

#### SUTTON

Adjoins the parish of Harlow—in fact, it includes that part popularly known as Harlow Bush Common, and it extends to the river Stort, which is the county boundary. The name of the parish implies that it was once large enough to be dignified with the title of a town or place freshly redeemed from the forest. We see here, in the ruins of the ancient priory, all that is left by the religious revolution of the sixteenth century. The old manor house of Merks, the home of once powerful families stood here for ages. The dark heavy rooms and rude gables of the old house have been transformed by modern taste into an elegant mansion, one of the ornaments of the county, which is now the residence of the Rev. J. Arkwright, who is lord of the neighbouring domain. The mansion and manor of Marks Hall took their name from Adeloff de Merc, who held them under the Earl of Boulogne. The old house was demolished and the present mansion erected in the last century by Sir William Lushington, who expended £30,000 upon it, and afterwards sold it to Montagu Burgoyne, Esq., who, fifty years ago, was a county politician. The estate was purchased in 1819 for 100,000 guineas by Richard Arkwright, Esq., father of the present proprietor.

The part of the Hundred to the north-west of Harlow, running towards Bishop Stortford, still retains its forestal character to some extent. Starting on our pilgrimage in this direction, we leave Mutching, which runs up to Ongar Hundred, about four miles on the right. J. T. Selwin, Esq., is lord of the hall, the chief manor, and Wesham, once a hamlet, in which in former times, stood a Chapel, endowed with twenty-one acres of land. Sheering, long the property of the Fitz-Walter family, is situated in this neighbourhood, and yonder is Dorrington Hall, delightfully placed in the vale of the Stort. T. C. Glyn, Esq., is there lord of the manor. Gilston Park is the property of J. Hodgson, Esq. The mansion is the meet home of a country gentleman, and it is approached by two entrances in the park, one on the west side, and one on the east. The route from the west entrance to the mansion is a mile-and-a-half in length through a beautiful road, the whole

distance on each side being flanked with oak trees. The park is well stocked with game of every description, and there is in the centre a sheet of water full of fish.

Gilston village is a straggling place of about a mile in length, near the railway station. Terlings Park is the property of J. Hill, Esq., and faces the river Stort near the railway station. A sheet of water leading from the river passes through the estate; the house stands in the centre of the park.

Marks Hall, about a mile from the station on the Harlow-road, is the property of L. Arkwright, Esq. The Hall stands in the centre of a large park; the owner keeps a fine pack of hounds, which afford sport to the district.

#### BISHOP STORTFORD

Takes its name from its situation on each side of a ford on the river Stort, now crossed by two bridges. The parish is in the county of Hertford, but still on the borders of Essex, near the railway-station. The town extends up the slope of a hill from the river, and consists of four streets, or properly two lines of streets, in the form of a cross. There are some good inns, and many houses of the better class. The Church stands in a commanding position upon rising ground, and it is dedicated to St. Michael. It was partly re-built in 1820, and now accommodates 2000 persons. The living is a vicarage in the gift of the precentor of St. Paul's. At Thaxted, an adjoining parish in the hundred of Dunmow, Essex, there is a Church of great beauty, considered to be the most noble and costly in the county—so costly indeed that people wonder whence all the money came. Horham Hall, in the parish of Thaxted, the most ancient and interesting of the remaining manor houses, stands about two miles south-west of the town. It was originally built by Sir John Cutts, who obtained the lordship of Thaxted from Queen Catherine. This mansion was celebrated for its splendour and hospitality during several reigns of succeeding sovereigns.

#### STANSTED MOUNTFITCHET

Is a parish partly in the hundred of Clavering, but chiefly in that of Uttlesford (Essex), distant  $35\frac{1}{2}$  miles from London. This is one of the largest parishes in the county, being nearly forty miles in circumference, containing within its boundaries a good village, the remains of an ancient tower, and slight traces of the great castle of the Mountfichets. This was the head of the barony of the great Norman family, which after the conquest secured 48 lordships in the county, but it continued so for only a short period. The last of the house died without issue in 1258, and

the estates were divided. The village consists of a straggling street. The name Stansted is supposed to be corrupted from Stone-street, the name of a Roman way on or near which it stood. Montfitchet was the surname of William Gernon, to whose father the lordship was granted by William the Conqueror, and who built a castle here. The artificial mound on which the keep stood yet remains, and is called Castle Hill. We must slightly notice this and adjoining parishes, as we do not feel justified in pausing to describe little villages where we find nothing beyond the ordinary run of parish history.

#### ELSENHAM

Is a pleasant village in the Hundred of Uttlesford, distant thirty-seven miles from London, close to a railway-station. The Hall is an embattled mansion built of brick, with delightful grounds and gardens, adorned by a fine sheet of water, the residence of the widow of the late George Ruch, Esq., who was the lord. About five miles south-east of this is Eaton Lodge, the seat of Viscount Maynard, a noble mansion and beautiful park. During the summer season many persons visit the park for the purpose of holding pic-nic parties, whom the honoured peer is happy to see.

The adjoining parish is named Ugley, where may be seen, according to an old couplet:—

An ugly church and an ugly steeple,  
An ugly place and an ugly people.

This is a gross libel on the pretty women and fair maids for which the place is remarkable, as we can testify. Further on is Henham, in a high and healthy situation, near the chief source of the river Cam. Henham Hall was the residence of the noble family of the FitzWalters for centuries. It is now a farm-house.

#### QUENDEN

Is a village where the river Cam rises, and that classic stream flows by the large village of Newport, then at the foot of the commanding eminence occupied by Shortgrove Hall, and lower down through the highly-ornamented grounds of Audley End, where the clear waters form a wide stream in front of the house. The river leaves the county of Essex in the neighbourhood of Chesterton, and gives the name to the adjoining county. Quenden Hall is a handsome mansion in the Elizabethan style, standing in a finely-wooded park, and is occupied by Captain Byng, whose first wife was niece to the late Mrs. Cranmer. The house was built by Thomas Newman, Esq., who obtained the estate in 1533, but it was re-built in the

seventeenth century by Thomas Turner, Esq., who formed the park around it, and in 1741 it was sold to Joseph Cranmer, Esq., of the Six Clerks Office.

## NEWPORT

Is in the hundred of Uttlesford, county of Essex, near a railway station, forty-two miles from London. The village is at least as old as the time of the conquest. There is a fine old house presenting some quaint gable ends and windows, and in this house one of the "Merry Monarch's" many mistresses resided for some time, to wit, Nell Gwynn, ancestress of the hereditary Grand Falconer of England, the Duke of St. Alban's, who enjoyed £1200 a-year from Government on account of Nelly's easy virtue. Some good traits in her character may serve to reconcile us to the absurd pension received by her descendants. The house where she was visited by her royal lover is an antique building, with a carved wood front, and a shell canopy over the door, surmounted by a crown. When we inspected it some years since the hall and the different apartments were lined with wainscotting, but the interior presented a more modern appearance than the exterior.

## SAFFRON WALDON (ST. MARY),

An incorporated market town and parish, possessing separate jurisdiction, and the head of a Union, locally in the Hundred of Uttlesford, northern division of the county of Essex, twenty-seven miles (north-north-west) from Chelmsford, and forty (north north-east) from London.

The name of Waldon is said to be derived from the Saxon words Weald and Den, signifying a woody valley. At a later period the place was called Waldenburgh; and in the reign of Stephen, when Geoffery de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, procured from the Empress Maud the grant of a market, previously held at Newport, the town took the appellation of Cheping Walden. The present designation owes its origin to the culture of saffron in the neighbourhood, which is supposed to have been introduced into England in the time of Edward III., but has long since been discontinued: the device of the seal of the Corporation is a rebus on the name, being three saffron flowers walled in. The Earl of Essex, above mentioned, who was grandson of Geoffery de Mandeville, a Norman chief, and one of the most distinguished followers of William I., founded a Benedictine priory near the south-western extremity of the parish, which was richly endowed, and, in 1190, converted into an Abbey; its revenue at the time of its suppression, amounted, according to speed, to £406 5s. 11d. In 1537 the Abbey was surrendered with all its possessions, to the King, who granted them to Sir Thomas Audley, K.G., afterwards Lord Chancellor, and created Baron Audley, of Waldon. Upon the site of the

monastic buildings, and partly out of the ruins, Thomas, first Earl of Suffolk, in 1603, erected the first stately fabric, which he called Audley End, in honour of his maternal grandfather, the Chancellor; but of this magnificent house, which occupied thirteen years in completing, and was considered the largest mansion within the realm, one court only remains, and even this comparatively small portion of the original building forms a splendid residence. Upon the death of Henry, tenth Earl of Suffolk, in 1745, without issue, the Audley End estate was divided between George William, Earl of Bristol (who had a half-share), and Elizabeth, Countess of Portsmouth, and Ann Griffin, wife of William Whitwell, Esq. (who had a quarter share each) as representatives of the daughters and co-heirs of James, third Earl of Suffolk. Lady Portsmouth gave her share of the property, together with the house, in 1762, to her nephew, Sir John Griffin Griffin, K.B., who, in 1784, established his claim, in the female line, to the ancient barony of Howard de Walden; and, dying in 1797, bequeathed his estates to Richard Aldworth Griffin, Lord Braybrooke, father of the late possessor of Audley End, who has greatly improved the estate. The town is beautifully situated in a district abounding with interesting scenery, contains several good streets, and a spacious Market Place, in which is a neat Town Hall. The old houses are principally built of lath and plaster, and some of them are very ancient; but the more modern ones are of brick, and the recent improvements have materially altered the general appearance of the place. A bridge has been built over the Slade, and the railway has generally benefited the town. A Scientific and Literary Institution has been established, and there are Horticultural and other societies. The situation of the town is thus emphatically described by Dr. Stukely:—"A narrow tongue of land shoots itself out like a promontory, encompassed with a valley in the form of a horse-shoe, enclosed by distant and delightful hills. On the bottom of the tongue, towards the east, stands the ruins of the castle, and on the top or extremity, the Church, the greater part of which is seen above the surrounding houses." The trade in malt and barley is very considerable. The Market is on Saturday; Fairs are held on Mid-Lent-Saturday and November 1st., and a Fair for sheep and lambs takes place on the 3rd and 4th of August, which is much frequented. By a charter granted in 1549, the control of the town was vested in twenty persons; but the government was remodeled by William and Mary, and under the Act of the 5th and 6th of William IV., cap. 76, the Corporation at present consists of a Mayor, four Aldermen, and twelve Councillors; the number of Magistrates is two, besides the Mayor, late Mayor, and Recorder. The Sessions are held quarterly, and a Court of Record occurs every three weeks, for the recovery of debts and the determination of pleas to any

amount, at which the Recorder presides. The Courts leet and baron for the manors of Brooke and Chipping-Walden, belonging to the owner of Audley End, take place at stated times, and the Magistrates for the Division have their Sessions in the town once a fortnight.

The living is a vicarage, valued in the King's books at £33 6s. 8d.; net income, £237; patron and impropiator, Lord Braybrooke. The Church, which was erected in the reigns of Henry VI. and VII., is a spacious and elegant structure, in the later English style, with a lofty square embattled tower, strengthened by double buttresses of five stages, terminating in minarets rising above the battlements, and surmounted by a lofty, crocketed spire. The western front is of imposing grandeur, having over the central doorway a handsome window of three, and at the extremities of the side aisles windows of five lights of rich and elegant design, and at the angles of the building enriched buttresses terminating in crocketed pinnacles. The interior of the Church is beautifully arranged; the nave is lighted by a range of clerestory windows, and separated from the aisles by clustered columns supporting the roof, which, like that of the chancel and aisles, is richly grained; and the altar is embellished with a fine painting of the Holy Family, after Correggio; the middle and south chancels were erected by Chancellor Audley, and the north by the inhabitants, aided by John Leche, who was vicar from 1489 to 1521, and whose tomb may be seen near the north chancel door. There are places of worship for General Baptists, the Society of Friends, Independents, Wesleyans, and Unitarians. The School, in which the classics were formerly taught, owed its foundation to John Leche, and his sister, Johane Bradbury. The learned Sir Thomas Smith, Secretary to Edward VI., a native of Walden, is said to have received his early education here, and through his interest the school was advanced to a royal foundation. A Charity School, now on the national plan, was established by subscription, and subsequently endowed with benefactions producing £100 per annum; there is a school for girls, similarly conducted, near the eastern end of the Church, adjoining the Bury or Castle Hill; and a school for boys, upon the plan of the British and Foreign School Society, has been erected in East Street. A range of Almshouses was built in 1829 at the south-west end of the town, to re-place some founded by Edward VI., for the reception of sixteen decayed housekeepers of each sex. The elevation of the buildings, which cost nearly £5000, is handsome and appropriate, and adds much to the general appearance of the town, as well as to the comforts of the inmates. The income of this charity exceeds £900 per annum, and the number of inmates is about thirty. This was the first town in which the system of allotments for the poor and working-classes was introduced, and about 40 acres are thus

appropriated, much to the benefit of nearly 800 of the population. It is the head of a Union, comprising twenty-four parishes.

A commodious Workhouse has been erected. Between the town and Audley End Park are the remains of an old embankment called "The Battle Ditches," respecting which there is no clear or satisfactory tradition. Dr. Stukely found the south bank to be 730 feet long, 20 high, 50 broad at the base, and 8 at the top; the length of the western bank is 588 feet; both banks and ditches are well preserved and extremely bold. The ruins of the Castle, erected soon after the Conquest by Geoffrey de Mandeville, are only remarkable for the thickness of the walls and the rude character of the building. The remains, and the hill on which they stand, are held by trustees, under lease from Lord Braybrooke, for the benefit of the town. A Museum was erected in 1835 within the grounds, which contain many rare specimens of zoology and other departments of natural history; and a spacious hall has been added to the building by Lord Braybrooke for the agricultural society of the town and vicinity. Lord Howard de Walden takes the title of Baron from the town.

#### AUDLEY END, THE SEAT OF LORD BRAYBROOKE.

Scarcely a mile to the west of the town stands the princely mansion of Audley End, in the midst of tastefully laid-out grounds, lawns, and gardens. The fine wood and spacious park are diversified by hill and dale, and from some of the higher points, views are presented in many counties. On one side is the town of Saffron Walden, partly hid in the intervening valley; below is the silvery Cam, winding its way through the grounds and grassy vale; while further away are the dark woodlands and game preserves.

Lord Howard (Baron Howard of Walden), who took part in the destruction of the Spanish Armada, built Audley House on the site of an ancient monastery, which had been granted to Mr. Thomas Audley at the time of the dissolution of religious houses. Lord Howard being Lord Treasurer, determined to erect a mansion that should surpass any other in the country in size and magnificence. He procured a model in wood from Italy at a cost of £500, and having chosen an architect, he began the building in 1603, and finished it in 1611, at a cost of £200,000! Lord Braybrooke, in his "History of Audley End," says:—"When the house was completed, it consisted, besides the offices, of various ranges of buildings, surrounding two spacious quadrangular courts; that to the westward was the largest, and was approached over a bridge across the Cam, through a double avenue of limes, terminating with a grand entrance gateway, flanked by four circular towers. The apartments in the north and south sides of the principal courts were erected over an open cloister and supported by pillars of alabaster, and on the eastern side a flight of

steps led to the entrance porches placed on a terrace running parallel to the great Hall, which formed the centre of the building; beyond the Hall was the inner court, three sides of which only remain, and constitute the present house." An estimate of the magnitude of the building may be formed from the dimensions of the principal gallery, which measured 226 feet in length, 32 feet in width, and 24 feet in height. The present building contains three sides of the smaller of the two original quadrangles. The grand entrance is from the west, where two corresponding porches project from each side, and are ornamented with handsome pillars. The family chapel stands at the north end corner of the house; it is fitted up in the most elegant style of English architecture. The gallery appropriated to the family is at one end, and its roof is decorated with the family arms. The house is elegantly furnished; the saloon and gallery contain a large collection of valuable paintings, and in the library there is a judicious selection of books.

Audley End is the name of one of the finest estates in Essex, an estate covering a vast extent of highly-cultivated land. The Park is five miles in extent, and presents that magnificence of English park scenery so well described by Washington Irving:—"Vast lawns, that extend like sheets of vivid green, with here and there clumps of gigantic trees heaping up rich piles of foliage. The solemn pomp of groves and woodland glades, with the deer trooping in silent herds across them; the hare bounding away to the covert, or the pheasant suddenly bursting on the wing. The brook taught to wend in natural meanderings, or expand into a glassy lake, the sequestered pool reflecting the quivering trees, with the yellow leaf sleeping on its bosom, and the trout roaming fearlessly about its limpid waters, while some rustic temple or sylvan statue grown grey and dark with age, give an air of classic sanctity to the seclusion."—"The Sketch Book."

Lord Braybrooke permits any picnic parties to ramble in the Park. Some years since we spent a pleasant summer day there, and the keeper very kindly accompanied us over the grounds to hear

The gladsome voices of unnumbered birds,  
The moan of doves in immemorial elms,  
And murmuring of innumerable bees.

There is a mound over the railway tunnel, and on the summit there is a circular fence enclosing an extensive aviary. A temple and Gothic cottage stand on the top of the mound, and a lawn in front, on which are placed large cages containing eagles, hawks of various kinds, kites, parrots and parrots, Cornish crows, canaries, goldfinches, bullfinches, linnets, red poles, with many other kinds of birds, of which the most remarkable are some hundreds of gold and silver pheasants quite tame—so tame that they come at the call of their keeper for food scattered about,

The temple before-mentioned stands on the highest part of the mound. It is a stone building in the classic or Grecian style of architecture, surmounted with a dome, and was built to commemorate the peace of 1763. The following inscription is placed over the entrance: "Sacred to VICTORY, eminently triumphant in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, by the glorious and unparalleled success of the British Armies in the war commenced 1755, and concluded 1763; when France and Spain making overtures to the Crown of Great Britain, and yielding to the superiority of her arms, peace was restored."

#### CHESTERFORD,

Which is situated on the eastern bank of the River Granta, though now a small village, was anciently a town of considerable importance. It is by most antiquaries identified with the Camborecum of Antoninus, and the foundation of walls inclosing a quadrangular area of fifty acres was till lately traceable. That it was a Roman station is certain, not only from its name and the numerous coins and other Roman antiquities discovered at various times, but also from its contiguity to several Roman roads, of which the Icknield and Ermyn Streets intersect each other in the immediate vicinity. Roman bricks and coins of the earlier and later emperors have been found in great quantities, of which, in 1769, a large number in good preservation were found in an earthen pot, by some workmen who were digging up the foundation of the walls for materials to mend the road. In 1730 many coins and entire skeletons were discovered, besides a small urn of red clay containing written scrolls of parchment, which were destroyed before they were deciphered.

Besides the larger camp or station, there are several smaller camps; one near the Church, in the grounds between which and the ruins are traces of an amphitheatre. At the distance of half-a-mile from the larger camp is another, called Hingiston Burrows, and a third on the opposite side of the river. On an eminence near the Roman road from Inckleton towards Newmarket is Fleamsdyke, where is a small fort, probably the *castra exploratorum*, in the centre of which are traces of a building. The Roman road to Grandchester may be plainly traced, forming a ridge of 200 yards in a direction towards the river above Cambridge. In 1786 a bronze bust, fibula, gold and brass instruments and utensils of various kinds, were found, of which one of gold, in the form of a staple, and weighing eight pounds, lay buried under a rude mass of bronze. A stone trough in the form of half an octagon, of which the four compartments were ornamented with human figures in relievo, was for a considerable time used as a reservoir in a smith's shop. It was subsequently in the possession of Dr. Girver, of Chelmsford, who referred it to that class of receptacles of ashes called *Quietiria*.

Soon after the Norman survey in 1086, the manor belonged to the Mareschals, Earls of Pembroke. At the commencement of the 16th century it was given by its proprietors, the Berkeleys, to the abbey of St. Peter at Westminster, and on the dissolution of Monasteries was granted by Henry VIII. to Audley, Lord Chancellor, from whom it descended to the Marquess of Bristol, and subsequently to others. The parish comprises 2811 acres, of which 200 are woodland; the soil in the more elevated is a thin dry loam, resting on a substratum of chalk, and in the valleys is a rich loam on a dry bottom. The village is pleasantly situated, and commands an uninterrupted prospect extending to the County of Cambridge. The Market has been discontinued, but a Fair is held for horses.

## ESSEX CASTLES AND FORTS.

These are twenty in number, and some of them of great antiquity. They are situated as follows:—Bemfleet Castle (Barstable), Blunts Walls Fortress (Barstable), Bures Mount (Lexden), Canfield Castle (Dunmow), Canute's Camp (Canewdon), Clavering Castle (Clavering), Colchester Castle (Colchester), Great Horkesley Earthworks, Hadleigh Castle (Rochford), Harwich Castle (Harwich), Hedingham Castle (Hinckford), Landguard Fort (near Harwich), Newport Castle (Newport), Shoebury Fortress (Rochford), Stansted Castle (Stansted), Tilbury Fort, Uphall Earthworks, Walden Castle (Saffron Walden).

## ABBEYS AND OTHER MONASTIC INSTITUTIONS IN ESSEX.

Barking Abbey, Bicknacre Priory, Beeleigh Abbey, Berden Priory, Blackmore Priory, Carmelite Friary (Maldon), Coggeshall Abbey, Colne Priory, Cressing Temple, Crouched Friars (Colchester), Dunmow Priory, Friary (Chelmsford), Grey Friars (Colchester), Halsted College, Harlow Bury, Hatfield Priory (Peverel), Hatfield Priory (Broad Oak), Hedingham Hospital (New Abbey), Hedingham Nunnery, Horkesley Priory, Latton Priory, Le Hôpital (Maplestead), Leighs Hermitage, Leighs Priory, Newport Hospital, Parndon Monastery, Panfield Priory, Pleshey College, Prittlewell Priory, St. Giles' Hospital (Maldon), St. Osyth Priory, St. John's Abbey (Colchester), St. Botolph's Priory, St. James Hermitage, Stansgate Priory, Stratford Abbey, Takeley Priory, Thoby Priory, Thremhall Priory, Tilty Abbey, Tiptree Priory, Walden Abbey, Waltham Abbey, Wix Nunnery. All these buildings are now in ruins.

Mute is the matin bell whose early call,  
 Warned the grey fathers from their humble beds;  
 No midnight taper gleams along the wall,  
 Or round the sculptured saint a radiance sheds.

## CHAPTER II.

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### A DESCRIPTION OF CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

**C**AMBRIDGESHIRE is an inland county, bounded on the south by the counties of Essex and Hertford, on the north by Lincolnshire, on the east by Suffolk, on the north-east by Norfolk, and on the west by the counties of Bedford, Huntingdon, and Northampton. It extends from 52 deg. 2 min. to 52 deg. 45 min., north latitude, and from 28 min. east longitude to 18 min. west longitude, and contains 858 square miles, or 549,120 statute acres. The whole county is in the fen district, and presents a very flat aspect, but the eastern parts are varied by gently rising hills.

Geologists have explored the whole of the fen district with especial interest, in consequence of the evidence it affords of changes of level and the action of water. Land and water appear to have been in conflict for ages. Now the sea has triumphed, rolling its waves over the northern region; now a marine current, flowing steadily in one direction, has prevailed, bringing white silty clay, gravel, flints, boulders, bones, and shells. Next in order appear signs of the sluggish action of fresh water; of forests growing during long periods, until overwhelmed by the sea. Then another forest grew above the former, and produced oaks with stems ten feet in diameter. These in turn perished, and the whole region became a vast expanse of marsh and fen.

The substrata of the county are chalk, which extends through the hilly part, from Royston to Newmarket; clunch, a calcareous substance found in large masses, but neither so white nor so soft as chalk, chiefly abounding in the parishes of Burmell and Isleham, and much used for lime and fire stones; gault, a stiff blue clay, prevailing in the eastern and western parts of the county; sand, which crossing Bedfordshire, begins in this county in the parish of Gamlingay; silt, a sea sand, finely pulverised by the agitation of the waters, and found in the marsh lands; peat earth, extending through the whole of the fen district; and gravel.

Cambridgeshire, including the Isle of Ely, forms part of the great level of the fens, which is based upon a bed of clay of great thickness, consisting of the gault, the Oxford clay, and the Kimmeridge clay. These, by the almost total absence of the strata of stone that usually separate them, have become only distinguishable by their imbedded fossils. Above the clay there is a deposit of peat of variable thickness, but usually of many feet. In those parts which formerly constituted the fen islands, there are great masses of gravel, sand, and drift clay.

The soil is chiefly arable, and produces abundant crops of corn, more particularly in the fen district. It has been estimated that about one-fourth of the fen lands actually in cultivation is sown with cole seed, the plant being mostly eaten off by sheep. Hemp and flax are cultivated to a considerable extent in the parishes of Upwell, Welney, Outwell, Elm, and Wisbech. The parishes of Chatteris, Mepal, Sutton, Swavesey, Over, Wellingham, Cottenham, Rampton, Landbeach, Waterbeach, Stretham, Littleport, Ely, Soham, and Fordham, constitute the principal dairy district, a great quantity of the butter produced in which is sent to London.

Between Chesterford and Cambridge the land is in a high state of cultivation, the surface is varied and undulating, and affords a pleasing prospect to the eye. All the beauties of English landscape scenery are presented in the wild copse, the mossy dell, the russet grove, the meadow in which the fragrant clover, or the gay buttercup, or the blooming heath, or the modest daisy, mingle with the bright green of the grassy sod, and form one of rural nature's verdant scenes grateful to every sense.

Gog Magog Hills, near Cambridge, are the highest in the county, ranging to the south-east, and commanding an extensive prospect. Thirty-three Churches may be seen from their summit, scattered through a great extent of country in Essex, Hertfordshire, and Cambridgeshire, and adorning the landscape with their antique architecture, their gothic towers, and their spires that "point to heaven." There is a triple entrenchment on the summit of these hills, with two rude circular ditches, which some antiquaries suppose to be remains of a Roman camp. Roman coins have been found there.

At the time of the Roman invasion (A.D. 45), this county formed part of the country of the Iceni, being, according to Whittaker, inhabited by a tribe of that people called the Cenomanni. In the first division of this island by the Romans, it was included in *Britannia Superior*, in the second in *Britannia Prima*, and in the last in *Flavia Cæsariensis*.

The Romans seem to have thickly populated the district of the fens. Numerous remains of their roads and villas, as well as many coins and much pottery, have been found. Several of these great lines of road passed through the level land now called Cambridgeshire, and may still

be traced. Two of these crossed each other in the Roman station at Cambridge, and are usually called by antiquaries, "The Akeman Street" and "The Via Devann." Another traversed the fens from Denver in Norfolk to a place near Peterborough. The "Erming Street" and "Icknield Way" pass for some distance through Cambridgeshire, but they were probably tracks made by the Iceni. The Romans formed great embankments against the sea, along the shore of the Wash, from Lynn by Wisbech into Lincolnshire, which are still very conspicuous, although now at a considerable distance from the coast. They also seem to have had a navigable canal along the edge of the fens, in continuation southwards of the "Car Dyke."

While mentioning Roman antiquities in the fens, we should notice the four great boundary ditches, each of which extends for several miles, across the open chalk district from the fens to the ancient woodland. Of these, the "Devil's Ditch," upon the Newmarket Heath, is the best known. It is also the largest, although one of the others is longer. Its length is about seven miles, and it consists of a ditch with a rampart on one side formed of the excavated soil. The height of the bank is about eighteen feet above the level of the county, thirty feet above the bottom of the ditch, and twelve feet in width at the top.

The whole of the upper district, or county proper, of Cambridgeshire is traversed by numerous brooks, which combine to form the River Cam. One of the chief tributaries of this river (called the Ree) rises on the borders of Hertford, Bedford, and Cambridgeshires; the other, named the Granta, has its source in Essex. These waters combine at a short distance from Cambridge, and flowing by Ely to Littleport, in the ancient channel of the Great Ouse, are thence conducted by a cut into the Little Ouse, and, together with that stream, reach the sea at Lynn.

The Great Ouse rises at a spring called Ousewell, near Brackley, in Northamptonshire, passes through Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire, and descending by Huntingdon, enters Cambridgeshire at a place called the Hermitage, in the parish of Haddenham, near Earith, where it formerly divided into two branches by falling by Earith, below Stretham Mere, where it received the River Granta from Cambridge, passing on to Ely and Prickwillow, where the Mildenhall river falls in; united with this, it runs to Littleport, Chayre, Welney, and Sprewsnest Point, and so on to Downham and Lynn, below which port it falls into the sea.

The River Nene, which has its head near Catesby, in Northamptonshire, flows through Peterborough and on to Wisbech, below which town it divides the counties of Norfolk and Lincoln, and falls into the Cross Keys Wash, or Metaris Estuarium, which is in the jurisdiction of the Port of Wisbech.

Norfolk is separated from Cambridgeshire on the south-west by the Wisbech Canal and the Well river, which flows through the two parishes of Outwell and Upwell, parts of which are in the two counties.

“The Fens” include a district that extends into the six counties of Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Lincolnshire, Huntingdonshire, and Northamptonshire. The fen district is bounded on the north-east by the German Ocean, and on all the other sides by high lands, which encompass it in the form of a horseshoe. Its area by actual survey has been found to be 400,000 acres. The Isle of Ely is included in the “Bedford Level.” This tract of land was once a forest, then a morass; and now, by the industry of man, large portions of it are converted into rich pastures and fertile corn fields. In this fen land, which spreads over parts of Norfolk and Cambridgeshire, there are accumulations of silt, drifted matter, and bog earth, carried to their present position by the old courses of the river, and some of which accumulations began before the Christian era. Geologists inform us that after removing these accumulations by artificial means, they found below gravel beds, sand banks, stumps of trees, masses of drifted wood, and sometimes skulls and skeletons of wild animals, no longer inhabitants of this island.

No doubt the fens included forests where in times of peace the Britons resorted to be instructed in the Druids’ lore, and where, after the Romans invaded the island, they sought for shelter and protection. The Romans made roads through marshes to facilitate the march of troops and the intercourse between one part of the island and the other. Civilisation followed the formation of roads, and Henry of Huntingdon, writing in the middle of the 12th century, describes the country as being “very pleasant and agreeable to the eye, watered by many rivers which run through, diversified with many large and small lakes, and adorned with many woods and islands.” William of Malmesbury, who lived about the same period, says: “The Lordship of Thorney abounded in lofty trees, fruitful vines, and productive orchards, and that it had no waste land in any part. It was also adorned by many handsome edifices. \* \* \* What shall I say,” exclaims the old historian, “of the beautiful buildings of which it is so wonderful to see the ground amidst those fens to bear?” No doubt large numbers of the Anglo-Saxons settled in Cambridgeshire at an early period, and built all the towns. The district contains many traces to prove that towns and villages which anciently existed on the level had been suddenly overwhelmed by some violent cause, and their place covered with water. Repeated attempts were made to drain it; the first on record was in 1436; but nothing effectual was done till the then Earl of Bedford and some other parties, in 1634, at an expense of £100,000, partially accomplished the drainage of the Isle of Thorney, which, with the exception of

a hillock where an abbey had been built, was all under water. It was out of compliment to this nobleman that the tract of land was called "The Bedford Level." His son and successor carried the work of draining still further, and in 1664 he obtained a Royal Charter, incorporating the undertakers for the drainage (to whom 95,000 acres were granted), and framing regulations for the management of the land reclaimed. This Corporation is still kept up, and consists of a governor, six bailiffs, twenty conservators, and a commonalty, who have power to impose and levy rates for keeping up all the works erected and made through the fens.

For a considerable distance between Cambridge and Ely, the fen land has been much benefited by the gault or blue clay being dug up and spread over the surface. Large portions of the reclaimed land afford fine pasture fields for the various breeds of cattle that are to be found in every parish. Great numbers of sheep are also kept in the fens, the breed preferred being a cross between the Leicestershire and Lincolnshire. Between Cambridge and Ely there is a wide expanse of pasture land covered with flocks. The pastures are intersected by rows of trees, rendering the country picturesque. The poet Tennyson has described a scene in the fen country, simply and faithfully, though some people think it the quintessence of the prosaic:—

Upon the middle of the night,  
 Waking she heard the night-fowl crow ;  
 The cock sung out an hour ere light.  
 From the dark fen the oxen's low  
 Came to her, without hope of change.  
 In sleep she seemed to walk forlorn,  
 Till cold winds woke the gray-eyed morn  
 About the lonely moated grange.

\* \* \* \* \*

About a stone cast from the wall  
 A sluice with blackened waters slept,  
 And o'er it many round and small,  
 The clustered marish mosses crept.  
 Hard by a poplar shook alway,  
 All silver green with gnarled bark ;  
 For leagues no other tree did mark  
 The level waste, the rounding greyn."

The Isle of Ely, and some portion of the other lands, form a part of the great level of the fens called the Bedford Level, from the efforts made by the last Earl and the successive Dukes of Bedford to promote its drainage. During the Roman dominion in Britain, this extensive district seems to have consisted chiefly of wet forests, intersected by stagnant rivers and marshes. That it was not altogether a morass at that time is proved by the great roads made through it

by the Romans. These are now covered in some places by many feet of peat soil, so that they are only to be seen when deep drains are cut in the mosses. Afterwards, during the Saxon, and more especially during the Norman, period the whole was flooded by the silting up of the outfall of the rivers. This state of things became worse and worse till, in the seventeenth century, the whole district had become a number of islands, surrounded by an almost constant flood of water. Since that time, great efforts have been made continuously to reclaim the flooded lands; and this has been nearly effected by embanking the rivers and other streams that convey the upland waters, and pumping the fen water into them by the aid of steam power, which has superseded windmills. The singular changes which took place in this district during its neglected state may be illustrated by the fact that at one period the rivers Nene, Ouse, and Cam, which poured their waters on to the level, all found their way to the sea at Wisbech; that subsequently, by the formation of a cut, which still conveys the latter two, conjointly by the Little Ouse, to Lynn, the three took their course to that last-mentioned town, and the Nene became so sluggish as to have no definite channel, but found its way through various tortuous drains. At the present time the Nene alone flows by an artificial course to Wisbech; and the old channel of the great Ouse, from Littleport to Wisbech, is so completely filled up as to be only traceable by a bed of silt, and a slight but broad depression of the land. The Ouse formerly flowed from Earith, near which place it enters this county, to a spot some miles to the south of Ely, to be joined by the Cam; but is now conducted by a great artificial cut, called the Bedford river, in a direct course of more than twenty miles to Denver in Norfolk, thus leaving many miles of its ancient channel nearly dry.

The county for civil purposes is divided into the Hundreds of Armingford, Chesterton, Cheveley, Chilford, Ely, Flendish, Longstow, Northstow, Papworth, Rudfield, Staine, Staploe, Thriplow, Whitterley, Whittlesford, Wisbech, North Witchford and South. It contains the city of Ely, the town and University of Cambridge, the towns of Linton, March, Thorney, and Wisbech, and part of Newmarket and Royston. Three knights are returned to Parliament for the shire and two representatives each for the borough and University of Cambridge. At an early period the Isle of Ely was made a separate district with an independent jurisdiction.

The county is in the Norfolk Circuit, and with the Isle of Ely is in the jurisdiction of the London Court of Bankruptcy. For Parliamentary purposes, the two divisions form one district, returning three members to Parliament, having the place of election at Cambridge, and polling-places

at Cambridge, Caxton, Chatteris, Ely, Linton, Long Stanton, March, Newmarket, Royston, Soham, Whittlesea, and Wisbech. The greater part of both districts is in the diocese of Ely, except a few parishes in the diocese of Norwich. There are 165 parishes in the diocese.

The following is a list of the Hundreds in the county, with the parishes in each Hundred :—

Hundred of Armingford :—Abington in the Clay or Abington Pigotts, Bassingbourne, Croyden-cum-Clapton, East Hutley, Guilden Morden, Litlington, Melbourn, Meldreth, Royston, Shingay, Steeple Morden, Tadlow, Wendy, and Whaddon.

Hundred of Chesterton :—Chesterton, Childerley, Cottenham, Dry Drayton, and Histon.

Hundred of Cheveley :—Ashley-cum-Silverley, Cheveley, Kirtling, Newmarket, All Saints, and Wood Ditton.

Hundred of Chilford :—Babraham, Castle Camps, Great Abington, Great Bartlow, Hildersham, Horseheath, Linton, Little Abington, Pampisford, Shudy Camps, and West Wickham.

Hundred of Ely :—Downham and Littleport.

Hundred of Flendish :—Cherry Hinton, Fen Ditton, Fulbourn All Saints, Horningsea, and Feversham.

Hundred of Longstow :—Bourn, Caldecote, Caxton, Croxton, Eltisley, Gamlingay, Great Eversden, Hardwicke, Hatley St. George, Kingston, Little Eversden, Little Gransden, Longstow, and Toft.

Hundred of North Witchford :—Chatteris, Doddington, March St. Mary and St. Andrew, Whittlesley.

Hundred of Northstow :—Girton, Impington, Landbeach, Lolworth, Long Stanton All Saints, Long Stanton St. Michael, Marlingley, Milton, Oakington, Rampton, and Waterbeach.

Hundred of Papworth :—Boxworth, Conington, Elsworth, Fen Drayton, Grancey, Knapwell, Over, Papworth St. Agnes, Papworth St. Everard, Swavesea, and Willingham.

Hundred of Rudfield :—Balsham, Brinkley, Burrough Green, Carlton-cum-Willingham, Dullingham, Stetchworth, West Wratting, Westley Waterless, and Weston Colville.

Hundred of South Witchford :—Coveney, Grunty Fen, Haddenham, Manea Chapelry, Mepal, Sutton, Stretham, Welches Dam, Wentworth, Wilburton, Witcham, and Witchford.

Hundred of Staine :—Bottisham, Great Wilbraham, Little Wilbraham, Swaffham Bulbeck, Swaffham Prior, and Stow-cum-Quy.

Hundred of Staploe :—Burwell, Chippenham, Fordham, Isleham, Kennett, Landwade, Snailwell, Soham, and Wicken.

Hundred of Triplow :—Foulmere, Foxton, Great Shelford, Harston,

Hanxton, Little Shelford, Newton, Stapleford, Thriplow, and Trumpington.

Hundred of Wetherley :—Arrington, Barrington, Barton, Comberton, Coton, Grantchester, Harleton, Haslingfield, Orwell, Shepreth, and Wimpole.

Hundred of Whittlesford :—Duxford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Sawston, and Whittlesford.

Hundred of Wisbeach :—Elm, Leverington, Newton Outwell, Parson Drove Chapelry, Thorney, Tydd St. Giles, Upwell, Wisbeach St. Mary, and Wisbeach St. Peter.

City of Ely :—Ely College, Ely St. Mary, Ely Trinity, and Ely Westmoor Fen.

Borough of Cambridge :—All Saints, Holy Sepulchre, Holy Trinity, St. Andrew the Great, St. Andrew the Less, St. Benedict, St. Botolph, St. Clement, St. Edward, St. Giles, St. Mary the Great, St. Mary the Less, St. Michael, and St. Peter.

The County Lunatic Asylum, situated at Fulbourn, is a handsome building in the Elizabethan style, erected at a cost of £40,000. It will accommodate about 310 inmates.

The County Prison and House of Correction is situated on Castle Hill, in the parish of Chesterton, and was erected in 1804 on the site of the old Castle.

The Jails for the Isle of Ely are at Ely and Wisbech. That at Ely was built in 1843, on the model of Pentonville Prison.

#### THE TOWN OF CAMBRIDGE.

Cambridge is a University, Borough, and Market Town, having separate jurisdiction, and forming a Union and Hundred of itself in the County of Cambridge, on the river Cam, 51 miles (north by east) of London. As it is situated in a fenny district, it owes its chief attractions to the number, variety, and magnitude of the buildings connected with the University. The town, which is about a mile in length, and nearly a mile in breadth, lies chiefly on the south-eastern side of the River Cam. The streets are generally narrow and crooked, but on the whole the town has been much improved by the erection of new buildings.

The town of Cambridge obviously derives its name from the River Cam, anciently the Granta, which name is still preferred by old Cantabs. In the Domesday Book the town is called Grente Bridge. It stands on level ground, chiefly on the right side of the river, which is crossed by an iron bridge of one arch, erected by public subscription in 1823. There are few public buildings here of much interest independently of the University and the Churches. The University Church is St. Mary's, near

the centre of the town. It was begun in 1478, and not completed till 1608.

The Anglo-Saxons appear to have built the town of Cambridge at an early period, and many of them settled there in the seventh century. The first well authenticated fact stated by historians is the burning of the town by the Danes in 871. The desolated site was chosen by the invaders as one of their principal stations. In 875 three of their generals wintered here with an army, and they occupied this station occasionally till 921. In 1010 the town was again destroyed by its old enemies, the Danes, who left few people in it. Whilst some of the English nobility held the Isle of Ely against William I., that king built a castle on the site, as is supposed, of the Danish fortress; but if so, it appears to have been on a more extended scale, for it is stated in Domesday Book that twenty-seven houses were destroyed for the purpose.

The town, though a borough by prescription, was first incorporated by Henry I. in the early part of his reign; and twenty-four charters, none of which, however, with the exception of that of the 5th of Richard II., caused any material change in the municipal government, were granted previously to the charter of the 7th of Charles I., under which the officers of the corporation consisted of a Mayor, four Bailiffs, twelve Aldermen, twenty-four Common Councillors, and two Treasurers; others, not named in the charter, were a High Steward, a Recorder, a Deputy-Recorder, four Councillors, two Coroners, a Town Clerk, Deputy-Town Clerk, and subordinate officers. The Government is now, under the Act of the 5th and 6th William IV., c. 76, vested in a Mayor, ten Aldermen, and thirty Councillors.

The town is a polling-place for the election of knights of the shire, for which it is also the principal place of election. The borough has returned members to Parliament since the twenty-third of Edward I. The right of election was formerly vested in the freemen not receiving alms; but by the Act of the 2nd of William IV., c. 45, the non-resident freemen were disfranchised, and the privilege was extended to the £10 householders of the borough, and by the Reform Act of 1867, to all householders. The privilege of sending two representatives was conferred on the University by charter of James I. The right of election is vested in the members of the Senate, and the Vice-Chancellor is the returning-officer.

At Cambridge, the religious houses were numerous. The most ancient was that of Augustine Canons, founded near the Castle in 1092 by Picot, the Sheriff, and augmented on its removal to Barnwell by Payne Peverel, standard bearer to Robert, Duke of Normandy; its revenue at the dissolution was valued at £351 15s. 4d. Some remains of the conventual buildings have been converted into farm offices. The Benedictine

Nunnery of St. Rhudegund appears to have been founded about the year 1130. It was originally dedicated to Mary, but was re-dedicated to St. Rhudegund by Malcolm IV., King of Scotland, who augmented its revenues, and rebuilt the Conventual Church about the year 1160, the remaining portion of which forms the Chapel of Jesus' College. For the purpose of founding this College, Henry VII. granted it to Bishop Alcock, having escheated to the Crown, in consequence of its being deserted by the nuns. The Monastery of the Grey Friars, or Franciscans, the site of which is occupied by Sidney Sussex College, was founded about 1224, and was very flourishing. The Bethlehemite Friars settled in Cambridge in 1257 in a house in Trumpington Street, of which they had procured a grant. The Friars *de sacco*, or *penitentia Jesu Christi*, settled in the same street in 1258, and the order was suppressed in 1307.

The brethren of St. Mary settled in the parish of All Saints, near the Castle, about 1274. The Priory of the Black Friars, the site of which is now occupied by Emanuel College, was founded before 1275. The Augustine Friars are supposed to have settled here about 1290. Their Convent was founded by Sir Geoffry Pitchford, in the parish of St. Edward. The White Friars, or Carmelites, the site of whose Convent is occupied by the garden of the Provost of King's College, settled first at Chesterton, then at Newenham, about 1249, from which they removed in 1316 to a spot of ground just within the walls, given them by Edward II. Bishop Fitzwalter, in 1291, founded a small Priory of Gilbertines, who occupied the old Chapel of St. Edmund, opposite to Peterhouse.

The town is divided into four distinct wards, named respectively Bridge Ward, Market Ward, High Ward, and Preacher's Ward; and comprises the fourteen parishes before named, containing as many churches. There are meeting-houses for Primitive and Wesleyan Methodists, Baptists, Independents, and the Society of Friends. The Free Grammar School, situated near Corpus Christi College, was established in pursuance of the will of Stephen Perse, M.D., senior Fellow of Caius College, who in 1615 bequeathed property producing £180 per annum for its erection and endowment. There are several day schools for the children of the poor. The General Hospital or Infirmary, commonly called Addenbrooke's Hospital, situated at the entrance into the town from London, was founded by John Addenbrooke, M.D., Fellow of Catharine Hall, who in 1719 bequeathed about £4000 to erect and maintain a small physical hospital. Mr. John Bowtell, of Cambridge, by will dated in 1813, bequeathed to the institution £7000 Consolidated Bank Annuities, and about £4000 have been expended in the erection of two extensive wings. The annual income from rents, stock, and contributions is upwards of £3000. There are almshouses for upwards of fifty-four persons, founded and endowed by different individuals.

The Castle, built in the reign of William I. on the site of a Roman station, afterwards occupied as a Danish fortress, was in early times an occasional residence of our kings. When it ceased to be so occupied, the buildings, which were extensive, fell into decay. During the Civil War it was made a garrison for the Parliament, Cambridge being headquarters. In 1660, the county was in possession of it, subject to a fee farm rent; and the Quarter Sessions were held in it from that time till after the building of the Shirehall. The remains of the ancient building, consisting of a gate-house, which was long used as a prison, were lately demolished to afford space for the erection of a new County Court.

Amongst eminent natives of Cambridge were Sir John Cheke, tutor, and afterwards Secretary of State to Edward VI.; Dr. Thirlby, first and only Bishop of Norwich and Ely; Bishop Jeremy Taylor; Dr. Goldisbourne, Bishop of Gloucester; Dr. Townson, Bishop of Salisbury; Dr. Love, Dean of Ely; Thomas Bennett, who suffered martyrdom at Exeter in 1530; and Richard Cumberland, the dramatist. Prince Adolphus Frederick, fifth and youngest son of King George III., was created Duke of Cambridge, November 27th, 1801.

Cambridge is famous for its University, of which the following account is abridged from a topographical dictionary by Samuel Lewis:—

#### CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.

The origin of the University is enveloped in great obscurity; it is, however, probable that Cambridge first became a seat of learning in the seventh century, when, as Bede in his Ecclesiastical History informs us, Segebert, King of the East Angles, with the assistance of Bishop Felix, constituted within his dominions a school in imitation of some that he had seen in France, and this is thought to have been established here. It is certain that at a very early period the town was the resort of numerous students, who at first resided in private apartments, and afterwards in inns, where they lived in community under a principal at their own charge. Several of these houses were at length deserted, and fell into decay; others were purchased in succession by patrons of literature, and, obtaining incorporation with rights of mortmain, received permanent rich endowments. It is believed that a regular system of academical education was first introduced in 1109, when the Abbot of Crowland having sent some monks, well versed in philosophy and other sciences, to his manor of Cottenham, they proceeded to the neighbouring town of Cambridge, whither a great number of scholars repaired to their lectures, which were arranged after the manner of the University of Orleans. The first charter known to have been granted to the University is that in the tenth of Henry III., conferring the privilege of appointing certain officers called taxors

to regulate the rate of lodgings for students, which had been raised exorbitantly by the townsmen. This was about fifty years before the foundation of Peter House, the first endowed College. In 1249, the discord between the scholars and the townsmen had arrived at such a pitch as to require the interference of the civil power; and in 1261, dissensions arose in the University between the northern and southern men, which were attended with such serious consequences, that a great number of scholars, in order to pursue their studies without interruption, withdrew to Northampton, where a University was established and continued four years. In 1270, Prince Edward came to Cambridge, and caused an agreement to be drawn up, by virtue of which certain persons were appointed by the town and the University to preserve the peace between the students and the inhabitants. In 1333, Edward III. granted some important privileges to the University, making its authority paramount to that of the borough, and ordaining that the Mayor, Bailiffs, and Aldermen should swear to maintain its rights and privileges. These eminent favours caused the townsmen to be more than ever jealous of its authority; their discontents broke out into open violence in the succeeding reign, when, taking advantage of the temporary success of the rebels of Kent and Essex in 1381, the principal townsmen, at the head of a tumultuous assemblage, plundered Benedict College, and compelled the Chancellor and other members of the University to renounce their chartered privileges, and to promise submission to the usurped authority of the burgesses. These lawless proceedings were terminated by the arrival of the Bishop of Norwich with an armed force; and the King soon after punished the burgesses by depriving them of their charter, and bestowing all the privileges which they had enjoyed upon the University, together with a grant that no action should be brought against any scholar or scholar's servant, by a townsman, in any other than the Chancellor's court. In 1430, Pope Martin V. decided, from the testimony of ancient evidence, that the members of the University were exclusively possessed of all ecclesiastical and spiritual jurisdiction over their own scholars. Richard II. restored to the burgesses their charter, with such an abridgement of their privileges as rendered them more subordinate to the University than they previously had been.

On the first symptoms of an approaching war between King Charles and the Parliament, the University stood forward to demonstrate its loyalty by tendering the College plate to be melted for his Majesty's use. In 1643, the Earl of Manchester, at that time Chancellor of the University, came to Cambridge, and after a general visitation of the Colleges, expelled all the members that were known to be zealously attached to the King and to the Church discipline. In March, 1647, Sir Thomas Fairfax visited the

University, and was received with all the honours of royalty at Trinity College; on the 11th of June he kept a public fast at the place. Queen Elizabeth visited Cambridge on August 5th, 1564, and stayed five days, during which she resided at the Provost's lodge, King's College, and was entertained with plays, orations, and academical exercises. On the 7th of March, 1615, James I., with his son Henry Prince of Wales, was here, and was lodged at Trinity College, which has ever since, on the occasion of royal visits, been the residence of the Sovereign. King James honoured the University with another visit in 1625; and Charles I. and the Queen were there in 1632, when they were entertained with dramatic exhibitions. It has also been visited by Charles II., October 14th, 1671, and September 27th, 1681; by William III., October 4th, 1689; by Queen Anne and the Prince of Denmark, April 16th, 1705; by George I., October 6th, 1717; and by George II., in April, 1728. On all these occasions the royal guests were entertained by the University in the hall of Trinity College; and it was customary for the Corporation of the town to present them with fifty broad pieces of gold. The University of Cambridge is a society of students in all the liberal arts and sciences, incorporated in the 13th of Elizabeth, by the name of the "Chancellor, Masters, and Scholars of the University of Cambridge." It is formed by the union of seventeen Colleges, or societies, devoted to the pursuit of learning and knowledge and for the better service of the Church and State. Each College is a body corporate, and bound by its own statutes, but is likewise controlled by the paramount laws of the University. The present University statutes were given by Queen Elizabeth, and, with former privileges, were sanctioned by Parliament. Each of the seventeen departments, or Colleges, in this literary republic, furnishes members both for the executive and the legislative branch of its government; the place of assembly is the Senate House. All persons who are Masters of Art, or Doctors in one of the three faculties, viz., divinity, civil laws, and physic, having their names upon the College boards, holding any University office, or being resident in the town, have votes in the assembly. The Senate is divided into two classes or houses; and according to this arrangement they are denominated Regents, or Non-Regents, with a view to some particular offices allotted by the statutes to the junior division. Masters of Art of less than five years standing, and Doctors of less than two, compose the Regent or Upper House, or, as it is otherwise called, the "White Hood House," from its members wearing hoods lined with white silk. All the rest constitute the Non-Regent or Lower House, otherwise called the "Black Hood House," its members wearing black silk hoods. But Doctors of more than two years' standing, and the Public Orator of the University, may vote in either house according to their pleasure. Besides

the two houses, there is a Council called the Caput, chosen upon October 12th, by which every University grace must be approved before it can be introduced to the Senate. This Council consists of a Vice-Chancellor a Doctor in each of the three faculties, and two Masters of Arts, the last representing the Regent and Non-Regent houses. No degree is ever conferred without a grace for that purpose; after the grace has passed, the Vice-Chancellor is at liberty to confer the degree. The University confers no degree whatever, unless the candidate has previously subscribed a declaration that he is *bonâ fide* a member of the Church of England as by law established. For all other degrees, except those of B.A., M.B., and B.C.L., it is necessary that persons should subscribe to the 36th Canon of the Church of England, inserted in the Registrar's book. The executive branch of the University government is committed to the following officers:—A Chancellor, who is the head of the whole University, and presides over all cases relative to that body; his office is biennial, or tenable for such a length of time beyond two years as the tacit consent of the University chooses to allow. A High Steward is elected by a grace of the Senate, who has special power to try scholars impeached of felony within the limits of the University (the jurisdiction of which extends a mile each way from any part of the suburbs), and to hold a Court Leet, according to the established charter and custom; he has power by letters patent to appoint a deputy.

A Vice-Chancellor is elected on November 4th by the Senate; his office, in the absence of the Chancellor, embraces the government of the University, according to the statutes; he acts as a Magistrate both for the University and the County, and must, by an order made in 1587, be the head of some College.

A Commissary is appointed by letters patent under the signature and seal of the Chancellor; he holds a Court of Record for all privileged persons, and scholars under the degree of M.A.

A Public Orator is elected by the Senate, and is the oracle of that body on all public occasions; he writes, reads, and records the letters to and from the Senate, and presents to all honorary degrees with an appropriate speech. This is esteemed one of the most honourable offices in the gift of the University. The Assessor is an officer specially appointed, by the grace of the Senate, to assist the Vice-Chancellor in his Court, *in causis forensibus et domesticis*.

Two Proctors, who are peace officers, are elected annually on October 10th, by the Regents only, and are chosen from the different Colleges in rotation, according to a fixed cycle. A Librarian, Library Keeper, and Assistant Library Keeper, are chosen by the Senate, to whom the management of the University Library is confided.

A Registrar, elected also by the Senate, is obliged, either by himself or deputy, to attend all congregations, to give requisite directions for the due form of such graces as are to be propounded, and to receive them when passed into both houses.

Two Taxors are elected on October 10th by the Regents only, who must be Masters of Arts, and are Regents by virtue of their office; they are appointed to regulate the markets, and to lay the abuses thereof before the Commissary. Two Scrutators are chosen at the same time by the Non-Regents only; they are ex-officio Non-Regents, and attend all congregations, read the graces in the lower house, gather the votes, and pronounce the assent and dissent. Two Moderators, nominated by the Proctors, and appointed by a grace of the Senate, officiate in the absence of the Proctors. Two Pro-Proctors are appointed to assist the Proctors in that part of their duty which relates to the preservation of the public morals. This office was instituted by a grace of the Senate, April 29th, 1818, and Bachelors in Divinity, as well as Masters of Arts, are eligible.

The Classical Examiners are nominated by the several Colleges, according to the cycle of Proctors, and the election takes place at the first congregation after October 4th. There are three Esquire Bedells, whose duty is to attend the Vice-Chancellor. The University Printer, the Library Keeper and Under-Library Keeper, and the School Keeper are elected by the body at large. The Yeoman Bedell is appointed by letters patent under the signature and seal of the Chancellor. The University Marshal is appointed by letters patent under the signature and seal of the Vice-Chancellor. The Syndics are members of the Senate chosen to transact all special affairs relating to the University. The Professors have stipends allowed from various sources: some from the University chest, and others from Her Majesty's Government, or from estates left for the purpose.

Lady Margaret's Professorship of Divinity was founded in 1502, by Margaret Countess of Richmond, mother of Henry VII., the election to be every two years.

The Regius Professorship of Divinity was founded by Henry VIII. in 1540; the candidates must be either Bachelors or Doctors in Divinity. The Regius Professorship of Civil Law was also founded by Henry VIII. in 1540; the professor is appointed by the Queen, and continues in office during her Majesty's pleasure.

The Regius Professorship of Physic, founded at the same time, may be held for life. The appointment is by the Queen.

The Regius Professorship of Hebrew was founded also at the same time. A candidate must not be under the standing of M.A. or B.D., but Doctors of all faculties are excluded.

A Professorship of Arabic was founded by Sir Thomas Adams, Bart., in 1632. The Lord Almoner's Reader and Professorship of Arabic is in the gift of the Lord Almoner, and the stipend is paid out of the almony bounty.

The Lucasian Professorship of Mathematics was founded in 1663, by Henry Lucas, Esq., M.P. for the University. A candidate must be a Master of Arts at least, and well skilled in mathematical science.

The Professorship of Casuistry was founded in 1683, by John Knightbridge, D.D., Fellow of St. Peter's. A candidate must be a Bachelor or Doctor in Divinity, and not less than forty years of age.

The Professorship of Music was founded by the University in 1684. The Professorship of Chemistry was founded by the University, in 1702. The Professorship of Astronomy and Experimental Philosophy was founded in 1704, by Dr. Plume, Archdeacon of Rochester. The Professorship of Anatomy was founded by the University in 1707.

The Professorship of Modern History was founded by George I. in 1724. The Professor is appointed by the Queen, and holds the office during Her Majesty's pleasure. He must be either a Master of Arts, or Bachelor in Civil Law, of a superior degree.

The Professorship of Botany was founded by the University in 1724, and has since been made a patent office. The Professorship of Geology was founded by Dr. Woodward, in 1727. Only unmarried men are eligible. The Professorship of Astronomy and Geometry was founded by Thomas Lowndes, Esq., in 1749. The Norrisian Professorship of Divinity was founded by John Norris, Esq., of Whitton, in the county of Norfolk, in 1768. The Professor cannot continue in office longer than five years, but may be re-elected. He may be a member of either University, may be lay or clerical, but cannot be elected under his thirtieth, nor re-elected after his sixtieth year. The Professorship of Natural and Experimental Philosophy was founded in 1783, by the Rev. Richard Jackson, M.A. A member of Trinity College is to be preferred, and next a candidate from the counties of Stafford, Warwick, Derby, or Chester.

The Downing Professorship of the Laws of England, and the Downing Professorship of Medicine, were founded in pursuance of the will of Sir George Downing, Bart., K.B., in 1800.

The Professorship of Mineralogy was founded by the University in 1808, and afterwards endowed by Her Majesty's Government.

The title of Professor of Political Economy was conferred by a grace of the Senate in May, 1828, on George Pryme, Esq., M.A., late Fellow of Trinity College, and is to be a permanent professorship. Lady Margaret's Preachership was founded in 1503; Doctors, Inceptors, and Bachelors of Divinity are alone eligible, one of Christ's College being preferred. The

Barnaby Lectureships, four in number, viz., in mathematics, philosophy, rhetoric, and logic, are so called from the election taking place on St. Barnabas' day, June 11th; the mathematical lecture was founded at a very early period by the University, and the other three were endowed in 1524, by Sir Robert Rede, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in the reign of Henry VIII.

The Sadlerian Lectureships in Algebra, 17 in number, were founded by Lady Sadler, and the lectures commenced in 1710; the lecturers were required to be Bachelors of Arts at least; the lectureships are tenable only for ten years, and no one can be elected unless previously examined and approved by the Mathematical Professor.

The Rev. John Hulse, who was educated at St. John's College, and died in 1789, bequeathed his estates in Cheshire to the University for the advancement and reward of religious learning. The purposes to which he appropriated the income are, first, the maintenance of two scholars at St. John's College; secondly, to recompense the exertions of the Hulsean prizemen; thirdly, to found and support the office of Christian Advocate; and fourthly, that of the Hulsean Lecturer or Christian Preacher. The Christian Advocate must be a learned and ingenious person, of the degree of Master of Arts, or of Bachelor or Doctor of Divinity, of thirty years of age, and resident in the University; he has to compose yearly, while in office, some answer in English to objections brought against the Christian religion, or the religion of Nature, by notorious infidels. The office of the Hulsean Lecturer, or Christian Preacher, is annual; but the same individual may, under certain circumstances, be re-elected for any number of successive years not exceeding six; the preacher is afterwards ineligible to the office of Christian Advocate; his duty is to preach and print twenty sermons in each year, the subject of them being to show the evidences of revealed religion, or to explain some of the most obscure parts of the Holy Scriptures. William Worts, M.A., of Caius College, formerly one of the Esquire Bedells of the University, gave two pensions of £100 per annum each to two junior Bachelors of Arts, who are required to visit foreign countries, to take different routes, and to write during their travels two Latin letters each, descriptive of customs, curiosities, &c. The annuity is continued for three years, that being the period they are required to be absent.

The prizes for the encouragement of literature, the competition for which is open to the University at large, amount to nearly £1200 in value, three-fourths of which are given for the classics and English composition, and the remainder for mathematics. The amount of the annual prizes in the different Colleges is upwards of £300, two-thirds of which are given for the encouragement of classical literature. Two gold medals, value

£15 15s. 0d. each, are given annually by the Chancellor to two commencing Bachelors of Art, who having obtained senior optimes at least, show the greatest proficiency in classical learning. These prizes were established in 1751 by the Duke of Newcastle, then Chancellor of the University.

The University scholarships are as follow:—John Lord Craven founded two classical scholarships, tenable for fourteen years, of £25 per annum each; by a decree of the Court of Chancery, in 1819, the income of the scholars has been augmented to £50, and three additional scholarships founded, which are tenable for seven years only. William Battie, M.D., left an estate producing £18 per annum, to endow a scholarship similar to the preceding. Sir William Browne, Knt., M.D., left a rent charge of £21 for endowing a scholarship tenable for seven years. The Rev. J. Davies D.D., Provost of Eton College, bequeathed in July, 1804, the sum of £1000 Three per Cents. to found a scholarship similar to Lord Craven's, for the greatest proficient in classical learning. The Rev. William Bell, D.D., late Fellow of Magdalene College, in 1810, transferred £15,200 Three per Cents. to found eight new scholarships for sons or orphans of clergymen of the Church of England whose circumstances prevent them bearing the whole expense of sending them to the University. By a grace of the Senate, December 9th, 1813, it was directed that the sum of £1000 given by the subscribers to Mr. Pitt's statue, for the purpose of founding the Pitt Scholarship, and afterwards augmented by a donation of £500 from the Pitt Club, should be placed in the public funds until the syndics were able to vest it in land, the clear annual income to be paid to the Pitt scholar. The Rev. Robert Tyrwhitt, M.A., Fellow of Jesus College, who died in 1817, bequeathed £4000 Navy Five per Cents. for the encouragement of Hebrew learning; and in the following year the Senate decreed the foundation of three Hebrew scholarships, which number, in 1826, was increased to six, a scholar of the first class receiving an annual stipend of £30, and one of the second class a stipend of £20, for three years. The annual income of the University chest is about £16,000, including about £3000 of floating capital; this arises from stock in the funds, manors, lands, houses, fees for degrees, Government annuity (for the surrender of the privilege of printing almanacs), profits of the printing-office, etc. The annual expenditure is about £12,000, disbursed to the various officers, the professors, the library and schools, the University press, and in taxes, donations to charities, &c. The whole is managed by the Vice-Chancellor for the year, and the accounts are examined by three auditors, appointed annually by the Senate.

There are two courts of law in the University—the Consistory Court of the Chancellor, and the Consistory Court of the Commissary. In the for-

mer, the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor, assisted by some of the heads of the Colleges, and one Doctor, or more, of the civil law, administers justice in all personal pleas and actions arising within the limits of the University wherein a member of the University is a party, which, excepting only such as concern mayhem and felony, are to be here solely heard and decided; the proceedings are according to the course of the civil law. From the judgment of this Court, an appeal lies to the Senate. In the Commissary's Court, the Commissary, by authority under the seal of the Chancellor, sits both in the University and at Midsummer and Stourbridge fairs, to proceed in all cases, excepting those of mayhem and felony, wherein one of the parties is a member of the University, excepting that within the University all causes and suits to which one of the Proctors or Taxors, or a Master of Arts, or any one of superior degree, is a party, are reserved to the sole jurisdiction of the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor; the manner of proceeding is the same as in the Chancellor's Court, to which an appeal lies, and thence to the Senate. The terms, three in number, are fixed:—October or Michaelmas term begins on October 10th, and ends on December 16th; Lent or January term begins on January 13th, and ends on the Friday before Palm Sunday; and Easter or Midsummer term begins on the 11th day after Easter-day, and ends on the Friday after Commencement day, which last is always on the first Tuesday in July.

The several orders in the different Colleges are as follow:—A Head of a College or House, who is generally a Doctor in Divinity; Fellows, who generally are Doctors in Divinity, Civil Law, or Physic; Bachelors in Divinity; Masters or Bachelors of Arts. The total number of the Fellowships is 408. Noblemen Graduates, Doctors in the several faculties, Bachelors in Divinity (who have been Masters of Arts), and Masters of Arts, who are not on the foundation, but whose names are kept on the boards for the purpose of being members of the Senate. Graduates who are neither members of the Senate nor *in statu pupillari*, are Bachelors in Divinity denominated four-and-twenty men, or ten year men; they are allowed by the 9th statute of Queen Elizabeth, which permits persons who are admitted to any College twenty-four years of age and upwards to take the degree of Bachelors in Divinity, when their names have remained on the boards ten years. Bachelors in Civil Law and in Physic, who sometimes keep their names upon the boards until they become Doctors. Bachelors of Arts, who are *in statu pupillari*, and pay for tuition whether resident or not, and generally keep their names on the boards, either to show their desire to become candidates for Fellowships, or members of the Senate. Fellow Commoners, who are generally the younger sons of the nobility, or young men of fortune, and

have the privilege of dining at the Fellows' table; they are here equivalent to gentlemen commoners at Oxford. Pensioners and Scholars, who pay for their respective commons, rooms, &c., but the latter are on the foundation, and, from the enjoyment of scholarships, read the graces in Hall, the lessons in Chapel, &c. The number of scholarships and exhibitions in the University is upwards of 700. Sizars are generally men of inferior fortune, who usually have their commons free, and receive various emoluments.

The terms required by the statutes to be kept for the several degrees are as follow:—A Bachelor of Arts must reside the greater part of twelve several terms, the first and last excepted. A Master of Arts must be a Bachelor of three years' standing. A Bachelor in Divinity must be a Master of Arts of seven years' standing. A Bachelor in Divinity (ten-year man) is allowed, by the 9th statute of Queen Elizabeth, to take the degree of B.D. at the end of ten years, without having taken any other. A Doctor in Divinity must be a Bachelor in Divinity of five years', or a Master of Arts of twelve years' standing. A Bachelor in Civil Law must be of six years' standing complete, and must reside the greater part of nine several terms. A Bachelor of Arts of four years' standing may be admitted to this degree. A Doctor in Civil Law must be of five years' standing from the degree of D.C.L., or Master of Arts of seven years' standing. A Bachelor in Physic must reside the greater part of nine several terms, and may be admitted any time in his sixth year. A Doctor in Physic is bound by the same regulations as a Doctor in Civil Law. A Licentiate in Physic is required to be M.A. or M.B. of two years standing. A Bachelor in Music must enter his name at some College, and compose and perform a solemn piece of music as an exercise before the University. A Doctor in Music is generally a Bachelor in Music, and his exercise is the same. The ordinary course of study preparatory to the degree of Bachelor of Arts may be considered under the three heads of Natural Philosophy, Theology, and Moral Philosophy and the Belles Lettres. On these subjects, besides the public lectures delivered by the several Professors, the students attend the lectures of the tutors of their respective Colleges. In addition to a constant attendance on lectures, the undergraduates are examined in their respective Colleges, yearly or half yearly, on those subjects which have engaged their studies; and according to the manner in which they acquit themselves in these examinations, their names are arranged in classes, and those who obtain the honour of a place in the first class receive prizes of books, differing in value, according to their respective merits. By this course the students are prepared for those public examinations and exercises which the University requires of all

candidates for degrees. The first of these takes place in the second Lent Term after the commencement of academical residence, at the general public examination held annually in the Senate House, in the last week of that term, and continues four days. Two classes, each arranged alphabetically, are formed out of those examined, the first consisting of those who have passed their examination with credit, and the second of those to whom the examiners have only not refused their certificate of approval. Those who are not approved by the examiners are required to attend the examination of the following year, and so on; and no degree of B.A., M.B., or B.C.L. is granted unless a certificate be presented to the Caput that the candidate for such degree has passed to the satisfaction of the examiners some one of these examinations. The student having passed this preparatory step, has next to perform the exercises required by the statutes for the degree which he has in view.

The principal public buildings belonging to the University are the Senate House, and the Public Schools and Library; the former of these forms the north, and the latter the west side of a grand quadrangle, which has Great St. Mary's Church on the east, and King's College Chapel on the south. The Senate House is an elegant building of Portland stone, erected from a design by Sir James Burrough, at the expense of the University, aided by an extensive subscription. The foundation was laid in 1722, but it was not entirely completed until 1766; the exterior is of the Corinthian order, and the interior of the Doric, capable of accommodating 1000 persons; near the centre of one side of the room is a marble statue of George I., by Rysbrach, executed at the expense of Lord Viscount Townshend; and opposite to it is that of George II., by Wilton, executed in 1766 at the expense of the Duke of Newcastle, then Chancellor of the University; at the east end, on one side of the entrance, is a statue of the Duke of Somerset, by Rysbrach; and on the other that of William Pitt, by Nollekins, erected by a subscription among the members of the University, amounting to upwards of £7000. The Public Schools, in which disputations are held and exercises performed, were commenced on their present site in 1443, at the expense of the University, aided by liberal benefactions; they form three sides of a small court, the Philosophy School being on the west, the Divinity School on the north, and the schools for Civil Law and Physic on the south; on the east is a lecture room for the Professors, fitted up in 1795; connected with the north end of the Philosophy School is an apartment containing the valuable mineralogical collection presented to the University by Dr. Woodward in 1727. The Public Library occupies the whole quadrangle of apartments over the schools, and consists of four large and commodious rooms, containing upwards of 100,000 volumes. At the commencement it

occupied only the apartment on the east side, but was afterwards extended to the north side also; its most important acquisition was in the early part of the last century, when George I., having purchased of the executors of Dr. Moore, Bishop of Ely, that prelate's collection of books, amounting to upwards of 30,000 volumes, for £6000, gave them to this University, at the same time contributing the sum of £2000 towards fitting up rooms for their reception. The upper part of a mutilated colossal statue from the temple of Ceres at Eleusis, the gift of Messrs. Clarke and Cripps, of Jesus College, by whom it was brought to England, is placed in the vestibule. The rents of the University's estate at Ovington, in the county of Norfolk, are appropriated for the purchase of books for the library, that estate having been bought with money given to the University in 1666, by Tobias Rustat, Esq., to be so applied. William Worts, M.A., Fellow of Caius College, bequeathed the annual surplus of the produce of his estate at Landbeach, in this county, to be applied to the use of the public library. A quarterly contribution of one shilling and sixpence from each member of the University, excepting sizars, is also made towards its support. This is one of the eleven libraries entitled by Act of Parliament to a copy of every new publication. The superintendence of the University press is committed by the Senate to syndics, who meet to transact business in the parlour of the printing office, and cannot act unless five are present, the Vice-Chancellor being one. Richard, Viscount Fitzwilliam, formerly of Trinity Hall, who died in 1816, bequeathed to the University his splendid collection of books, paintings, drawings, engravings, &c., together with £100,000 South Sea Annuities, for the erection of a Museum to contain them. The collection has since been augmented by many valuable donations of paintings, prints, books, &c. The building was commenced in 1838, from the designs of Mr. G. Basevi, and forms nearly a square of 160 feet; the principal or east front is a rich composition, with fourteen columns of the Corinthian order, surmounted by a pediment. The ground floor contains three rooms for libraries, extending along the west front, and communicating with two others, one to the south for medals and that to the north for terra cottas, &c. The upper hall is 70 feet by 46 feet, and contains casts from the antique, &c. There are also three picture galleries, the floors of which, and also those of the libraries, are of Dutch oak.

The Botanical Garden occupies between three and four acres on the south-east side of the town, conveniently disposed and well-watered; this piece of ground, with a large old building that formerly belonged to the Augustine friars, was purchased for £1600 by the late Richard Walker, Vice-Chancellor of Trinity College. The old building having been sold, a new one has been erected for the use of the lecturers in chymistry and

botany. The garden is under the government of the Vice-Chancellor, the Provost of King's College, the Masters of Trinity and St. John's Colleges, and the Professor of Physic.

The Anatomical School, situated near Catherine Hall, contains a large collection of rare and valuable preparations, including the museum of the late Professor, Sir B. Harwood, and a set of models beautifully wrought in wax, recently imported from Naples; it is a small building conveniently fitted up, with a theatre for the lectures on anatomy and medicine, which are delivered in Lent term. Measures for the establishment of the Observatory were first adopted in 1820, when a sum of £6000 was subscribed by the members of the University, to which £5000 were added out of the public chest by a grace of the Senate. The building was commenced in the year 1822, and completed at an expense of £18,115; it stands on an eminence, about a mile from the College walks, on the road to Madingley, and is in the Grecian style; the centre, surmounted by a dome, is appropriated to astronomical purposes, and the wings for the residence of the observers. The superintendence is vested in the Plumian Professor, under whose direction are placed two assistants, who must be graduates of the University, and are elected for three years, being capable of re-election at the expiration of that term.

The Philosophical Society was instituted November 15th, 1819, for the purpose of promoting scientific inquiries, and of facilitating the communication of facts connected with the advancement of philosophy and natural history; it consists of Fellows and honorary members, the former being elected from such persons only as are graduates of the University, and no graduate or member of the University can be admitted an honorary member; attached to the Society is a reading-room, supplied with the principal literary and scientific journals, and the daily newspapers.

The University comprises seventeen Colleges, namely, St. Peter's, Clare Hall, Pembroke, Gonville, Trinity Hall, Corpus Christi, King's, Queen's, Catherine Hall, Jesus', Christ's, St. John's, Magdalene, Trinity, Emanuel, Sidney, and Downing; which were all founded at different times after the twelfth century. An account of them is given in our historical narrative in the order of time; also of the eminent members of each College. The principal buildings of the town belong to the University, and the most admired are King's, Trinity, St. John's, and Jesus colleges.

#### NEWMARKET.

A market-town, and the head of a union, comprising the parish of St. Mary, in the Hundred of Lackford, West Division of the county of Suffolk, and the parish of All Saints, in the Hundred of Cheveley, county

of Cambridge, and sixty-one miles (north-north-east) from London, and thirteen miles (north-east-by-east) from Cambridgeshire. The earliest account of this town has reference to the year 1227, when it is supposed to have derived its name from a market then recently established, which is said to have been removed hither on account of the plague raging at Exning, a village about two miles distant, where was probably the parochial church; and in the time of Edward III. it gave name to Thomas Merks, or de novo Mercatu, Bishop of Carlisle, who was probably a native of the place. A house, called the King's house, was originally built here by James I., for the purpose of enjoying the diversion of hunting; and the subsequent reputation of the town for horse-racing seems to have arisen from the spirit and swiftness of some Spanish horses, which, having been wrecked with the vessels of the Armada, were thrown ashore on the coast of Galloway, and brought hither. Its celebrity greatly increased in the reign of Charles II., who re-built the King's house, which had fallen into decay during the Civil War, and frequently honoured the races with his presence. On the 22nd of March, 1683, being the time of the races, the King, Queen, and Duke of York were present, but a sudden conflagration compelled them to return hastily to London, to which event some writers have attributed the defeat of the Rye-house Plot. By this disaster a great part of the town was destroyed, and the damage was estimated at £20,000. A second fire happened about the beginning of the last century. At the close of the Civil War, Charles I. was removed, on the 9th of June, 1647, from the house of Lady Cutts, of Childerley, to Newmarket, where he remained about ten days. The town consists principally of one street, the north side of which is in the county of Suffolk, and the south in that of Cambridge. The houses are modern and well built. Coffee-houses, billiard-rooms, and others, furnish appropriate accommodation for all meetings preliminary to the races. The race-course and training grounds are the finest in the kingdom; the former is on a grassy heath near the town, and in the county of Cambridge, extending in length four miles. The training ground is more than a mile-and-a-half long, on a very gentle acclivity, admirably adapted to keep the horses in wind. The new rooms for the use of the Jockey Club are in the centre of the town. The races are held seven times in the year, and are distinguished as the Craven Meeting, commencing on the Monday in Easter week; the first and second Spring Meetings, the former on the Monday fortnight following, and the latter a fortnight afterwards; the July Meeting; the first and second October Meetings; and the third October or Houghton Meeting, the first of these commencing on the first Monday preceding the first Thursday in that month. The great races are those in Easter week and

October. The training of race-horses is a source of extensive profit, several of them, among which are some of the finest horses in the world, being constantly exported at exceedingly high prices. About four hundred are here during the greater part of the year, and it is computed that the weekly consumption of oats, in the town alone, amounts to the amazing quantity of five hundred quarters.

The Queen gives two plates annually. Millions of money have been lost and won at these race meetings by betting, and hundreds of turfites make betting a regular profession or trade by which they live. The palace erected by King James has been sold, and part of it converted into shops. The additional structure by King Charles is standing, and part of it was the residence of the late Duke of York during the meetings, and is now occupied by the Duke of Rutland; the remainder, with its extensive stables, is held under the authority of the Crown.

The Market, which was granted or confirmed in 1227, is held on Tuesday, and there are Fairs on Whit Tuesday, and November 8th, the latter being extensively supplied with cattle, horses, corn, butter, cheese, hops, etc. The county magistrates hold Petty Sessions here every Tuesday, and a Court Leet is held occasionally.

The parishes of St. Mary and All Saints are in the Archdeaconry of Sudbury, and diocese of Norwich; the former is a discharged rectory, consolidated with the vicarage of Wood Ditton, in the patronage of the Duke of Rutland. The Church is a handsome structure, with a fine tower and spire. The latter is a perpetual curacy, endowed with £400 royal bounty, and in the patronage of the Bishop of Norwich. There is a place of worship for Independents. Free schools are supported by a donation of £50 per annum, which is equally divided, after the deduction of fees of the Exchequer, between the master and the mistress, for which they are required to teach twenty-one boys and twenty-one girls. A National School having been established some years since, the twenty-one boys on Queen Anne's foundation are instructed there as free scholars; the remainder, being about one hundred and ten, are paid for by the subscribers; the girls, instructed by the schoolmistress, are provided with cloaks and bonnets. About a mile and a-half from the town is a remarkable excavation called the "Devil's Dyke," extending nearly in a straight line for seven miles, and being in some places above a hundred feet in width. This work, unquestionably of very remote antiquity, has been attributed to the Britons anterior to the time of Cæsar, and by some to Uffa, the first king of the East Angles; but notwithstanding that much pains have been taken in the search, no authentic account has ever yet appeared of this remarkable monument of human industry and perseverance. It serves for the boundary between the dioceses of Norwich and Ely.

Several Roman coins were found near Newmarket Heath in the year 1750, and in 1836 three urns of Roman workmanship, containing the ashes of the dead, were discovered.

## LINTON (ST. MARY.)

A market town and parish of Chilford, County of Cambridge, distant 48 miles (north by east) from London. This town, which is situated on the road from Cambridge to Colchester, has been much improved of late years. The Market, granted in 1245 to William de Lay, is on Thursday, and there is a Fair on July 30th for sheep. An Act for enclosing waste lands was passed in 1838. Courts Leet are held occasionally by the lords of the manors. The living is a discharged vicarage; patron, Bishop of Ely; the appropriate tithes, belonging to Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, have been commuted for a rent charge of £780, and the vicarial for £260; the appropriate glebe comprises eighty-four acres, valued at £75, and the vicarial, nine years, valued at £8 per annum. The Church has a fine embattled tower, and a gallery has been lately built, containing one hundred and twenty free sittings. There is a place of worship for Independents. The Poor Law Union of Linton comprises twenty-two parishes or villages, twenty of which are in the county of Cambridge, and two in that of Essex, and contains a population of 12,958; the Union Workhouse cost £6500, and is capable of accommodating two hundred paupers.

## WATERBEACH

Is a large ill-built straggling town, about seventy miles distant from London. It lies in the Hundred of North Stow, and deanery of Chester-ton, and is a place of some antiquity. Denny Abbey stood in the parish of Waterbeach. It was originally a cell of Benedictine monks, and afterwards an important convent for nuns. Passing from the Benedictines to the Templars, on the dissolution of that order, it came into the hands of Mary de St. Paul, Countess of Pembroke. That lady converted it in 1338 into an Abbey for manorresses, and under the King's license brought there a number of nuns who had been previously located in an Abbey founded by the Lady Dionysi de Mountchensi, A.D. 1293. There were twenty-five nuns in this Abbey at the time of the dissolution. On the site of the old Abbey a dwelling-house has been built, and the Abbey demesne is converted into a farm, one of the largest in the county. Many of the houses in Waterbeach are of recent erection, and there is a great contrast between them and the old houses, the latter being built without any attempt at regularity or arrangement.. There is nothing in the town to interest a visitor.

As the traveller approaches the city of Ely, he obtains a fine view of

its magnificent cathedral, which is a splendid object in itself, and is rendered still more imposing from its fine situation, on a lofty hill, whose sides are clothed with verdure and covered with trees. The country in the immediate neighbourhood of Ely assumes an appearance of rural richness, being highly cultivated and extremely productive.

#### THE CITY OF ELY.

Ely is a city and the head of a Union, in the Isle of Ely, County of Cambridge, 67 miles (north by east) from London. This place, which is the capital of an extensive district in the Fens, is supposed to have derived its name *Eleg* either from the British *Helyg*, a willow, or from *Elge*, an eel, for which fish it was remarkable. The city is situated on elevated ground, nearly at the southern extremity of the Isle and the River Ouse, which is navigable from Lynn for barges. It consists of a long street, with smaller streets diverging from it, both in the lower and upper parts of the town, in the centre of which is a spacious Market Place.

The ground in the vicinity, though flat and low, is extremely fertile, producing excellent herbage, and a considerable portion of it is cultivated by market gardeners, who supply the neighbouring towns with vegetables. From the great improvement in the drainage of the Fens, the air of the city of Ely, and indeed of the whole Isle, has become as salubrious as in any part of the county. There is a good market on Thursday weekly, and the Fairs are on Ascension Day and October 29th, for horses, cattle, hops, and Cottenham cheese, and last for eight days each. Of late years, the appearance of the town has been much improved by new buildings, and it is well paved and lighted with gas.

The city, exclusively of the liberty of the College, which is extra parochial, comprises the parishes of St. Mary and the Holy Trinity, and both benefices are in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter. The Church of St. Mary is an interesting structure, partly Norman and partly in the early English style of architecture, with a handsome tower surmounted by a spire. The Church of the Holy Trinity was formerly the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, now fitted up for the parishioners. The King's Grammar School was founded in 1541 by Henry VIII. on the establishment of the Cathedral, and it is under the Dean and Chapter, who appoint the master.

The town of Ely, like some others in the Eastern Counties, arose round a Monastery. Ethelreda, daughter of Anna, King of the East Angles, founded a Monastery here in 673 for monks and nuns, dedicating the building to the Virgin Mary; and though married to Egfred, King of Northumberland, she devoted herself to a monastic life, and became the chief Abbess. A great part of the Monastery was destroyed by the

Danes in 870, but it was partially restored by some of the monks who escaped the massacre, and who established themselves as secular priests, under the government of provosts, for nearly a century.

In 970, Ethelwold, Bishop of Winchester, having purchased from Edgar the whole of the Isle of Ely, repaired or rebuilt and munificently endowed the Monastery, placing in it an abbot and regular monks, to whom Edgar granted the secular jurisdiction of two Hundreds within and five without the fens, with many important privileges, which were subsequently confirmed by Canute, and increased by Edward the Confessor, who here received part of his education. In the reign of Henry I., the tenth and last abbot, Richard, obtained from that King permission to establish an episcopal see at Ely, and this was soon after carried into effect, and the diocese included the county of Cambridge. At the dissolution of the monastery, Henry VIII. altered the ecclesiastical establishment of the see, and by charter converted the Conventual into a Cathedral Church, which was dedicated to the Holy Trinity. He endowed with the site and a portion of the revenue of the dissolved priory. Under his charter, as re-modelled by Charles II., the establishment consists of a Dean, eight Canons or Prebendaries, five minor Canons, eight lay Clerks, a Schoolmaster, Ushers, and twenty-four King's Scholars.

Ely Cathedral, begun in 1081 and never entirely completed, is a splendid cruciform structure, displaying through almost imperceptible gradations the various changes of ecclesiastical architecture from the Norman till the latest period. The plan differs from other Cathedrals in the length of the nave, which is continued through an extended range of twelve arches, and in the shortness of the transepts, which have only a projection of three arches. The nave and transepts are in the Norman style; the choir is partly in the Early English and partly in the Decorated style.

The interior of the Cathedral is singularly elegant, and derives a simple grandeur of effect from the judicious arrangement by which the various styles of its architecture are made to harmonise.

The choir, partly in the Early and partly in the Decorated English style, is separated from the nave by three of the western arches, which were originally part of it, and now form an ante-choir; the eastern part, or present choir, consisting of a range of six arches, is lighted by a double range of windows, and forms one of the richest specimens of the Early English style extant. The roof is beautifully groined, and the intersections embellished with flowers and foliage of elegant design.

The exterior of the Cathedral, with its lofty tower, presents a grandly-imposing appearance when viewed from a distance. The west front, though incomplete from the want of the south wing of the façade, is strikingly magnificent; the lower part is in the Norman style, with a

handsome octagonal turret at the southern extremity, a projecting porch of early English architecture, a lofty, massive, and highly-enriched tower with angular turrets of Norman character, in its lower stages, and in the upper of Early English. From the intersection of the nave and transepts rises a noble octagonal lantern, which is considered one of the finest compositions in the Decorated English style. The Lady Chapel is an elegant edifice in the later Decorated style; the groining of the roof and the series of niches surrounding the interior are of exquisite beauty. The Chapels of Bishops Alcock and West are elaborately decorated with a profusion of architectural embellishments, but inferior in general effect to other portions of this beautiful structure. The length of the Cathedral is 535 feet from east to west, and the breadth 190 feet from the extremity of the north to that of the south transept. There are scanty remains of the cloisters and chapter-house, and the refectory has been converted into a residence for the Dean.

We walked through the silent streets of the old city, so dull and deserted, past the old ivy-grown Deanery, and reached the glorious fane. We entered reverently, for the faith of a past age is embalmed there, a faith active in old times when tyranny or rapine drove timid souls to look up to a higher justice, and seek refuge in the tranquil cloister. The ancient temple is growing young again with a new beauty revived by modern taste and skill. As we looked up to the beautiful octagonal lantern which replaced the fallen spire, we thought of the legend of the pious Etheldreda, whose virgin life is there emblematised in sculpture. She was a maiden of royal race, who lived in the 7th century. Twice she was wedded, but only in name; first with Tombert, a noble of the East Angles, she lived a maiden wife for three years; and when he died, Prince Egford sought her hand. With him she lived a maiden wife for twelve years. Then she was again a virgin widow. She passed the rest of her life in devotion, and when she died she was buried in the common cemetery of the nuns of Ely. Sixteen years after she was re-interred in a fine marble tomb in the Cathedral. No signs of decay were visible in her pure body, and from the spot where she had lain a fountain sprung up as a memorial to later ages.

Ely contains about 7000 inhabitants, most of whom live in houses of a very inferior description. The road from the railway-station leads through the worst part of the city, presenting long streets and rows of mean houses that impress the mind with the idea of squalid poverty, contrasting strangely with the grandeur of the Cathedral and the Palace. The vicinity of the railway, and the bustle it has introduced into the formerly quiet city, have been the means of improving the condition of the inhabitants. Many of the better houses are built of stone, but the town

presents few architectural ornaments, except the Cathedral. Seen from the railway-station by daylight, Ely is an amphibious-looking place—houses, meadows, and water strangely intermingled, and masked and fringed by willows. Cobbett, in his “Eastern Tour,” says: “I was particularly desirous to have a little political preaching at Ely, the place where the flogging of the English local Militia, under a guard of German bayonets, cost me so dear”—a thousand pounds fine and imprisonment in Newgate. To us, in these days of penny newspapers and free discussion, it seems hardly possible that such an incident could take place in the present century.

## LITTLEPORT

Is a large village and parish on the banks of the river Ouse, five miles (north) from Ely. The area is 16,136 acres, about 800 of which are high land, and the remainder fen. The chief crops are wheat, barley, oats, and beans. The Church is a fine specimen of Early English architecture; the lofty tower is remarkable for the beauty of its outline. In 1857 the Church was enlarged by the addition of a double-nave and aisle on the north side; it now seats a thousand people. The living is a vicarage, yearly value £1907, with house, in the gift of the Bishop of Ely. There are Chapels for Baptists, Methodists, and other Dissenters. There is a Church Sunday School and other schools. Population, 3728.

## MARCH,

A market-town and chapelry, in the parish of Doddington, Union and Hundred of North Witchford, Isle of Ely, county of Cambridge, 31 miles (north by west) from Cambridge, 80 (north) from London. The town is situated on the banks of the navigable river Nene, by which communication is obtained with Cambridge, Lynn, Peterborough, and other places. The market, granted to Sir Alexander Peyton in 1671, is on Friday, chiefly for butcher's meat; and there are two fairs, each of which lasts three days, commencing on the Monday before Whitsuntide, and on the second Tuesday in October. Manorial courts are held in the Guildhall, a modern and commodious edifice, situated in the High-street; and the place is within the jurisdiction of the Court of Requests for the recovery of debts under 40s. throughout the Isle of Ely, held here once a month. The Chapel, dedicated to St. Wendreda, a very ancient structure, with a spire at the west end, was erected about the year 1343, at which period an indulgence was granted by the Pope to all who should contribute to it; in the interior are several monuments. A school was founded in 1696, by William Neale, Esq., and endowed with 33½ acres of land in White's Fen; and National Schools were erected in 1827. There are charities for

the poor yielding a rental of £470, of which part is applied to purposes of instruction. Between this town and Wisbeach, urns enclosing burnt bones, and a vessel containing 160 Roman denarii of different Emperors, were discovered in the year 1730.

## WISBEACH

(St. Peter and St. Paul), a seaport, borough, market town; and parish, and the head of a union, in the Hundred of Wisbeach, Isle of Ely, county of Cambridge, 43 miles (north) from Cambridge, and 94 (north by east) from London. This place is of great antiquity, and is noticed in a charter by which in 664, Walfhere, son of Penda, King of the Mercians, granted to the Abbey of Medehamstead, now Peterborough, "the lands from Rugwell, five miles to the main river that goeth to Elm and to Wisbeach." In the Norman survey, it is mentioned under the same appellation, which it retained till the reign of Edward I., from which period till the time of Henry VI. it was invariably written "Wysebeche." The name is supposed to be derived from the river Ouse, then called the Wise, and from the Saxon "bec," signifying either a running stream, or a tongue of land at the confluence of two rivers, which, previously to the diversion of their streams, was descriptive of its situation at the confluence of the Ouse with the river Nene. From the date of Walfhere's charter, little is recorded of the history of this place till the year 1000, when the manor is said to have been given to the Abbot and Convent of Ely by Oswi and Leoflede, daughter of Brithnod the first Abbot, on the admission into that Monastery of their son Ailwin, afterwards Bishop of Elmham. William the Conqueror in the last year of his reign erected a strong castle here, which he placed under the command of a governor, styled a constable, with a strong garrison, to keep the refractory barons in submission, and to check the ravages of the outlaws, who made frequent incursions from the neighbouring fens into the upland parts of the county. In 1190, Richard I. granted to the tenants of Wisbeach Barton Manor exemption from toll in all towns or markets throughout England, which privilege was confirmed by King John, who in 1216 visited the town, and is supposed to have taken up his residence in the Castle, on leaving which that monarch, attempting to cross the Wash at an improper time, lost all his carriages, treasure, and regalia. The greater part of the town, together with the Castle, was destroyed in 1236 by an inundation of the sea, but was soon afterwards restored; and the Castle subsequently falling into dilapidation, Bishop Morton, towards the close of the fifteenth century, erected on its site another of brick, which became an episcopal palace of the Bishops of Ely. In the reign of Elizabeth, the Castle was appropriated to the confinement of State prisoners, and during the protectorate of Cromwell it

was purchased by Thurloe, afterwards his secretary, who made it his occasional residence. After the Restoration, it again reverted to the Bishops of Ely, and was sold in 1793; all remains of it have disappeared in the recent improvements of the town, which is at present the most flourishing place in the Isle of Ely. The town is situated on both sides of the river now called the Nene, over which is a massive iron bridge of large span; the streets are regularly formed, the houses are in general well built, and on the site of the ancient Castle, which was purchased by an architect and taken down in 1816, a handsome crescent of more than fifty houses has been erected; the town is well paved and lighted with gas. From the late improvement in the system of draining, a great portion of previously unproductive land in the vicinity has been brought into a high state of cultivation, and on every side are seen fertile corn-fields and luxuriant pastures. A permanent Literary Society was established in 1781, who have a library containing more than 3000 volumes; and there is also a Theological Library, in which are many valuable works of the most eminent of the old divines. There are a Reading-room and a neat Theatre; Assemblies are held in rooms appropriately fitted up; and a commodious building has been erected, in which are hot, cold, and sea-water baths, furnished with dressing-rooms and every requisite appendage. About a century since, the principal articles of trade were oil (for the preparation of which there were seven mills in the town) and butter, of which not less than 8000 firkins were sent annually to London. The importance of the place as a seaport has much increased of late years, and the trade has been greatly augmented; the principal exports are corn, rape seed, long wool (of which great quantities are sent to the clothing districts in Yorkshire), and timber, which is brought to this place from the county of Northampton, and it is now one of the principal places of export for wheat in the kingdom; the chief imports are wine, deals, and coal. The navigation of the river above the town was many years since greatly improved by a straight cut from Peterborough, forming a communication with the upland country, and supplying Peterborough, Oundle, and Northampton with various commodities; and below the town very extensive works have been executed by the Commissioners of the Nene Outfall, which have greatly benefited large tracts of land in the neighbourhood, and made the navigation to the sea perfect; vessels of large burden now approach the town, and load and unload at the quay and granaries. In 1839, the tonnage duties were paid on 97,119 tons; the number of vessels above fifty tons registered at the port was fifty-six, and their aggregate burden 5200 tons. In 1794, a canal was cut from the river at Wisbeach to the Old Nene at Outwell, and thence to the Ouse at Salter's Lode Sluice, opening

a way to Norfolk, Suffolk, and the Eastern Counties. A packet arrives from Peterborough every Tuesday and Friday, and departs every Wednesday and Sunday morning. The Market is on Saturday; there are Fairs, held on the Saturday before Palm Sunday, and the Saturday before Lady-day, for hemp and flax; a considerable Horse Fair on the Thursday before Whit-Sunday, numerously attended by the London dealers; and a large Cattle Fair on August 12th, at which 3000 head of cattle have been brought for sale; the Market and Fairs are held by the Corporation on lease from the Bishop of Ely, who is lord of the manor. The Market Place is a spacious open area. In the year ending September 1st, 1845, the quantity of corn sold was 250,000 quarters. Vessels of 400 tons enter the port, and 37,410 registered tons of shipping cleared inwards in 1867. The number of vessels entered inwards was 133 from foreign ports; tonnage, 24,615. Coast vessels, 228; tonnage, 12,795.

The guild of the Holy Trinity, established in 1379, being found at the time of the dissolution to have supported a Grammar School, and maintained certain piers, jetties, and banks, "against the rage of the sea," was in 1549 restored by Edward VI., who also gave the inhabitants a charter of incorporation, which was renewed by James I. in 1611, and confirmed by Charles II. in 1669. The Corporation at present consists of a Mayor, six Aldermen, and eighteen Councillors, under the Act of the 5th and 6th of William IV., cap. 76. The borough is divided into two wards. The Mayor and late Mayor are Justices of the Peace, and the number of other magistrates is three. The Quarter Sessions for the Isle of Ely take place here and at Ely alternately; Petty Sessions for the division are held here; and there is a Court of Requests for debts under 40s., at which the number of suits determined annually is 600. The Town Hall is embellished with the town arms, a painting of Edward VI., and portraits of Dr. Jobson, the late vicar, who was a considerable benefactor to the town, and Thomas Clarkson, the strenuous advocate of negro emancipation. The Shirehall is annexed to the gaol, which was re-built in 1807. The parish comprises 5750A. 3R. 12P., of which about 2887 acres are arable, and 2792 pasture. The living is a vicarage, with Wisbech St. Mary annexed, valued in the King's books at £26 13s. 4d.; patron, Bishop of Ely; impropiators, Dean and Chapter of Ely; the great tithes of both parishes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £1840, and the vicarial for one of £2175; the appropriated glebe contains 15½ acres, valued at £28 per annum, and the Vicar's, 51½, worth £120 a-year. The Church is a spacious ancient structure, partly Norman, but chiefly in the Decorated English style, with a lofty square embattled tower in the later style; it has two naves under one roof, divided in the centre by a beautiful range of light clustered pillars, with pointed arches, and from their

respective aisles by low massive pillars and circular Norman arches. The north aisle of the chancel is in the Decorated style, and there is a fine window of the same character at the west end of the south aisle of the nave. A handsome Chapel of Ease, of octagonal form, was erected in 1828, on the opposite side of the river, in the Old Market, at a cost of £9364, raised by subscription among the inhabitants, to meet a liberal offer of Dr. Jobson, who conveyed in fee a real estate of more than £5000 in value as an endowment to the minister, to whom the rents and profits are given in perpetuity. The Chapel was opened for divine service on the 13th of January, 1831, and contains about 1100 sittings, of which 300 are free; the preferment is in the gift of trustees, and the net income is £200. There are places of worship for Baptists, the Society of Friends, Independents, Johnsonians, Wesleyans, Presbyterians, and Unitarians. The Free Grammar School is of very ancient foundation, and the appointment of a master in 1446 by the guild of the Holy Trinity is still on record; its original endowment has been altered considerably, till the master's stipend now amounts to £200 per annum. There are four by-fellowships of £10 per annum each, belonging to the school, founded at Peter House, Cambridge, by T. Parke, Esq., in 1628, and two scholarships for youths of Wisbeach, worth £70 per annum. Archbishop Herring, the present Bishop of Kildare, was educated at this school. There is a National School endowed with lands, the produce of which amounts to £55 per annum. A fund for lending money to tradesmen, free of interest, was bequeathed by Mr. John Crane, of Cambridge, in 1652, which was increased by a gift of £300 from Mr. William Holmes. There are several almshouses and many valuable charities. The Poor Law Union comprises twenty-two parishes, thirteen being in Norfolk and nine in Cambridgeshire.

#### THORNEY ABBEY (ST. BOTOLPH),

A market town and parish in the hundred of Wisbeach, Isle of Ely, distant eighty-six miles (north) from London. This place derived its original name of Ankeridge from a monastery for hermits founded here 662 by Saxulphus, Abbot of Peterborough, who became its first prior. The edifice having been destroyed by the Danes, the site lay waste until 972, when Ethelwold, Bishop of Winchester, established upon it a Benedictine Abbey in honour of the Virgin. The only remains of this Abbey are portions of the parochial Church, a gateway, and some fragments of the old walls. The Church, built about 1128, is partly in the Norman style, with portions of later English.

The Market, granted in 1638, is on Thursday, and Fairs are held on July 1st and September 21st for horses and cattle. Upwards of 3000

sheep are sent annually from this district to the London Market. There is a canal navigation to the River Nene. A colony of French refugees settled here about the middle of the 16th century, having been employed by the Earl of Bedford in draining the fens. A school-house was erected by a member of the house of Russell. The present Duke of Bedford allows the master a salary of £20, and his Grace supports about a dozen families in alms houses.

#### WHITTLESEY,

A village (once a market town) containing the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Mary, forming a union of itself, in the Hundred of North Witchford, Isle of Ely, distant six miles from Peterborough. This place, called Witesie in Domesday book, is supposed to have been a Roman station, from the traces of a military way and the numerous relics of antiquity discovered in the neighbourhood. The village, which is bounded on the north and south by branches of the River Nene, is a large place, but its former market has been long since discontinued. There is a Public Library and News Room, supported by subscription.

The living of St. Andrew's is a discharged vicarage, in the patronage of the Crown. The Church is a fine handsome structure, with a stately tower crowned with turrets. The living of St. Mary's is a discharged vicarage. The Church is a fine edifice, with a lofty tower of peculiar elegance, surmounted by a slender enriched spire of good proportions. Another Church has been erected, at an expense of £1400, by grant of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, on a site given by the Childers' family. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, Wesleyans, and Calvinistic Methodists, also two endowed Schools.

#### BEDFORD LEVEL,

The name given to a flat expanse on the eastern side of England, amounting to 450,000 acres, comprising the greater part of the marshy district called the Fens, the whole Isle of Ely, a portion of the south of Cambridgeshire, 30,000 acres of Suffolk, 63,000 acres of Norfolk, 57,000 of Huntingdon, about 8000 of Northamptonshire, and the south-eastern portion of Lincolnshire. The extent of the whole district is sixty miles in length, and about forty miles in breadth. The boundary on three sides is of an irregular form, something like a horse shoe, with the opening terminated by the sea on the north. This district has, within historic periods, undergone remarkable changes. In the time of the Romans, A.D. 45, it was a dense forest, which, as a stronghold of the Britons, those invaders destroyed. It then became a swamp, through which the lazy waters of the Ouse, the Nene, and the Welland, crept to the sea. In the thirteenth

century, the sea here, as in other parts of north-west Europe, burst its boundaries, and the inundated land became a swamp. The first attempt to drain this morass seems to have been made in the year 1436, when ditches and embankments were formed at great expense. These, however, were swept away during the ensuing winter by the flooding of the river Ouse. Another partial attempt at drainage was made by Bishop Moreton in the reign of Henry VII., but this also proved a failure. An Act was passed in the forty-fourth year of Queen Elizabeth for effecting its reclamation; but the first effectual attempt at reclaiming the land was not made until 1634, when many embankments and canals were constructed at a cost of one million sterling. Francis Earl of Bedford, the principal owner, and thirteen others, entered into an agreement with Charles I. to drain the Level, on condition of receiving 95,000 acres of the reclaimed land. Three years after the agreement of the Earl of Bedford and his partners, after an outlay of £100,000 on the part of the company, the contract was annulled on the fraudulent plea that the works were insufficient; and an offer was made by King Charles to undertake its completion, on condition of receiving 57,000 acres in addition to the amount originally agreed on. This unjust attempt was frustrated by the breaking out of the Civil War, and no further attempt at drainage was made till 1649, when the Parliament reinstated the Earl of Bedford's successor in his father's rights. After an additional outlay of £300,000, the adventurers received 95,000 acres of reclaimed land, according to the contract, which, however, fell far short of re-paying the expense of the undertaking. In 1664 a royal charter was obtained to incorporate the Company, which still exists, and carries on the concern under a governor, six bailiffs, twenty conservators, and a commonalty, each of whom must possess one hundred acres of land in the Level, and has a voice in the election of officers. The conservators must each possess not less than 280 acres, the governor and bailiffs each 400 acres. The original adventurers had allotments of land according to their interest in the original 95,000 acres; but Charles II., on granting the charter, took care to secure to the Crown a lot of 12,000 acres out of the 95,000, which, however, is held under the directors, whereas the allotments are not held in common, though subject to the laws of the Corporation. The Level was divided in 1697 into three parts, called the North, South, and Middle Levels, comprising respectively the tracts between the Welland and the Nene, the Nene and old Bedford rivers, and the third between old Bedford river and the southern limit of the level.

Since then, extensive works have been carried on at different times to complete the drainage of the district, but the most effectual are the Acts of 1827 and 1829, for "improving the outfall of the Nene," "the Navi-

gation of the Wisbeach," and the embanking of the Salt Marshes between the canal called "Kinderley Cut and the Sea." Vessels of sixty tons burthen can now come up to the town of Wisbeach at all tides, and those of 100 or 200 tons at spring tides. The drainage of the lower lands, which are below low water mark, was carried on by windmills, but now by steam power. In the North Level, the drainage is effected by sluices without either windmills or steam engines. In August, 1844, an Act of Parliament was obtained for draining the Middle Level of the Fens, by means of a new cut 100 feet broad and 12 miles long, extending in a direct line from the upper end of the Eau Brink Cut southward to the sixteen feet river. This work was finished in 1847, but it and all the other drains belonging to the Middle Level Commissioners were afterwards deepened, the total cost of the works being about £650,000! As the result of these extensive operations in the Fens, the Level now abounds in rich pasture and corn lands, which are of more value per annum than they originally cost. No drainage works of such magnitude have ever been constructed in any other part of England.

The Estuary of the Wash is an indentation on the north-eastern coast of England, bounded by Hunstanton Point on the Norfolk coast, and Wainfleet Point on the Lincolnshire coast, being nearly seventeen miles long and thirteen wide, and having a superficial area of about 220 square miles. A little more than two-thirds of this extent is dry at low water of spring tides, and the remainder varies from five to sixteen fathoms deep. A very large portion is covered with comparatively still water, and the shores for the most part consist of a soil that is easily abraded or scoured away by the currents; and this, combined with the alluvial matter brought down by the rivers from the interior of the country, forms together a mass held in mechanical suspension, varying in quantity from 1 to 150 to 1 in 600. This alluvial matter is only held in suspension so long as it experiences a certain degree of motion, and as soon as a period of still water occurs, it is precipitated to the bottom, the quantity, of course, being greatest where the water is the most stagnant. Adjoining the mouths of the Ouse and the Nene, at the upper end of the Estuary, an extensive district of deposit has accumulated, comprising several thousand acres, a very large portion of which is covered only for a few feet at spring tides. No doubt the greater part of this waste land will be ultimately enclosed.

## CHAPTER III.

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### A DESCRIPTION OF NORFOLK.

THE maritime county of Norfolk is bounded on the north and east by the German Ocean or North Sea; on the south by the county of Suffolk, from which it is divided by the river Waveney and the Lesser Ouse; on the west by Cambridgeshire and part of Lincolnshire, from which it is separated by the Greater Ouse and Nene rivers. It extends from 52 deg. 22 min. to 52 deg. 58 min. (north latitude), and from 0 deg. 10 min. to 1 deg. 44 min. (east longitude), and includes an area of 2092 square miles, or 1,338,880 statute acres, being precisely sixty-six miles in extent from the meridian of Yarmouth to that of Wisbeach, and about forty miles in breadth from the parallel of Billingford to that of Wells. The county is in shape of an oval form, and so surrounded by water, that except a small meadow at Lopham it is an island of itself. It contains numerous woods and plantations, which are computed to occupy not less than 10,000 acres, for the preservation of game. The principal rivers are the Greater Ouse, the Lesser Ouse, the Wensum, the Waveney, the Yare, and Bure, which afford the means of inland navigation.

Norfolk and Suffolk, millions of ages ago, must have formed part of the continent of Europe, as appears from the great similarity of the strata on the opposite shores, and the recent discovery of the remains of extensive forests and the bones of huge animals all along the coast for one hundred miles. The present bed of the North Sea must have been dry land at some far distant period, and by volcanic or other agency the waters of the Atlantic broke through the Straits of Dover, and flowing northward over the formerly dry land, submerged the forests and drowned the wild animals which then ranged the woods. The great bulge which East Anglia makes towards the opposite shores begins to fall off at Winterton, and at Eccles the coast line trends rapidly towards the north-west all the

way to Hunstanton. The great tidal wave sweeping down from the north is so much checked by the shoals of sand along the Norfolk coast, that its speed is lessened by two-thirds, and many currents are produced which grind away the cliffs at Cromer, Trimingham, Eccles, and other places.

A great part of the coast consists of a low sandy beach, covered with gravel and shingle, which by the force of the waves are frequently thrown up in vast heaps, and by the constant accumulation of sand, are formed into banks, held together by the matted roots of "sea reed grass." Numerous banks of the same kind have been raised off the coast, far out at sea, and being only discoverable at ebb or quarter tides, are frequently fatal to coasting vessels. The most remarkable is the large bank running parallel with the coast near Yarmouth, between which and the shore there is a deep channel, named Yarmouth roads.

The forest bed commencing near Hunstanton, and stretching along the Eastern coast for sixty miles, is the great feature in the natural history of the whole eastern district, it being the unmistakable indication of a terrestrial surface antecedent to the period of the vast accumulations of the glacial drift. This old land surface near Cromer is exposed at the sea level, but it extends inland, and has been met with at considerable depths in the Offing. The arboreal vegetation buried in these beds comprises the Norway spruce, the Scotch fir, yew, oak, and alder, all of them common European trees. This bed is to be seen at the foot of Cromer cliffs, when a storm has cleared away part of the beach. Standing, with their roots still embedded in the soil, are the stumps of firs, oaks, and other trees, which millions of years ago flourished here; and strangest of all, we find buried with them the bones and the teeth of the monsters whose feeding ground it was. The remains of the elephant, rhinoceros, and hippopotamus have been found in it. Immense herds of ten different kinds of deer must have sought the shelter of these ancient groves. Bears and tigers and many other animals have left their bones or teeth in these beds containing the remains of a former world. Remains of trees and of the bones of extinct animals have been discovered all along the Norfolk coast; and as trees do not grow at the bottom of the sea, nor huge animals run under the waters, it is clear that they must have walked across the land before it was covered by the waves. This immense forest-bed proves that for myriads of ages dry land must have existed all across the space where the North Sea now rolls from shore to shore, and that this little island, long before man appeared on the earth, was a part of the great continent of Europe.

## NORFOLK COAST.

Sir Charles Lyell in his great work "Principles of Geology" (1853), gives the following description of the coast:—"The decay of the cliffs of Norfolk and Suffolk is incessant. At Hunstanton, on the north, the undermining of the lower arenaceous beds at the foot of the cliff causes masses of red and white chalk to be precipitated from above. Between Hunstanton and Weybourne, low hills or dunes of blown sand are formed along the shore from fifty to sixty feet high. They are composed of dry sand, bound in a compact mass by the long creeping roots of the plant called Marram (*Arundo arenaria*.)

Such is the present set of the tides that the harbours of Cley, Wells, and other places are securely defended by these barriers; affording a clear proof that it is not the strength of the material at particular points that determines whether the sea shall be progressive or stationary, but the general contour of the coast.

The waves constantly undermine the low chalk cliffs, covered with sand and clay, between Weybourne and Sherringham, a certain portion of them being annually removed. At the latter town, I ascertained, in 1829, some facts which throw light on the rate at which the sea gains upon the land. It was computed, when the present inn was built, in 1805, that it would require seventy years for the sea to reach the spot; the mean loss of land being calculated, from previous observations, to be somewhat less than one yard annually. The distance between the house and the sea was fifty yards; but no allowance was made for the slope of the ground being from the sea, in consequence of which the waste was naturally accelerated every year, as the cliff grew lower, there being at each succeeding period less matter to remove when portions of equal area fell down.

Between the years 1824 and 1829, no less than seventeen yards were swept away, and only a small garden was then left between the building and the sea. There was in 1829 a depth of twenty feet (sufficient to float a frigate) at one time in the harbour of that part, where, only forty-eight years before, there stood a cliff fifty feet high, with houses upon it! If once in half a century an equal amount of change was produced suddenly by the momentary shock of an earthquake, history would be filled with records of such wonderful revolutions of the earth's surface; but if the conversion of high land into deep sea be gradual, it excites only local attention. The flagstaff of the Preventive Service Station, on the south side of this harbour, was thrice removed inland between the years 1814 and 1829, in consequence of the advance of the sea.

Further to the south we find cliffs composed, like those of Holderness before mentioned, of alternating strata of blue clay, gravel, loam, and fine sand. Although they sometimes exceed three hundred feet in height, the havoc made on the coast is most formidable. The whole site of ancient Cromer now forms part of the German Ocean, the inhabitants having gradually retreated inland to their present situation, from whence the sea still threatens to dislodge them. In the winter of 1825, a fallen mass was precipitated from near the lighthouse, which covered twelve acres, extending far into the sea, the cliffs being two hundred and fifty feet in height. The undermining by springs has sometimes caused large portions of the upper parts of the cliffs, with houses still standing upon them, to give way, so that it is impossible, by erecting breakwaters at the base of the cliffs, permanently to ward off the danger.

M. E. de Beaumont has suggested that sand-dunes in Holland and other countries may serve as material chronometers by which the date of the existing continents may be ascertained. The sands, he says, are continually blown inland by the force of the winds, and by observing the rate of their march we may calculate the period when the movement commenced. But the example just given will satisfy every geologist that we cannot ascertain the starting point of dunes, all coasts being liable to waste, and the shores of the Low Countries in particular being not only exposed to inroads of the sea, but, as M. de Beaumont himself has well shown, having even in historical times undergone a change of level. The dunes may indeed, in some cases, be made use of as chronometers to enable us to assign a minimum of antiquity to existing coast lines; but this test must be applied with great caution, so variable is the rate at which the sands may advance into the interior.

Hills of blown sand, between Eccles and Winterton, have barred up and excluded the tide for many hundred years from the mouths of several small estuaries; but there are records of nine breaches, from twenty to one hundred and twenty yards wide, having been made through these, by which immense damage was done to the low grounds in the interior. A few miles south of Happisburgh also are hills of blown sands, which extend to Yarmouth. These dunes afford a temporary protection to the coast, and an inland cliff about a mile long, at Winterton, shows clearly that at that point the sea must have penetrated formerly further than at present.

At Yarmouth the sea has not advanced upon the sands in the slightest degree since the reign of Elizabeth. In the time of the Saxons a great estuary extended as far as Norwich, which city is represented, even in the 13th and 14th centuries, as "situated on the banks of an arm of the sea." The sands whereon Yarmouth is built first became firm and

habitable ground about the year 1008, from which time a line of dunes has gradually increased in height and breadth, stretching across the whole entrance of the ancient estuary and obstructing the ingress of the tides so completely that they are only admitted by the narrow passage which the river keeps open, and which has gradually shifted several miles to the south. The ordinary tides at the river's mouth rise, at present, only to a height of three or four feet, the spring tides to about eight or nine. By the exclusion of the sea thousands of acres in the interior have become cultivated lands; and, exclusive of smaller pools, upwards of sixty fresh water lakes have been formed, varying in depth from fifteen to thirty feet, and in extent from one acre to twelve hundred.

The Yare and other rivers frequently communicate with these sheets of water; and thus they are liable to be filled up gradually with lacustrine and fluviatile deposits, and to be converted into land covered with forests. Yet it must not be imagined that the acquisition of new land fit for cultivation in Norfolk and Suffolk indicates any permanent growth of the eastern limits of our island to compensate its reiterated losses. No delta can form on such a shore.

Immediately off Yarmouth, and parallel to the shore, is a great range of sand banks, the shape of which varies slowly from year to year, and often suddenly after great storms. Captain Hewitt, R.N., found in these banks, in 1836, a broad channel 65 feet deep, where there was only a depth of four feet during a prior survey in 1822. The sea had excavated to the depth of sixty feet in the course of fourteen years, or perhaps a shorter period. The new channel thus formed serves at present (1838) for the entrance of ships into Yarmouth Roads, and the magnitude of this change shows how easily a new set of the waves and currents might endanger the submergence of the land gained within the ancient estuary of the Yare.

That great banks should be thrown across the mouths of estuaries on our eastern coast, where there is not a large body of river water to maintain an open channel, is perfectly intelligible, when we bear in mind that the marine current, sweeping along the coast, is charged with the materials of wasting cliffs, and ready to form a bar anywhere the instant its course is interrupted or checked by any opposing streams. The mouth of the Yare has been, within the last five centuries, diverted about four miles to the south. In like manner it is evident that, at some remote period, the River Alde entered the sea at Aldborough, until its ancient outlet was barred up, and at length transferred to a point no less than ten miles distant to the south-west. In this case ridges of sand and shingle, like those of Lowestoft Ness, which will be described by-and-by, have been thrown up between the river and the sea; and an ancient sea cliff is to be seen now inland. It may be asked

why the rivers on our east coast are always deflected southwards, although the tidal current flows alternately from the south and north. The cause is to be found in the superior force of what is commonly called 'the flood tide from the north,' a tidal wave derived from the Atlantic, a small part of which passes eastward up the English Channel, and through the Straits of Dover, and then northwards, while the principal body of water, moving much more rapidly in a more open sea, on the western side of Britain, first passes the Orkneys, and then turning, flows down between Norway and Scotland, and sweeps with great velocity along our eastern coast. It is well known that the highest tides on this coast are occasioned by a powerful north-west wind, which raises the eastern part of the Atlantic, and causes it to pour a greater volume of water into the German Ocean. This circumstance of a violent off-shore wind being attended with a rise of the waters, instead of a general retreat of the sea, naturally excites the wonder of the inhabitants of our coast. In many districts they look with confidence for a rich harvest of that valuable manure, the sea-weed, when the north-westerly gales prevail, and are rarely disappointed."

Mr. R. C. Taylor in his *Geology of East Norfolk*, page 32, says: "On the same coast the ancient villages of Shipden, Whimpwell, and Eccles have disappeared; several manors and large portions of neighbouring parishes having piece after piece been swallowed up; nor has there been any intermission from time immemorial in the ravages of the sea along a line of coast, twenty miles in length, in which those places stood. Of Eccles, however, a monument still remains in the ruined tower of the old Church, which is half buried in the dunes of sand within a few paces of the sea beach. So early as 1605 the inhabitants petitioned James I. for a reduction of taxes, as 300 acres of land and all their houses save fourteen had been destroyed by the sea.

"Not one-half of that number of acres now remain in the parish, and hills of blown sand now occupy the site of the houses, which were still extant in 1605. When I visited the spot in 1839 the sea was fast encroaching on the sand hills, and on the beach had laid open the foundations of a house fourteen yards square, the upper part of which had evidently been pulled down before it had been buried under sand. The body of the Church has also been long buried, but the tower still remains visible." In 1871 the sea surrounded the tower, the sand banks having been removed.

The surface of the county has, perhaps, less variety of features than that of any other tract of land of equal extent in England, being for the most part flat; yet this uniformity of appearance is sometimes varied, particularly in the northern part, where the ground rises in gentle elevations, and the hills and valleys are adorned with woods and

plantations. On the south side of the county is a fine rich tract, extending towards the north and north-east; and these portions, being enclosed, well cultivated, and abounding in timber more than most maritime districts, exhibit a variety of pleasing prospects.

Most of the rivers rise in marshy lands, and running through a level district, have a slow current, so that they contribute to keep the adjacent grounds in a swampy state, and to fill the atmosphere with noxious vapours. When swelled by land floods, their estuaries being for the most part choked with silt driven up by the influx of the tide, they often overflow the low lands, and in their course eastward to the sea form numerous small shallow lakes or pools, provincially called "broads," which are plentifully stocked with fish and much frequented by aquatic birds.

Charles II., when he visited Norfolk, said it was only fit to be cut up into roads for the rest of the country. It was then only half cultivated, and consisted in some parts of open heaths and commons, or marshes. A century and a-half since, the county was comparatively wild, bleak, and unproductive, more than half of it being sheep walks and rabbit warrens. Notwithstanding that so much has been effected towards bringing the whole of the land into a state of cultivation, and although the commons have been much enclosed, and few left, yet the *waste* lands are still of great extent.

Norfolk is naturally a bleak sterile county, but superior cultivation has rendered it one of the most productive counties in England. The *arable* lands now form about two-thirds of its surface; and the usual course of crops is—first year, turnips; second, barley; third, seeds for hay; fourth, seeds; fifth, wheat or rye; and sixth, barley; the next most frequently practised is the old four-shift system of turnips, barley, seeds, and wheat in succession. A vast quantity of barley is raised in the lighter soils, and made into malt, which is the staple commodity in the county; and vast quantities are sent to London. The quantity of upland meadow and pasturage has been estimated at nearly 127,000 acres, and that of the marsh lands at upwards of 63,000. One of the richest grazing tracts in Norfolk is the marshy district lying to the south of Lynn and on the eastern side of the Ouse. These lands, like all others in the county, are in general hired by the upland farmers and not regularly stocked, but only when convenience requires it. The exports of agricultural produce are greater coastwise than of any other county. The average number of fat cattle sent from Norfolk to London is estimated at 20,000 yearly, and the number of sheep fattened for London and other markets is not less than 30,000.

According to the table of the soils furnished by Mr. Arthur Young to the Board of Agriculture, before the end of last century there were

in the county 220 square miles of light sand, 420 of more valuable sand, 60 of marshland clay, 900 of various loams, 148 of rich loam, 82 of peat earth. The substrata, as far as had been then ascertained, consisted of clunch or indurated chalk; also chalk, in which flints were imbedded; gault, gravel, silt, and peat earth. Of late years the substrata has been more explored.

Norfolk and Suffolk have been always celebrated for game, and there is nowhere such partridge shooting to be found. But the over-preservation of game has retarded agricultural progress. Wing game, especially partridges, do the farmer very little harm, but hares and rabbits are very destructive to all crops. Good farming and the excessive preservation of foot game cannot exist together, and though this is not so common as it was, still there are some estates in the county where the number of foot game is still very large.

Norfolk and Suffolk enjoy a high reputation for breeding more turkeys than all the rest of the kingdom, and prodigious numbers of geese. There was one season in former days, not yet forgotten, when three hundred flocks of turkeys, each comprising a few hundred, passed over Stratford Bridge on their way from East Anglia to London. The geese were driven up just after harvest, so that they might be fed in the stubble. Now the occupation of the goose-herd is gone, for the birds are conveyed to the metropolis by the Great Eastern Railway. In the Christmas week of 1871 about twenty thousand geese and as many turkeys arrived in hampers at Bishopgate Station.

Norfolk is in the diocese of Norwich and province of Canterbury, and comprises the two archdeaconries of Norfolk and Norwich, in the former of which are the deaneries of Brooke, Burnham, Cranwich, Depwade, Fincham, Hingham, Hitcham, Humbleyard, Redenhall, Repps, Rockland, and Wacton; and in the latter, those of Blofield, Breckles, Brisley, Flegg, Holt, Ingworth, Lynn, Norwich, Sparham, Taverham, Toft Trees, Walsingham, and part of Thetford. There are in the county 756 parishes, some of them of large extent, and containing ancient spacious Churches.

Cobbett, treating of the Eastern Counties in his "Rural Rides" (1821), remarks that "their great drawbacks are their flatness and their want of fine woods." But he praises the farming and the Churches, and notices that the latter, with few exceptions, are built on the highest sites within the parishes. He argues, "These Churches prove that the people of Norfolk and Suffolk were always a superior people in point of wealth, while the size of them proves that the country parts were at one time a great deal more populous than they now are." But we must remember that in former times the Churches were the only places of worship.

Norfolk and Suffolk, without either hills, or mountains, or broad rivers,

or glassy lakes, being highly-cultivated counties, are like extensive gardens in the summer and autumn seasons. Both counties present every variety of rural scenery, and some of the towns are of no mean importance, either in the past history or in the present social position of the kingdom. The district of the ancient Iceni offers many attractions for the historian and the antiquary. It abounds in relics of the olden time, and it is no less rich in the attractions which modern art, refinement, and improvement have introduced. There are no counties more remarkable for the number of fine old Churches of mediæval architecture.

How beautiful they stand,  
 Those ancient altars of our native land !  
 Amid the pasture fields, and dark green woods,  
 Amid the mountain's clouds and solitudes ;  
 By rivers broad, that rush into the sea,  
 By little brooks, that with a lisp'ing sound,  
 Like playful children, run by copse and lea,  
 Each in its little plot of holy ground.  
 How beautiful they stand,  
 Those old grey churches of our native land !

Many of these ancient edifices have been well restored.

Norfolk and Suffolk are noted for their antiquities of every period—ancient British, Roman, Anglo-Saxon, Anglo-Norman; and of these an account is given in the order of time in the following pages. Ancient Churches stand in all the parishes, about a thousand in number, in the two counties. To describe each Church, however briefly, would be to compose a treatise on ecclesiology, that few persons would care to read. Ancient halls, the seats of the nobility and gentry, stand in almost every Hundred in the two counties.

The families receiving titles from places in Norfolk are the Howards, Dukes of Norfolk; the Gordons, Earls of Norwich; Conways, Earls of Yarmouth. Thetford confers the title of Viscount in the Fitzroys. The Townshends are Viscounts of Raynham and Barons of King's Lynn; the De Greys are Barons of Walsingham; the Nelsons, Barons of Hilborough; the Howards are Barons of Castle Rising; the Hobarts, Barons of Blickling; the Calthorpes are Barons of Calthorpe; the Walpoles are Barons of Walpole and Wolterton; the Harbords are Barons of Suffield; and the Wodehouses are Barons of Kimberley.

For the purposes of civil government, Norfolk is divided into the Hundreds of Blofield, Brothercross, Clackclose, Clavinger, Depwade, Diss, Earsham, North Erpingham, South Erpingham, Eynsford, East Flegg, West Flegg, Forehoe, Freebridge Lynn, Freebridge Marshland, Gallow, North Greenhoe, Grimshoe, Guiltercross, Happing, Henstead,

Holt, Humbleyard, Loddon, Launditch, Mitford, Shropham, Smithdon, Taverham, Tunstead, Walsham, and Wayland. It contains the city of Norwich; the seaports and market towns of Yarmouth, Lynn Regis, and Cley; the borough of Thetford; the market towns of East Dereham, Diss, Downham, Fakenham, Foulsham, Harleston, East Harling, Holt, Loddon, Reepham, Swaffham, North Walsham, Watton, and Wymondham.

Having in our last chapter given a brief description of the whole fen region, we shall now proceed through the same district where it extends and terminates in Norfolk, noticing the physical features of the county from west to east, along the Norfolk line of railway. We shall then proceed along the line from south to north, or from Wymondham to Fakenham and Wells, making a tour of the Western Division.

#### HUNDREDS AND PARISHES IN WEST NORFOLK.

This division of the county extends from Norwich forty miles in a straight line to Lynn in the west. It is watered by the Rivers Ouse, Lark, and Wensum, which latter stream flows through the county from Rudham for thirty miles eastward. It includes a good part of the fen district, which has been drained by the Eau Brink Cut from Ely to Lynn. The principal roads are from Norwich, through Dercham and Swaffham to Lynn; also from Norwich to Fakenham and Wells. The Norfolk Railway crosses the district from Brandon, passing Thetford, Attleborough, and Wymondham to Norwich.

#### CLACKCLOSE HUNDRED

Lies at the south-western end of the county, and is about seventeen miles in length from north to south, varying from ten to fifteen miles in breadth. It is watered by several streams, the Great Ouse intersecting it from north to south, the Wissey crossing it from east to west, the Nar bounding it on the north, and the Welney dividing it from the Isle of Ely. It abounds in woods, seats, and large villages, and the upland parts are bold, fertile, and picturesque, but a large part is in low marshes and fens, which extend into several counties. Clackclose includes 88,506 acres, and thirty-three parishes with a population of 21,420.

The parishes are Barton Bendish, Beechamwell, Bexwell, Roughton, Crimplasham, Denver, Downham Market, Fincham, Fordham, Hilgay, Holme-next-Runcton, Marham, Roxham, Ryston, Shingham, Shouldham, Shouldham Thorpe, South Runcton, Southery, Stoke Ferry, Stow Bardolph, Stradsett, Tottenhill, Wallington-cum-Thorpland, Wat-

lington, Welney, Wereham, West Dereham, Wimbotsham, Wormegay, Wretton.

DOWNHAM MARKET (ST. EDMUND),

A market town and parish in the Hundred of Clackclose, eighty-five miles (north by east) from London. In the reign of Edgar, the town was granted to the Abbey of Ramsey, in the county of Huntingdon; of which establishment the Abbot, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, obtained for the inhabitants the grant of a weekly market, and subsequently, in the reign of John, permission to hold an annual fair. Near the bridge was an ancient hermitage; and adjoining the Church there was in early times a Benedictine Priory, subordinate to the Abbey of Ramsey, to the Abbots of which Henry III. granted very extensive privileges.

The town is pleasantly situated on an acclivity, about a mile to the east of the River Ouse, commanding an extensive view of the fens on the west, with which it is connected by an old bridge, and consists of two principal streets which are well paved and lighted. The market, which is amply supplied with corn and provisions of all kinds, is on Saturday; and fairs are held—on the 3rd of March for horses, May 8th for cattle, and November 13th for cattle and toys. The fair for horses is one of the largest in the kingdom, and is attended by many dealers from London and other towns, and owing to the great number of horses brought for sale, the show takes place for three or four days before the fair. The town is a polling-place for the election of candidates for the Western Division of the county.

The parish comprises 2,490A. 2R. 24P., of which 1,600 are arable, 626 pasture, and 64 woodland; the soil near the town is light and sandy, in other parts a loamy clay, and in some marsh and fen. The living is a discharged rectory; patron, W. Franks, Esq. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £500, and the glebe comprises 29½ acres, with a good glebe-house. The Church is an ancient structure in the Early English style, with a low embattled tower surmounted by a spire. Baptists, Independents, Methodists, and the Society of Friends have chapels in the town.

GEIMSHOE HUNDRED

Is about fourteen miles in length, and from six to eight miles in breadth, bounded on the south by the Little Ouse river; on the east by Shropham and Wayland; on the north by South Greenhoe; and on the west by Clackclose. It is watered by the river Wissey, which is navigable for small craft. The soil is chiefly sand, upon a substratum of chalk and flint, and much of it is open in sheep-walks and heaths, except the west

end running into the fens. The neighbourhood abounds in rabbit warrens, and the rabbits are esteemed as of fine flavour. The Hundred comprises 66,682 acres, sixteen parishes with a population of 7491. The parishes are Buckenham Parva, Colvestone, Cranwich, Croxton, Feltwell St. Mary and St. Nicholas, Hockwold-cum-Wilton, Igborough, Lynford, Methwold, Mundford, Northwold, Santon, Stanford, Starston, Weeting All Saints, and West Tofts, all rural parishes.

#### THETFORD.

This borough and market-town is locally situated in the Hundred of Grimshoe, West Norfolk, but partly in the Hundred of Lackford, in the West Division of Suffolk, on each side of a river now called the Thet, which flows into the Lesser Ouse. The town is distant seventy-nine miles (north-north-east) from London, and is now a small place compared to its former extent, when it could boast of many streets, churches, and monasteries. The Romans took possession of the town during the first century, and occupied it till the year 435, when they left this island. The town is said to have been the Sitomagus of the Romans, but this is very doubtful. Julius Cæsar, in his Commentaries, states that Sitomagus was a large and populous city, but he does not mention where it was situated. As he did not advance beyond the country of the Trinobantes (Essex), the city of Sitomagus was probably near their territory, and not so far inland as Thetford. Where Dunwich formerly stood on the sea coast is more likely to have been the Sitomagus.

Thetford appears to have been a very important fortified town in the Roman period, judging from the number of coins that have been discovered there. It seems to have flourished most in the reigns of Claudius, Nero, Vespasian, Domitian, Trajan, and Antoninus Pius, of all of whom many coins have been found there, but especially of the latter, in whose time it was probably at its greatest height during the Roman occupation of the country.

John Brame, a monk of Thetford, in his M.S. history in Bennet College Library, in Cambridge, states that one Bond, a valiant man of Thetford, who flourished in the time of King Vortigern, seeing the Roman forces withdrawn, and the remaining Romans sluggish and inactive, and perceiving Vortigern fully employed against the Scots and Picts, he thereupon usurped the supreme government of the city, and became King thereof. Probably the inhabitants were satisfied with it, especially if he were as popular as he seems valiant, for he did not continue idle when he became King, but endeavoured immediately either to subdue his neighbours or to bring them under his power. This was not bad policy in the then state of things, because by so doing he made himself and his people the

stronger to resist the approaching invasion of the Northern tribes. But neither native policy nor strength were sufficient to withstand the growing power and continual invasions of the Northern barbarians. They soon drove out the natives, took possession of the country, and made Thetford the chief seat of government.

Thetford appears to have been a fortified town, and to have flourished exceedingly during the whole of the Anglo-Saxon period, for then many churches were built, and many monasteries were established there. The Anglo-Saxon churches were St. Mary's, St. Peter's, St. John's, St. Martin's, St. Margaret's, and some others mentioned in Domesday-book. The Danes took the town, and having retained possession of it for fifty years, totally destroyed it by fire in the ninth century. In 1004 it sustained a similar calamity from their king, Sweyn, who had invaded East Anglia, and in 1010 it became for the third time the scene of a conflagration by these marauders, into whose hands it again fell. In the reign of Canute, Thetford began to recover from the effects of these repeated calamities, the population increased, and was far larger than in the modern period. Long before the Conquest there was a mint here, in which coins of Edmund the Martyr and Canute were struck, and the place was the residence of Anglo-Saxon Kings.

Blomefield says: "It appears that there were in the Confessor's time thirteen parish churches, if not more (in Thetford), but in the time of Edward III. I find there had been and there were no less than twenty, whereof thirteen stood on the Suffolk side, and seven on the Norfolk side of the river, of which St. Mary the Great, or the Mother Church, was without doubt the most ancient." There are now only three, in the parishes of St. Cuthbert, St. Peter, and St. Mary the Less, all in the diocese of Norwich.

According to the survey made by William I., Thetford contained nearly 1000 burgesses, besides *villeins*, sockmen, borderers, or cottagers, and the common people, showing that the town must have been of considerable size and importance at that period. Many of the burgesses were persons of substance, some having mills, which appear to have been then important property; others were large farmers; others, merchants and tradesmen. The King derived considerable revenue from the town, and he had lands on both sides of the river—in Norfolk 1300 acres, and in Suffolk 1100 acres. The land held by the burgesses paid a heavy tax to the Treasury, both in money and in kind. The Abbot of Bury claimed a church and a house free of taxes; and the Abbot of Ely three churches, one house free of taxes, and two custom houses, one of which was used as a dwelling. Bishop Stigand had twenty houses free, one mill, and five churches. Roger Bigot had one free house, a monastery, and two bordars belonging to the monastery.

According to statements of the old historians, such was the ancient extent and importance of the place, that in the reign of Edward III. it comprised twenty-four streets, five market-places, twenty churches, six hospitals, eight monasteries, with other religious foundations of which few remains can now be traced. After many explorations at different times, we could never discover where so many streets, market-places, churches, and other buildings could have been situated within any reasonable limits of the borough. A charter of incorporation granted by Elizabeth in 1573 was surrendered to the Crown in the 34th of Charles II., and a very imperfect one obtained in its stead, which in 1692 was annulled and the original restored by a decree in Chancery. The Mayor is chosen out of the Corporation, which now consists of four Aldermen and twelve Councillors. The borough formerly sent two members to Parliament, but is now merged in the county. The County Assizes, held here from 1176 till this century, were removed to Norwich, but Quarter Sessions are held in the borough. The religious houses in Thetford were the Priory of St. Sepulchre, founded by William Earl Warren in 1109; the Free Chapel College or Guild, founded by Mr. Gilbert de Pykenham in 1274; the Augustine Friars Convent, founded by John of Gaunt in 1387, and others, which covered a large space of ground in and near the town. Of late years archæologists have made many explorations, and uncovered some of the foundations of several monasteries. The ruins of the priory may be seen on the Suffolk side of the river.

Thetford Abbey was one of the most important of all the religious institutions of the middle ages. Its temporalities and spiritualities were large, and its possessions enormous. The monks of the abbey had estates in 125 parishes in Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, from which they derived a very large annual income, and their spiritualities were also considerable. The revenues of the canons of the Priors of St. George were proportionately large, so that the town was considered a centre of ecclesiastical power and wealth. But after the dissolution, its monastic institutions were divided and scattered, and fell into the hands of private individuals. The Duke of Norfolk became the proprietor of the Abbey and Manor of Thetford, and Richard Fulmerston of the nunnery and its possessions. Several of the churches and chantries had already fallen into decay, and other parishes were united, so that only three churches were preserved for future generations.

The present town has been partly built out of the ruins of religious houses. The relics of antiquity consist chiefly of fragments of a nunnery founded in the reign of Canute by Urius, the first abbot of Bury St. Edmund's; some of the walls, buttresses, and windows are still standing. The Conventual Church has been converted into a barn, and a farm-house

has been built with other portions of the ruins. Of the old abbey, only fragments of the church remain. The monastery of St. Sepulchre has been converted into a barn, and no traces can be discovered of the site of St. Augustine's Priory. The first idea that impresses the mind when glancing over the ruins of old buildings is the great antiquity of the place. It would seem that the very ashes of our forefathers are mingled with the dust at our feet; and that many modern buildings are constructed in great part out of the durable fragments of ancient churches and convents.

The hill or mound at Thetford, with its surrounding ditches and ramparts, bears a very strong resemblance to what the hill at Norwich was before its outer works and parade ground had been used for building purposes. Thetford hill is about 100 feet high, and measures 784 feet in circumference at its base, and 81 feet on its summit. Its diameter at the base is 338 feet. The summit of the mound appears formerly to have been surrounded by a parapet of clunch, the centre being concave to the depth of twelve feet below the outer surface.

The scene presented from this mound or hill is highly picturesque. The summit of the hill is crowned with fine stately trees, whose thick foliage may be discerned for many miles on a clear day. A portion of the surrounding ramparts is also thickly studded with trees, and the southern side of the mound has been planted in a similar manner. From the summit of the hill there is a fine view of the surrounding district, and of the valley of the River Thet, extensive plantations and warrens, cultivated fields and meandering rivulets.

#### THE HUNDRED OF SHROPHAM.

Shropham Hundred is about fourteen miles in length from east to west, and from six to eight in width, being bounded on the west by Grimshoe, on the north by Wayland, on the east by Depwade, and on the south by Guilteross. The soil is various, but much of it is a light mud, watered by a number of small rivulets, which unite these streams on its southern boundary near Quidenham, where the River Thet flows westward to Thetford. Shropham contains many small allotments for the poor, and comprises 47,585 acres, and 21 parishes with a population of 8596. The parishes are Attleborough, Besthorpe, Brettenham, Bridgham, East Wretham, Eccles, Great Ellingham, Hargham, Hockham, Illington, Kilverstone, Larling, New Buckenham, Old Buckenham, Rockland All Saints, Rockland St. Andrew, Roudham, Shropham, Snetterton, West Wretham, Wilby.

#### ATTLEBURGH, OR ATTLEBOROUGH (ST. MARY),

A market town and parish, in the Hundred of Shropham, West Division

of the County of Norfolk, fifteen miles (south-west by west) from Norwich, and ninety-four (north-east by north) from London. In the reign of Richard II., Robert de Mortimer founded a College for a warden and four secular priests in the Church of the Holy Cross, of which there are no remains. Though situated on the high road from Thetford to Norwich, it is now only a very inconsiderable town. The market is on Thursday; and fairs are held on the Thursdays before Easter and Whitsuntide, and on the 15th of August.

Attleborough formerly comprised two parishes—Attleborough Major, a rectory, valued in the King's books at £19 8s. 9d.; and Attleborough Minor, a vicarage, valued at £8 2s. 6d. They are now united, and comprise by measurement 5257 acres, constituting one rectory, in the patronage of the Rev. Sir E. B. Smyth, Bart.; the tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £1500, and the glebe comprises 17 acres, valued at £25 17s. per annum. The Church is a spacious cruciform structure, in the Decorated style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower rising from the centre, and a fine porch; the chancel, which had some portions in the Norman style, has been demolished; there are several monuments to the memory of distinguished personages, of which the most prominent are those of the Mortimers, Ratcliffes, and Blockleys. Her Majesty's Commissioners have made a conditional grant for the erection of a new church. There are places of worship for Baptists and Wesleyan Methodists; and a school is endowed with nine acres of land, producing £16 10s. per annum. Two miles and a-half from the town, on the road to Wymondham, said to have been the first turnpike road constructed in England, and for which an Act was granted in the 7th of William III., are the remains of an obelisk erected by the county to the memory of Sir Edward Rich, who in 1675 gave £200 towards repairing the highways.

#### GUILTCROSS HUNDRED,

Adjoining Suffolk, extends about fourteen miles from east to west, varying from two to six miles in width, bounded on the south by the Little Ouse, on the north by the River Thet, so called, near Thetford, and on the east by Diss. The western part near Thetford has a light, sandy soil, resting on chalk, but the other parts rise in gentle swells, and have a strong soil of clay and loam. The Rivers Waveney and Ouse have their sources here near Lopham, and flow from thence in opposite courses. The Hundred comprises 28,340 acres, twelve parishes, and a population of 6,748.

The parishes are Banham, Blo' Norton, East Harling, Garboldisham,

Gunthorpe, Kenninghall, North Lopham, Quidenham, Riddlesworth, South Lopham, West Harling.

## EAST HARLING

Is a small market town on the gentle acclivities above the vale of the rivulet now called the Thet, about four miles (south-south-east) of Harling railway station of the Great Eastern line, twenty-one miles (south-west) of Norwich. The market, held every Tuesday, is well supplied with corn, &c. There are three fairs for cattle—held May 4th, first Tuesday after September 12th (a sheep fair), and October 24th.

## KENNINGHALL

Is one of the most ancient places in Norfolk. It is usually stated that Queen Boadicea held her court there, and that the Royal Castle was the seat of the East-Anglian Kings; but there is no evidence as to the connection of Boadicea or even of the Anglo-Saxon Kings with the place, though there is no doubt that it was inhabited as a settled residence by the Saxons. Blomefield observes that “Kenning” in Saxon signifies King, and Kenninghall King’s house, so that he thought it had been the seat of the East-Anglian Kings, who were said to have had a castle there. Now Kenninghall simply means the hall of the Kennings, a Saxon family of that name. Thus it appears that there was a substantial dwelling at Kenninghall. That the Saxons dwelt there in considerable numbers has been proved by the field discovery of their graves. During the year 1868, workmen were employed to dig, and found several graves containing various antiquities, including iron bosses of shields, spear heads, bronze fibulæ, amber and glass beads, buckles, &c. A mile and a-half east of this village are the earthworks, which consist of double banks of considerable height, with a ditch between them, nearly rectangular in shape, and enclosing a space of eight acres. Within these works, which more resemble the Roman than the British in the shape, stood the old manor house of Kenninghall, called East Hall. This manor, which was in the hands of the Crown at the time of Edward the Confessor, was granted by King William I. to William de Albini, and East Hall remained the manor house, through all its changes, until it was pulled down by the third Duke of Norfolk, who built a much larger house, called the new palace, a little to the north-east. The new house, built about 1525, was settled on the Princess Mary when the estate of the Duke of Norfolk by his attainder was seized by the King.

It was here that Queen Mary occasionally resided, and from here she asserted her title to the Crown. This magnificent palace contained apartments for the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk, the Earl and Countess

Surrey, the Children, the Master of the Children, the Duchess of Richmond, the Lord Thomas Howard, Mr. and Mrs. Holland, Mr. Adryan (physician of the household), Sir John Colborne, the Children of the Chapel, the Almoners, the Master of the Horse, Controller, &c. It was pulled down in 1645. Numerous remains of the ornamental brickwork are to be seen in the houses of the neighbouring villages.

QUIDENHAM ST. ANDREW,

A parish in the Hundred of GUILTCROSS, two miles (east by north) from East Harling, containing about 80 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory; net income, £636; patron, the Earl of Albemarle. There is a glebe of 55 acres, with a house. The Church, which is an ancient structure, is the burial place of the Keppel family, one of whom was the celebrated Admiral Keppel, ancestor of the present Earl of Albemarle, who has a seat here, situated in a small picturesque park.

Quidenham Church is a good specimen of Norman work. The lower part of the tower and the tower arch, the north door of the nave, and probably the north wall, were built in the early part of the twelfth century; all the walls of the rest of the edifice and the arches of the nave, at the beginning of the thirteenth century; and the chancel and east windows of the aisle, about the middle or in the latter part of the thirteenth century. Visitors are gratified at viewing the handsome doorway in the north side, the plain Norman arch in the belfry, the remains of windows in the lower part of the Norman tower, the fine specimens of flint design work in the buttresses, and part of an oak screen, which now shuts off on the north side what is supposed to have been a dormitory.

WAYLAND HUNDRED

Was anciently called Waneland, from the oozy nature of the soil, which is now well drained and cultivated, most of the commons having been enclosed during this century. It is about eight miles in length, and from four to eight in width. It is bounded on the south by Shropham, on the north by Greenhoe, on the east by Mitford, and on the west by Grimshoe. Wayland comprises 33,147 acres, and sixteen parishes with a population of 7,783.

The parishes in this Hundred are Ashill, Breckles, Carbrooke, Caston, Griston, Litle Ellingham, Merton, Ovington, Rockland St. Peter, Saham Toney, Scoulton, Stow Bedon, Thompson, Thrixton, Tottington, and Watton.

WATTON ST. MARY

Is a market town, distant ninety-four miles (north-north-east) from London.

This place is of considerable antiquity, and appears to have had the grant of a market prior to 1204, which during that year was suspended by writ of inquiry, but soon after restored to Oliver de Vaux, lord of the manor. In 1603 an accidental fire destroyed a great part of the town, with property to the amount of £10,000. The town is situated nearly in the centre of the Hundred, on the verge of that part of Norfolk called Filand or "the open country," and consists principally of one spacious street. There is some trade here, arising from the situation of the place on a public thoroughfare. The Market is on Wednesday, and chiefly for corn; the ancient Fairs are on July 10th, October 11th, and November 8th for cattle; and others of more modern date are on the second Wednesday in July, and the first Wednesday after Old Michaelmas-day for sheep. A Manorial Court is held annually, and a Court of Petty Sessions for the Hundred on the first Wednesday of the month. The parish comprises 1807A. 3R. 34P., of which 1167 are arable, 503 meadow and pasture, and 85 woodland. The living is a discharged vicarage. The Church was originally erected in the reign of Henry I.; the present structure is of later date in the Early English style, with a circular tower, surmounted by a spire. There are Chapels for Independents, Baptists, and Methodists; and a National School.

## MERTON (ST. PETER)

Is a parish in the Hundred of Wayland two and a-half miles from Watton. The parish comprises 1361A. 1R. 20P., of which 738 acres are arable, 491 pasture, and 86 woodland. The Hall is the seat of Lord Walsingham, and is a handsome mansion in the Elizabethan style, containing many stately apartments, some of which are hung with ancient tapestry in good preservation. The Park is richly wooded, and much of the timber is of ancient and luxuriant growth. The Church, situated in the Park, is an ancient structure, with a round tower; the chancel contains several brasses and monuments of the family of the De Greys.

## SOUTH GREENHOE.

This Hundred is about twelve miles in length and nine in breadth, bounded on the north by Freebridge Lynn and Launditch, on the east by Mitford and Wayland, on the south by Grimshoe, and on the west by Clackclose. The whole district has generally a light sandy soil, except on the eastern side, where it has a rich loam, and its highly cultivated fields are watered by a rivulet flowing southward to the Wissey or Stoke river. Area, 62,601 acres; population, 10,756. Parishes: Bodney, Bradenham (East), Bradenham (West), Caldecot, Cockley Cley, Cressing-

ham (Great), Cressingham (Little), Didlington, Foulden, Gooderstone, Hilborough, Holme Hale, Houghton on the Hill, Langford, Narborough, Narford, Necton, Newton, Oxborough, Pickenham (North), Pickenham (South), Sporle with Palgrave, Swaffham.

SWAFFHAM (ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL)

A parish and market town in the Hundred of south Greenhoe, 95 miles (north-north-east) from London. This ancient town is situated on an eminence commanding an extensive view of the surrounding country. It consists of four principal and several other streets, lighted with gas at night. The houses are well built, and the inhabitants are supplied with water from wells. A charter was granted by King John for a Market and two annual Fairs. The Market is on Saturday; and Fairs are held on May 12th for sheep, July 21st and November 3rd for sheep and cattle. This is the chief town for the Western Division, and the election for members of the Division is held at the Shirehall. The parish comprises 7563A. 3R. 28p., of which 4524 are arable, 2853 pasture, 55 woodland, and 131 roads, &c. The living is a vicarage, with the rectory of Thrextton annexed; appropriators, Dean and Chapter of Westminster. The great tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £1125, and the vicarial for £533 10s.; the appropriate glebe contains 110 acres, and the vicarial 53. The Church is approached by a fine avenue of lime trees, is a spacious cruciform structure in the later English style, with a stately embattled tower, crowned with turrets, and surmounted by a well-proportioned spire. The nave is separated from the aisles by lofty ranges of slender clustered columns, supporting the roof, which is richly ornamented with figures of angels, carved in chesnut wood. There was anciently a Free Chapel, dedicated to St. Mary, and about half-a-mile distant in a hamlet, formerly called Guthluc's Stow, now called Goodluck's Close, stood another Chapel dedicated to St. Guthluc. There are Chapels for Baptists and Wesleyans. The Free School here was founded in 1724, by Nicholas Hamond, Esq., who bequeathed £500 for erecting a School-house, and £500 for the instruction of twenty boys. A National School, built in 1838, is supported by subscription.

FOREHOE HUNDRED

Is twelve miles in length, and from six to eight in breadth, bounded on the west by Wayland and Mitford, on the east by Humbleyard, and on the north by Eynesford. It is divided from the latter by the River Wensum, and is intersected by the Yare, and several smaller streams. Forehoe has its name from four hills, where the Hundred Court was formerly held. It is an extensive district of fertile and highly-improved land, nearly all the

commons having been enclosed during the last and present century. The Hundred includes twenty-four parishes, covering 39,863 acres. Population, 14,146.

The parishes are Barnham Broom, Barford, Bawburgh, Bowthorpe, Brandon Parva, Carlton Forehoe, Colton, Costessey or Cossey, Caston, Crownthorpe, Deopham, Easton, Hackford, Hingham, Honingham, Kimberley, Marlingford, Morley St. Botolph, Morley St. Peter, Runhall, Welborne, Wicklewood, Wramplingham, and Wymondham.

WYMONDHAM (OR WINDHAM ST. MARY THE VIRGIN),

A parish in the Incorporation and Hundred of Forehoe, nine miles (west-south-west) from Norwich, and 100 (north-east by north) from London, comprising the market town of Wymondham, which forms the in-soken, and the divisions of Downham, Market Street, Silfield, Serton, Towngreen, and Wattlefield, that constitute the out-soken.

This town, which derives its name from the Saxon *Winde Munde Ham*, signifying "a pleasant village on a mount," is indebted for its importance to the foundation of a priory of Black Monks, at first a cell to the Abbey of St. Alban's, founded by William d'Albini, or Daubeny, in 1130.

Henry I. endowed the monastery with lands, and with the privilege of appropriating all wrecks between Eccles, Happisburgh, and Tunstead, and with an annual rent in kind of 2000 eels from the village of Hilgay. About 1448, it was elevated to the rank of an Abbey, and continued to flourish till the dissolution, when its revenue was returned at £72 5s. 4d., and granted by Henry VIII. to the Earl of Surrey; there are some slight remains of the Church and conventual buildings; and some years since two leaden coffins were found near the site of the chancel of the Abbey, one supposed to contain the remains of the founder's lady, and which was deposited in the branch Church. The two Ketts, who disturbed the county in the reign of Edward VI., were natives of this place, and used to assemble their followers under an oak, of which part yet remains in the vicinity of the town. In the reign of Mary, Richard Crasfield and Francis Knight were burnt at the stake in the town for heresy. In 1615, 300 houses and property to the amount of £40,000 were destroyed by fire; and in 1631 the plague raged with great fury among the inhabitants. The town, which is situated on the road from Norwich through Thetford to London, is of considerable extent, and consists chiefly of five streets, diverging from the Market Place, and containing many ancient and several well-built modern houses. Of late years it has been greatly improved, and the inhabitants are well supplied with water. The manufacture of wooden spindles, spoons, and other articles of turnery ware was formerly carried on to a very great extent, but is now almost extinct

being superseded by the weaving of bombazine, crape, and other articles introduced many years since, and in the manufacture of which 1200 persons were employed; there is also an extensive brewery and malting establishment. The Market, granted by charter of King John in 1203, is on Friday; there are Fairs on February 14th, May 17th, and September 7th, principally for cattle, horses, and pedlery; and Statute Fairs for hiring servants are held occasionally; when these days happen on the Saturday, the Fairs are held on the following Monday, so as not to interfere with the Norwich Market. In the Market Place is an ancient Cross, erected in 1616, and covered with an octagonal roof supported on wooden pillars at the angles. A Court Leet takes place annually for the appointment of Constables. Manorial Courts occur as occasion requires, and Petty Sessions on the third Tuesday in the month; the inhabitants are exempt from serving on juries at Assizes and Sessions. The House of Correction, for females only, contains three wards, with day rooms, and two airing yards.

The parish comprises by measurement 10,559 acres, chiefly arable; the surface is varied, and the scenery in some parts pleasingly picturesque. Stanfield Hall, a handsome Elizabethan mansion, surrounded with a moat; Burfield Hall and Wattlefield House are in the parish. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at £10 14s. 4½d., patron and appropriator, Bishop of Ely; the great tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £2192 12s. 0d., and the vicarial for £799. The Church, which comprises the nave of the Abbey Church, is a handsome structure in various styles; the interior contains many interesting and elegant details, among which are some richly-decorated Norman arches; the roof is elaborately groined, and ornamented with sculptured figures of angels and various devices. On the south side of the chancel, which has been formed out of the nave to supply the place of the ancient choir, is a splendid monument to the late Abbot of the Monastery; one of the windows in the north aisle was embellished in 1840 with paintings of the Nativity, Crucifixion, and Ascension of our Saviour, and with a figure of the Virgin and Infant, in modern stained glass; the font is richly sculptured; and there are several neat monuments. There are places of worship for Baptists, the Society of Friends, Independents, and Wesleyans. A Free Grammar School was founded in the reign of Elizabeth, and endowed with a moiety of the property belonging to guilds in the town, producing £100 per annum, which are paid to the master, who has also a house left by Robert Day, in 1673; a Scholarship in Corpus Christi, Cambridge, was attached to it in 1574, by Archbishop Parker; another in 1580, by John Parker, Esq.; and in 1659 a share in an exhibition for scholarships to the same College was given by Edward Colman, Esq. The School is kept in an ancient Chapel dedicated to

Thomas à Becket. A School for Girls is partly supported by endowment. The late Rev. William Papillion, in 1834, built a school room for two hundred children of both sexes, and also gave twenty acres of land for their endowment and for the support of an evening lectureship; the land yields £60 per annum. The Rev. John Hendry, in 1722, bequeathed £400 to be vested in the purchase of land, and the rental to be given to the vicar for an afternoon sermon in the Church every Sunday; also a rent-charge of £3 10s. for a sermon every Friday in Lent; also a small estate for the use of the Charity Schools; and on the inclosure of the parish in 1806, about forty acres of land were allotted to the poor for fuel.

## KIMBERLEY,

A small village near Wymondham, is part of the estate of the Earl of Kimberley, son of the late Lord Wodehouse, descendant of a very ancient family in Norfolk. The first seat here belonged to the Fastolf family, and stood on the west side of the village until Sir John Wodehouse, who married the heiress of Sir John Fastolf, demolished it and erected a moated hall with a tower at the west end of the Park. The mansion became dilapidated in the seventeenth century, and at the beginning of the eighteenth century Sir John Wodehouse built the present house, which stands on the east side of the Park in the parish of Wymondham, and was afterwards enlarged and beautified by Sir Armine Wodehouse, who added four towers at the angles. It is a large and handsome brick mansion, with many convenient rooms and some fine paintings, one of which is a portrait of Vandyck, painted by himself when young. The Park is richly ornamented with wood and water, and stocked with deer. The rivulet on the west side of the Hall divides the parishes, and is expanded into a lake surrounding a wood of venerable oaks, below which the serpentine stream bounds a fine lawn.

## HINGHAM (ST. ANDREW'S),

A parish in the hundred of Forehoe, ninety-eight miles (north-east by north) from London. This place is situated near the source of the River Yare, and was formerly a market town. The market has fallen into disuse in consequence of its being on the same day as the Market of Norwich. The Fairs are held on March 7th, Whit Tuesday, and October 2nd; the first is chiefly for horses, and the last for different kinds of live stock. General Courts Baron and Customary Courts for the Manors of Hingham, Hingham Gurney, and Hingham Rectory are held on the 25th of October. The parish comprises 3783 acres. The living is a rectory; net income £920; patron, Earl of Kimberley. The Church is a

fine structure, with a handsome tower of flint and stone, formerly surmounted by a lofty spire.

## MITFORD HUNDRED

Is the most central division of Norfolk, extending about ten miles in length and six in breadth; bounded on the north by Eynesford, on the east by Forehoe, on the north by Wayland, and on the west by Launditch. It formerly abounded in extensive commons, nearly the whole of which have been enclosed during this century. At the Domesday survey it belonged to the Monastery founded in the Isle of Ely by Ethelfreda, a Princess of East Anglia, from which it passed to the See of Ely, with which it remained till granted to the Crown in the reign of Elizabeth. Area, 33,572 acres, divided into eighteen parishes, with a population of 11,485. This Hundred includes the parishes of Cranworth, East Dereham (part), East Tuddenham, Garvestone, Hardingham, Hockering, Letton, Mattishall, Mattishall Burgh, North Tuddenham, Reymerstone, Shipdham, South Burgh, Thuxton, Westfield, Whinbergh, Woodrising, Yaxham.

## DEREHAM, EAST (ST. NICHOLAS),

A market town and parish, in the Union of Mitford and Launditch, Hundred of Mitford, Western Division of the County of Norfolk, sixteen miles (west-north-west) from Norwich, and one hundred and one (north-east by north) from London. This place, anciently called Deerham, from the number of deer by which it was frequented, and distinguished by its adjunct from a village of the same name, is of very remote antiquity. During the Heptarchy, Withburga, youngest daughter of Anna, King of the East Angles, founded a Monastery here, of which she became prioress, and which establishment was subject to the Abbey founded by Ethelfreda, daughter of King Anna, in the Isle of Ely. Withburga was buried in the Churchyard, and her remains in 798 were removed into the Conventual Church, whence, after the destruction of the Monastery by the Danes, they were in 974 translated to Ely, where they were enshrined, with those of her sisters, in the Cathedral Church of that city. A spring, to which miraculous cures were attributed, is said to have risen up in that part of the Churchyard where she was first interred, which in 1752 was converted into a bath, and in 1793 enclosed in a brick building by subscription. In 1581 the town suffered severely from fire, and in 1679 the greater part of it was by a similar calamity reduced to ashes. It is pleasantly situated, nearly in the centre of the county, and was formerly the meanest town in Norfolk; but within the present century it has been so materially improved, by widening and levelling the streets, as to render it a handsome town. The houses are in general neatly built, and of modern

appearance, and the inhabitants are amply supplied with excellent water. The town is lighted with gas, for which purpose works were constructed in 1836. The Theatre, a small but neat building of brick, was used every alternate year by a regular company of performers. A Book Club, established under good regulations, is patronized by the most respectable inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood; and on the site of the ancient market cross a handsome Assembly Room has been erected by subscription. The trade formerly carried on in worsted is now discontinued. There are two iron-foundries and two breweries in the town, and a large brewery and malting establishment at South Green. The Market is on Friday, for corn, general provisions, cattle, and pigs, for which last and for corn it is the most considerable mart in the county. The trade of the town has greatly increased since the opening of the railway. A new Corn Hall has been built, and the market is well attended by corn merchants. The Fairs are on the Thursday and Friday before Old Midsummer-day, and on the Thursday and Friday before Old Michaelmas-day, for cattle, sheep, and toys. The County Magistrates for the Division hold Petty Sessions every alternate week; and Courts Baron and Courts Leet are held by the Lord of the Manor of East Dereham, of the Queen, annually.

The parish with the Hamlet of Dillington, comprises 5222A. 3R. 21P., of which 3544 acres are arable, 625 meadow and pasture, 190 woodland, and 150 common, the last being appropriated for fuel, &c.; in the immediate vicinity of the town are various orchards and gardens. The land is rich, and the surface is interspersed with several picturesque hamlets, and numerous handsome mansions. One of the Manors annexed to the Crown, and called "East Dercham of the Queen," took its appellation from the circumstance of Queen Elizabeth having obtained it from the Bishop of Ely, whom she threatened to "unfrock" if he refused to give it in exchange for another estate. Quebec House, three-quarters of a mile north of the town, is a spacious and handsome mansion with a beautiful park and pleasure grounds. The living is a rectory and a vicarage, with Hoe annexed; the rectory is a sinecure, valued in the King's books at £41 3s. 1½d., and held on lease from the Crown; and the vicarage is valued at £17 3s. 4d., and in the patronage of the Rector. The vicarial tithes have been commuted for a rent charge of £413 6s. 8d.; and the rectorial for £826 13s. 4d.; the vicar's glebe consists of 43½ acres and a good house, and the rectorial two and a-quarter acres, with a rectorial manor. The Church, formerly the Conventual Church of the Monastery of St. Withburga, and made parochial in 798, is a spacious cruciform structure, partly in the Norman and partly in the English style, with a tower rising from the intersection, and open for a con-

siderable height to the interior of the Church; connected with the transepts are the Chapels of the Holy Cross (over which was the treasury of St. Withburga), St. Mary, and St. Edmund, and on the south side of the chancel are three stone stalls, with a double piscina of elegant design; the font, supported on an octangular pedestal, is beautifully sculptured with representations of the four Evangelists, eight of the Apostles, the Crucifixion, and the seven Sacraments of the Romish Church; and on the south transept is an antique oak chest, richly carved, taken from Buckenham Castle. Among the monuments is a white marble tablet to the memory of Cowper the poet, who resided in this place for the last nine years of his life, and was interred in the north transept of the Church; and in the same tomb are deposited the remains of his two friends, Mrs. Unwin and Miss Perowne. The bells, which from their weight were supposed to endanger the tower of the Church, were removed into a massive tower, built for their reception in the reign of Henry VII., on a site detached from the rest of the building.

There are places of worship for Particular Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyans. A National School for three hundred children was built in 1840, by subscription, on a site given by the Crown; the cost was about £1000. A British and Foreign School was built, chiefly at the expense of W. W. Lee-Warner, Esq., in 1841. Several charitable bequests, amounting to about £170 per annum, are distributed amongst the poor.

The infamous Bishop Bonner was rector of the parish from 1534 to 1540; and Lady Fenn, well known under the name of Mrs. Lovechild, &c., as the authoress of various works for children, died here in 1813.

#### LAUNDITCH HUNDRED

Is about twelve miles in length and breadth, bounded on the north by Gallow, on the east by Eynesford, on the south by Mitford, and on the west by Freebridge Lynn. It is a highly-cultivated district, rising in some places into bold and picturesque swells, with many thriving plantations and handsome mansions. It is watered by the Wensum, the Nar, and several smaller streams. It takes its name from a long ditch extending from Wendling Cair to the lowlands near Mileham, made to carry off the drain water. It comprises 57,416 acres, and thirty-three parishes with a population of 13,152.

The parishes are Beeston All Saints, Beetley, Brisley, Colkirk, Elmham, East Bilney, East Dereham (part), East Lexham, Gately, Great Dunham, Great Fransham, Gressenhall, Hoc, Horningtoft, Kempston, Litcham, Little Bittering, Little Dunham, Little Fransham, Longham,

Mileham, North Elmham, Oxwick, Pattisley, Rougham, Scarning, Stanfield, Swanton Morley, Tittleshall, Weasenham All Saints, Weasenham St. Peter, Wellingham, Wendling, West Lexham, Whissonsett, Worthing.

## ELMHAM (ST. MARY)

Is a very ancient place five miles from East Dereham. On the division of the kingdom of the East Angles into two dioceses about 673, one of the episcopal seats was fixed here, and the other at Dunwich. There was a succession of ten bishops here till the martyrdom of Humbert by the Danes in 870. Herbert, the first bishop of Norwich rebuilt the Parish Church here, but the present edifice is of later date. The parish comprises 4623A. 2R., of which 2826 acres are arable, 1493 pasture, and 286 woodland. The surface is varied, and the scenery pleasingly diversified. The Hall, a handsome mansion, is the residence of Lord Sondes, who fought at Waterloo.

## EYNESFORD HUNDRED

Is twelve miles in length from north to south, and seven miles in breadth; bounded on the south by Forehoe and Mitford, on the west by Launditch and Gallow, on the north by Holt Hundred, and on the east by Taverham. The soil is in general a fertile loam, with a substrata of chalk and marl, and a large part of it lies in the vale of the Wensum, which flows from Rudham, and forms the western boundary from Guist to Bylaugh. This river in several places expands into a broad stream, and several smaller streams add to the beauty and fertility of the Hundred, which comprises thirty parishes, covering 47,795 acres. Population, 10,748.

The parishes are—Alderford, Bawdeswell, Billingford, Bylaugh, Elsing, Foulsham, Foxley, Great Witchingham, Guestwick, Guist, Hackford by Reepham, Haveringland, Hindolveston, Kerdistone, Little Witchingham Lyng, Morton-on-the-Hill, Reepham, Ringland, Sall, Sparham, Swannington, Themelthorpe, Thurning, Twyford, West Longville, Whitwell, Wood Dalling, and Wood Norton.

## MORETON-ON-THE-HILL, OR HELMINGHAM (ST. MARGARET),

Is a parish in the Union of St. Faith's, Hundred of Eynsford, eight miles (north-west) from Norwich. The parish comprises 977 acres, of which 508 are arable, 202 pasture, and 265 woodland. The Hall, the seat of T. Berney, Esq., who is lord of the manor, is a handsome mansion situated in grounds tastefully laid out, and commanding a fine view of the valley. No one can appreciate Norfolk scenery aright who had not seen the view from the terrace of Morton Hall. The Park, rising with a bold hill slope

from the river is crowned by a terrace which looks over the valley of the Wensum, where wood, water, and a surface varied by gentle undulations, form one of the most pleasing views in the county. The "prophetic eye of taste" has been so exercised in the planting as to heighten the general effect by the contrasts of form and colour, which allure the beholder's eye from the glen-like dip of foliage immediately beneath the terrace to the grey willows by the shining curves of the river and the dark range of the Deakle fir woods, on the opposite side of the valley.

#### BROTHERCROSS AND GALLOW HUNDREDS

Belonged to the Crown till Henry I. gave them to William Earl of Warren and Surrey, to be held of the Castle of Norwich, paying two marks yearly. Brothercross is one of the smallest divisions of Norfolk, being only eight miles in length from north to south, and five miles wide. It is bounded on the east by North Greenhoe, on the west by Smithdon, on the north by the sea, and on the south by Gallow. This Hundred is generally fertile and well cultivated. It contains 19,356 acres, and only nine parishes, the six Burnhams, North and South Creake, and Waterden, with 4,614 inhabitants.

#### THE BURNHAMS

Are distinguished as Burnham Deepdale, Burnham Norton, Burnham Overy, Burnham Ulph and Sutton, and Burnham Thorpe. The last-named parish was the birthplace of the celebrated Admiral Nelson, the Norfolk Hero, whose father was for many years rector of this parish, and also of Burnham Sutton. By which ever way you quit Holkham, you will find something pretty in the descent to Burnhamthorpe, hill and hollow and much wood, rimmed by the distant sea. You turn into a lane, cross a meadow and a lively brook, and arrive at the pleasant park-like ground round the old Rectory, where the Norfolk hero was born.

#### GALLOW HUNDRED

Is a tract of rich soil and highly-diversified country, extending fifteen miles in length from east to west, varying from five to eight miles in breadth, being bounded on the north by Brothercross, and on the south by Launditch. The River Wensum flows eastward through a fine vale, by East Rudham and Fakenham, and from Snoring another stream flows, to the sea. Gallow is supposed to have derived its name from a hill near Dunton, where the Hundred Court was held. It contains 44,059 acres, and thirty-one parishes with a population of 9947.

The parishes are Bagthorpe, Barmer, Broomsthorpe, Dunton-cum-Doughton, East Barsham, Fakenham, Fulmodeston-cum-Croxton, Great

Rybnrgh, Helhoughton, Hempton, Kettlestone, Little Ryburgh, Little Snoring, New Houghton, North Barsham, Pensthorpe, Pudding Norton, Sculthorpe, Shereford, Ramham St. Martin, Ramham St. Margaret, Stibbard, Syderstone, Tatterford, Tattersett, Testerton, Toftrees, West Barsham, West Rudham.

## FAKENHAM.

This is a parish and market town in the Hundred of Gallow, twenty-five and a-half miles (north-west) of Norwich, and 109 (north-north-east) from London. The town is on a declivity north of the River Wensum, over which there is a white brick bridge of three arches. The living is a rectory, and in the patronage of the Master and Fellows of Trinity College, Cambridge. The Church (St. Peter) consists of a nave, aisles, chancel, and south porch, with a stately tower of stone at the west end, which presents a noble doorway, surmounted by a lofty window, divided into six compartments, and sub-divided by horizontal mullions and tracery mouldings. On each side of the door is a canopied niche, the buttresses of which are adorned with panellings. The front is octangular, and richly embellished with carvings of the arms of the Duchy of Lancaster. An organ was presented by a late rector, to whom the parishioners were also indebted for some emblematical designs in stained glass, which decorate the chancel window.

The town is a polling place for the Western Division of the county. The market is on Thursday, for corn and cattle, and is well attended by dealers from a distance; two Fairs, on Whit Tuesday and November 22nd, for cattle, are held on Hempton Green. The parish comprises 2016A. 5P., of which 1636 acres are arable, 240 pasture, and 140 heath; it includes the hamlet of Alethorpe, formerly a parish, and Thorpland, also anciently a parish, in which stood an old mansion long the residence of the Calthorpe family. Nonconformists are numerous in the town. There are chapels for Baptists, Independents, and Methodists. A National School, recently built, is supported by subscription. A new Corn Hall was built some years since.

## HOUGHTON NEW, OR HOUGHTON BY HARPLEY (ST. MARTIN)

Is in the Hundred of Gallow. The parish comprises 1495 acres, of which about 715 are arable, 30 pasture, and the rest in the park and plantation of the Hall, the seat of the Marquis of Cholmondeley, which is situated on a gentle eminence, surrounded by grounds for the most part level, but tastefully laid out and beautifully picturesque. The mansion was begun by Sir Robert Walpole in 1722, and finished in 1735, and is a magnificent structure in freestone, consisting of two principal fronts, connected with

their respective wings by handsome balustraded colonnades. The interior contains many apartments splendidly fitted up, and a large collection of statues and paintings of the first order.

#### RAYNHAM EAST (ST. MARY)

Is a parish in the Hundred of Gallow. The parish comprises 1635A. 1R. 9P., of which 574 acres are arable, 821 pasture and meadow, and 212 woodland. Raynham Hall, the admired seat of Lord Charles Townshend, was built near the site of an ancient Hall in 1630, by Sir Roger Townshend, Bart., from designs by Inigo Jones, but it was enlarged by Charles, second Viscount Townshend, and further improvements were made by the first Marquess Townshend. It is a handsome structure of brick and stone, and contained some fine paintings, particularly the famous picture of Belisarius, by Salvator Rosa, presented to the second Viscount by the King of Prussia.

#### THE HUNDRED OF NORTH GREENHOE

Is of an irregular oblong figure, extending nine miles in length along the coast, and averaging seven miles in breadth from north to south, being bounded on the east by Holt Hundred, on the south by Gallow, and on the west by Brothercross. The soil is generally light, but well cultivated, and the face of the country is beautifully diversified and seen to great advantage from Great Snoring Church, where the prospect to the north is highly picturesque and is terminated by the ocean. Area, 34,204. Population, 10,268.

This Hundred includes the parishes of Barney, Binham, Cockthorpe, Egmere, Field Dalling, Great Snoring, Great Walsingham, Hindringham, Holkham, Houghton-in-the-Hole, Little Walsingham, Stiffkey, Thursford, Warham All Saints, Warham St. Mary, Wighton, Wells-next-the-sea.

#### WALSINGHAM (GREAT),

A parish in the Union of Walsingham, Hundred of North Greenhoe, Western Division of the County of Norfolk, one mile (north-by-east) from Little Walsingham, comprising the united parishes of All Saints and St. Peter. This place, which is also called Old Walsingham, and was formerly of considerable importance, is situated in the valley of the Stiffkey river, on the road from Fakenham to Wells, and comprises 2407A. 2R. 24P., of which about 2250 acres are arable, 100 meadow and pasture, and 50 woodland; the scenery is of pleasing character, and finely situated in the vale; below the Church is Berry Hall, the seat of the Brook family, an ancient mansion. The living is a perpetual curacy, net income, £100; patron and impropiator, the Rev. D. H. Lee Warner; the tithes were commuted for land under an act of inclosure in 1808. The Church is

remarkable for the fine proportions of its architecture, is in the later English style, with a square embattled tower. A School for Girls is supported by subscription. In 1658 from forty to fifty Roman urns were dug up in a field near the village, and coins of the same people have been frequently discovered.

WALSINGHAM LITTLE (ST. MARY),

A parish, formerly a market town, the head of a Union, in the Hundred of North Greenhoe, Western Division of the County of Norfolk, 28 miles (north-west) from Norwich, and 114 miles (north-north-east) from London. This place, also called New Walsingham, was of great celebrity for many centuries, as containing a shrine of the Virgin, or Our Lady of Walsingham, constructed of wood, after the plan of the Sancta Casa at Nazareth, and founded in 1061 by a widow of Ricoldie Fraverches, whose son, Sir Gulfribus, confirmed her endowment and re-established a monastery for Augustine Canons, with a Conventual Church; this institution became immensely rich, and at the dissolution its revenues were valued at £446 14s. 4d., exclusive of the valuable offerings of the numerous devotees of all nations who had visited the shrine, and which are said to have equalled those presented at that of Our Lady of Lorette in Italy, and that of St. Thomas à Becket at Canterbury. Among the illustrious visitants were several of the Kings and Queens of England, especially Henry VIII., who in the second year of his reign walked hither barefoot from Barsham, to present a valuable necklace to the image of the Virgin. During the prevalence of superstition, the credulous were taught to believe that the galaxy, or milky way in the heavens, was the peculiar residence of the Virgin, whence it obtained the name of "Walsingham Way;" the site, after the dissolution, together with the lands belonging to the Abbey, was granted to Sir Thomas Sydney. The venerable remains of this once noble and stupendous pile are situated in the midst of a grove of stately trees, in the pleasure grounds of the Rev. D. H. Lee Warner, and contiguous to a fine stream of water, over which is a handsome bridge; they chiefly consist of the great western portal, a lofty and magnificent arch 75 feet high, which formed the east end of the conventual church; the spacious refectory, 78 by 27 feet, with wall 26½ feet in height; a portion of the cloisters, and a stone bath, with two wells, called St. Mary's, or the "Wishing Wells," near which is a Norman arch with zigzag mouldings, removed hither from the mansion as an ornamental object. The devotees who had permission to drink of these wells were taught to believe that, under certain restrictions, they should obtain whatever they might desire. Here was also a house of Grey Friars, founded in 1346 by Elizabeth de Burge, Countess of Clare; the buildings occupied an area of about seven

acres, and there are considerable remains of the refectory, cloisters, and other portions of the conventual buildings, in which some of the windows are nearly perfect.

The town is situated in a vale, surrounded by bold heights; the scenery is richly diversified, and the inhabitants are well supplied with water from wells. A fair is held on the second Friday after Whit-Monday, and a statute fair on the Friday before and the Friday after Michaelmas Day. The General Quarter Sessions for the county take place here by adjournment; and Petty Sessions on the first Monday in the month. The Bridewell, or House of Correction, formerly a hospital for lepers, founded in 1486, has been considerably enlarged, and contains six wards and day rooms, three airing yards, two work rooms, a room for the sick, a chapel, and a treadmill. The place was formerly noted for the growth of saffron, which has been discontinued some years. The parish comprises by measurement 976 acres, and the lands are watered by a small stream which flows near the town, and falls into the sea within a few miles. The living is a perpetual curacy; net income £100, with a glebe of nine acres, and a handsome glebe house; the tithes were commuted for land, under an Act of Inclosure, in 1808. The Church is a spacious structure in the later English style, with a square embattled tower, surmounted by a lofty spire, and contains a very ancient and beautiful font of octagonal form, resting on a plinth of four ornamented steps, representing in compartments the seven sacraments of the Church of Rome, and the crucifixion. There are some handsome monuments, among which is one to Sir Henry Sidney, and several to the Warner family, with numerous sepulchral brasses.

There are places of worship for Independents, Primitive Methodists, and Wesleyans. The Free Grammar School was founded in 1639 by Richard Bond, Esq., who endowed it with £1040, which was vested in the purchase of an estate at Great Snoring, producing £110 per annum for the maintenance of a master and usher to teach thirty boys. A handsome school-house, in the Elizabethian style, was erected in 1841, at the expense of the Rev. H. J. Warner, the present incumbent; the School for girls is supported by the patron and the incumbent, and that for boys by subscription. There are eight Almshouses occupied by widows and parishioners. The Poor Law Union of Walsingham comprises fifty parishes or places. The remains of a Danish encampment are visible towards the sea. This place confers the title of Baron on the family of De Grey.

#### WELLS.

This is a seaport town and parish in the northern part of the Hundred of Greenhoe, thirty-three miles (north-west by north) from Norwich, and 120 (north-north-east) from London, near the terminus of the branch railway.

This place is situated on a creek, about a mile from the North Sea. It consists principally of two streets of well-built houses. The harbour, from the accumulation of sand, is rather difficult of access, but some improvements have been made in it. The Custom House is a brick building situated in the Quay. A Fair is annually held here on Shrove Tuesday. The living is a rectory in the patronage of E. R. Hopper, Esq. The Church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a handsome spacious edifice of flint with a lofty embattled tower.

## HOLKHAM

Is a parish two and a-half miles west of Wells, and is said to have been an important place in early times. The manor of Holkham with Burgh Hall was in the possession of the Boleyns till 1505, when it came to Lady Anne Gresham Edmund Newgate, whose ancestors had held lands in Holkham in 1659, sold the whole of his property to John Coke, he having previously purchased the manor and all the other land in the parish of Lord Berkley and others. The property still continues in the same family, and is now held by the present Earl of Leicester, whose father's extensive improvements made the Holkham estate so celebrated. Thomas William Coke, the great farmer was raised to the peerage in 1837. He quadrupled the value of his great estate.

The parish comprises about 4300 acres, of which 300 are salt marsh, and 1500 woods and plantations, inclosed with 1700 acres of lawns, meadows, &c., in the Park round Holkham House. Within the Park there is a beautiful drive of seven miles in the midst of trees, plantations, &c., of every kind, and commanding many views of richly-diversified scenery. The Park contains a lake 1056 yards in length, with a small island and well-wooded shore. The Mansion, begun in 1734 by the late Earl of Leicester (from a design by Palladio), and finished by the Dowager Countess in 1760, consists of a north and south front, each having two wings, connected with their respective portions by rectilinear corridors, the whole of which are built of white brick. The south front is 344 feet in length, and has in the centre a bold portico, with an entablature, supported by six Corinthian columns. The north front, which is the grand entrance, is also 344 feet in length, and the central part, containing the principal apartments, measures 114 feet by 62; the entrance hall measures 46 feet by 70, and is surrounded by a gallery, supported by twenty-four fluted Ionic columns; next comes the saloon and other apartments. The saloon contains a fine collection of paintings, and the whole house is splendidly furnished. The late Lord Leicester in September, 1835, was honored with a visit by the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria on their return from their northern tour.

## SMITHDOWN HUNDRED

Is a fine agricultural district, forming the most north-western division of the county, averaging ten miles in length and breadth, bounded on the north by the sea, on the south by Freebridge Lynn. The soil being a deep rich clay is naturally fertile, except on some of the higher grounds, where a light sand prevails. The lands near the sea shore are chiefly salt marshes, which are often flooded at spring tides, and a strong gale from the north-west often floods the fields and drowns the sheep. Smithdon contains 44,701 acres, eighteen parishes, and a population of 9,175.

The parishes are Barwick, Bircham Newton, Bircham Tofts, Brancaster, Docking, Fring, Great Bircham, Great Ringstead, Heacham, Holme-next-the-Sea, Hunstanton, Ingoldsthorpe, Sedgford, Shernborne, Snettisham, Stanhoe, Thornham, Titchwell. Hunstanton has lately become a very flourishing watering-place, and it is much frequented in the summer months by holiday folks. This corner of Norfolk abounds with Anglo-Saxon villages. Snettisham is a place of hill and dale, where the land is as red and the trees are as grand as in Warwickshire.

## HUNSTANTON

Stands at the north-east point of Norfolk, where it is washed by the German Ocean, and is remarkable for its lofty cliff, about 100 feet high, against which the raging sea comes with such force and fury that it is supposed to have gained in the course of time about two miles of land. The strata of the cliff thus placed at this point are worthy of observation. Under the surface of the earth or mould, which is about two or three feet deep, lies a strong white chalk, then a red hard clunch stone, below that a stone of yellow colour, and the lowest stratum is an exceedingly hard rock stone of an iron colour, yet it is said that sometimes in great storms the sea surmounts them all. The village is distant seventeen miles (north by east) from Lynn, and with that town it is now connected by a branch railway, opened in 1862. Since then the place has been rapidly extending and improving. It now contains above thirty commodious lodging and boarding houses, many private residences, villas, and shops. The Hall, a fine Elizabethan mansion, stands in a beautiful park, and has been for many centuries the seat of the distinguished family of Le Strange, which dates back to the Conquest.

The most ancient part of the Hall now remaining is the north-west angle, and though there is nothing in its present appearance to mark its antiquity, there can be no doubt that it dates as far back as the reign of Edward IV. The gate house on the east side of the building was erected by Sir Roger Le Strange who died in 1509. It was originally quite

distinct from the rest of the structure, but in 1623 Sir Simon Le Strange added the two wings, also the north and south sides of the inner quadrangle, thus uniting it with the other inhabited part of the Hall.

## FREEBRIDGE LYNN HUNDRED

Is one of the largest divisions of Norfolk, lies at the west end of the county, extends from twelve to fifteen miles in length and breadth in every direction from the borough of Lynn. The Hundred affords a pleasing contrast to the flat district of Marshland on the opposite side of the Ouse, having an undulated surface, rising in picturesque swells from the marshes on the coast. The soil varies, being in some parts rich and loamy, and in others light sand, which indeed prevails in the entire district. The Hundred comprises 76,957 acres, divided into thirty-four parishes, with a population of 14,170.

The parishes are Anmer, Ashwicken, Babingley, Bawsey, Castleacre, Castle Rising, Congham, Dersingham, East Walton, East Winch, Sandringham, Fritcham-cum-Dersingham, Gayton, Gayton Thorpe, Gaywood, Great Massingham, Grimstone, Harpley, Hillington, Leziate, Little Massingham, Middleton, Mintlyn, North Runcton, North Wootton, West Bilney, West Newton, West Winch, Westacre, Wolverton.

## CASTLEACRE (ST. JAMES)

Is now a small village, noted chiefly for the remains of its ancient Castle and Priory, from the former of which it takes its name. It appears from the vestiges of a Roman road leading from Thetford to Brancaster, the discovery of a tessellated pavement, and lately of several Roman coins, to have been a Roman station, on the site of which a Castle was built. This fortress was erected by William Warren, first Earl of Surrey, to whom the Manor, with 139 others, was given by William I., and it was made the head of all his lordships in Norfolk. It was probably enlarged by his descendant, who in 1297 entertained Edward I. as his guest.

## CASTLE RISING,

A parish in the Hundred of Freebridge Lynn, four miles north-east from Lynn Regis, is an ancient place. It was formerly a Sea Port inferior only to Lynn, a Borough and Market town, but the harbour being choked up with sand, its trade declined, and the Market ceased. The Borough formerly returned two members to Parliament, but it was disfranchised by the Reform Act of 1832. The government of the town was originally vested in a Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses, but the Corporation has fallen into decay. Prior to the year 1176, a Castle was built here by William de Albin, the first Earl of Sussex, and of this fortress an

account is given in our historical narrative. The principal remains are the shell of the keep, a square tower, with some doorways and windows of Norman work.

#### HILLINGTON (ST. MARY)

Is a parish in the Hundred of Freebridge Lynn, seven and a-half miles north-east by east from the town of Lynn. The parish comprises 2529 acres, of which 1833 are arable, 537 pasture, and 126 woodland. The lower grounds are watered by a stream which rises in the parish, and the scenery is richly diversified. Hillington Hall, the seat of the Lord of the Manor, is a stately mansion, beautifully situated in a richly-wooded Park. It was originally erected in 1627, but it was much improved by the late proprietor, Sir W. I. H. B. Folkes, Lord of the Manor, who added a noble hall, staircase, and library. The structure, which presents a handsome specimen of castellated architecture, is surrounded by grounds tastefully laid out, and the rivulet which flows through the Park was diverted into a serpentine course, forming a picturesque lake.

#### SANDRINGHAM

Is a parish comprising 1172 acres of land, seven and a-half miles north-north-east of Lynn, and takes its name from its deep sandy soil, of which more than 200 acres are on an extensive heath stretching hence to Wolferton, where there is a station on the Lynn and Hunstanton Railway. In 1862, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales purchased the Sandringham Estate of the Hon. Charles Spencer Cooper for the sum of £220,000. Subsequently a splendid mansion was erected for the Prince, who occasionally resides there in the shooting season. The mansion stands in a park of 300 acres, sheltered by extensive plantations. The celebrated "Norwich Gates" stand at one of the entrances to the park.

The estate now consists of about 8000 acres, and includes the parishes of Babingley, West Newton, and Wolferton, with part of Dersingham. It is rich marsh land, where it joins the sea near Wolferton; black sand upon car stone towards the middle of the estate, and light loam upon chalk, adapted for barley and oats, at the east end towards Anmer. A considerable number of new model cottages have been built on the estate for the laborers, and the population has increased in the villages around.

#### THE HUNDRED OF FREEBRIDGE MARSHLAND

Forms a level district of rich alluvial marshes and fens at the western end of the county, and is fourteen miles in length from north to south, twelve miles in breadth from east to west, comprising 54,500 acres quite insulated, being bounded on the north by the Wash, on the east by the Great Ouse river, on the west by the River Nene, and on the south by

Podike, which divides it from the fens of Clackclose. The soil consists of alternate layers of moor and silt, with a subsoil of blue clay. The Hundred comprises seventeen marshes, with a population of 14,421.

The parishes in this Hundred are St. Edmund (North Lynn), St. Peter (West Lynn), Wiggenhall St. Germans, Wiggenhall St. Mary Magdalen, Wiggenhall St. Mary the Virgin, and Wiggenhall St. Peter.

#### A DESCRIPTION OF LYNN REGIS.

Lynn, anciently Lynn Regis, is a seaport, borough, and market town in the Western Division of Norfolk, situated on the east bank of the great Ouse, at its confluence with the River Nar, which is here of considerable breadth. The town is distant ninety-seven miles (north-by-east) from London, and a few miles from the North Sea. It extends a mile and a-half in length, and half-a-mile in breadth, and comprises some well-built streets, ancient churches, and public buildings. It is intersected by four rivulets called fleets, across which there are many bridges. The Borough of Lynn is supposed to be of Anglo Saxon origin. Sir Henry Spelman is of opinion that the name is Saxon, derived from the word *Lean*, signifying a tenure in fee, or farm. It was anciently called *Len Episcopi*, or Bishop's Lynn, from having been under the jurisdiction, both temporal and spiritual, of the Bishops of Norwich, who had a palace where Gaywood Hall now stands; but this authority was surrendered to Henry VIII., and from that time the town assumed the name of Lynn Regis, or King's Lynn.

Nor is the name of Lynn the only proof of its antiquity, for the principal lordship of the town confirms it, which was in the reign of Edward the Confessor, in the See of Elmham or East Angles. What king gave it to that See does not appear, but it is highly probable that Felix, the first Bishop of East Anglia, was in possession of it and of Elmham about the year 630, and Bedwin was Bishop of Elmham in 673. From the time of the Conquest, 1066, we can date with more certainty; the most ancient account is from the record called Domesday Book, which was<sup>e</sup> begun in 1080, and finished in 1086, when this town with West, North, and South Lynn were all included under the general name of Lenn, or Luu. King's Lynn was a place of importance during the Anglo-Saxon period, as appears from its enjoying the privilege of certain dues and customs, with a tolbooth in the town, payable on the arrival of any goods or merchandise, by sea or land; and before the Norman Conquest the Bishop was then in full possession of a moiety, which the Conqueror on his deprivation seized on, and gave it to his brother Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, in Normandy, and on his rebellion against King William II., that King granted it to William de Albin, his brother, as shown in Blomfield's History.

The Convent was subject to the Abbey founded by Ethelfreda, the legitimate daughter of King Anna, in the Isle of Ely. The Nunnery having been destroyed by the Danes, its Church was made parochial in 791, though the Convent was subsequently refounded as an Abbey, and at the dissolution Roger Jarmy, the last Abbott, had a pension allowed him of £66 13s. 4d., so that its annual revenue must have been considerable. Bishop Herbert, in 1100, founded a Church and Priory, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, St. Margaret, and other Saints, on the festival of which Henry I. granted liberty to the Prior of Norwich to hold a Fair and other privileges.

In 1204, during the contest between King John and the barons, Lynn continued loyal to that despot, who seems to have had a great affection for the town, and remained here for some time. On the petition of John Grey, Bishop of Norwich, the King made the town a free borough. There is a local tradition that he presented to the inhabitants a silver cup and cover, which are still preserved by the Corporation, also his own sword, to be carried before the Mayor on public occasions. But antiquaries assign a later period to the cup, and as it has been repaired on four several dates, as is recorded on the foot, who shall decide how much remains of the original? The sword, a long, straight-bladed weapon, has a Latin inscription on one side of the hilt, stating that John took it from his side and gave it to the town; but the genuineness of this inscription is at least doubtful. John was frequently here during the war, and from this place he departed on his last fatal journey, just before the disaster which befel him in crossing the Wash. Edward III. and several of his successors visited the town. In the Parliamentary war of the seventeenth century, the inhabitants embraced the royal cause, and the town was besieged by the Puritan forces under the command of the Earl of Manchester, to whom it surrendered after a vigorous resistance, as detailed in our historical narrative in the proper place: reign of Charles I.

The town is situated on the east bank of the Great Ouse, which is here of considerable breadth, and at a distance of ten miles from the sea. It was in former times defended on the east side by a wall, in which were nine bastions, and by a broad and deep fosse, over which were three drawbridges, leading to the principal gates. The limits of the port extend in a northerly direction from the promontory on which Hunstanton lighthouse stands in a supposed right line north-north-west to fourteen fathoms of water, and likewise from this line towards the east until it falls into fourteen fathoms of water at a point northward from the eastern end of the sand hills commonly called Burnham Meales, southerly to a place in the channel of the harbour of Lynn called White Friar's Fleet, and to Gibbon's Point, opposite thereto, thence down the river on the

western side and round the coast of Marshland to a point called Sutton Corner. The harbour is deep, and sufficient to accommodate three hundred vessels, but the entrance is somewhat dangerous, from the frequent shifting of the channel and the numerous sand banks. The anchorage is rendered difficult from the nature of the soil and the rapidity of the tide, which rises to the height of twenty feet. A considerable part of Old Lynn, including the Church at North Lynn, has been engulfed in the sea. After the sluices at Denver and Salters had been constructed for the purpose of draining the Bedford Level, the navigation of the River Ouse was much impeded and the harbour obstructed by the accumulation of silt, to remedy which the Eau Brink Cut was commenced in 1818 and completed in 1820, avoiding a bend in the river. Three jetties, composed of timber, were constructed at stated distances with a view to divert the stream to the eastern or harbour side. Near the north end of this cut, a handsome wooden bridge was built, over which a new road leads into Marshland; and a bridge over the River Nene, and an embankment at Cross Keys Wash was finished in 1831, affording a direct road from Norfolk and Suffolk through Lynn into Lincolnshire. The Purfleet and Common Staithe Quays are the principal places for landing merchandise. On the former, where all wines are landed, the Custom-house and Exchange stands, occupying the site of the hall of the ancient guild of the Holy Trinity. It is a handsome building of free-stone, ornamented with two tiers of pilasters, the lower of the Doric and the upper of the Ionic order, and surmounted by a small turret. In a niche is a statue of the Merry Monarch Charles II. In the High Street is the Excise Office, in which a collector, supervisor, and other officers in are employed. The Guildhall is an ancient structure of stone and flint, in the later style of English architecture, and here public meetings are generally held.

The town owes its origin and importance to its river, and the people of Lynn, by means of their inland navigation, formerly carried on commercial intercourse with the interior of the country. As far back as the time of Edward the Confessor, the trade of Lynn appears to have been considerable; and at the beginning of the thirteenth century the town had risen to such a height of commercial importance that the revenue it paid to the Crown is said to have been two-thirds of that arising from the port of London. Then it must have been a very thriving place.

An old account of Lynn states that the inhabitants were formerly great merchants: that, by means of several rivers which fell into the sea, they supplied six counties entirely, and three other with most commodities, and particularly with wine and coals, and that they dealt more in those goods than the traders of any other town, except London, Bristol, and New-

castle. How great has been the change since then, as now to these three exceptions must be added Liverpool, Hull, Sunderland, and Ipswich, and a score of other ports. A writer of the reign of Richard I. calls Lynn a city of note for its trade and commerce. Benjamin Mackerell, who published his elaborate but somewhat antiquarian History of Lynn in 1732, says: "Its situation affords great advantage to traffic and commerce, having a commodious large harbour capable of containing 200 sail of ships, and several navigable rivers falling into it out of various counties, by which means divers capital cities and towns, Ely, Peterborough, Stamford, Bedford, St. Ives, Huntingdon, Cambridge, St. Neots, Northampton, Bury St. Edmund's, and Thetford, are served with all sorts of heavy commodities."

King John first incorporated the town by a charter, and since his reign no less than nineteen charters have been granted to Lynn. The charter of the sixth King John granted a free borough to the burgesses to have "soke, sac, toll, theme, infang-theft, and outfang-theft," to be quit of toll, lastage, passage, freeage, pointage, stallage, and of lien and dancgeld, and not to be impleaded out of Lynn. In former times there were many kinds of taxes on trade; tolls on goods bought or sold, lastage, or dues on goods bought or sold by the last; *passage* dues for a way through a town; *freeage* dues for a passage by water; stallage due for erecting stalls; tonnage dues for weighing wool; poundage dues of one shilling in the pound on all goods imported or exported; *lien*, any charge by statute or judgment; *danegeld*, a tax of two shillings on every hide of land; and from these the burgesses of Lynn were exempted by various charters. By the charter of Henry VIII., the Mayor and burgesses were incorporated, and made quit of all vexatious tolls, pointage, freeage, stallage, tollage, and all other customs. Another charter of King Henry VIII. granted two fairs or marts yearly, and two markets weekly.

The charter of King James granted to the Mayor and burgesses the admiralty of the port and harbour of Lynn, and gave them various and complete powers for the government of the town. The other charters confirmed and enlarged these privileges. At various periods the inhabitants have obtained thirty local Acts, some of them relating to trade and the improvement of the navigation, drainage, markets, &c. Eight of them are Eau Brink Acts for improving the harbour and the drainage of the fens. The carrying out of this drainage to a certain extent has increased the production of the surrounding country, and at the same time augmented the trade of the town.

Lord William Bentinck, in 1837, first originated a scheme for reclaiming 150,000 acres of land from the Wash. A company was formed, and an Act obtained in 1839, to carry out the project, but the company were

unable to proceed on account of the want of funds. After some negotiations, the Lynn merchants offered £60,000 to the Company, and they in 1849 obtained another Act, by which the proprietors of the Bedford Level were forced to contribute towards a less extensive scheme, by which it was proposed to enclose 32,000 acres of land, and make a deep straight and safe channel to the sea, instead of the old shallow and circuitous channel. By the new cut it was expected that vessels inward and outward would save two hours every tide, and that the harbour would accommodate 1000 vessels. The number of vessels belonging to the port is about 122 of 15,308 tons, with 750 seamen. The number of vessels inwards are about 150 foreign, and 2000 coasters yearly. The number entered outwards is much less. The trade inwards is in coals, lime, wine, &c. The wine trade is as ancient as the time of Henry III., and has been 1000 tons yearly. The trade outwards is in corn and wool to English ports, and manufactured goods to foreign ports. The Customs Dues amount to from £50,000 to £60,000 yearly, according to the state of trade, which has greatly declined of late years, owing to want of enterprise among the merchants, and the excessive port charges.

We shall now give some returns of the shipping business of the port, which has been of late years confined chiefly to timber, corn, and coals. These have formed the bulk of the imports and exports. The following is an account of the exports of corn from Lynn for various periods:—The average export for the three years ending in 1795 was 180,158 quarters; in the year 1801, the export was 195,000 quarters; in the year 1811, it was 212,500 quarters; in 1817, it was 273,830 quarters; the average export for three years preceding 1821 was 160,008 quarters; since then the exports have diminished.

The quantity of coal landed at this port in 1841 was 255,763 tons, and the duties paid at the Custom-house amounted to £64,359; the number of vessels that entered inwards, 301 from foreign parts; aggregate tonnage, 29,441; and of coasting vessels, 2229, of 208,137 tons aggregate burden; and the number that cleared outwards was 1159, of the aggregate burden of 68,920 tons.

The Bill repealing the Navigation Laws came into operation on January 1st, 1850, and the repeal appears to have had but little effect on the trade of the port. The decrease may be easily accounted for without any reference to legislative measures. Within our memory, several thousand quarters of barley were yearly exported from Lynn to Scotland. Indeed, it was no unusual thing to see eight or ten Lynn vessels discharging their cargoes at Leith near Edinburgh, and also at Grangenworth at one time, besides a number of smaller craft that passed through the Forth and Clyde Canal to unload their cargoes at Port Dundee. Now a solitary

sloop or schooner may be seen loading at Lynn for Scotland, as if in mockery of former trade.

The population of Lynn is about 20,000, nearly all engaged in trade, chiefly retail trade. There are many shipowners, merchants, and traders, in the town, and the transactions in timber, coal, corn, cattle, and provisions are of considerable amount. There are several large maltsters and brewers in the town, also wine and spirit merchants. Lynn markets are held on Tuesday and Saturday, fairs on St. Valentine's-day for a fortnight, a cheese and horse fair on October, 17th, and cattle fairs on the second Monday in November, at which fairs much business is done. There is a Tuesday market-house, a Saturday market-house with a market-place, a cattle market, and a fish market.

The Tuesday market is principally for corn, and was formerly held in a spacious paved area of about three acres, surrounded by some well-built houses. It contains a handsome but dilapidated Market Cross of freestone, erected in 1710. The lower part of the building is surrounded by a peristyle of sixteen Ionic columns, above which is a walk defended by iron palisades, and in the centre is an octagonal room, in the exterior aisles of which are carved figures facing the cardinal points, the whole being surrounded by a cupola. A new market-place and a market-house were finished a few years since. The latter is a fine building, with a range of six Doric columns, the upper part containing spacious rooms. There has always been a considerable corn business carried on at Lynn, it being the market town for a great part of West Norfolk and the Fen district. From 160,000 to 170,000 quarters of corn are sold yearly in the market. The Tuesday cattle market has been increasing of late years, and 7000 sheep, 600 beasts, and 1200 pigs, have been offered for sale in one day. The increase is attributed to the reduction of the tolls on sheep, being now only one-half of the former amount. At the great sheep and cattle fair here, 15,000 sheep, 2000 beasts, besides pigs, have been offered for sale in one day.

King's Lynn comprises the parishes of All Saints and St. Margaret, in the Diocese of Norwich. The living of All Saints is a vicarage in the patronage of the Bishop of Ely. The Church is an ancient cruciform structure. The tower, which fell down in 1763, and demolished part of the body of the Church, has not been re-built. The living of St. Edmund's, North End, is a sinecure rectory. The Church is supposed to have been swept away by the river. The living of St. Margaret's is a perpetual curacy, with the curacy of St. Nicholas annexed, and in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Norwich. The Church is a spacious structure, combining the early, the decorated, and the later styles of English architecture, with two western towers, and an east front of singularly-beautiful design, with

two octagonal turrets rising from the flanking buttresses. The chancel is in the early English style, with a fine circular east window. The south porch is highly ornamented with canopied niches and shields, and the roof finely groined. The Chapel of St. Nicholas is a large structure, combining the decorated with the later style of English architecture. The original roof of beautifully-carved oak is carefully preserved. The Free Grammar School was founded in the reign of Henry VII., by Thomas Thoresby, who endowed it.

The town consists of three principal streets nearly parallel, from which several smaller streets diverge, and is well paved, lighted with gas at night, and amply supplied with water. The houses are in general old and irregularly built, though interspersed with several respectable mansions. In the more modern parts of the town, there are several ranges of handsome buildings. The Theatre, a neat structure, was erected by a company in 1814, and is open yearly for about six weeks, commencing at the great mart in February. Assemblies are held in a suite of commodious rooms in the Town Hall. The Subscription Library was established in 1797, and is supported by 200 members. There is also a public Reading-Room and News-Room in the Market Place. The Athenæum is a new building, containing a library, and rooms for lectures, concerts, &c.

The town, though apparently dull in some parts, contains much to interest a visitor, there being a few foreign-looking features; here and there a high peaked roof; a Town Hall curiously chequered in front with flint and stone; a Custom House that might have been imported bodily from Flanders; besides relics of old religious houses, of domestic architecture, and stubborn ramparts which embody much of local history, back even to the days of tradition. The south gate at the end of London Road, a solid brick structure of the fifteenth century, marks the extent of ground enclosed by the town walls. It forms a spacious arch flanked by turrets, but is not the original gate built in the days of King John. From this we may walk to the Grey Friars' Tower, which on a near view appears to be also a gateway, for all that remains is an isolated mass of brick and stone pierced by a tall pointed arch, strongly buttressed and gabled, from which rises the lofty lantern with graceful effect. Passing on, we may enter the Mall, and be made aware by agreeable experience that Lynn possesses a public ground which, for tasteful laying out, for smooth green lawns, charming avenues of noble trees, may compare with the beautiful precincts of Cambridge. And here is a further attraction—the Chapel of Our Lady in the Mount, a small octagonal building of brick and stone, with buttresses at the angles. The interior comprises two stories, the lower being a crypt, the upper a Chapel less than twenty feet in length, but which, with its slender columns, groins, fair tracery, niches,

and quatre-foil windows, was manifestly a labour of love to the architect of the fifteenth century.

Below the town is the Long Straight Cut, through which the River Ouse, burdened with the waters of seven counties, flows in a direct channel to the sea. Seen in the distance, its further end appears lost in a great waste of mud, uninviting in prospect, but attractive to engineers. No wonder that the county historian describes Lynn as "on a great level, and flat, filthy, rich soil," when from all the fen country the mud finds its way hither, and makes the shallow Wash still shallower. On that waste of mud, great works are in progress which may some day, not far distant, accomplish the ambitious scheme of reclaiming a new county from the sea.

By the cutting of that straight channel the outfall of the Ouse has been lowered twelve feet, whereby some hundreds of thousands of acres in the fen country are better drained than ever before; and districts which could be relieved only by machinery now discharge their superabundant water by a natural outflow, and far back as the borders of Northamptonshire, back to Wisbeach and Ely, the pastures and fields are benefited by diverting the River Ouse from its old circuitous channel below Lynn.

#### HUNDREDS AND PARISHES IN EAST NORFOLK.

This Division of the county is by far the largest and most populous, extending along the coast for forty miles. It is divided into north and south for Parliamentary purposes. It is watered by the rivers Waveney, Yare, and Bure, diversified by numerous broads or inland lakes at Wroxham, Surlingham, Filby, Hickling, Ormesby, and Rollesby. The chief roads are from Yarmouth to Acle, Blofield, and Norwich; also from Yarmouth to Ormesby, Rollesby, and Martham, and from Norwich to Aylsham and Cromer. Nearly all the towns and villages in East Norfolk are of Anglo-Saxon origin, and most of them are built near rivers for the convenience of water transit. On the east coast Yarmouth stands at the mouth of the river Yare, from which the town takes its name. Norwich, which is a city and county of itself occupying a large area, stands on each side of the river Wensum above its confluence with the Yare; northward Aylsham and Coltishall are situated near the Bure which flows from Aylsham through a flat district into the Yare at Yarmouth. The Waveney passes the town of Diss, winds along between the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, and joins the Yare at Reedham.

The Eastern Division of Norfolk includes the rural and picturesque Hundred of Blofield, near Norwich; the highly-cultivated Hundreds of Tunstead, Happing, and Walsham; and the marshy Hundreds of East and West Flegg, near the sea coast, the town of Yarmouth, and City of Norwich.

## THE HUNDRED OF BLOFIELD

Is bounded on the north-east by the Hundred of Walsham, on the north-west by Taverham, and on the south by the River Yare, which parts it from the Hundreds of Henstead and Clavering. The length of this Hundred, from the north-east to the south-east, where it is bounded by the Yare, is twelve miles, and its breadth about four miles.

Blofield Hundred contains the following villages in the direction from Norwich eastward: Thorpe, Postwick, Plumstead (Great and Little), Blofield, Bradeston, Brundall, Burlingham North and South, Burlingham St. Andrew, Buckenham, Cantley, Freethorpe, Hasingham, Limpenhoe, Lingwood, Southwood, Witton, and Strumpshaw.

## THORPE BISHOP'S (ST. ANDREW),

A parish chiefly in the Hundred of Blofield, two miles east from Norwich, is very pleasantly situated in the vale of the Yare. The parish comprises 2592A. 2R. 11P., of which 1520 acres are arable, 831 meadow, pasture, and common, 174 woodland, and 67 roads and waste. The village is delightfully situated on the acclivities of a hill, at the base of which flows the Rivers Wensum and Yare, which uniting their streams within this parish, flow on to Yarmouth. The living is a rectory; the tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £612, and the glebe comprises twenty-six acres. The County Lunatic Asylum stands in this parish.

## POSTWICK (ALL SAINTS),

A parish in the Hundred of Blofield, four miles east from Norwich, is situated on the road from the city to Yarmouth, near the River Yare. The parish comprises about 1400 acres, of which 400 are marsh. The village stands in a picturesque dell, which expands into the vale of the Yare. The living is a rectory; patron, the Earl of Roseberry. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £475; the glebe comprises forty-six acres, valued at £92 per annum. About eleven acres of land, of which five were allotted for inclosure, are appropriated for the benefit of the poor.

## BLOFIELD (ST. ANDREW)

Is a parish seven miles east of Norwich, situated on the road to Yarmouth. This parish comprises about 2252 acres and 1100 inhabitants. The living is a rectory; net income £896; patrons, Master and Fellows of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. The glebe consists of about 62 acres, with a handsome parsonage house. The Church is in the later style, with a lofty square embattled tower, surmounted at each angle with a figure of one of the Evangelists. The nave is lighted by clerestory windows, and

separated from the chancel by the remains of a carved screen, embellished with paintings of the Apostles. The Independents have a Chapel here. The village contains several well-built houses and pleasant gardens; also a few good cottages.

STRUMPSHAW (ST. PETER),

A parish near the village of Blofield, and in the Hundred of Blofield, and bounded on the south by the River Yare. It comprises 1391A. 0R. 26P., of which 851 acres are arable, 502 pasture, and the remainder water and roads. The village is seated on an eminence; and there is a windmill standing on the highest ground in East Norfolk, and forming a conspicuous landmark. The living is a discharged rectory, with that of Bradeston united; net income, £474; the glebe contains about sixty-four acres, and there is a good parsonage house. The Church contains portions of the early and later styles of English architecture, with a lofty tower. The rent of ten acres of land is distributed in fuel to the poor.

BRADESTON (ST. MICHAEL)

Is a parish half-a-mile distant from Blofield, in the Hundred of Blofield. The parish comprises about 700 acres, of which 376 acres are arable and 139 marsh land, and is bounded on the south by the Yare, from the valleys of which the land rises in gentle acclivities; the soil varies from a fine brick earth to a light sand. The view from the higher land over the vale of the Yare is much admired. The living is a discharged rectory, united to that of Strumpshaw. The Church, which is chiefly in the perpendicular style, consists of a nave and chancel. The ruins of another church, dedicated to St. Clement, were demolished fifty years ago.

BURLINGHAM (ST. ANDREW),

A parish in the Hundred of Blofield, situated on the road from Norwich to Yarmouth, near Acle. The parish comprises 743 acres, of which 528 are arable and 214 pasture and plantation. The living is a discharged rectory, with that of Burlingham St. Edmund annexed. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £296 15s.; and there is a good glebe-house, with about eleven acres of land, valued at £18 per annum. The Church has a square tower, and contains the remains of a carved screen, with representations of the Apostles.

BUCKENHAM FERRY (ST. NICHOLAS),

A parish in the Hundred of Blofield, nine miles (east) from Norwich. This parish comprises 908A. 1R. 14P., of which 133 are wood and water, and the remainder arable and pasture in equal proportions. The village

is pleasantly situated on the River Yare, over which there is a ferry. The living is a discharged rectory, with that of Hassingham consolidated; patron, Sir W. B. Proctor Beauchamp, Bart. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £130, and the glebe comprises thirty-seven acres, valued at £44 per annum. The Church presents different styles of architecture, and consists of a nave, chancel, and ancient tower. Here is a farm-house built out of the remains of an old manor-house.

## CANTLEY (ST. MARGARET),

A parish in the Hundred of Blofield, near the River Yare. This parish comprises 1850A. 0R. 26P., of which 877 acres are arable, and 900 pasture, heath, and wood. The village contains very few houses or inhabitants. The living is a rectory: patron, W. A. Gilbert, Esq. The tithes have been commuted for a rent charge of £300; there is a good glebe house, with forty-three acres of land, valued at £36 per annum. The Church is chiefly in the later style, and has a square tower. The entrance to the Church is through a Norman doorway. The poor have the benefit of nineteen acres of land allotted at the enclosure. Their cottages are of the meanest description.

## THE HUNDRED OF WALSHAM

Is bounded on the south-east by the River Yare; and on the south and west by the Hundreds of Blofield and Taverham. It is of an irregular figure, and spreads fifteen miles north-west from the confluence of the Rivers Yare and Bure near Yarmouth, varying from two to eight miles in breadth. A great portion of the soil is low marshy land, and was often liable to inundation, especially in the vale of the Bure, which extends the whole length of the Hundred, but the marshes have been well drained within the last century. Walsham Hundred comprises the parishes of Acle, Beighton, Halvergate, Hemblington, Moulton, Reedham, Runworth with Panxworth, Tunstall, Upton with Fishley, Walsham St. Mary and St. Lawrence, Wickhampton, and Woodbastwick. Reedham is supposed to have derived its name from the great quantity of reeds growing in the marshes, and is noticed as being one of the seats of the East-Anglian Kings. There is a railway station at the junction of the branch line to Lowestoft, which port is twelve miles distant.

## ACLE

Is a large parish, situated on the high road from Norwich to Yarmouth, and comprises 3164 acres, a large proportion of which is grazing land, reclaimed from marshy ground; the uplands consist of a fine loamy soil, and are very fertile. The village is situated on a gentle slope, rising from

the banks of the river Bure, over which is a stone bridge of three arches and of great elevation, called Weybridge. River navigation is afforded by the Bure, Yare, and Waveney to all the towns near them. The living is a rectory; patron, Lord Calthorpe. The tithes have been commuted for £720; there are twenty acres of glebe, and a good rectory house. The Church is a handsome structure, in the decorated style.

WALSHAM (SOUTH),

In the Hundred of Walsham, three miles (north-west by west) from Acle, comprising the parishes of St. Lawrence and St. Mary.

This district, which is bounded on the north by the river Bure, was anciently of more importance than at present, and during the prosperity of the Abbey of St. Benedict, on the opposite side of the river, the town was of much greater extent; but after the dissolution of that establishment it fell into decay, and has subsequently degenerated into a mere village. The parish of St. Lawrence comprises 1805A. 0R. 29P., and that of St. Mary 1250A. 0R. 30P. The living of St. Lawrence is a rectory, valued in the King's books at £136 8s.; patrons, President and Fellows of Queen's College, Cambridge; the tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £509 6s., of which £22 6s. are payable to the Bishop of Ely, and £486 10s. to the rector; the glebe comprises fifty-seven and a-half acres, valued at £115, and the parsonage house has been greatly improved. The living of St. Mary's is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at £5, and in the patronage of the Trustees of the Old Men's Hospital at Norwich, who are impropiators. The great tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £270, and the vicarial for £159 16s.; the glebe comprises thirty-six acres, with a small house; and there are also rent-charges of £11 3s. and £24 15s., payable to the Vicar of Upton, and the Rector of Burlingham St. Andrew's. The Church of St. Lawrence, which was in the same churchyard as that of St. Mary's, and which had been repaired at an expense of £850 in 1811, was destroyed by an accidental fire in 1827; the chancel was repaired and enlarged in 1832, and opened for divine service, but the lofty tower and nave are in ruins. The Church of St. Mary is a handsome structure, in the decorated and later English style, with a square embattled tower; the nave is separated from the chancel by the remains of a nicely-carved screen, and is lighted by a range of clerestory windows; there is a neat monument to William Jary, Esq. A school is supported by the rector and his family. Richard Harrold in 1718 bequeathed property, now let for about £20 per annum, for apprenticing children; and £31 a-year, the rental of some waste land, awarded under an Enclosure Act in the 41st of George III., is expended among the poor.

## TUNSTEAD HUNDRED

Is bounded on the north by the German Ocean, on the east by Happing, on the south by Walsham, on the west by South Erpingham. It extends about thirteen miles northward from the sea coast to the river Bure, averaging from five to six miles in width. It is generally a well-cultivated district of rich loamy land, highly productive in wheat and barley, and broken into a pleasing variety of hills, vales, and plains, interspersed with tracts of fertile marshes, and watered by several broads and rivulets. It contains twenty-six parishes, with an aggregate population of 10,325, and 34,987 acres.

The parishes are Ashmanhaugh, Bacton, Barton Turf, Beeston St. Lawrence, Bradfield, Crostwight, Dilham, Edingthorpe, Felmingham, Honing, Horning, Hoveton St. John, Hoveton St. Peter, Irstead, Neatishead, Paston, Ridlington, Sco' Ruston, Sloley, Smallburgh, Swafield, Tunstead, North Walsham, Westwick, Witton, Worstead.

## WESTWICK

Is a fertile and richly-wooded parish within three miles of North Walsham, and comprises 1500 acres of land. It includes the beautiful and extensive park of Westwick House, the seat of I. B. Petre, Esq. The house is a handsome white mansion erected by John Berney, Esq., in the reign of Queen Anne. It is considered one of the most delightful seats in the county, standing on the northern declivity of a picturesque valley, surrounded by ornamental woods and plantations, extending in sylvan undulations down to the margin of a rivulet which is expanded into a lake of thirty acres, from which an aqueduct has been cut to another lake near the house. The late John Berney, Esq., made a carriage drive of five miles through a plantation of five hundred acres, for planting which he received a medal from the Society of Arts. At a short distance from the house there is a look-out structure ninety feet high, with an octagonal apartment at the summit, commanding on every side a remarkably fine prospect, terminated on the north and east by a large extent of sea coast. The turnpike road from Norwich to North Walsham runs for more than two miles through the park, at the entrance to which is a handsome lodge. The Church (St. Botolph) is a fine building, comprising nave with aisles, chancel, south porch, and lofty tower with one bell. It stands in the valley on the south side of the park, and its pinnacled tower forms a picturesque object.

## NORTH WALSHAM (ST. MARY),

A market town and parish in the Hundred of Tunstead, fifteen miles (north-north-east) from Norwich, and 124 (north-east-by-north) from

London. In the year 1600, nearly the whole of this town was destroyed by fire, which, although it continued but three hours, consumed property to the value of £20,000. It is situated on an eminence on the road from Cromer to Norwich, and consists of three streets diverging from a central area, in which stands the Church; it is paved and lighted with gas, and the inhabitants are well supplied with water. A neat Theatre was erected, and was open for performance once in two years. A canal passes through the parish, a short distance north-east of the town, in its course from Antingham, and the River Ant is navigable to Yarmouth. The market, which is chiefly for corn, is on Thursday, for cattle and horses; and Statute Fairs for hiring servants take place on the two Thursdays before Old Michaelmas day. The Market Cross, erected by Bishop Thirlby in the reign of Edward VI., was repaired after the great fire in 1600, by Bishop Redman. Two Courts Baron occur annually, one of the Bishop of Norwich and the other of Lord Suffield; and the magistrates hold Petty Sessions every Thursday. The parish comprises 4172A. OR. 37P., of which about 400 acres are pasture and garden ground, 150 woodland and plantations, and the remainder arable, with the exception of 200 acres not yet brought into cultivation. The living is a vicarage, with the rectory of Antingham St. Margaret annexed, valued in the King's books at £8; net income, £336; patron and appropriator, the Bishop; the glebe comprises two acres, with a house. The Church is a spacious and elegant structure, chiefly in the later English style. On the south side of the chancel are three sedilia of stone, the piscina of elegant design; the tower, which was 147 feet high, fell down in the year 1724, and is in ruins; in the chancel is a mural monument to the memory of Sir William Paston, Knt., a native of the town, and founder of the Grammar School; it was erected during his life, and is surmounted by a recumbent statue in armour. There are places of worship for Wesleyans, the Society of Friends, Independents, and Primitive Methodists. The Free Grammar School was founded in 1606 by Sir William, for the education of forty sons of residents in either of the Hundreds of North or South Erpingham, Happing, Tunstead, and Flegg, and endowed by him with the rents of certain estates at Horsey and Walcot, to the amount of £250 per annum; the school contains a good library, bequeathed by the Rev. Richard Berney in 1787; and a monthly lecturer receives £12 12s. per annum out of the funds of the charity. Archbishop Tenison, Bishop Headly, and Admiral Lord Nelson received the rudiments of their education in the institution. A National School is supported, and about £30 per annum, the rent of an allotment of waste land, is expended among the poor. About a mile south of the town is a stone cross, erected to commemorate a victory obtained in 1382, by

Spencer, Bishop of Norwich, over some rebels, headed by a dyer named Litester.

## BACTON,

A parish on the sea coast, five miles from North Walsham, comprises 1564 acres of land and 486 inhabitants, residing chiefly in the hamlets of Bacton, Bacton Green, Keswick, and Bromholm, distant about half-a-mile from each other. The Church (St. Andrew) stands on a summit above the village of Bacton, half-a-mile from the sea, and is a fine edifice, comprising nave, chancel, south porch, and square tower, with five bells. The ruins of Bromholm Priory are near the west end of Keswick. The Priory was founded in 1113 by William de Glanville for Cluniac monks. It became very famous, for there was preserved the most precious of relics, a cross made of a portion, as once believed, of the very cross of Calvary. No wonder that it possessed miraculous powers. According to Capgrave, it possessed such virtues that nineteen blind persons were restored to sight, and thirty-nine persons were raised from the dead by it. Believers at a distance invoked it. "Helpe holy cross of Bromholm," cried the miller's wife, awaking in sudden fright, as we read in Chaucer. Piers Plowman, with quaint humor, sings—

And bid the Rood of Bromholm  
Bryng me out of Dette.

At the dissolution, this Priory and its adjacent estate were granted to Thomas Wodehouse, whose descendants have ever since possessed the property.

At the end of a long wall, we come to a gateway, a great pointed arch, which has a porter's lodge on each side, and through it we pass to the ruins of Bromholm Priory. Within is a farmyard; and there is the Chapel and the east window, a grand, obtuse, empty arch. A narrow-pointed window, with the mouldings still in place, appears in each side wall and recesses to match. The charm of the old gray stones is enhanced by the masses of ivy that cling thereon, forming great curtains with frieze and cornice; and in the north-east corner rises a thick stem that looks like a beautifully-twisted column. The refectory is similarly adorned; but there is a want of harmony between these combinations of masonry and foliage, and stacks of old timber leaning against the walls, and carts and waggons, and big hay ricks, and beds of nettles. The two great barns still stand to testify that goodly harvests were reaped in the olden time from the Priory fields. And the gatehouse remains, showing Norman and pointed arches, with good capitals to the shafts and deep window recesses all lapsed into base uses—a shelter for rubbish and

lumber. The roof was blown off by a Whitsuntide gale, and has not been replaced. It is apparent that what is bad now may become worse from want of care. Surely something should be done to preserve such relics of antiquity, for worse than flame, or steel, or ages slow, are the destroying hands of brutal, ignorant rustics.

#### HAPPING HUNDRED

Stretches about eleven miles along the sea shore from Winterton Ness to Walcott, and is bounded on the south by the West Flegg and Walsham Hundreds, and on the West by the Tunstead Hundred. The villages are mostly surrounded by low marshes, intersected by numerous broads or lakes, connected by rivulets and streams flowing southward in two channels to the Bure and the Thurne, and opening a direct navigation to Yarmouth for boats of fourteen tons from every part of the Hundred, which includes 26,780 acres, with a population of 6996 in 1861. Happing includes the parishes of Brunstead, Catfield, Happisburgh, Hempstead with Eccles, Hickling, Horsey-next-the-Sea, Ingham, Lessingham, Ludham, Palling, Potter Heigham, Ruston (East), Stalham, Sutton, Walcott, Waxham.

#### INGHAM (HOLY TRINITY),

A parish in the Hundred of Happing, containing about 500 inhabitants. A large stock fair is held here on Trinity Monday. The living is a discharged perpetual curacy, net income £80; patron, Bishop of Norwich. The appropriate tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £156. The Church is in the decorated style with a lofty tower. Judging from the remains of a grand west window, of a carved stone screen, of venerable stalls and old fall seats, and the traces of noble brasses, and the stately tombs of Oliver de Ingham and other knights, this was at one time a proud edifice. The tombs are very interesting specimens of mediæval sculpture, with statuettes in niches along the aisle.

Annexed to the Church there was a college or priory of the order of the Holy Trinity, for the redemption of Christians held captive by the Turks. It was founded in 1360 by Sir Miles Stapleton, of Bedale in Yorkshire, who became lord of this place by marriage with Joanna, daughter and sole heiress of Sir Oliver de Ingham, a valiant knight and favourite of Edward III. Sir Miles rebuilt the Church and procured it to be made collegiate for a prior, sacrist, and six canons, whose revenue at the dissolution was £74 2s. 7d., and then the site of the Priory, with the impropriate rectory, came to the Bishopric of Norwich in exchange for other estates.

## LUDHAM (ST. CATHERINE),

A parish in the Hundred of Happing, is thirteen miles (north-east by east) from Norwich. This place, after the dissolution of the Abbey of St. Bennet at the Holme, to which the manor belonged, was given by Henry VIII. to the Bishops of Norwich, when the King took possession of all their property. They converted the Grange into an episcopal residence. During the prelacy of Bishop Jigon, an accidental fire, which broke out on August 10th, 1611, destroyed the greater part of the house, with many valuable writings and books belonging to the see. The palace was restored by Bishop Harsnett, who built a Chapel of brick, which after the desertion of the place as an episcopal residence was converted into a granary, and the rest of the edifice into a farm-house, now called Ludham Hall. The village is large and well built, and had formerly a market and a fair, granted to Bishop Redman in the reign of Elizabeth; the market is discontinued, but the fair is still held on the Thursday and Friday after Trinity. The parish, which is near the rivers Bure and Thurne, comprises 3000 acres. The living is a discharged vicarage, the Bishop being patron and appropriator. The appropriate tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £640, and the vicarial for one of £300. The Church is a handsome structure in the later English style, with a square embattled tower. About £100, arising from land given to the poor after the enclosure, are annually distributed among them. Near Ludham, on a low meadow, once known as Cowholm, in 1020, King Canute erected a Benedictine Abbey, which, from the name of the place, became known as St. Bennet's-at-Holme. Then followed the common history: seizure by the Normans, and treacherous surrender, then great increase of power and wealth, until in the height of prosperity it held more lands than could be seen from the tower, and became one of the stately of the Abbeys of East Anglia. The only remains of it are a gate-house of brick and stone, with corner turrets, traversed by a pointed arch thirty feet in height. The Abbey was formerly of great extent, and a favourite resort of the nobles. The Abbots had besides a residence at Ludham, whither they could betake themselves on occasion for change of soil and air. What comfortable fasts the monks must have had where fish were always to be had for the catching, and what feasts of birds in their season! In those days they could regale themselves with the bustard and savoury fowl of other kinds, now rare in the county. The buzzard too has disappeared, the kite, the marsh harrier, and other birds, which then made excellent diversion whenever it pleased the Lord Abbot to entertain his guests with the sport of falconry.

## ECCLES (ST. MARY),

A parish in the Hundred of Happing on the sea coast. The parish is now defended by a ridge of sand hills, thrown up by the wind and surge. It comprises 318 acres, of which 145 are arable, 112 pasture and meadow, and 61 waste. In 1605, the land was reduced several hundred acres by a dreadful inundation of the sea, which swept away sixty-six houses from the village, and drowned the shrieking inhabitants, leaving only fourteen cottages. A similar calamity occurred in the reign of Charles I., but the sand hill now appears to oppose a sufficient barrier to any further encroachments of the sea. To the right and left stretches a broad sandy shore, backed by rough hills and drifts that look beautifully smooth and inviting to the foot, but if trodden on will swallow you leg deep. At the outer foot of the slope stands the old Church tower built of sea cobbles, circular at the base, but octagonal in the upper part. On its seaward side an old church nave and chancel are traceable by the remains of walls half buried in the sand. What a lonely relic, and withal melancholy, telling mutely of destruction in days of yore! Of the two thousand acres that once formed part of Eccles, there are now only 250. The others, with fields and houses, have been devoured by the waves.

HAPPISBURGH (COMMONLY CALLED HASBRO<sup>2</sup>)

Is a considerable village scattered on the summit and declivities of the sea bank, seven miles east of North Walsham. The parish comprises 1953 acres. The Church (St. Michael) is a lofty pile of flint and stone, consisting of nave, with aisle and clerestory, chancel, south porch, with parvise, and fine embattled tower, containing five bells, and rising to the height of 112 feet. The height of the cliff here is about 80 feet, whereby two lighthouses, built a quarter-of-a-mile apart, have a good elevation. Both are lighted with patent lamps and reflectors, and the lights may be seen at fifteen miles distance. They light mariners through Hasbro' Gat, and on a clear day about forty-five churches may be seen with the naked eye from the top of the highest. Lights are much needed here at night, for the coast is beset by shoals, and the Hasbro' lights shoot their warning gleam right across the restless waters. The village has a hotel, a bowling green, and one bathing machine, and looks somewhat picturesque with its old gabled cottages, and a steep road leading down to the green inland levels. There are signs of sea encroachments, isolated hummocks of clay on the shore, and ugly gaps washed out of the cliffs. Within the memory of man a hundred yards of the cliff have been swallowed by the sea. The cliffs further north are from sixty to eighty feet in height, in some places forming a long broken slope, in others more or

less perpendicular, with grassy ledges where slips have occurred, and of various colours, black, brown, blue, gray, yellow, and red. Beneath there is spread out a belt of rough gray shingle, a smooth and widening margin of brown sand, and an ever shifting belt of white foam. The whole line of coast from Happisburgh to Mundesley is in full view.

## EAST AND WEST FLEGG,

Two of the smallest Hundreds in Norfolk, are on the sea coast at the east side of the county, and are of nearly equal extent, containing together 9000 inhabitants and 260,000 acres of land, stretching nearly eleven miles north of Yarmouth. East Flegg extends about five miles along the coast north of Yarmouth, and about seven miles westward on the north side of the Bure, which divides it from Walsham. West Flegg extends about three and a-half miles along the coast, and seven and a-half miles inland, and is nearly surrounded by marshes, but its interior rises in bold and well-cultivated swells.

## EAST FLEGG

Contains the following parishes: Caister-next-Yarmouth, Filby, Mautby, Scratby, Ormesby St. Michael, Ormesby St. Margaret, Runham, Stokesby with Herringby, and Thrigby. All these places ending with "by" are of Danish origin, this district having been peopled by the Danes, and their descendants are a very rough race to this day.

## CAISTER (NEAR YARMOUTH)

Is a parish three miles north of that town, containing about 1000 inhabitants. It is a very ancient place, and the name is evidently a corrupted Saxonism of *Castrum*, it being clear from the visible remains of fortifications and the discovery of numerous coins, that the Romans had a camp here, opposite to the *Garianonum* on the banks of the *Waveney*. The sea then flowed over all the land now dry between this place and *Gorleston*. Caister was formerly divided into two parishes, *Trinity* and *St. Edmund's*, which were consolidated September 22nd, 1608. The Church belonging to the former has been suffered to fall into ruins. The Church of *St. Edmund's* is chiefly in the decorated style, and consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle, with a square embattled tower. The living is a rectory; net income, £875.

About two miles west of the ancient encampment are the ruins of Caister Castle, erected by Sir John Fastolff, who was born here in 1378, and ran a brilliant military career. The house was three hundred feet square, with a tower at each corner, and was one of the earliest brick houses in the county. There is a long range of old red brick wall within

a moat screened by tall trees, with the tall round tower, the only one standing. Opposite the tower at the bend of the road grows a noble ash, alluring you to tarry beneath it and survey the scene which thence appears. The long, dim vista of the moat, where sunbeams and leafy boughs, and brown stems, and the dark red wall intermingle and reflect surprising effects of color on the calm gleaming surface, seems a mysterious avenue along which one might glide to a more mysterious region beyond. And how picturesquely the tower fits into the scene with its encircling crest of rounded machicolations and pendants, and pigeons flying about the summit. Truly the builder had an eye for beauty, and knew how to produce admirable effects with brickwork. The whole place is enclosed by the moat, and the gate is kept locked; but the visitor may soon get the key at the farm-house. The gateway forms an obtuse ogee arch. You enter and discover that the long range of wall is a mere shell; for the interior is a large grassy quadrangle, with fruit trees along the sunny side, and elder trees grouping here and there in rounded masses, and an old poultry coop, draped in places by ivy.

The tower and turret fill the angle; the gable mark in the wall preserves the outline of the roof of the great hall; the row of windows above the gateway breaks the mass of red with lights and shadows; the tower, in which the priest's chamber was situated near the chapel, retains the old corbels and gurgoyles, so that while your mind reverts to historic scenes, there is enjoyment enough for your eyes. On the ground floor there is a small chamber with groined ceiling and a two-light foliated window; but all above is hollow and empty, and in looking up you see the marks of old floors and fire-places, and a circle of blue sky.

We may read in the Paston Letters, written 500 years ago, how Caister fell to the Pastons; how it was claimed and besieged by the Duke of Norfolk; how the Pastons' hope of recovering the place was fulfilled, though Edward IV. also disputed their title; how certain pirates, after much havoc on other parts of the coast, were so bold as "to come up to the land, and played them on Caister sands, as homely as if they were Englishmen;" how loving and lowly messages were sent by the different members of the family, to and from Sir John's "pore place of Caistre," mingling news of the terrible battles of the Roses with approval or disapproval of marriage projects, &c., &c.

#### ORMESBY (ST. MARGARET)

Is a parish in the Hundred of East Flegg, five miles north of Yarmouth. This parish, which is situated near the coast, comprises, with Ormesby St. Michael, 2400 acres. The village contains many handsome residences; the surrounding country is richly wooded, and the scenery very pic-

turesque. The living is a discharged vicarage with that of Ormesby St. Michael, and with which was united the vicarage of Scratby in 1548. The appropriate tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £772 14s., and the vicarial for £290 17s.; the glebes respectively comprise fifty-one and fifty-six acres. The Church is a handsome structure, in the later English style, with a lofty square embattled tower; and on the south, there is a richly-embellished Norman doorway.

## STOKESBY (ST. ANDREW),

A parish in the Hundred of East Flegg, near the river Bure. The parish is chiefly marsh land, comprising 2000 acres. The whole region between this place and the sea is one great level of pastures. Thousands of cattle are always grazing in the summer season, and there are many farmsteads, prettily embosomed in trees. The living of Stokesby is a rectory, with that of Herringby united; the tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £522 16s.; and the glebe contains forty-six acres, valued at £76 per annum. The Church is chiefly in the decorated style, with a square embattled tower; and the chancel contains memorials of the Clere family.

## WEST FLEGG

Includes the following parishes:—Ashby, Billockby, Burgh St. Margaret, Clippesby, Hemsby, Martham, Repps-cum-Bastwick, Rollesby, Somerton (East), Somerton (West), Winterton.

## ASHBY, WITH OBY ST. MARY,

Is a parish situated four miles from Acle. This parish was consolidated with those of Thorne and Oby in 1604, and comprises 1900 acres, of which 800 are marsh or meadow land. The three parishes form one rectory; patron, the Bishop of Norwich. The tithes have been commuted for £690. Ashby consists of only one farm, and had formerly a church, of which there are very slight remains. The parsonage house is in that part of the parish called Oby, and has a glebe of about twenty-three acres.

## ROLLESBY

Is a parish in the Hundred of West Flegg, comprising 1639 acres, of which 1226 are arable, 212 meadow and pasture, 25 woodland, and 26 water, in the "Broad." The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at £17. The tithes have been commuted for a rent charge of £644, and the glebe comprises seven acres, valued at £8 15s. 0d. per annum. The Church is chiefly in the early English style, with a circular tower and octangular turret. The Baptists have a Chapel here.

“The Broad” is full of pike and other fish, and is much frequented by anglers in the summer months.

The inland waters of East Norfolk, owing to local conditions, are very remarkable. Within the level district, bounded by the coast line from Happisburgh to Yarmouth, the sluggish waters in many places assert their ancient supremacy, spreading out in some instances to more than a square mile of surface, from the so-called “Broads.” Some are traversed by the stream; others are separated therefrom by a low swampy bank, or a breadth of reeds or meadow, crossed by one or more feeders or channels of communication.

MARTHAM (ST. MARY),

A parish in the Hundred of West Flegg, nine miles north of Yarmouth. The parish comprises 2526A. 2R. 20P., of which 1675 acres are arable, and 851 pasture. The surface is varied and of pleasing character, enlivened by an extensive lake interspersed by islets. The village is situated on an elevated site, and a pleasure fair is held on the last Tuesday and Wednesday in July. The living is a discharged vicarage in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Norwich; net income £247; the glebe comprises ten acres, with a glebe house. The Church is a handsome structure in the later English style, with a lofty embattled tower surmounted by a spire; the windows contain some remains of ancient stained glass.

SOMERTON EAST (ST. MARY),

A parish in West Flegg, nine and a-half miles north of Yarmouth, comprises 798 acres, of which 439 are arable, and the remainder pasture. The scenery is in general pleasing, and in some parts picturesque. The living is annexed to the rectory of Winterton, and the tithes have been commuted for a rent charge of £270. The Church has been long since demolished.

SOMERTON WEST (ST. MARY),

A parish in West Flegg, comprises 1200 acres, of which 539 are pasture, and ten woodland. The village consists of several houses, situate at the foot of an eminence. The living is a perpetual curacy; net income £56; the impropriate tithes have been commuted for a rent charge of £320. The Church has a circular tower, and was repaired in 1839.

WINTERTON (ALL SAINTS)

Is a parish in the Hundred of West Flegg, nine miles north from Yarmouth. The parish comprises 1266 acres, of which 450 are arable and the rest

pasture, sand hills, &c. The place is situated on the sea coast, and 200 persons are employed in the fishery. A lighthouse has been erected on an eminence, a hexagonal tower seventy feet high, lighted with patent argand lamps and reflectors. The living is a rectory, with that of East Somerton annexed. Net income, £478. The glebe contains about thirty acres. The Church is chiefly in the later style, with a handsome tower 140 feet high, which serves as a land-mark for mariners. The roof of the nave is supported by tiers of columns of chestnut wood in bases of brick.

### HUNDREDS AND PARISHES IN NORTH NORFOLK.

Norfolk is by no means so flat a county as it is generally supposed to be, and this is owing to the hasty manner in which some writers have viewed it. Every part on the north side is strongly marked by rising grounds, which, though ascending imperceptibly, end with a prospect of twenty or thirty miles. This kind of land is presented in the Hundreds of Taverham, Holt, North and South Erpingham, and in places near the coast.

#### TAVERHAM HUNDRED

Stretches seven miles northward from Norwich, and is about twelve miles in length from east to west, being bounded on the south by the Wensum, on the east by Blofield, on the north by the Bure, and on the west by Eynesford. A great portion of it has a light loamy soil, resting on beds of marl and chalk, having an undulated surface, highly cultivated and studded with handsome mansions; but to the north of Thursford there is a sterile tract of sandy heath, now bearing thriving plantations. The Hundred contains eighteen parishes, comprising 32,156 acres. Population, 8,199

The parishes in this Hundred are Attlebridge, Beeston St. Andrew, Catton, Crostwick, Drayton, Felthorpe, Frettenham, Hainford, Hellesdon, Horsham, Newton St. Faith's, Horsford, Rackheath, Horstead with Stanninghall, Salhouse, Spixworth, Sprowston, Taverham, Wroxham.

#### ATTLEBRIDGE

Is a parish in the Hundred of Taverham, eight miles (north-west) from Norwich. The living is a discharged vicarage united to the rectory of Alderford, and valued in the King's books at £4 6s. 10½d. The vicarial tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £70, and there are ten acres of glebe, valued at £7 13s. 9d. per annum; and the inappropriate tithes belonging to the Lord of the Manor have been commuted for a rent-charge of £162 18s.

## DRAYTON (ST. MARGARET)

Is a parish in the Hundred of Taverham, four and a-half miles (north-west) from Norwich. This parish comprises 1292 acres; the living is a discharged rectory with that of Hellesdon united. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £253, and the glebe contains eighteen acres, valued at £34 10s. per annum, and about thirty acres in Hellesdon. The village is pleasantly situated in the vale of the Wensum, and contains the remains of an ancient cross, which had an inscription in French offering pardon to all who would pray for the souls of William de Bellemont and Joan his wife. A place called "Blood's Dale" is said to have been the scene of a battle in Anglo-Saxon times.

## COSSEY (OR COSTESSEY)

Is a parish near Drayton, in the vale of the Wensum, four miles (north-by-west) from Norwich. The parish is extensive and populous, and contains more than 1000 inhabitants, nearly all engaged in agricultural pursuits. There was a large Common in the parish, but it has been recently enclosed, not for the benefit of the poor people, who formerly made some use of the Common. The poor have been much poorer ever since the enclosure.

The living is a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the Corporation of Norwich. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £337, and the glebe consists of seventy acres, valued at £94 per annum. Here is a handsome Roman Catholic Chapel, dedicated to St. Augustine, with pointed arched windows embellished with painted glass, erected at the expense of the late Sir W. Jerningham, Bart.; it is private, and attached to Costessey Hall, the seat of Lord Stafford. A school is supported by his lordship, and another partly by Messrs. John Culley and Son. There is a Chapel for Baptists, who are numerous here.

Lord Stafford owns the great part of the soil. His lordship resides at his ancient family mansion, which is delightfully seated in a beautiful and well-wooded park of 900 acres, crossed by a rivulet and bounded on the north by the winding river and on the south by the road from Norwich to East Dereham. The park contains some of the finest forest trees in the county, and the vicinity is much celebrated for its varied features of hill and dale. The old hall is an extensive pile of brick in the plain Tudor style, with battlements and square windows. It forms three sides of a triangle, and the projecting wings are terminated by corbie-stepped gables, crowned by square pinnacles. This house was erected by Sir Henry Jerningham in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The new building is also of brick, and is a fine specimen of Tudor architecture. It contains

many fine paintings, one of which is a portrait of Queen Mary by Holbein. It is situated near the river, and has a lofty and imposing aspect, but when, on viewing it from all sides, we discover a portion with naked walls and enlarged unglazed mullioned windows, it looks as if it were never to be finished.

TAVERHAM (ST. EDMUND),

A parish in the Hundred of Taverham, five miles (north-west) from Norwich, noted for the paper mill, where 30,000 sheets are produced daily for the *Times* newspaper. The mills, comprising a considerable extent of low ranges of building, stand in a park-like flat by the side of the river Wensum, and the tall chimney shafts of white brick seen from far amid trees, and backed by woods, suggest a pleasing combination of industry and rurality. There being few cottages in the parish, most of the working people, 150 in number, live in the adjoining parishes of Costessey and Drayton. The parish comprises 2021A. 2R. 17P., and the scenery there is exceedingly picturesque, being enlivened by the flow of the river Wensum. The Rev. J. N. Micklethwait, who is Lord of the Manor and proprietor of almost the whole parish, resides in a handsome mansion surrounded by 500 acres of woodland. The prospect includes Taverham Hall, a house in the Tudor style, and the Church and parsonage, with pretty gardens bordering the stream. The Church is chiefly in the decorated style. There are few villagers to attend its services.

HORSFORD (ALL SAINTS)

Is a parish in the Union of St. Faith's, Hundred of Taverham, four miles from Norwich. The parish is situated on the road from Norwich to Holt and Cromer, and comprises 4176 acres, of which 2178 are arable, and 1877 pasture and meadow. The living is a discharged vicarage, and the patron Admiral Stephens. The Church presents portions in various styles of architecture. The Wesleyans have a place of worship. At the time of the enclosure in 1802, about 200 acres of the heath were allotted to the poor for fuel. Within a short distance of the vicarage there is a low circular mound amid the grassy level, which is all that remains of Horsford Castle. Having an inner hollow and deep outer ditch, once filled by the moat, the mound forms a ring round which it is pleasant to walk and survey the landscape. That open green expanse was once Horsford forest, where deer ranged at large, and where Walter of Caen laid out a chase and built a castle, demolished long ago.

HORSHAM (ST. FAITH'S),

A parish in the Union of St. Faith's, Hundred of Taverham, four miles from Norwich. The parish comprises 2303 acres, nearly the whole of

which are arable. A Priory of Black Monks, dedicated to St. Faith's, was founded here in 1105 by Robert Fitzwalter and Sibell de Caynetto, his wife; it was at first a cell to the Abbey de Couches in Normandy. An hospital was attached to the institution, and it formerly belonged to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. Any visitor here would discover nothing to interest him, except a few shreds from the olden time. The living is a perpetual curacy, and Admiral Stephens is patron. The Church is partly in the early, and partly in the perpendicular style. The Wesleyans have a place of worship here. At the time of the enclosure in 1802, nearly sixty acres of land were allotted to the poor. The Union Workhouse of St. Faith's is situated in the parish.

CATTON (ST. MARGARET),

A parish in the Hundred of Taverham, two miles (north) from Norwich, and distinguished from New Catton which joins the city. The parish comprises 900 acres, a considerable part of which consists of woodlands, garden and pleasure grounds, interspersed with numerous mansions and villas, the residences of rich citizens, forming altogether a beautiful suburban village. The living is a discharged vicarage; net income £142; patrons, Dean and Chapter of Norwich. The landowners purchased the impropriate tithes of the Dean and Chapter. The glebe contains thirteen acres. The most ancient part of the Church is in the early English style. The Rev. R. Hart, a learned antiquary, is the incumbent.

SPROWSTON (ST. MARY AND ST. MARGARET),

A parish in the Hundred of Taverham, two miles (north) from Norwich, is situated on the road from the city to North Walsham. The parish comprises 2576A. 1R. 9P., of which 2098 acres are arable, 231 pasture, and 246 woodland. The hall, the ancient seat of the Corbets', has been greatly improved, and Sprowston Lodge is a neat mansion of white brick. The living is a perpetual curacy in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter of Norwich, who are the appropriators; net income, £94. The Church, chiefly in the early style with a square brick tower, contains memorials of the families of Corbet, Painter, and Micklethwait. The village presents long rows of low mean houses on each side of the road, and contains about 1,200 inhabitants.

RACKHEATH (ALL SAINTS),

A parish in the Hundred of Taverham, five miles (north-east by north) from Norwich. There was anciently a small priory, the revenue of which was valued at £2 1s. 3d. in 1428. The road from Norwich to North Walsham crosses the parish. The hall is a modern building of white brick,

situated in a fine park, which contains a lake. Here is the seat of Sir H. J. Stracey, Bart., formerly M.P. for Yarmouth. The living is a discharged rectory; patron, Sir H. J. Stracey, Bart. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £416, and the glebe comprises twenty-six acres. The Church, which is chiefly in the early English style, has a square tower, and contains some monuments of the Potter and Stracey families.

## SPIXWORTH (ST. PETER),

A parish in the Hundred of Taverham, four miles (north by east) from Norwich. The parish is situated on the old road from Norwich to Aylsham, and comprises 1224A. 0R. 16P., which are chiefly arable. The hall, near the village, was built in 1609, and is situate in a small park. J. Longe, Esq., is the owner, and resides here. The living is a discharged rectory; patron, J. Longe, Esq. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £360. There is a glebe-house, and the glebe comprises eight acres, valued at £12 5s. per annum. The Church is chiefly in the decorated style, and contains numerous memorials of the Longe family.

## SALHOUSE (ALL SAINTS),

A large parish in the Hundred of Taverham, six miles (north-east by east) from Norwich, comprises 2033 acres, chiefly arable. The surface is enlivened with several sheets of water, and the navigable river Bure forms the eastern boundary of the parish. The hall, a handsome mansion, the seat of Robert Ward, Esq., was formerly the property of the Lord Chief Justice Holt. The living is a discharged vicarage, united to that of Wroxham. The Church, an ancient structure in the early English style, has been recently repaired; and Mr. Ward embellished several of the windows with stained glass. The Baptists and Wesleyans have Chapels here. A new Corn Hall was built several years since, and some business is transacted in the place.

## WROXHAM (ST. MARY)

Is a parish in the Hundred of Taverham, seven miles (north-east by east) from Norwich. The parish is situated on the navigable river Bure, and comprises about 1300 acres, of which the greater part is arable; the surface is boldly varied, and the scenery picturesque. There is a large sheet of water called a "Broad," eighty acres in extent, and two sheets of smaller dimensions. The broad is full of small fish, and is much frequented by anglers. It has been the scene of many water frolics or regattas. The village is situated on an acclivity rising from the banks of the river, over which there is a neat bridge. The living is a discharged

vicarage with that of Salhouse united. The Church is in the decorated English style, with a square embattled tower.

#### HOLT HUNDRED

Is about nine miles in length and breadth, except at its northern extremity, where it is only six miles broad, being bounded on the north by the sea, on the east by North and South Erpingham, on the south by Eynesford, and on the west by North Greenhoe. It is a highly diversified district, presenting some of the boldest scenery in Norfolk. Many handsome mansions have been built during the present century in various parts of this Hundred. It is watered by the river Glaven, and contains twenty-eight parishes, covering 41,638 acres. Population, 9942.

The parishes are Bale, Blakeney, Bodham, Brinningham, Brinton, Cley-next-the-Sea, Edgefield, Glandford-with-Bayfield, Gunthorpe, Hempstead, Holt, Hunworth, Kelling, Langham, Letheringsett, Melton Constable, Morston, Salhouse, Saxlingham, Sharrington, Stody, Swanton Novers, Thornage, Weybourne, Wiveton.

#### HOLT

Is a market town twenty-three miles (north-north-west) from Norwich, and 123 (north-north-east) from London. Holt, in Saxon, means wood, and this place was so called from the quantity that grew on its site. In the reign of Edward the Confessor it was held in royal demesne, and after the Conquest the lordship belonged to the family of De Vaux or De Vallibus. The town is pleasantly situated on rising ground, in the midst of a fertile district, remarkable for the purity of its air, and commands a fine view of the surrounding country, which is called "The Garden of Norfolk." The streets are macadamized, and the houses are neatly built of stone and brick.

The market for corn is well attended on Saturday; the fairs, chiefly for live stock, are held on April 25th and November 25th and the following days. The parish comprises 2849A. 2R. 15P., of which 1774A. 2R. 34P. are arable, 486A. 1R. 1P. pasture, and 552A. 3R. 38P. woodland. The soil is rich and highly cultivated. The living is a rectory; patrons, Masters and Fellows of St. John's College, Cambridge. The Church is in the decorated and later English style, and had formerly a steeple above the tower. The free Grammar School was founded in 1554 by Sir John Gresham, Knight, Alderman of London, who endowed it in 1556. He was a native of this town.

#### MELTON CONSTABLE, WITH BURGH PARVA,

Form a fertile parish of 2710 acres, six miles south of Holt. About 800 acres of the parish are in the park and woods which surround the

mansion of Lord Hastings, the Lord of the Manor and owner of the soil. The mansion, which has been the seat of the Astleys for a long time, was erected or re-built by Sir Jacob Astley in 1680; but it has since been altered and enlarged. It is a noble square building of brick and stone, with four fronts; the grand staircase and many of the apartments are highly finished. The paintings are numerous and valuable. The park, four miles in circuit, is well stocked with deer. A tower called Belle Vue commands an extensive prospect of the adjacent country and of the ocean, though the coast is ten miles distant.

## CLEY-NEXT-THE-SEA

Is a dull old-fashioned town, one of the small ports of Norfolk, which export large quantities of wheat. Less than 100 years ago rye was the chief crop, and wheat was imported. Here, as in all other places in this part of the county, a large malt-house suggests abundant crops of barley. The harbour is a muddy creek in which we saw ducks dabbling, but no vessels. On the side of the road near the sea, there are sluices and a deep channel for drainage, and here and there pretty flower gardens enliven the fronts of the houses.

## SOUTH ERPINGHAM HUNDRED

Is a highly-cultivated district, finely interspersed with woods, streams, villages, churches, and many handsome mansions. It is about sixteen miles in length, exclusive of a narrow strip at its northern extremity, and varies from five to ten miles in width. It is bounded on the south by Taverham, on the west by Holt and Eynesford, on the north by North Erpingham, and on the east by Tunstead. The river Bure flows through it from Corpusty to Belaugh, receiving in its course many tributary streams, and watering a fertile valley which is broken into bold and picturesque acclivities. There are thirty-eight parishes in the Hundred, which comprises 51,223 acres. Population, 14,979.

The parishes are Alby, Aylsham, Baconsthorpe, Banningham, Barningham (Little), Beckham (West), Belaugh, Blickling, Booton, Brampton, Burgh St. Mary, Buxton, Calthorpe, Cawston, Colby, Coltishall, Corpusty, Erpingham, Hautboys (Great), Hevingham, Heydon, Ingworth, Irmingland, Iteringham, Lammas, Mannington, Oulton, Oxnead, Saxthorpe, Scottow, Skeyton, Stratton Strawless, Swanton Abbot, Thwaite, Tuttington, Wickmere, Wolterton.

## AYLSHAM (ST. MICHAEL),

A market town and parish in the Hundred of South Erpingham; twelve and a-quarter miles (north-west) from Norwich, and 121 (north-east by north) from London.

This place, which is situated on the high road from Norwich to Cromer, was, during the reigns of Edward II. and III., the chief seat in the county for the manufacture of linens, then distinguished by the appellation of "Aylsham Webs." This branch of manufacture was subsequently superseded by that of woollen cloths; and in the reign of James I. the inhabitants were chiefly employed in the knitting of worsted hose, and in the manufacture of stocking pieces for breeches, and waistcoat pieces, which was carried on here till the introduction of machinery, since which these branches of manufacture have been discontinued. The town is pleasantly situated on a gentle acclivity, rising from the south bank of the river Bure, and is well built, containing many handsome houses. The trade consists principally in coal, corn, and timber, for which its situation is extremely favourable. The river Bure is navigable to Yarmouth for barges of forty tons burden, and a spacious basin and commodious wharf have been constructed here for the greater facility of trade, which is carried on to a considerable extent. The market, formerly on Saturday, is now held weekly on Tuesday, and is amply supplied with corn and provisions of all kinds; and fairs, which are well attended, are held annually on March 23rd, and on the last Tuesdays in September and October, which last is a statute fair. The town was formerly governed by a bailiff, and had several privileges, of which exemption from serving on juries at the Assizes and Sessions is still remaining. The parish comprises 4311A. 2R. 4P., of which 350 acres are meadow, 100 woodland and plantations, and the remainder arable. The living is a vicarage endowed with a portion of the rectorial tithes, and valued in the King's books at £17 19s. 7d.; patrons and appropriators, Dean and Chapter of Canterbury; the appropriate tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £716, and the vicarial for £684; the glebe comprises four acres, with good glebe house. The Church, founded by John o' Gaunt, is a spacious and handsome cruciform structure in the decorated English style of architecture, with a square embattled tower surmounted by a spire; the nave is lighted by a handsome range of clerestory windows, and separated from the choir by a richly ornamented screen, of which the lower portion is embellished with figures, well painted and enriched with gilding; on the south side of the choir are three sedilia of stone, richly canopied, and a double piscina, opposite to which is a monument to Bishop Jigon; the font is elaborately sculptured, and in the north transept is the chapel of St. Peter, which had a guild in 1490; in the cemetery is the tomb of Humphrey Repton, author of a work on landscape gardening, who was buried here. There are places of worship for Baptists, Primitive Methodists, and Wesleyans. The Free Grammar School, founded in 1517 by Robert Jannys, Mayor of Norwich, who endowed it

with £10 per annum, and for which, in conjunction with that of Wymondham, Archbishop Parker founded two scholarships in Corpus Christi College, Oxford, has been incorporated with the District National Society, which granted £350 towards the erection of the building, and £20 per annum to the master; this school, and also an infant's school established in 1840, are supported by subscription. The Poor-law Union of Aylsham comprises forty-six parishes and places under the care of forty-seven Guardians. About half a mile from this town is a chalybeate spring, now little noticed, which from its former efficacy in asthmatic and other chronic diseases, was much resorted to by invalids, and obtained the appellation of Aylsham Spa. On Stowe Heath, about two miles to the east of the town, are several large tumuli, in some of which, in 1808, were found urns containing human bones and ashes.

## BLICKLING (ST. ANDREW)

Is a parish in the Hundred of South Erpingham, one and a-quarter miles (north-west by north) from Aylsham. Before the Norman Conquest the ancient Manor of Blickling was in the possession of Harold, afterwards King of England, but at the Domesday survey it was held in two moieties, one by the Crown, and the other by the Bishop of Thetford, and enjoyed all the privileges of a royal demesne. William I. settled the whole manor and advowson on the see; and after the foundation of Norwich Cathedral, the Bishops held the demesne in their own hands and had here a palace. In 1431 it was the property of Sir Thomas Erpingham, who sold it to Sir John Falstoff, by whom it was sold in 1452 to Geoffrey Boleyn, who made it his country seat, and was Lord Mayor of London in 1457. From him it passed to Sir Thomas Boleyn, father of the unfortunate Anne Boleyn, Queen of Henry VIII., who is supposed to have been born here. From the Boleyns it came to the Cleres, one of whom sold it to Henry Hobart, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, who died in 1625. His son, Sir John, rebuilt Blickling Hall, which he completed in 1620. Charles II. came here with his Queen in 1671, during a progress in which they visited other great houses in Norfolk, and fared sumptuously every day, as the following passage intimates:—

Paston and Hobart did bring up the meat,  
 Who at the next day at their own houses treat;  
 Paston to Oxnead did his sovereign bring,  
 And like Araunah, offered as a king.  
 Blickling two monarchs and two queens has seen,  
 One king fetched thence, another brought a queen;  
 Great Townshend of the treats brought up the rear,  
 And doubly was my Lord-Lieutenant there.

Even to see the outside of a Tudor palace is worth a few miles journey, and Blickling, with its antique gables and wings, with its mullioned windows and bright green lawn, enclosed by a dark yew hedge, is an interesting memorial of feudal times. To remember that Anne Boleyn went forth from those panelled chambers to become Queen of England affords us a sufficient indication of its age.

The edifice is of brick, in the Elizabethan style, with two open courts in the centre, turrets at the angles, and a large clock tower over the entrance; it is nearly environed with large old trees, and situated in a beautiful park of about 700 acres, well-stocked with deer, and containing some very fine timber, and a sheet of water of a crescent form, a mile in length and 400 yards in its greatest breadth. In the park, about a mile from the hall, is a stone mausoleum of a pyramidal form upon a base of forty-five feet, in which are deposited the remains of the late Earl of Buckinghamshire and his two wives.

The high road from Aylsham to Holt passes through the parish, which is bounded on the north-east by a branch of the river Bure. The living is a rectory, with that of Erpingham annexed, valued in the King's books at £10 13s. 4d., and in the patronage of the Dowager Lady Suffield. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £400; and the glebe comprises seventeen acres, valued at £20 per annum. The Church, which is picturesquely situated near the hall, is in the decorated and later styles, and consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a low square tower; the nave is lighted by clerestory windows: the eastern window is of ancient and modern stained glass; it contains a tomb of Edward Clere and many brasses, one being to the unhappy Anne Boleyn and another to Isabella Cheyne, dated 1485. Carefully preserved in this church there is an elaborately-wrought old oak chest, strongly banded with iron, and secured by five very curiously-formed locks and keys.

#### GUNTON

Is a parish five miles north of Aylsham, comprising 942 acres of land, all embraced in the park and extensive plantations of Gunton House, the seat of Lord Suffield. The park not only includes the whole of this parish, but also twenty-two acres in Thorpe and forty-four acres in Hanworth. It is well-stocked with deer, and noted for the number of pheasants and hares with which it abounds. The mansion is built of white brick, and was much enlarged under the direction of Mr. Wyatt in 1785. It was also much improved by the third Lord Suffield; and stands on an eminence commanding a delightful view of the park and its plantations. The road to Thorpe, at the north-east angle of the park, passes under the

arch of an elegant tower, which rises to the height of 120 feet, and commands an extensive prospect.

## COLTISHALL (ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST)

Is a large parish in the Hundred of South Erpingham, seven miles (north-north-east) from Norwich. This parish comprises 1129A. 0R. 29P., of which about 1065 acres are arable, thirty pasture, and thirty-four woodland; and is situated near the river Bure, which flows through the village. Coltishall was Crown property in days of yore, enjoying singular privileges; for Henry III. granted to all men, women, boys, and girls, born or to be born in the village of Coltishall, that they should be free from all villeinage of body and blood, they or their families, in all parts of England, and that they should not be forced to serve any office for any one unless they liked it. The privileges in our days are a pleasant situation backed by rising woods, and opportunities to build wherries and to trade. There is a brewery, and a considerable trade is carried on in malt, corn, coal, and timber, for which the river Bure affords facilities of conveyance. The living is a rectory, and in the patronage of King's College, Cambridge. The tithes of this parish, with those upon certain lands in South Ruston and Scottow, have been commuted for a rent-charge of £340, and the glebe contains about twenty-seven acres, valued at £34 yearly. The Church, chiefly in the early style, has a lofty embattled tower. The nave is divided from the chancel by a carved screen; the font is Norman, and the interior contains several neat memorials. The Wesleyans have a place of worship.

## HEYDON (ST. PETER)

Is a parish in the Hundred of South Erpingham, near Reepham. The road from Norwich to Holt runs through the eastern part of this parish, which comprises 1922 acres, the larger part of which is arable. The living is a rectory with that of Irmingland united, and Mr. Bulwer is patron. The Church is chiefly in the later English style, with a lofty embattled tower, surmounted with pinnacles at the angles. The south porch has a fine groined roof, and the nave is lighted with clerestory windows. In the north aisle there is a handsome altar tomb to the memory of Erasmus Earle, an eminent lawyer and sergeant to Oliver Cromwell. W. E. L. Bulwer, Esq., lives at the hall, and is Lord of the Manor and owner of nearly the whole parish, including 400 acres in the park. He is a gentleman highly esteemed for his amiable disposition and charity to the poor of the neighbourhood. The house, Heydon Hall, standing in the park, was built in 1581, and exhibits

the peculiarities of the Elizabethan age; gables and pediments and ranges of bay windows and oriels, all looking very picturesque amid the grand old elms and sycamores of the park. The village is built around a Green, with a handsome Church tower on one side, and on the other the Bulwer Arms, a tavern which, besides the sign, displays on its front a carved female figure carrying a basket and staff. This is said to have been the figure-head of a ship in which one of the Earle's family, who preceded the Bulwers, used to sail. The member for Norwich in the Long Parliament was Erasmus Earle, one of the ablest lawyers of the day.

## NORTH ERPINGHAM HUNDRED

Is in the Liberty of the Duchy of Lancaster. It extends about twelve miles from east to west along the sea coast, and averages six miles in breadth from north to south, being bounded by Holt Hundred on the west, and by Tunstead on the east. The soil is generally a fertile loam, with substrata of marl, chalk, and lime, except at the east end, where a light sand prevails, but thrown up like the rest into picturesque successions of hills, some of which are covered with thriving plantations. Indeed, there is much timber in every direction, so that the whole presents a very pleasing, sylvan appearance. There are thirty-two parishes in this Hundred, which covers 36,788 acres. Population, 10,529.

The parishes are Aldborough, Antingham, Aylmerton, Barningham Norwood, Barningham Winter, Beeston Regis, Bessingham, Cromer, East Beckham, Felbrigg, Gimingham, Gresham, Gunton, Hanworth, Knapton, Matlaske, Mitton, Mundesley, North Repps, Overstrand, Plumstead, Roughton, Runton, Sherringham, Sidestrand, Suffield, Sustead, Thorpe Market, Thurgarton, Trimingham, Trunch. In the northern part of this district we come to the locality celebrated by the old rhyming proverb:

Gimingham, Trimingham, Knapton, and Trunch,  
North Repps, and South Repps, are all of a bunch.

## TRIMINGHAM

Was formerly a much-neglected parish; the laborers used to go round shouting "Largess!" after harvest; but in 1856 the Buxtons restored the Church, built new cottages and a school, and celebrated the good work by such a harvest home as the parish had never witnessed before.

## MUNDESLEY (ALL SAINTS),

A parish north-north-east from North Walsham, containing 454 inhabitants. It is situated on the coast of the North Sea, and comprises 550

acres, of which 530 are arable and twenty pasture. The scenery here is wildly romantic; the coast is girt with lofty cragged cliffs, and indented by a deep ravine, through which a small rivulet flows into the sea. The beach at low water is a broad firm sand, affording good opportunities for bathing and a fine promenade. The place was much improved under the auspices of F. Wheatley, Esq., who built a handsome residence on the cliff near the ravine and two massive sea-walls forming an upper and lower terrace to prevent the encroachments of the sea. Marine villas have been erected, and lodging-houses and a hotel for visitors. There is a small jetty projecting 100 feet from the beach.

Mundesley was visited by the poet Cowper in August, 1795, and during his sojourn he made many excursions along this part of the coast. Few who love good poetry would willingly forget that the hapless bard journeyed hither to restore his health. The sound of the breakers soothed his melancholy spirit; he walked much on the beach, till he could no longer bear the cold wind and the salt spray. In one of his letters he wrote:—"My chamber commands a very near view of the ocean, and the ships at high water approach the coast so closely that a man furnished with better eyes than mine might, I doubt not, discern the sailors from the window. No situation, at least when the weather is clear and bright, can be pleasanter, which you will easily credit when I add, that it imparts something a little resembling pleasure even to me."

## SHERRINGHAM,

A parish in the Hundred of North Erpingham, five miles west of Cromer, comprises 2177 acres, of which 1300 are arable, and 700 woodland and heath. The surface is undulated, and the scenery, richly embellished with wood, is in some parts very picturesque. Sherringham Hall, the seat of H. R. Upcher, Esq., is a handsome mansion of white brick, erected by the late A. Upcher, Esq., and is finely situated in a well-wooded park, commanding some extensive views of the sea. The villages of Upper and Lower Sherringham are about a mile and a-half distant, and the Church is in the former; and in the broad vale between us and the heights of fern and wood, lies the little village of Beeston Regis with its old Church, and mill, and ruins of a priory. There are two village greens, populous with geese, and watered by a clear lively brook, to be crossed on the way back to the shore. With the primitive-looking cottages they form a pretty rustic scene, which changes as we approach the lower village to picturesqueness of another kind. We passed a little paper mill, so little that it was worked by a man and a boy, and came to the low gray walls, the oblong inclosures, the rugged cots, the dusty road and lanes, the festoons of brown nets, the blue and tan coloured jumpers and jerseys and thick rough wor-

stead stockings hanging to dry, the buckets, barrels, baskets, tubs, lobster pots, and women sitting at the doors mending nets, which strike the eye first as you descend the ravine into the rugged thoroughfares of lower-most Sherringham. We went down to the slope at which the street terminates, and had a talk with the numerous groups of weather-beaten fishermen who lounged there apparently contemplating the fleet of boats and the furlongs of herring nets that looked like webs of bronze upon the blue shingle. They all had the Norfolk twang in perfection, and were ready in the use of local idioms. We noticed too that in common with other parts of the county, they invariably used the word "likewise" instead of also. "Likewise herrin's we ketch," said one, when asked whether they fished for anything besides lobsters and mackerel.

#### SIDESTRAND

Is situated on the northern slope of the coast, some parts of which have slipped into the sea. We passed the old Church, which, with its low round tower, stands on a lonely spot so near the sea that the worshippers hear the voice of the deep in its calm or angry moods. Some landslips appeared on our right, some newly-fallen, others fixed with a rough green coat, and here and there half-detached bluffs and pinnacles standing up between; one great wild slope has the appearance of a glacier, and apart from the colour and the yellow sand blown into its many crevices, seems bright as metallic views. Then we came to Overstrand, and saw fresh signs of havoc, for the sea has climbed up towards the few houses and devoured the cliff in their front, till scarcely the road is left. Higher and higher rose the path to a rounded summit covered with bracken. We were trudging slowly across its flank, when a bright light shone in our eyes. It was the revolver of Cromer Lighthouse, and which minute by minute darted its rays across the dusk. Far, far below us lay the sounding sea, as we took an easier pace along the brow, passing between a light and an old round tower, near the edge of the cliff, and came to the head of a rough slope, and saw Cromer lying beneath in a great hollow curve. Alike strange and delightful was the sight of the prodigious numbers of wild flowers, among which we were presently walking. The ground seemed almost dazzling with the bright variety of colours, rivalling the charm of an Alpine pasture.

#### CROMER (ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL),

A parish (formerly a market town) in the Hundred of North Erpingham, twenty-one miles (north) from Norwich, and 130 (north north-east) from London. This place, originally of much greater extent, included the town of Shipden, which, with its Church and a considerable number of

houses, forming another parish, was destroyed by an inundation of the sea in the reign of Henry IV. Among the numerous ravages of the ocean in this place, at the last, which took place in 1837, a large portion of the cliffs and houses, with part of the jetty, were washed away. In 1838, on the eastern side, a green of about 150 yards in length, running out from the cliff to the north, was laid down, which, aided by a sea wall there erected, it is expected, will prevent the recurrence of a similar catastrophe from that quarter; and the security of the cliffs immediately below the town has been provided for by a breastwork of stone and flint, with winding approaches to the beach and jetty. The town is situated on a high cliff, on the north-eastern coast of the North Sea, commanding a fine view of Cromer Bay, which, from its dangerous navigation, is by seamen called the "Devil's Throat." The town was formerly inhabited only by a few fishermen, but, from the excellence of its beach, the salubrity of its air, and the beauty of its scenery, it has become a bathing place of some celebrity. A fort, and two half-moon batteries, were, during the last war, erected upon a commanding eminence for its defence; many of the houses are badly built, but those near the sea are commodious and pleasantly situated, and there are several respectable lodging houses and inns for the accommodation of visitors. There are a circulating Library and a Subscription News Room, and a Regatta is occasionally held. Many attempts have been made to construct a pier, but the works have invariably been carried away by the sea. The jetty, of wood, about 70 yards long, erected in 1822, forms an attractive promenade, as well as the fine beach at low water, which, on account of the firmness of the sand and its smooth surface, affords also an excellent drive for several miles. Cromer is within the limits of the jurisdiction of the port of Cley. Vessels of from 60 to 100 tons burden discharge their cargoes of coal and timber on the beach, and there are eighteen large vessels and twenty herring boats belonging to the place, besides about forty boats employed in the taking of lobsters and crabs, which are abundant and of superior flavour. The market, formerly held on Saturday, has been discontinued; but a fair, chiefly for toys, is held on Whit-Monday. The Country Magistrates hold a meeting every alternate Monday.

The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at £9 4s. 9d.; patron and appropriator, Bishop of Ely. The Church was built in the reign of Henry IV., and was in ruins from the time of Cromwell till about the commencement of this century, when it was newly roofed and repaired. It is a handsome structure, in the later English style of architecture, with a lofty, square embattled tower. The western entrance, the north porches, and the chancel, though much dilapidated, are fine specimens. The other parts of the Church were

thoroughly restored in 1863, and re-fitted with open oak seats, at a cost of about £5000.

There is a place of worship for Wesleyans. A Free Grammar School was endowed in 1505 by Sir Bartholomew Read, and further by the Goldsmith's Company in 1821; but no application having been made for classical instruction, it was remodelled by the company on the national plan. A Girls School is supported by Mrs. Birkbeck. Roger Bacon, a mariner of Cromer, is said to have discovered Iceland in the reign of Henry IV.

Cromer is a pleasant watering-place in the summer months, greeting numerous visitors with prospects in which the only level is the North Sea, and hence contrasting favourably with other parts of the Norfolk coast. Foulness, the great bluff, crowned by the lighthouse more than 200 feet in height, is regarded by natives from the flat country as almost a mountain. Looking from its summit, we see on the landward side nothing but hill and vale, slopes of fern and gorse, crests of wood, hollows of copse, and rolling fields—a landscape suggestive of agreeable walks or drives. On the other side we look forth upon the broad blue waters, the scene of the sun's rising, and also of his setting, to the surprise of beholders, who forget how rapidly the coast beyond Cromer recedes to the west. This is the favourite resort of those who love to hear the voice of the sea, and to feel his quickening breath.

#### HUNDREDS AND PARISHES IN SOUTH NORFOLK.

This district is the Arcadia of Norfolk, extending for twenty miles from Norwich to Diss, a wide expanse of fertile undulating land, presenting highly cultivated farms, interspersed with rich pastures, rural villages, quiet towns, ancient churches mantled with ivy, and mansions of the gentry. In this southern part of the county we see no wild wastes, no bogs nor swampy flats, but hills and dales, woods and groves, pastures and farms and fields, long lines of trees: whichever way we look, park-like scenery and ancient halls often suggestive of famous names and old homesteads that date from feudal times.

There are delightful drives southward from Norwich, particularly along the roads to Ipswich and Newmarket, but nearly all the roads over which so many stage coaches were driven with four in hand seem now deserted and solitary. There are picturesque spots, presenting woods and hills and dales within easy reach of the city, that only require to be better known to become popular places of resort. Prettier scenes and pleasanter landscapes may be seen about Cringleford, Keswick, and Intwood than anywhere else in East Anglia. If we extend our range further, there are many green lanes and rural retreats in the sylvan districts of Henstead and Humbleyard.

## THE HUNDRED OF HENSTEAD

Is skirted on the north by the river Yare and on the west by the river Taas; on the north by Blofield, on the east by Loddon, on the south by Depwade, on the west by Norwich. It is about nine miles in length, two from three to six miles in width. It includes the parishes of Arminghall, Bixley, Bramerton, Caister, Framingham, Holverstone, Kirby Bedon, Poringland, Rockland St. Mary, Saxlingham, Shottesham, Stoke Holy Cross, Surlingham, Trowse Newton, Whitlingham, and Yelverton; with altogether 9199 acres and a total population of 5729 in 1861.

## ARMINGHALL,

A parish three miles (south-east) from Norwich, comprises 109 acres of land, belongs to the Dean and Chapter of Norwich, the Lords of the Manor, appropriators of the tithes, and patrons of the perpetual curacy, which was certified at £80, and augmented from 1780 to 1810 with £1600 of royal bounty. The tithes have been commuted for £229 a year. The Church (Virgin Mary) is a small dilapidated structure, comprising nave, chancel, and square tower with one bell. The walls, the north and south doorways, and several windows, are early English, but the east window is a perpendicular insertion. The Manor-house, a large ancient building, is now a farm-house.

## WHITLINGHAM,

A small parish, three miles (east-by-south) from Norwich, comprises 555 acres of land, all on the south side of the river Yare. It is all included in the Crown Point Estate, which belonged to the late Sir R. J. H. Harvey, who was impropiator of the tithes, and patron of the sinecure curacy. He built a spacious mansion on the estate. Here was formerly a well-known tavern called "Whitlingham White House," to which many parties resorted in the summer season to enjoy the romantic scenery; but it was pulled down, and its site annexed to the estate. The Church (St. Andrew) was dilapidated about 1630, and now forms a picturesque ruin near the verge of a hill overlooking the river Yare.

## KIRBY BEDON,

A village on an acclivity overlooking the vale of the Yare, four miles (south-east) from Norwich, comprises 1363 acres of land. The late Sir Robert John Harvey Harvey was Lord of the Manor and owner of a greater part of the soil. The hall, which was the seat of Sir Hanson Berney, Bart., was taken down in 1841. The parish was formerly divided between two Churches, but that dedicated to St. Mary has been in ruins for several centuries. St. Andrew's Church is a small, low, thatched edifice

with nave, chancel, south porch, and tower. The living is a discharged rectory, now worth £250 per annum, awarded in 1842 in lieu of tithes. The school is attended by about thirty children.

BRAMERTON,

A small village four and a-half miles (south-east by east) from Norwich, comprises 728 acres, belonging to several proprietors. The hall was the seat of the Corys from 1400 to the middle of the last century. Hill House is a pretty building in the Tudor style, situated on an eminence above the river Yare and commanding an extensive view of the valley. The Church (St. Peter) was rebuilt in 1462 and is now in the decorated style. It comprises nave, chancel, north transept, south porch, and square tower with one bell. The discharged rectory, now worth £258 yearly, is in the patronage of Robert Fellowes, Esq. There are about twenty-two acres of glebe.

SURLINGHAM (ST. MARY),

A parish five and a-half miles (east-south-east by east) from Norwich. The parish is bounded on the north and east by the river Yare, over which there is a ferry at Coldham Hall, a place much frequented by anglers. The parish comprises about 1750 acres, of which 100 acres are covered by a fine sheet of water, called "Surlingham Broad." The living is a vicarage with the perpetual curacy of St. Saviour's annexed; net income £40; patron, the Bishop of Norwich. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £410, and the glebe comprises thirty-four acres. The Church is an ancient structure in the early English style, with a circular tower, and was thoroughly repaired in 1840. There are some remains of the ancient Church of St. Saviour forming a picturesque ruin.

CAISTER (ST. EDMUND'S),

A parish three and a-half miles (south) from Norwich, comprises 1045 acres in the valley of the Taas, which flows into the Yare. The river Taas formerly filled the whole valley, but is now a small stream. The Romans advancing from the coast up the river landed here and built a station, supposed to be the *Venta Icenorum* by Camden and Horsley, whose arguments are not very conclusive. Sir Henry Spelman, Sir Francis Palgrave, Colonel Leake, and the late Hudson Gurney, Esq, believed the site of Norwich, before it was a city, to have been the *Venta Icenorum*, but that name may have been applied to all the district, including the sites of Norwich and Caister, when a broad arm of the sea flowed up the valley. The walls of the ancient camp, which was deserted by the Romans, A.D. 446, were in the form of a parallelogram, inclosing an area

of about thirty-two acres, within which foundations of the buildings may be traced. The remains consist of a single fosse and vallum, and were surrounded by a strong wall as an additional rampart, built upon the vallum, the enclosed space being capable of containing 6000 men. On the north, east, and south sides there are large mounds raised from the fosse, and the west side has one formed on the margin of the river Taas, as are also the remains of the water gate. Within the area of the camp at the south-east angle stands the Church, the materials for building which were evidently taken from the ruins of the rampart. Mr. R. Fitch, in his essay on the Camp at Caister, gives the following description of it:—“The Camp is situated in the village of Caister St. Edmund, three miles from Norwich. It was on the left bank of the small river Taas or Taes, the waters of which, whatever may once have been their extent, are now confined to the breadth of a very narrow stream—so confined, indeed, as to be little more than a rivulet. On the ancient importance of the river Taes antiquaries are divided. Geologists assume that the waters covered the surface of the low meadows, which stretch between the gently rising grounds in which the camp is situated and the opposite ridge which extends along the right side of this stream, and, flowing on towards the city, spread into an estuary of considerable size. This might have been the case at a remote period; indeed the nature of the geological deposits affirms the fact; but it is, perhaps, doubtful whether this was the condition of the stream at the time of the Roman occupation, and for this reason, that Roman or Romano-British remains have been exhumed upon adjacent sites, which must have formed the bed of the estuary to which allusion is made, if its waters were wide-spreading as affirmed. The question, however, is one of considerable difficulty, and is only to be settled by reference to a multitude of facts, which can have no place in this brief paper.” The form of the camp is a parallelogram, whose sides nearly answer to the four points of the compass. The corners are rounded; and the side upon the west, which faces the stream of the Taes, extends beyond the line of the parallel and is of a depressed angular form. On the north side of the apex of this angle, stands one of two towers of Roman masonry, of which some further notice will be taken. The camp contains thirty-four superficial acres. Along its eastern side runs the road from Norwich to Shottesham. In the south-east corner within the camp stands the parish Church. The whole outline is plainly distinguishable from the walls, a considerable portion of which is now covered with huge mounds of earth, not to aid in their preservation, but for the convenience of cultivation. Roman masonry may be seen at several points. On the north side a considerable portion of the wall is denuded of its earthy covering, and a close examination of its structure may be made. The

substance of the walls is faced with flint, in many places squared and prepared with a flat face. At the termination of each four courses of flints appears the old bonding tile of the Romans. There are slight dislocations of this arrangement, but the material and its use is described here as a whole. The wall is also exposed at points in the west or river side; though here, as we approach the south, both wall and bank are in a very abraded condition. Here stands the tower, of which mention has already been made. Its situation is rather in advance of the line of wall; but that it has been attached to the exterior wall is clear, because the part next the camp is flattened for the purpose of connection. The present height of this singular fragment is thirteen feet, though its altitude was greater when perfect. The circumference above the ground is twenty-two feet eight inches. At present it is surmounted by an immense crown of ivy, which doubtless tends much to the preservation of the structure. Flint and bonding tile compose the exterior, and its interior is a core of solid rubble. By an examination of the tower in the month of July, 1857, the base now hidden beneath the surface of the earth was found to be of faced flints, and to project eighteen inches from the body.

#### SHOTTESHAM (ST. MARY)

A parish six miles (south) from Norwich, is bounded on the west by the small river Taas, and presents very pleasing scenery. The parish comprises 1615 acres of land, exclusive of 400 acres in the park, wherein is the seat of Robert Fellowes, Esq., Lord of the Manor and owner of the soil. The park is well wooded, and extends down to the river Taas. The house is a modern structure of brick, built on the site of the ancient hall, which was long a seat of the D'Oyley family. St. Mary's Church is a plain structure, comprising nave, chancel, south porch, and square tower with one bell. The ancient Churches of St. Martin's and St. Botolph have been in ruins for several centuries.

#### BRACON ASH,

Six miles (south-west) from Norwich, comprises 958 acres of fertile land, mostly the property of the Rev. Thomas Berney, M.A., who resides at the hall, a spacious brick mansion. He is Lord of the Manor, and patron and incumbent of the rectory, which was valued in the King's books at £10, and has now a yearly rent-charge of £243 8s. 0d., awarded in 1842, in lieu of tithes. The Berney family is of great antiquity, having originally come from Berney in Normandy, and prior to the conquest settled in Norfolk. The Church (St. Nicholas) is a neat structure, comprising nave, chancel, south aisle, north porch, and bell cot with one bell.

## HUMBLEYARD HUNDRED

Is a fertile and well wooded district, bounded on the north by Norwich, on the west by Forehoe, on the south by Depwade, and on the east by Henstead. It contains nineteen parishes, namely, Bracon Ash, Carlton (East), Colney, Cringleford, Dunston, Flordon, Hethel, Hethersett, Intwood, Keswick, Ketteringham, Markshall, Melton (Great), Melton (Little), Mulbarton, Newton Flotman, Swainsthorpe, Swardestone, and Wrenningham; altogether comprising 21,521 acres, with a population of 5620.

## EAST CARLTON

Comprises the united parishes of St. Mary and St. Peter, five miles (south) from Norwich. The area is 850 acres. The Corporation of Norwich purchased the principal manor, and held it on condition of carrying yearly to the King's house, wherever he might be, twenty four herring-pies or pasties, containing 100 herrings, which the town of Yarmouth was bound to supply; this curious custom was observed till the early part of last century. The living is a discharged rectory; income £176. St. Peter's is a discharged sinecure rectory, in the patronage of the Crown. The two Churches formerly stood within fifty yards of each other; that of St. Peter has fallen into ruins. St. Mary's is a small edifice, chiefly in the early English style, and has a low square tower.

## KESWICK (ST. MARY),

A parish three miles (south-south-west) from Norwich. This parish, which is situated on the south bank of a river, comprises about 700 acres of land, which were the property of the late Hudson Gurney, Esq., who was Lord of the Manor, and lived here the greater part of his long life, and died here in his mansion. The lands are in good cultivation, and the scenery is very pleasing and diversified. The living is a rectory, consolidated in 1597 with that of Intwood. The Church, in ruins, appears to have been a small edifice of great antiquity.

## MULBARTON (ST. MARY MAGDALENE),

A parish distant five miles (south-south-west) from Norwich. It was consolidated with Kenningham in the year 1452, and comprises 1348A. 0R. 26P., of which 967 acres are arable, 284 pasture, 38 woodland, and 48 common, as yet not enclosed. The village is pleasantly situated on the road to New Buckenham, and contains 500 inhabitants. The living is a rectory, with Kenningham; net income, £606; the glebe comprises 80 acres, with a house. The Church was erected by Sir William Hoo, and is a handsome structure, partly in the early and partly in the later English

style, with a square embattled tower. The windows of the Church are filled with stained glass. Sir Thomas Richardson, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, was born here in 1626.

HETHERSETT (ST. REMIGIUS),

A parish five miles (south) from Norwich on the road to London. It comprises 2635A. 1R. 7P. of land, of which 2165 acres are arable, 415 pasture, and 54 woodland. The scenery along the high road through this parish is sylvan and picturesque. The living is a rectory in mediocrities with the rectory of Canteclose, annexed in 1397; net income, £651; patrons, Master and Fellows of Caius College, Cambridge. The Church, which is chiefly in the early style, consists of a nave and side aisles, with a lofty embattled tower, surmounted by a small spire; the nave is lighted by clerestory windows, and the Church contains several ancient monuments.

KETTERINGHAM PARISH

Six and a-half miles (south-west) from Norwich, comprises 1580 acres of land, nearly all the property of the late Sir John P. Boileau, Bart., who lived at the Hall. He was descended from an illustrious French house, one of whom fled from persecution and settled at Southampton. This was Charles Boileau, Baron of Castlenau and St. Croix, a lineal descendant in an unbroken line from Etienne Boileau, the first Grand Provost of Paris in 1250, whose descendants held honourable civil and military appointments till the time when they became Protestants. The son of Charles Boileau removed to Dublin, and was the father of the late John Peter Boileau, Esq., who went to India with his relative, General Caillard, and after filling the highest offices in the Presidency of Madras, returned to England with an ample fortune in 1780, and settled at Tacolnestone in Norfolk. In 1836 Ketteringham was conveyed to him, and in 1838 he was created a baronet. In 1825 he married Lady Catherine S. Elliott, youngest daughter of the first Earl of Minto, and his son and heir, Francis George Manningham Boileau, was born in 1830. Sir John was a Fellow of the Royal Society and member of other associations. The hall is a large and handsome castellated Tudor structure of ancient foundation, and was greatly improved by the late baronet by the erection of a spacious Gothic hall, fit for the hospitalities of the middle ages.

The living is a discharged vicarage; net income £196; the glebe contains thirty-five acres. The Church is pleasantly situated in the park, and is chiefly in the earlier and later English styles, with a square embattled tower. In 1737 it was thoroughly repaired, and the windows were ornamented with ancient and modern stained glass at a cost of £300.

The chancel, on the south side of which a piscina was discovered, contains monuments to the ancient family of Heveningham, and there are also monuments to the families of Atkins and Peech; three of the former were Barons of the Exchequer in the reigns of Charles II. and William III. A neat school was erected at the cost of the late Sir J. P. Boileau, Bart.

## CLAVERING HUNDRED

Lies at the south-east extremity of the county, being bounded on the west by Loddon Hundred, on the north by the river Yare, and on the south and east by the river Waveney, which divides it from Suffolk. It is from six to eight miles in length and breadth, except at the north-east end, where it terminates in a narrow slip, ending at the confluence of the rivers Waveney and Yare. The soil is rich and fertile, though a great deal of it is wet marshes. The Hundred comprises 30,443 acres, with a population of 6674. Clavering includes the following parishes: Aldeby, Brooke, Burgh Apton, Burgh St. Peter, Ellingham, Geldeston, Gillingham All Saints and St. Mary, Haddiscoe, Hales, Heckingham, Howe, Kirby Cane, Norton Subcourse, Raveningham, Stockton, Thorpe-next-Haddiscoe, Thurlton, Toft Monks, and Wheatacre.

## ALDEBY (ST. MARY)

Is a parish three miles (north-east) from Beccles; bounded on the south by the river Waveney, which separates it from the county of Suffolk, and comprises 3043 acres. The living is a perpetual curacy, net income £120; patrons and appropriators, Dean and Chapter of Norwich. Here was a small priory, a cell to the Benedictine Abbey of Norwich, which at the dissolution was given by Henry VIII., as part of the endowment of the Dean and Prebendaries of that Cathedral. The Church is a cruciform structure with a south chapel, and is partly in the early and partly in the perpendicular styles; the entrance to the west is through a rich Norman doorway; the tower rises between the nave and chancel. In 1840, a National School for one hundred children was erected; it is supported by subscription. £40, the rental of land, is annually distributed among the poor.

## BROOKE (ST. PETER),

A parish seven miles (south-east by east) from Norwich, is situated between the Rivers Yare and Waveney, and comprises 2119A. 2R. 11P., of which about 1387 are arable, 488 pasture, and 232 wood. The soil varies from a mixed loam to a tenacious clay, and has been much improved by draining. The surface is boldly undulated, and there is an extensive range of rich meadow land, watered by a stream called the Beck. There

are also two lakes or meres, the shores of which are beautifully wooded. The great road from Norwich to Bungay runs through the village, in which there are several handsome residences. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at £5, and in the patronage of the Crown. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £552 8s., of which £390 are paid to the impropiator, £240 to the vicar, £3 14s. to the Rector of Kirstead, and £4 14s. 6d. to the Rector of Howe. There is a good glebe house, which was considerably improved by the Rev. William Castell. The Church is a very ancient structure, with a circular tower, the upper part of which is octagonal, and is supposed to have been erected about the year 1000. It consists of nave, chancel, and north aisle, and has the remains of an ancient carved screen, and a font elaborately sculptured with emblems of the seven Roman sacraments. The nave, which is spacious and lofty, is covered with reeds grown in the marshes. There is a place of worship for Baptists. In 1838, there was erected by subscription a National Infants' School for the children of Brooke and Kirkstead. The proceeds of a Church estate, amounting to about £80 per annum, are appropriated to the repairs of the Church and the general purposes of the parish. Sir Astley Paston was born here in 1768.

BURGH (ST. PETER), OR WHEATACRE BURGH,

Is a parish six and three-quarter miles (east-north-east) from Beccles. This parish comprises 860 acres, of which 583 are low marshy grazing land, about fifteen wood, and the remainder arable. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at £7 6s. 8d. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £370, and the glebe comprises fifteen and a-half acres, valued at £23 7s. per annum, out of which a rent-charge of £3 is payable to the Rector of Monk's Toft.

ELLINGHAM (ST. MARY),

A parish situated on the river Waveney, near Bungay, contains about 400 inhabitants. The living is a rectory; net income, £414; patron, Lord Braybrook. The tithes have been commuted for a rent charge of £339 13s. 2d., and the glebe comprises ninety-one acres. The Church is an ancient structure, in the early English style, with a square embattled tower. There is a National School.

GELDESTONE (ST. MICHAEL),

A parish bounded on the south by the river Waveney, near Beccles, comprises 820A. 2R. 2P., of which 404 are arable, 400 pasture, and fourteen woodland. There are here an extensive brewery and a malting

establishment, from which is a small cut to the Waveney. The hall is a handsome mansion, and was the residence of John Kerrick, Esq. The living is a discharged rectory, in the patronage of the Crown. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £168, and the glebe comprises fourteen acres, valued at £14 5s. 10d. per annum. The Church is chiefly in the later English style, with a circular tower of earlier date.

## GILLINGHAM,

Comprising the united parishes of All Saints and St. Mary, is situated on the road from Norwich and Beccles, and is bounded on the south by the river Waveney. The livings are discharged rectories united; patron, Lord G. Beresford. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £462 10s. 0d.; and the glebe comprises sixty acres, valued at £24 per annum, with a glebe house. The Church (St. Mary) is principally of Norman architecture, with a tower rising from the centre. The west and north entrances are under enriched Norman arches, and the chancel contains a handsome monument to Sir Nicholas Bains, Bart., and several others. The Church of All Saints was demolished in 1748, but the round tower still remains, and being overgrown with ivy presents an interesting and venerable appearance. Two schools are chiefly supported by subscription; and there are town lands producing £50 per annum for parochial purposes.

## HADDISCOE (ST. MARY)

Is a parish bounded on the north-east by the river Waveney, on the road from Yarmouth to Beccles. The manor house here is a good modern residence on the banks of the Waveney, and is the seat of Septimus Grimmer, Esq., Lord of the Manor. The living is a discharged rectory, with that of Toft Monks annexed; patrons, Provost and Fellows of King's College, Cambridge. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £341 10s. 0d. The glebe contains about twenty-two acres, valued at £33, to which there is a glebe house. The Church is chiefly in the later English style, has a round tower, and the entrances are through richly-decorated Norman doorways.

## KIRBY CANE,

A parish in the south-eastern border of the county, named originally Kirby Camp, of which the modern appellation is a corruption. There was an ancient camp at Pewter's Hill, where, about the year 1815, several skeletons, celts, and various weapons were turned up by the plough. The hall is a handsome mansion, and was the residence of Lord Berners, who is patron of the living, a discharged rectory. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £425, and the glebe comprises forty-one acres, valued

at £60. The Church is an ancient structure in the early English style, with a circular tower. There is a Wesleyan Chapel and a National School.

HALES (ST. MARGARET),

A parish two miles (south-east by south) from Loddon, and comprises 909A. 3R. 11P., of which 761A. 1R. 18P. are arable, 59A. 2R. 21P. woodland, and 89A. 3R. 12P. pasture. The living is a perpetual curacy. Patron and impropiator, Sir W. B. Smyth, Bart. The impropriate tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £246. The Church is chiefly in the Norman style, and has a circular tower.

HOWE (ST. MARY),

A parish six and a-half miles (south-south-east) from Norwich, comprises 757 acres, the chief part of which is arable. The living is a discharged rectory, with the rectory of Little Poringland, united in 1782, valued in the King's books at £8 13s. 4d. The tithes of the united parishes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £350 6d.; and the glebe consists of 55 acres. There is also a rent-charge of £42, payable to the rector of Bixley with Framingham Earl. Elizabeth Hastings, in 1838, left £6 per annum for instruction.

LODDON HUNDRED

Extends about ten miles south of the river Yare, and is from five to six miles in breadth, being bounded on the north by Blofield, on the east by Clavering, on the south by Earsham, and on the west by Henstead. It has generally a fertile soil, is well cultivated, and abounds with wood and water. Near the Yare it has a rich but watery tract of marshes, with several rivulets and broads. It comprises twenty-one parishes, covering 38,495 acres, with a population of 7,520. The parishes in this Hundred are Alington, Ashby, Bedingham, Broome, Carleton St. Peter, Chedgrave, Claxton, Ditchingham, Hardley, Hedenham, Hillington, Kirstead, Langley, Loddon, Mundham, Seething, Sisland, Thurton, Thwaite St. Mary, Topcroft, Woodton. The whole Hundred is in the Loddon and Clavering Union, which was incorporated under an Act passed in 1765, but is now managed in accordance with the provisions of the New Poor Law Acts.

LANGLEY.

This parish extends from the river Yare to Loddon, and comprises 2700 acres of land. The owner of the soil and Lord of the Manor, Sir Thos. Wm. Brograve Proctor Beauchamp, Bart., is also impropiator of the tithes, and resides at Langley Hall, a large and very elegant mansion in a beautiful park of 800 acres. The hall was erected about the year 1740

by Mr. Recorder Berney, of Norwich, and finished by George Proctor, Esq. It was afterwards enlarged by Sir W. B. Proctor, who was created a baronet in 1744 and made a Knight of the Bath. Additions were made to its wings some years ago.

## DITCHINGHAM

Is a large scattered village extending southward to the river Waveney, thirteen miles (south-south-east) from Norwich. The parish comprises 2084 acres of land. The large heath in this and Broome parish was enclosed in 1812. The Duke of Norfolk is Lord of the Manor of Ditchingham, and J. L. Bedingfield, Esq., is Lord of the adjoining Manor of Pirnhow, which was anciently a parish. The rectory is now in the patronage of George Shaw, Esq. The tithes were commuted in 1839 for £560 per annum; and there are thirty acres of glebe. The Church (St. Mary) stands on an eminence, and is a fine building in the perpendicular style, comprising nave, chancel, north and south porches, and lofty square tower containing six bells. Ditchingham Hall is situated near the high road from Norwich to Bungay, and is well worthy of observation. It was the elegant seat of Philip Bedingfield, Esq., who made many improvements with much judgment and taste. John Longueville Bedingfield is now owner of the Hall. Ditchingham House, a substantial brick structure on a large lawn, is now the seat of Captain John Margetson. The Lodge is occupied by Colonel Wilson. Holly Hill Lodge a neat modern residence with pleasant ground, is the seat and property of Robert White, Esq.

## LODDON

Is pleasantly situated on the banks of a river, which rises in this Hundred and empties itself into the Yare at Hardley Cross. It is ten miles from Norwich, five from Beccles and six from Bungay, and has a weekly market on Friday, and two annual fairs, viz., April 5th, and November 11th. The present Church was built by Sir James Hobart in the reign of Henry VII., and is a beautiful building. In the North Chapel by the chancel, on a marble altar, are several brass plates, with the arms and two figures now disrobed, "in memory of Henry Hobart, Esq." Near to this, on a grave stone with brass plates, there is the effigy of a woman, and the following inscription:—"Ann Hobart, late wife of Henry Hobart, Esq., daughter of Sir John Fyneaux, Knt., Chief Judge of England, which Ann departed this life the last day of October, 1530." Also the arms of Hobart and Fyneaux.

## DEPWADE HUNDRED

Is about ten miles in length from east to west, and six in breadth, bounded on the east by Loddon, on the west by Shropham, on the north by

Forehoe, and south by Earsham. It is a fertile and well wooded district, crossed by good roads and by several small streams, which give rise to the river Taas, which was formerly a larger stream, crossed by a deep ford near Tasburgh. This deep ford gave its name to the Hundred, which contains 30,491 acres, twenty-one parishes, and 9616 inhabitants, nearly all engaged in agricultural pursuits. The parishes in this Hundred are Ashwellthorpe, Aslacton, Bunwell, Carlton Rode, Forncett St. Mary, Forncett St. Peter, Fritton, Fundenhall, Hapton, Hardwick, Hempnall, Morningthorpe, Moulton (Great), Shelton, Stratton St. Mary, Stratton St. Michael, Tacolnestone, Tasburgh, Tharston, Tibbenham and Wacton. These are all rural parishes, whose inhabitants are nearly all engaged in agricultural pursuits. There is little to notice in any of the parishes except the Churches, which are nearly all fine edifices, similar in the style of architecture.

STRATTON, LONG (ST. MARY),

A market town and parish, ten miles (south) from Norwich, is built on each side of the high road from the city to London. It consists of one long street of well-built houses. A fair was granted by King John to Roger de Stratton in 1207, but it is now disused. The parish comprises 1517 acres of land, of which 1097 are arable, 361 pasture, and 32 wood and waste. The living is a rectory; patrons, Master and Fellows of Gonville and Caius College. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £413-10s. 0d. The Church, built about 1330, is chiefly in the decorated and later styles, with a circular tower, surmounted by a low spire. There is a Chapel for Independents. Part of the ancient manor house, now a farm-house, still remains.

STRATTON (ST. MICHAEL),

A parish adjoining, comprises 1050 acres of land, of which about 120 are pasture and the rest arable. The living is a rectory, with that of St. Peter consolidated; patrons, Warden and Fellows of New College, Oxford. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £330, and there is a good glebe house; the glebe contains twenty-six acres. The Church of St. Peter was demolished long ago; that of St. Michael consists of a nave and chancel, with a low embattled tower. The Wesleyans have a Chapel here, as well as in most of the villages in Norfolk.

TASBURGH (ST. MARY),

A parish situated on the road from Norwich to London, is supposed to have been the *Ad Tuam* of the Romans, who had a camp here on the banks of the River Taas. The parish comprises 881 acres of land, of

which 637 are arable and the remainder meadows and gardens. The surface is in some parts boldly undulated, and very fine views are obtained from the churchyard and its vicinity of an extensive range of beautifully-varied scenery. The living is a rectory; the tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £287; the glebe contains three acres, valued at £4 per annum. The Church is a very ancient edifice, with a circular tower, and stands on elevated ground in the area of a square entrenchment comprising twenty-four acres.

SHELTON (ST. MARY), NEAR LONG STRATTON,

Comprises 1301A. 2R. 6P., of which 1024 are arable and 267 pasture. This parish was formerly the property of the Shelton family, of whom Sir Ralph Shelton built the ancient Hall, a spacious castellated mansion, moated round, and which is now a farm-house. The living is a rectory, with that of Hardwick annexed. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £640. The glebe comprises 42 acres, valued at £52 10s. per annum. The Church, built by Sir Ralph Shelton, is an elegant structure in the later English style, with a square embattled tower, and contains many ancient monuments, and some fine windows embellished with Bible subjects in stained glass. In the chancel there is a handsome cenotaph to Sir Robert Houghton, Chief Justice of the King's Bench.

MORNINGTHORPE (ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST),

A parish eleven miles (south) from Norwich, comprises 1001A. 0R. 13P., of which 970 acres are well cultivated land, with a moderate portion of woodland. Boyland Hall is a handsome mansion in the Elizabethan style, the seat of the Hon. Admiral Irby. The living is a discharged rectory in the patronage of the Crown. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £300, and the glebe comprises eight acres, valued at £10 10s. per annum. The Church is a fine structure, chiefly in the later English style. The chancel was beautified by the Rector, and the altar enriched with carved oak. A parochial school was erected in 1841.

CARLTON RODE (ALL SAINTS),

A parish five miles (south-east by east) from Attleborough, is said to have taken its distinguishing appellation from its ancient Lord, Walter de Rode, who lived in the reign of Henry III. The parish comprises 2600 acres. The living is a discharged rectory; patron, Sir R. J. Buxton, Bart. The tithes were commuted for a rent charge of £921, and the glebe consists of forty-nine acres, valued at £72 per annum, with an excellent glebe house. The Church is a handsome structure, chiefly in the later English style, and

has a low square tower. The nave is lighted by clerestory windows, and is separated from the chancel by the remains of a carved screen on which are painted figures of the Twelve Apostles.

#### EARSHAM HUNDRED

Is a fertile district, bounded on the west by Diss Hundred, on the north by Loddon, and on the east by the river Waveney, which divides it from Suffolk. It is about thirteen miles in length along the river, and averages from three to five miles in breadth. It is all in the liberty of the Duke of Norfolk, contains 24,564 acres, fourteen parishes, and 8484 inhabitants. Harleston is the market town, where a new Corn Hall has been built, and much business is done there on Wednesdays.

This Hundred includes the rural parishes of Alburgh, Billingford, Brockdish, Denton, Earsham, Mendham (part), Needham, Pulham St. Mary Magdalen, Pulham St. Mary the Virgin, Redenhall, Harleston, Rushall, Starston, Thorpe Abbots, Wortwell.

Billingford was originally named Preleston, or the "Town of the Battle," in all probability so called from some remarkable battle fought here when the Romans possessed the land. Its present name first occurred in the time of Henry III., when the inhabitants began to settle near the ford, for Billingford signifies the dwelling at the ford near a low meadow.

#### EARSHAM

Was the chief Manor of the Hundred of Earsham, and belonged to Stigand, the Archbishop, at the survey of Edward the Confessor, when it was worth £11, being then a mile and a-half long; a mile broad, and paid 6d. to the gelt or tax. At the Conquest it belonged to the King, William I., who committed the management of it to William de Noiers. The soc and sac belonged to it, and the whole was raised to £40 value. From the time it was granted to the Norfolk family, along with the half hundred from the Crown, it passed with the Manor of Fornsett, the Duke of Norfolk being Lord of the Manor and owner of the park here, which is now disparked; but in the 35th of Edward I. it was well stocked, and belonged to the lodge or manor house, which had 286 acres in demesne, sixteen acres in meadow and the hall dykes or fishery, a water mill and many woods and fens, all of which were kept for the use of Roger Bigod, then lord, who resided chiefly at his adjacent castle of Bungay, in Suffolk. The estate passed to the Throgmorton's, then to the Gooch's, then to the Buxton's, when John Buxton, Esq., built the present house, called Earsham Lodge or Hall, which became the seat of the Windhams. The great statesman, William Windham, resided here at the close of the last century.

## DENTON

Takes its name from the Saxon word *den*, a cave, or hollow place between two hills, which exactly answers to the situation. The present Church stands on a hill, and the parsonage house on the north side of the churchyard, in the very den or hollow from which the village is named. The superior jurisdiction over divers freemen of this place passed with the Hundred of Earsham; but the chief manor of Denton was held of Bishop Stigand by Alfriz, in the reign of Edward the Confessor; and by Eudo, son of Spiruwin at the survey in 1086, when it was worth £4 per annum, the town being a mile long and four furlongs wide, and paid 1s. 6d. gelt or tax. The estate came to William de Albany, who joined it to the Castle at Buckenham, with which it passed for many ages. Another part, which formerly belonged to the Abbey of Bury St. Edmund's, was held by Tarmohlt, and then by the said Eudo. This constituted that manor called Payone's in Denton.

The manor of Denton-cum-Topcroft passed with the Albanys, and at the division of the estate of that family among female heiresses, was allotted among others to Sir Robert de Tatestale, Knight, in whose family it continued till the failure of male issue.

## MENDHAM

Includes Needham, Shotford, and Metfield. Needham adjoins east to Brockdish, on the high road, and was originally a hamlet and chapelry to Mendham, which is a very extensive place. The parish church stands just over the river in Suffolk; but this hamlet and the adjacent part between it and the parish church on the Norfolk side were no less than two miles and five furlongs in length, and seven furlongs in width, at the survey in 1086, and paid sevenpence to the gelt or tax. The part on the Norfolk side (exclusive of the bounds of this ancient hamlet) was called Shotford or the part of the ford (over which there was a good brick bridge), and for many ages had a rector presented to it, by the name of the rector of Shotford portion, in Mendham. Part of Herolveston or Harleston then belonged to Mendham; and now that part opposite the south side of the chapel. Mendham Church is a good building, with a square tower and five bells, having a nave, two aisles, and south porch leaded, and chancel tiled, in which are several memorials of persons long since dead and forgotten. This parish church is dedicated to All Saints, and was originally a rectory, one turn in which was in Sir William de Huntingfield, founder of the Priory here, to which he gave it, and the other in Sir Thomas de Needham, who gave it to the Prior and Convent of the Holy Trinity at Ipswich, to which it was appropriated by Thomas de Blandeville, Bishop

of Norwich, in 1227, when the vicarage was settled, and the first vicar here was presented by the Prior of Ipswich.

The Chapel of St. Peter at Needham was in all probability founded by Sir Thomas de Needham for his own tenants, and being so far from the mother Church of Mendham was made parochial and had separate bounds, officers, administration of sacraments, and burial.

This Hamlet originally belonged to the Abbot of Bury St. Edmund's, and was infeoffed by Froslo at the conquest, and his descendants took the surname of Needham, and, contrary to common rule, gave their name to the place instead of taking their name from the place.

Medefield, or Metfield, or the field by the meadows, is another Hamlet or parochial Chapel of Mendham, the great tithes of which belonged to the impropiator there, who nominated and paid the stipendiary chaplain at the close of last century. The Chapel is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and has a square clock tower and three bells; the south porch, nave, and chancel are leaded. This Hamlet was the ancient seat of the Jermys. Medefield, or Metfield, was anciently of the fee of the Abbot of St. Bennett at Holme, near Dilham, of whom it was held in the time of Richard I. at half-a-fee by Hugh Bard, after which it was escheated to the Crown, and was granted to Thomas de Brotherton, son to Edward I., who married Alice, daughter of Sir Roger Hales, of Harwich, Knight, whose sister, Joan, married Sir John Jermy, Knight, and in 1325, the said Thomas conveyed to his brother-in-law, Sir John Jermy, Knight, two parts of this manor, and the third part to his wife for assignment of her dower. In 1428, Sir John Jermy, Knight, owned this manor and rebuilt the Church and manor house, where he placed the matches of his family in the windows, and his own arms are carved several times in the timber of the roof, and are still in several windows and in stone in the front. He died in 1487, and was buried at the north-east corner of the chancel. His inscription was cut in old-text letters on his tombstone, but it is so worn and broken that little of it remains.

From the younger branch descended the Jermys of Bayfield in Holt Hundred; and John Jermy, Esq., of the eldest, continued the family at Metfield, and lies buried in the chancel near his grandfather, with a brass plate on his stone, *obij* January 14, 1504, with the arms of Jermy and Hopton. Sir John Jermy, of Metfield and Brightwell, Knight of the Bath, was his grandson. An altar tomb at the north-east corner of this chancel, with the arms of Jermy, shows this inscription: "Thomas Jarmy, Esq., sonne and heire of Sir Thomas Jarmy, Knight of the Honourable Order of the Bath, December 21, 1652." The manor was afterwards sold and passed to Walter Plominer, Esq.

## PULHAM (OR PULLAHAM)

Signifies the village of pools or standing waters. According to the earliest account, it belonged to Waldchist, a Saxon, who forfeited all that he had to King Edmund, who was lord of it, and left it to King Etheldred or Edred his brother, and at his death it went to King Edwy, and after him to King Edgar, his brother, who sold it to Wolstan, and at his death to Ethelwold, Bishop of Winchester, for £40, and he gave it to the Abbey of St. Etheldred, or Andrey, at Ely, who was in possession at the time of the Norman Conquest. The village was then two miles long and a mile broad, and paid £30 to the gelt or tax. Money in the same coin was then worth ten times more than the present value.

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin is the mother Church, and has a square tower with a spire on its top and six bells. The nave, south aisle, chancel, and porch are covered with lead. In the porch chamber lay many court rolls and evidences of the manor, with armour, a broken organ, and several brass plates reeved off the stones in the Church. There are monuments to the families of the Aslacks, the Langs, the Jermys, and the Sayers.

The Chapel of St. Mary Magdalen is a good structure with a large square tower, a clock and six bells, a handsome north porch, two aisles and nave all covered with lead. It is a very handsome edifice.

## REDENHALL

Takes its name from Ruda, the dean, who was lord in the time of Edward the Confessor, and held it of Edric, the predecessor of Robert Mulet, lord of the honour of Eye. Its value was then £3 per annum, but it rose to £8 value, and was a mile and a-half long and three perches broad, and paid 10d. to the Dane gelt or tax. It extended into Alburgh and Starston, and it contained twenty-three freemen, whose rents were £4 per annum, but they were afterwards separated from the manor and added to Earl Ralf's Hundred of Earsham. The Church is situated in the middle of the parish, so that it might be equi-distant for the tenants of the several manors and to the Hamlets of Harleston, and Wortwell. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and is a good regular building, having its north porch, nave, and two aisles leaved, and chancel tiled. It was rebuilt of freestone by Thomas Brotherton, Earl of Norfolk, and the chancel by William Newport, rector, but the noble square tower, which is very large and lofty, is of a much later foundation. It was begun about 1460, and was carried on as the legacies and benefactions came in.

## HARLESTON,

A market town in the parish of Redenhall, nineteen miles (south) from Norwich, and ninety-nine and a-half (north-east) from London. The

original appellation of Herolfstone, or Herolveston, of which the present is a corruption, was derived from Herolf, one of the Danish leaders, who came over with Sweyn, and settled in this part of the kingdom. In the centre of the town stands a stone, formerly called Herolf's stone, whence probably originated the name of a family to which belonged Sir John Herolveston, who in the reign of Richard II. quelled a formidable disturbance in Norfolk and the neighbouring county. The town is situate on the road from Bury St. Edmund's to Yarmouth, about one mile from the river Waveney, over which is a bridge; it is lighted with gas, and well supplied with water from springs. The manufacture of bombazines was carried on here to a limited extent. The market, which is chiefly for corn, is held on Wednesdays in a new hall, and well attended; fairs are held on July 15th and September 9th and 10th; the latter, which is still a large sheep and cattle fair, was originally continued eight days. On the first of December was formerly a fair for Scotch cattle, which continued one month, and which was removed hither many years since from Hoxne, in Suffolk; but it has fallen into disuse in consequence of the preference given to the cattle market at Norwich. A portion of the town is under the superior jurisdiction of the Duke of Norfolk, who is lord of the manor, and has the tolls of the markets and fairs, holding courts for the manor occasionally. Petty Sessions are held on the first and third Fridays in the month. In the centre of the town is a Chapel of Ease, dedicated to St. John the Baptist. It is a free chapel, founded probably by Sir John de Herofston for his own use. It never had an institution, but was always dependent upon its mother church at Redenhall, the rector of which served here one part of the day every Sunday.

In 1688, being almost useless, and deserted for want of fit endowments, that pious prelate, William Sandcroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, settled on the master, fellows, and scholars of Emmanuel College, in Cambridge, £54 per annum, payable quarterly out of the hereditary revenues of the excise, in trust and special confidence that they will receive it, and nominate a chaplain and schoolmaster here, and pay it so received to him, "provided he perform divine service in the chapel daily except on Sundays." The chapel was rebuilt in 1726, and enlarged in 1819, by taking in the site of the market cross, which stood at the east end. There are places of worship for Independents and Wesleyans. The rents of an estate in the adjoining parish of Rushall, purchased with £200, the gift of Mr. John Dove, who died in 1712, are paid to the National School, which is also supported by subscriptions.

#### THE HUNDRED OF DISS

Is so called from its thriving market town, and is nearly a square district,

about seven miles in length and breadth, bounded on the east by Earsham, on the west by Guiltcross, on the north by Depwade, and on the south by the river Waveney, which divides it from Suffolk. It is a well-wooded and fertile district, generally level, but rising in some places in gentle undulations. It is crossed by the railway from Norwich to Ipswich, called the Eastern Union line. It contains 23,915 acres, sixteen parishes, and 9851 inhabitants.

The parishes are Bressingham, Burston, Dickleburgh with Langmere, Diss, Fersfield, Frenze, Gissing, Roydon, Scole, Shelfanger, Shimpling, Thelveton, Thorpe Parva, Tivetshall St. Margaret, Tivetshall St. Mary, Winfarthing.

SCOLE, OR OSMONDISTON (ST. ANDREW),

A parish twenty miles (south-south-west) from Norwich, bounded on the south by the river Waveney, comprising about 800 acres. The village was a great thoroughfare on the road from Ipswich to Norwich, and about forty coaches passed through there daily before the opening of railways. There was a very large inn built in the seventeenth century, and it had a large sign across the road. There is a fair for cattle on Easter Monday. The living is a discharged rectory; patron, Sir E. Kerrison, Bart. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £250, and the glebe contains twenty-five acres. The Church is an ancient structure in the decorated style, with a square embattled tower.

TIVETSHALL (ST. MARY),

A large parish, fifteen miles (south) from Norwich, on the road from the city to London, close to the Eastern Union Railway. There is a branch line from this place to Harleston, and through the valley of the Waveney to Bungay and Beccles. The living here is a rectory, with that of Tivetshall St. Margaret annexed; net income, £760; patron, Lord Orford. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £475 3s. 4d. There is a glebe of twenty-three acres, and a good glebe-house. The Church is partly in the early, and partly in the decorated style, and has an ancient square tower at the west end.

FERSFIELD (ST. ANDREW)

A parish near Diss, comprising 1140 acres, chiefly the property of the Duke of Norfolk, who is lord of the manor. It belonged in ancient time to the family of Du Bois, the supposed founders of the Church. The common was enclosed in 1799. The source of the river Waveney is near the village. The living is a rectory, and the tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £360; the glebe comprises fifty-nine acres, valued at

£74 7s. 6d. per annum. The Church is an ancient structure, in the decorated English style, with a square embattled tower. The Church lands comprise twenty acres, producing £32 per annum. The Rev. Francis Blomefield, the Norfolk historian, was born and buried here. He published two volumes of his "History of Norfolk" between 1836 and 1843. He did not live to finish it, and it was continued by the Rev. J. Parker, who did not live to finish it, and it was never completed.

*Royston*  
 ROYSTON (ST. REMIGIUS),

A parish near Diss, situated on the road to Thetford, is bounded on the south by the river Waveney. It comprises 1135A. 1R. 38P., chiefly arable, with a moderate proportion of meadow and pasture. The living is a rectory; patron, the Right Hon. J. H. Frere. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £440; and the glebe comprises forty-six acres, with a good house. The Church is an ancient structure, chiefly in the decorated style, with a circular tower. Mrs. M. Blowers left £1000 to the poor; and Miss Frere, in 1839, bequeathed £400 for clothing six married persons. About twenty acres of land are let in small lots to the poor.

DISS (ST. MARY),

A market town and parish in the Hundred of Diss, twenty-two miles (south-south-west) from Norwich, and ninety-two (north-east) from London.

This place (formerly Dixe, or Dice) was held in Royal demesne in the reign of Henry I., and in that of Edward I. became the property of Robert FitzWalter, who obtained for it the privilege of a market. The town is pleasantly situated near the river Waveney, by which it is separated on the south from the county of Suffolk, and consists of several streets, of which the principal are spacious, and are macadamized and lighted with gas. The houses are in general well built, and have a neat and handsome appearance; and the inhabitants are well supplied with water. A Book Society has been established for nearly a century, and it is supported by subscription; the collection exceeds 4000 volumes. There is also a Subscription Library; and a Literary and Scientific Institution was established in 1828. At the extremity of the town, and nearly in the centre of the parish, is a mere, five acres in extent, which abounds with eels. The principal branch of manufacture is the weaving of coarse cloth and sacking, and there are several breweries in the town. The market is on Friday, and is chiefly for corn. A fair for lambs, on the first Friday in July, has been established; a statute fair is held on the third Friday in September; and a fair for cattle and toys on the 8th of November. The Petty Sessions are held here on the second and fourth

Monday in the month. The parish, which is bounded on the south by the river Waveney, comprises 3625A. OR. 22P., of which about 3283 acres are under cultivation, and about fifteen are in plantation. The soil is various, but in general fertile; the surface is gently undulated, and the low grounds are watered by the river Frenze, which flows through the parish into the Waveney. The living is a rectory, valued in the King's books at £33 6s. 8d.; the tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £900; and the glebe comprises eleven acres, valued at £16 10s. per annum, to which there is a glebe-house. The Church is an ancient structure in the early and decorated English styles, with a square embattled tower. The nave is lighted by a fine range of double clerestory windows; and the south porch has a semi-circular headed doorway, over which is a large window of seven lights. There are places of worship for the Society of Friends, and Particular Baptists, Independents, Wesleyans, and Unitarians, and a Roman Catholic Chapel at Thelton. There is a School of Industry for girls, supported by the Misses Taylor, and there is a house in the churchyard, the rent of which (£25) is given to four poor widows. £100, the produce of a farm, is applied to the repair of the Church and other parochial uses.

Ralph de Dicete, Dean of St. Paul's in the reign of Henry II., and Walter, a Carlemite monk of Norwich, confessor to John o' Gaunt, were natives of this parish, of which also John Skelton, poet-laureate to Henry VIII., was rector, and styled by Erasmus "the light and ornament of English scholars."

Thomas Lombe Taylor, Esq., Lord of the Manor of Diss in 1854, erected a new Corn Hall, at a cost of £10,000, and made a present of it to the town. It is an elegant building in the Corinthian style of architecture, with a double glass roof, from which the interior is lighted. It contains an entrance-hall lighted from above; a Corn Exchange, seventy-seven feet long, forty-two wide, and twenty-seven high, and two rooms each thirty-three feet by twenty feet, the lower of which is used for magistrates' meetings, and the upper is a public library and reading-room. This rare act of generosity on the part of Mr. Taylor excited the gratitude of the inhabitants, who raised a subscription for his portrait, which was painted by Boxall, and now hangs in the Hall. Miss Taylor presented an excellent organ, which is used here at concerts.

We have so far given a pretty full description of all the towns and the most important villages in Norfolk and seats of the gentry, as an introduction to our historical narrative, leading events, and memoirs of eminent men of every period. We may here mention some of the most eminent characters—the Howards, Dukes of Norfolk, the Warrens, the Bigods, the Le Stranges, the Jerninghams, the Pastons, the FitzWalters,

the Lucys, the Mortimers, the Wodehouses, the Walpoles, the Townshends, the Windhams, and the Cokes, all whose families flourished for many ages. Most famous of all was Nelson, the Norfolk hero.

#### POPULATION OF NORFOLK.

The population of Norfolk in 1801 amounted to 273,479; in 1811 to 291,947; in 1821 to 344,368; in 1831 to 390,054; in 1841 to 412,664; in 1851 to 442,714; showing a gradual increase every decade. But in 1861 the population decreased to 434,791, consisting of 209,005 males and 225,793 females. There was consequently a decrease of 7916 persons during the decade preceding 1861. During that period there were registered in Norfolk 32,709 marriages and 137,594 births, but only 91,632 deaths. It is, therefore, apparent that 60,000 of the inhabitants must have left the county to seek employment elsewhere. The population continued to decrease in the rural districts till 1871. This decrease is attributed to the emigration of agricultural laborers to America, &c., and the colonies, the migration of young persons to the manufacturing districts; the depression of the shipping trade, owing to the transit of coals and heavy goods by railways; the discontinuance of hand-loom hemp cloth weaving, the introduction of machinery for agricultural purposes, and the want of a sufficient number of cottages in almost all parishes. Norwich and Yarmouth are the only towns in Norfolk in which there has been any considerable increase, the former on account of its manufactures, and the latter on account of its fisheries.

In considering the condition of the common people, we must keep in mind their gradual increase, and the proportion in counties and towns. Down to the 18th century, the rural population was far greater than in all the towns, and increased in every period till 1851. Since then the population has decreased, while the production of food, value of land, and rents have increased. The condition of the present rural labourers is very little improved as regards dwellings, clothing, or food; and certainly not at all improved as regards their education or intelligence.

The Norfolk dialect is so peculiar that it might well interest a philologist. Prince Lucien has included it among his collection, and by way of specimen here is a passage from his version of "The Song of Solomon:"—

1. The Song o' songs as is Sorlomon's.
2. Lerr 'un kiss me wi' the kisses of his mouth; for yar love is better an' wine.
3. Becaze o' the smell o' yar good intements yar name is as intements pored out, therefore du the mawthers love ye.
4. Dror me, we'll run arter ye; the king he ha' browt me into his chambers; we'll be giad and rejoice in ye: we'll remahmber yar love more 'an wine; the right-up love ye.

## CHAPTER IV.

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### A DESCRIPTION OF NORWICH.

THE capital of East Anglia is on the east side of the oval forming the shape of the county of Norfolk. It stands on each side of the navigable river Wensum, just above the confluence with the Yare. It is situated twenty miles west of the sea coast at Yarmouth, forty-eight and a-quarter east-by-south from Lynn, fifty-three and three-quarters from Ely, sixty-eight and a-half from Cambridge, and  $113\frac{1}{2}$  miles from London. It is a city and county of itself, the seat of a bishopric, a municipal and Parliamentary borough, assize town of the shire, place of election, and railway station. The Great Eastern Railway system connects the city with all other towns in England. It has a railway station at Thorpe for the Norfolk line from Yarmouth to Ely; another station at St. Stephen's Gates for the Suffolk lines to Ipswich and Bury St. Edmund's. It has two channels to the sea, by the river Yare to Yarmouth, and by the river Waveney to Lowestoft, from which ports steamers and sea-borne vessels come up to Norwich.

The city and county of Norwich occupies so large a space in the Eastern Division that it may be regarded as a separate district. It stands for the most part on the sloping sides of a rising ground, running parallel with the river Wensum, on the southern side, above its confluence with the Yare. The greatest extent, from St. Clement's Hill (north) to Hartford Bridges (south), is four and a-quarter miles; and following the zig-zag line of the boundary, it is about seventeen miles in circumference, comprising 6630 acres of land. Within its jurisdiction it includes the picturesque hamlets of Lakenham and Bracondale on the south, of Catton on the north, of Thorpe on the east, and of Heigham on the west.

The city is partly built on a plain on the banks of the river Wensum, and partly on the gentle acclivity of a hill. The ancient walls, of which few fragments remain, enclosed a length of a mile and a-half from north to south, and a mile and a-quarter from east to west. The modern suburbs,

however, have long out-grown these limits. The chief features of the city are its Castle, crowning the summit of a sugar-loaf hill or mound in the centre of the town; its noble Cathedral; its multitude of Churches, nearly all built of flint; its quaint Guildhall; its spacious Market Place, and narrow winding streets branching off from open spaces or plains.

We shall first give a brief sketch of the rise and progress of the city (reserving modern events for our historical narrative), then a description of the place, its antiquities, Castle, Cathedral, public buildings; then an account of charities, schools, manufactures, trades, and navigation.

The original sources of information respecting any city or county are to some extent legendary and fictitious, but not on that account to be entirely discarded. The rise of any great city is owing to such a variety of causes that it is often difficult to point out the principal one; but with respect to Norwich, there is good reason for the belief that its origin may be traced to the erection of a British stronghold at the head of an estuary on the eastern coast of the *Iceni*, who inhabited the eastern district.

Assuming then that the place called *Caer Guntum* by the *Iceni* was the *Venta Icenorum* of the Romans, we may believe that it was of some extent, partly founded on the shoulder of a promontory, overlooking the Wensum, towards the great estuary which formed a natural stronghold for many successive races of inhabitants. Whilst the Romans fixing their permanent camp at Caister on the Taas, where that river joined the estuary, would command the passage into the interior of the country. Making Caister the *Ad Taurum*, we will find the distances agree with the Roman Itineraries.

Sir Henry Spelman in his "Iceni" states that Norwich was the capital of the *Iceni*—in British, *Caer Gwynt*—situated on the river Wensum; the Britons using the "w," which the Romans turned into "v," *Venta*; but whether Norwich was the *Venta Icenorum* of the Romans he leaves in doubt. Antiquaries are now generally of opinion that the site of the present city must have been the *Venta Icenorum*, and that it was originally a British stronghold, that the Angles built a castle there, that the Danes destroyed this castle and the city, and subsequently rebuilt both the city and castle.

According to Spelman, Norwich was a residence of East Anglian kings, who established a mint here for coining money, and some of their coins have been preserved. Uffa, first king of the East Angles, is stated to have built a castle here in 575, and made it his residence. In 642 Anna, another king of the East Angles, kept his court at the castle, and succeeding kings did the same, sometimes residing at Thetford. The city being often an object of contention between the Angles and the

Danes, it was alternately in the possession of each party, and was repaired and fortified by Alfred the Great against the Danes, to whom, after a treaty of peace, that monarch finally conceded it. They settled in it, built a new castle, and made it a Danish city.

In 952 Edred made it a borough governed by an officer, who was appointed by the King to keep his Courts and collect his revenues. The Danes being subsequently driven out, it remained in the possession of the Angles till 1004, when the Danish invaders being stimulated by the weakness of Etheldred II. and the treachery of Afric, Earl of Mercia, landed on the coast of Essex under Sweyn, then King, advanced into Norfolk, burnt and plundered the city, and left it in a state of desolation till their return in 1018, when they again took possession of it under Canute, by whom it was re-built, and the fortifications of the castle were restored. From this time the city began rapidly to increase, and it was a great fishing town, the principal staithe being where St. Lawrence's Church now stands, but it appears that about this period the waters silted up, or receded, so much as to leave the lower parts on the north side of the river dry grounds, which from their low situations were called marshes, and were soon after drained and built upon. The river gradually assumed its present appearance all the way from Norwich to the sea at Yarmouth.

In 1049 Edward the Confessor gave the Earldom of Norwich to Harold, afterwards King, but on his rebellion with his father Godwin, it was seized by the King and given to Algar, son of Leofric, Earl of Chester, after whose death it fell again to the King. From Domesday Book we learn that the city contained 1320 burgesses, with their families residing therein, and besides the new burgh westward, there were three manors in the city; this proves that it must have flourished greatly after it had been re-built by the Danes. It is to be observed here that though we have carried on the succession of Kings of East Anglia to this period, it ended, strictly speaking, with Edmund the Martyr, as did the Heptarchy twenty-two years before (828), when Egbert ascended the throne of all England.

In the Domesday survey of Edward the Confessor (1041—1063) the entries point to the probability of the same relative position of the inhabitants of Norwich to the King having existed there as at Leicester and elsewhere. The usage was to pay to the Monarch certain dues, and to enjoy local independence in return for the payment. The Norwich burgesses paid £20 to the King, and £10 to the Earl, besides 20s. in the shape of aids, six sextaries of honey, and a bear with six dogs to bait him. When these tributes were paid to the King's officers, the citizens were left free to manage their own local affairs, but they were ruled by other local lords of the soil, for while 1238 of them were amenable to the jurisdiction of the King and the Earl, fifty others lived within the soke

of Stigand, and thirty-two were settled on the land of Earl Harold, afterwards King, and were under his authority. But the Sheriff had no power of interference within the city, which constituted a Hundred of itself. The burgesses owed suit and service only to their respective Lords in their Court Leet.

After the Norman Conquest in 1066, William I. bestowed the city on Ralph Guader, who, with the Earls of Northumberland and Hereford, at a festive meeting in the Castle, entered into a conspiracy against the King, who had gone to Normandy; but being frustrated in his design by the vigilance of the Bishop of Worcester, the Sheriff of that county, and Walter Lucy, Baron of Hereford, he withdrew into Brittany, leaving in the Castle a garrison of Britons under the command of his wife, who heroically sustained a prolonged siege till, being reduced by famine, she surrendered to the King on condition of being allowed to leave the country with all her forces in security. During this siege, the city was much injured, but it gradually recovered from the severe calamity.

After the settlement of the Normans in England, a survey was made of the whole kingdom in 1086, and recorded in a volume called "Domesday Book," a most important document. In it we find full particulars of the area, the owners, and the wealth of all the land in all the counties and towns. Norwich then contained 1364 burgesses, hundreds of houses, and ninety-eight houses in the occupation of the Castle. These it seemed were either pulled down to enlarge the outworks, or were occupied by the garrison, or were assigned to lie under the jurisdiction of the Constable of the Castle.

On the death of the Conqueror, Roger Bigod held the Castle at Norwich for Robert Carthose, Duke of Normandy, elder brother of William Rufus, wasting the city and county, and plundering all those who refused to join him. The dispute was compromised, and Roger Bigod remained in possession of the Castle, and held it peaceably during that King's reign. The county was for a short time free from the factious contentions of the nobles, who lorded it over the district.

Henry I., on his accession to the crown A.D. 1100, was opposed by many of the nobles, who were in the interest of Robert his elder brother, but Roger Bigod strongly espousing his cause, became a great favourite. In 1100 the King gave him Framlingham Castle, in Suffolk, and continued him constable of Norwich Castle till his death. He was succeeded by his son William Bigod, and at his death his brother, Hugh Bigod, inherited the honour and estate, and was appointed constable of the Castle and governor of the city, and he continued so till 1122, when the King kept his Christmas in Norwich; and granted the citizens a charter, containing the same franchises and privileges as the citizens of London enjoyed.

From this time the city was governed by a provost or portreve chosen by the King, part of whose office was to collect all the King's dues. The government of the city was thus severed from that of the Castle, the constable of which had been previously the sole governor.

The city was re-built in the reign of King Stephen, who incorporated the inhabitants, and gave the town as an appanage to his third son William, from whom it was afterwards taken by Henry II., whose son gave it to Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, in order to secure his interest in his rebellion against his father. The earl having repaired the fortifications and placed a strong garrison of French and Flemings in the Castle, held it for some time against the King, but after a vigorous defence he was compelled to surrender it and to purchase peace by the payment of 1000 marks.

In the reign of King John, the Dauphin of France, whom the confederated barons against the King invited to their assistance, besieged and took possession of the Castle, plundered the citizens, and committed many depredations. After the city had recovered from the great injury it had sustained, it was for protection surrounded by high stone walls, having forty towers and twelve gates. Some vestiges of the walls and towers yet remain.

Henry III. appointed Roger Bigod (1216) constable of Norwich Castle, which he held till his death in 1220. In 1223 the citizens obtained a grant that the government of the city should be vested in four bailiffs instead of a provost; but it does not appear that they had any charter for it. In 1228 the citizens obtained a new charter, with a few more privileges. In 1239 the King came to Norwich for the purpose of settling the disputes between the monks and citizens, and decided that in consequence of the liberties of the monks having been granted prior to those of the citizens, the monks should use and exercise the rights which they possessed; that the citizens should not molest them in such exercise, and that both parties should enjoy their rights and privileges as before. Accordingly in 1244 the tenants of the Prior were taxed in one-fifth of the tollage of the city; so that though the Prior carried his point, the citizens also carried theirs. Subsequently, however, there were frequent broils between the monks and the citizens, and sometimes people were killed in affrays.

Norwich suffered severely from the continued discord between the monks and the citizens; the latter assaulted and set fire to the Monastery, which was burnt down, with the exception of the chapel. The King being informed of this outrage, visited the city, and, after due investigation, caused thirty young men to be executed. In 1446, another assault on the monks was restrained by the activity of the Duke of Norfolk, who seized

and punished the ringleaders, displaced the Mayor from his office, and appointed Sir John Clifton governor of the place, till the King might be pleased to restore its forfeited privileges.

In the reign of Elizabeth, the Dutch and Walloons, fleeing from the persecution of the Duke of Alva in the Netherlands, found an asylum in this country, especially in the Eastern Counties. That Queen, by the encouragement which she gave to the emigrants who introduced their manufactures here, laid the foundation of the industrial and commercial prosperity of the city, but the working classes were very averse to the strangers, whom they persecuted for a long time.

In the reign of Edward VI., the brothers Robert and William Kett, of Wymondham, under the pretence of resisting the inclosure of waste lands, excited a formidable rebellion, and advanced with 20,000 followers to Mousehold Heath, where they encamped; but after much fighting, they were at length defeated by the Earl of Warwick, who commanded a numerous army. About 3000 of the rebels were killed, and the two brothers being taken prisoners, were hanged in chains, one on Norwich Castle and the other on the steeple of Wymondham Church.

During the Civil War in the reign of Charles I., the city was held by the Parliamentary forces, who defaced the Cathedral, stripped it of all its ornaments and plate, burnt the pictures, damaged the episcopal palace, and turned Bishop Hall out of it. The citizens were among the first to hail the restoration of monarchy in the person of Charles II., who was proclaimed here on May 10th, 1660, and the sum of £1000 was presented to his Majesty on behalf of the city by the Mayor.

Norwich extended, increased, and flourished exceedingly during the eighteenth century. The population amounted to 40,000 persons, chiefly employed in manufactures. The merchants were numerous, and traded in all parts of Europe. Mr. Arthur Young, in 1770, estimated the value of the textile fabrics produced at £1,200,000! large quantities being exported to France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Russia, and other countries. The East India Company gave orders for goods to a large extent, but that old trade is entirely at an end.

For 600 years the city has been represented in Parliament by two members, whose election from time to time has occasioned many a contest which sometimes lasted for weeks, attended by an expenditure of hundreds of thousands of pounds, till at last Norwich became quite notorious for bribery, especially in the present century.

More than twenty charters had been granted to Norwich previous to that of Charles II., under which the city was governed till the passing of the Municipal Reform Act. The government since then has been vested in a Mayor, sixteen Aldermen, and forty-one Councillors. The

Mayor and Sheriff are elected yearly by the Council; the municipal boundaries are co-extensive with those for Parliamentary purposes; and the city is divided into eight wards. The income of the Corporation, including the Board of Health, has been increased from £4,500 to £45,000 yearly, and the city is about £200,000 in debt? The local taxation is 8s. 6d. in the pound, caused by the vast expenditure of the Board of Health for public improvements, such as drainage, widening streets, opening new streets, extension of the cattle market, &c. The old Paving Commissioners expended £300,000 in forty years, and left Norwich the worst-paved city in Europe. The new Board of Health has expended £500,000 in twenty years, and borrowed £160,000, most of the money being buried in sewers.

The management of the poor is regulated under the new Poor Law Act, which extends over forty-five incorporated parishes, including the hamlets of Heigham, Eaton, Lakenham, Thorpe, Catton, Trowse, Carrow, and Bracondale. The gross rental of the city is estimated at £261,286, and the rateable value at £218,595. The Board of Guardians on their assessment raise about £30,000 yearly for the relief of the poor. The out-door relief far exceeds in amount that of the inmates of the new Workhouse, about 600 in number. About 3000 persons are recipients of out-door relief weekly.

The following returns show the gradual increase of the population in the present century:—In 1801, 36,832; 1811, 37,256; 1821, 50,288; 1831, 61,116; 1841, 62,294; 1851, 68,713; 1861, 74,414; 1871, 80,300. In 1831, the number of houses was 13,156; in 1835, it was 14,201; in 1841, 14,680; in 1861, 17,112; in 1871, 21,000. Poor rates in 1832, £25,541, in 1838, £16,595; in 1863, £37,114; in 1869, £32,114, of which sum £4500 was for the first time applied to the borough fund.

Norwich is well supplied with water from the new works, completed and opened in September, 1851. The source of supply is the river Wensum, about a mile above the town in Heigham, on the north side. This is a chalk stream, very little polluted except by land drainage, and when filtered the water is of good quality. It is pumped into a subsiding reservoir on the banks of the river, from which it descends into filter beds, being then forced by engine-power up to an elevated store reservoir two and a-half miles distant on the other side of the city. The high water line of this reservoir is 120 feet above the river, and from this reservoir the whole city is supplied with water by gravitation. The Company's Act incorporated the Water Works Clauses Act of 1847, which bound them by section 35 to give a constant supply of water, with the only limitation that the water need not be constantly laid on under a pressure greater than the height of their new reservoirs would give. On the completion

of the works this condition was complied with, but difficulties soon arose. The first was from the bursting of the old mains, which were too weak to stand the increased pressure. At length new and stronger mains were laid throughout the whole city. The total expenditure on the works has been about £138,000, including £30,000 for the purchase of the old works, which were quite useless to the Company. The total capital they are empowered to raise, including debenture stock, is fixed at £160,000. The dividend is limited to six per cent. The number of houses taking water from the Company is 11,500, estimated to contain 57,000 inhabitants, out of a total population of 81,000. It increases from year to year. The quantity of water supplied on the average of the year is about fourteen and a-half gallons per head per diem. The increased supply of pure water has been very beneficial to the health of the inhabitants.

A considerable trade in agricultural produce arises from the situation of the city in the centre of an extensive district, remarkable for its fertility and the greatly improved mode of its cultivation. There is much business done in cattle, corn, malt, artificial food for cattle, artificial manures, &c. A very extensive market is held every Saturday on the Castle Hill for horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs. The market is well attended, and the transactions are on a great scale, more in amount per annum than all other trades put together.

The great cattle markets of Eastern England are Norwich on Saturdays, and Bury on Wednesdays, and the former takes the first rank, as it should do in the capital of East Anglia. The market was extended a few years since by the Corporation at a cost of £52,000; and notwithstanding the competition of other places, there is reason to believe that a fair return will be secured on the capital expended. The market has greatly increased, and the Hill on Saturdays presents a busy, animated scene, being attended by graziers, farmers, and dealers from all parts of the country.

On Saturdays there is a considerable market for corn, and it is well attended by merchants and farmers. It is the most important market in the eastern counties, and since the opening of railways has greatly increased. In 1868 the sales of barley amounted to 166,796 quarters, of wheat to 65,903 quarters. The Corn Exchange in Exchange Street is a large commodious building of great height, lighted from the roof, which is formed of iron and glass. On Saturdays it is open from 1 p.m. till 4 p.m., when the market is closed.

Norwich, with its 80,000 inhabitants, is said to occupy more ground than any other town of equal population in the country. To build small houses side by side instead of high houses with storeys one above the other should be favourable to public health; but the dirt and squalor in

some parts of the old city neutralizes the structural advantage, while the great number of low mean houses imparts a poverty of aspect. A city, however, which contains a Castle, a Cathedral, forty Churches, and some remarkable buildings, cannot fail to be interesting. But the visitor feels bewildered when he plunges into its confusion of narrow crooked streets, now discovering half-a-dozen churches within hail of each other, now emerging into some open spaces called plains, as St. Paul's Plain, St. Andrew's Plain, Bank Plain, Theatre Plain, and so forth, where he pauses a few moments, after many ins and outs or ups and downs, and catches a few perspective effects along the narrow ways. Now he is among weavers and shoemakers; now in a crowd of "factory mawthers," to whom succeed dignitaries of the Church and gentlefolks from hall and manor-house for miles around, and groups of chubby-cheeked rustics talking in their queer dialect.

The most cheerful part of the city is the spacious Market Place. The old Guildhall, standing in one corner, still wears the aspect of the days when workmen could be pressed, and contrasts strangely with the new Fish Market built near it, covering valuable space that might be better occupied. We may fancy how the old Market Place looked in the days when pilgrims passed through on their way to Walsingham, when most of the houses were thatched and the spacious area was covered with gravel. Here fierce battles have been fought in crude struggles for liberty. Here martyrs have been burnt alive, and with lasting results. Here Arthur Young, the agricultural reformer, was burnt in effigy. The Gentleman's Walk is on the east side; why so named is more than we can tell, certainly not because only gentlemen walk there, but possibly because the merchants there are gentlemanly in their deportment. In the centre there is a fine bronze statue of the Duke of Wellington, which would be far more appropriately placed on the south side of the Green, opposite the statue of Nelson, in the Close.

The Market Place is a spacious area of irregular outline, much improved of late years by the erection of new warehouses and shops. But many gable-ended roofs, lingering above the wooden shop fronts and quaint projecting storeys, impart a picturesque aspect to the scene, which is very animated on market days. The market is entirely surrounded by well-stocked shops or inns and taverns, and is abundantly supplied with provisions of every kind. Meat, poultry, fruit, and vegetables are supplied in quantities unlimited, and in summer there is a great display of fruits, plants, and flowers.

Formerly, some of the streets near the Market Place were named from the trades of those who occupied them. Thus there were Saddlers' Gate, now White Lion Street; Wastelgate, now Red Lion Street; Cordwainers'

Row, now part of the Walk; Goldsmiths' Row, north side of the Market; Hosiers' Row, in part of London Street; Cutler's Row, in part of London Street; Hatters' Row, now St. Giles' Street; Dyers' Row, in St. Lawrence Street. Pottergate Street is still so called. The Cloth Hall stood in the Haymarket; and on the west side were the Butchery, the Fishmarket, and various rows where articles of food were sold.

#### THE BISHOPRIC.

Norwich was raised into an episcopal see by Herbert de Losinga, who, having been made Bishop of Thetford, transferred the seat of the diocese to this city in 1094, where, having purchased a large plot of ground near the Castle, he erected a Cathedral, an Episcopal Palace, and a Monastery for Benedictine Monks, the revenue of which at the dissolution was £1050 17s. 6d. The diocese comprises 897 benefices, and comprehends the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, and eleven parishes in the county of Cambridge; but by the new ecclesiastical arrangements under the Act of William IV., cap. 77, the Deaneries of Lynn and Fincham, in Norfolk, the Archdeaconry of Sudbury, and the eleven parishes in Cambridgeshire, were transferred to the diocese of Ely.

The ecclesiastical establishment consists of the Bishop, the Dean, four Archdeacons, six Prebendaries, six Minor Canons (one of whom is Precentor), an Epistoler, a Gospeller, eight Lay Clerks, ten Choristers, an Organist, and other officers. The Bishop is a suffragan of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and besides being entitled by his episcopal dignity, he sits in the House of Peers as titular Abbot of St. Bennet at Holme, being the only abbot in England. He possesses the patronage of the Archdeaconries, the Chancellorship, and forty-two benefices, with the alternative patronage of five others, and has an income of £4456. The Dean and Chapter consist of six canons residentiary (in the patronage of the Chancellor, with one exception), and have the patronage of six minor canonries and forty-two benefices, with an income of £5245.

#### THE CATHEDRAL,

Begun by Herbert de Losinga, first Bishop of Norwich, in 1096, is one of the finest specimens of Norman architecture existing in this country. The tower is quite unrivalled for its proportions and the beauty of its details. The transepts and west fronts have been restored, but not thereby improved in beauty. The chief entrance on the west is a vaulted portal of pointed architecture, above which is a well-proportioned window, recently filled in with stained glass. The nave within is grand and imposing, divided in length by fourteen semi-circular arches, of great solidity and depth, supported by massive piers. The triforium is composed of similar arches.

The side aisles are low, and the vaultings plain. The roof is elaborately decorated with sculptured bosses. Two of the arches of the south aisle of the nave are perpendicular, the vaulting being of the latest florid style, strangely out of harmony with the simplicity of the Norman style which prevails around. The nave and aisles are seventy-two feet in width and 204 feet in length. The choir, which is 183 feet in length, extends westward considerably beyond the tower, is of unusual length, and imposing in its effect. The transepts have been thrown open to the choir, much increasing the accommodation for sittings and improving the general effect. The chancel terminates with an apsis, in recesses of which formerly were the stalls of the Bishop and clergy. The decorating of both nave and choir is peculiarly beautiful; the lantern of the tower, which rises in the semi-circular arches, supported by four massive piers, is handsome, but disfigured by painted medallions in the ceiling. A curious oriel for watching at Easter remains in the north wall of the chancel. There are only two tombs with statues; one to Bishop Goldwell, and the other to Bishop Bathurst, by Chantry. Mural monuments are numerous. Bishop Herbert lies in the centre of the chancel.

Bishop Stanley lies in the middle of the nave. Sir William Boleyn, great-grandfather of Queen Elizabeth, is buried on the south side of the choir. The cloisters are situated in the south of the nave, and form one of the largest quadrangles in England, being 174 feet in length on each side. They were 133 years in progress of erection, and are in excellent preservation. Elaborately-sculptured bosses ornament the vaulted roofs. Two lavatories are at the south-west corner. Several chapels yet remain, but only one is fitted up for use. The Bishop's Palace is a small building, of different dates, the cellars being the most ancient parts. Some ruins exist of an ancient refectory, now overgrown with ivy. The Palace garden is extensive, and contains some choice bits of antiquity standing on the north side of the Cathedral, consisting of the remains of the Great Hall.

By a venerable gatehouse we enter the Cathedral Close. On our left is the Grammar School; on our right, rows of trees adorn a broad walk, and overshadow a statue of Nelson that stands looking towards the school where he was educated. Before us rises the western front of the Cathedral, and this disappoints any highly-wrought expectations. But as we saunter round the edifice, seeking the best points of view, we find one that gratifies us at the south-west corner of the cloisters, looking diagonally across the court towards the tower. Pausing here, we see that the opposite angle appears to form an arched basement, supporting rows of arched recesses and the lights of the transept and aisle, all black with age and smoke, and seeming thereby the more solid. As if borne up by all this, there comes

above a portion of the clerestory, seeming clear and bright by contrast; and brighter still and brighter does the masonry become as it rises higher into the air, attracting our eye up the ornamented tower to the light pinnacles and tall crocketed spire. Seen when the shadows darken as the sun drops low, this is one of the views that will constrain us to linger until we can carry away the picture thereof in our memory.

We have the authority of architects for stating that the original Norman plan of the Cathedral has been but little disturbed, which is somewhat remarkable, as its erection extended over a period of 133 years. Its peculiarities are striking, great length imparting an appearance of unusual narrowness, and the transepts answering by the boldness of their projection to the prolongation of the nave. Cockerell, the Royal Academician, speaks of the admirable vaulted ceiling of the Cathedral "as the most beautiful in its structure, order, tracery, and sculpture in England;" and says that "the ceiling and its sculptures were justly accounted a peculiar glory to the Cathedral Church." He adds, however, "that not only the beauty but the meaning of this remarkable series appears to have been equally veiled from modern eyes." This reproach has been removed by a work now published by Messrs. Sawyer and Bird, of Norwich, in which every bay of the roof of the nave is photographed, whilst the more important bosses are illustrated on a larger scale. The work also contains photographs of the principal architectural features of the edifice. The Very Rev. the Dean has written descriptions of the bosses to accompany the illustrations, which are in the highest style of photographic art.

Norwich formerly contained nineteen monastic institutions, of which Kirkpatrick wrote a full account, first published in 1848 by the late Hudson Gurney, Esq., edited by Dawson Turner, Esq. The following were the principal buildings, of which some vestiges are still visible:—The Priory and Church of St. Leonard at Thorpe-wood, near the city, in which Bishop Herbert placed several monks; also an Hospital for Lepers endowed by him; the Hospital of St. Paul, founded in 1121, by the prior and convent of Norwich; a Nunnery dedicated to St. Mary and St. John, and endowed for sisters of the Benedictine Order by King Stephen, who in 1146 established a Convent at Carrow; St. Edward's Hospital, instituted in 1200 by Hildebrand de Mercer, a citizen of Norwich; the Monastery of the Blackfriars, built by Sir Thomas Erpingham in the reign of Edward II., of which the ancient Church is now much altered, and named St. Andrew's Hall; the Monastery of the Grey Friars, erected in 1226 by John de Hastingsford, the site of which is now occupied by Cook's Hospital, near Rose Lane; the Monastery of White Friars, founded in 1256 by Philip Congate, merchant, which remained near White Friar's Bridge till the dissolution; the Convent of Augustine

Friars, near King Street, established in the reign of Edward I. by one of the bishops ; a Convent of Friars of the Order of "de pœnitentiâ Jesu," instituted in 1266, and which, after the suppression of that Order, was annexed to the Convent of Black Friars ; the College of St. Mary-in-the-Field, originally a Chapel-in-the-Field, founded in 1250 by Sir John de Brun, or Broun, on the site of the present Assembly Rooms, and at the time of the dissolution consisting of a Dean, four prebendaries, and others, with a revenue of £86 16s. The last Dean obtained a grant of the College from Henry VIII., and then sold the estate to the Duke of Norfolk, who also obtained possession of most of the other monasteries. Vestiges of several old hospitals have been traced in various parts of the city. There are many crypts underground in King Street and other streets. In King Street, to the south of St. Faith's Lane, were the Austin Friars, and to the north of St. Faith's Lane the Grey Friars. Both these monastic communities were said to have encroached on the adjacent streets, churchyards, &c., by extending their precincts. The Carmelites occupied the whole angle of the city between the river, the walls, and Bargate Street. But few traces of these establishments now remain. The case of the Black Friars is very different. Their magnificent Church (now St. Andrew's Hall) is almost entire.

#### THE PARISHES AND CHURCHES.

The parishes are forty-five in number, including the hamlets, and may be divided into western, eastern, northern, and southern. They are all intersected by streets in every direction, most of the streets consisting of small houses, inhabited by poor people. The parishes crossed by the best streets are central, and several of these streets present good houses and shops, but these are few in number. Some of the parishes are very large, others very small; and three or four churches within hail of each other may be seen in one street.

Norwich contains more churches than any other city in England, except London. Most of them are built of square flints. Many of them are fine specimens of ancient architecture. Besides the Cathedral, there are two or three specimens of the Norman style, and there are also some examples of the decorated or florid, of the transition style, and also of the perpendicular. This later English or perpendicular style, which prevailed during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, is the chief characteristic of the city churches. Therefore it is unnecessary to describe them all. The churches of St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles', St. Andrew, St. George Colegate, St. Saviour, and several others, are all in the later English style.

The western district comprises the parishes and churches of St. Peter at Mancroft, St. Giles', St. Gregory, St. John's Maddermarket, St. Benedict, St. Swithin, and St. Lawrence. Nearly all the public buildings are situated in this part of the town: the Guildhall, the Corn Hall in Exchange Street, the Post Office, the Museum, the Free Library, and the Literary Institution. The Post Office is a large building in Post Office Street, near the Market Place. There are two deliveries from London daily, and mails daily to all parts of the kingdom.

The Church of St. Peter Mancroft is the largest in the city, and one of the finest in the kingdom. It is a cruciform building in the later pointed style, commenced upon the site of an older edifice in 1430, and completed in 1455. It is 212 feet in length, 70 in breadth, and 60 in height. The west tower is covered with panelling of flint and stone, is 98 feet in height, and contains a splendid peal of twelve bells; the tenor alone weighs two tons, and the entire weight of the peal is 9 tons 4 cwt. 24 lbs. The best view of the exterior may be obtained from the south side, which presents a view of the entire length of the edifice. The interior is remarkably light and elegant; the intervals between the arches of the nave are ornamented with windows of exquisite design; the windows are large, and filled with excellent tracery; the east window is embellished with stained glass, and has a magnificent effect. The west window is remarkably fine, and the interior altogether is imposing. The clerestory displays on each side seventeen obtusely-arched windows, filled with rich perpendicular tracery. The windows of the aisles are large and light. The roof is supported by fourteen slender clustered columns and lofty arches. The vaulting shafts, which are brought down to the bottom of the clerestory windows, have niches under them. In the vestry are some ancient paintings of the saints. At the west end of the north aisle there is a painting of the Delivery of St. Peter from Prison. Sir Thomas Browne, who lived in the parish, lies buried in the church, which contains numerous ancient monuments.

St. Andrew's Church is next in importance, and was founded before the Conquest. The present structure was erected in 1500; it is in the later pointed style, and consists of a nave and two side aisles. Slender clustered columns and noble arches support the roof, and the whole is enlivened by large windows with characteristic tracery. The clerestory windows are light and obtuse arched. The tower is of great height, and contains ten bells. There are several monuments in the church, which has been recently restored and furnished with open benches.

St. John's Maddermarket is one of the most ancient churches in the city, having been founded prior to the time of Edward the Confessor. The present edifice was erected at the end of the fifteenth century, and

the east end has been lately re-built. It has a battlemented tower. The interior of the church has been recently restored and beautified, at a cost of £1,200.

St. Gregory's Church is an ancient building; its precise date is uncertain. The chancel was re-built in 1394. The structure consists of a nave, with two aisles, and chapels at their east ends. The interior has a light effect, the arches being supported by slender pillars. The altar, which has a wide passage under it, is adorned with curiously-carved work on each side. A fine fresco painting of St. George and the Dragon was discovered at the north-west corner. The tower contains a peal of six bells.

St. Giles' Church is another fine edifice of early foundation, and was re-built in the reign of Richard II. The chancel was demolished by Dean Gardiner in 1651, but has been recently re-built, and the Church restored. The nave is eighty-one feet in length. The roof is supported by slender pillars; the south-west porch is groined with fan-like work, the only instance of the kind in the city. The fine square tower is 126 feet high, and has a dome or cupola surrounded by a battlement.

St. Lawrence Church stands upon the very spot which, before the retreat of the river, was the quay for landing fish. There is positive evidence of this; for in 1018, Alfric, Bishop of East Anglia, having bestowed his "Hagh" in Norwich (the very ground on which the Church was afterwards built), on the Abbey of St. Edmundsbury, it paid a yearly ground-rent of a last of herrings to that monastery. The Church was founded in the time of the Confessor, but the present structure was not erected till 1460. It is a fine regular building, with a noble tower 112 feet high, surmounted by a battlement and pinnacles.

The eastern district comprises the parishes and churches of St. Peter per Mountergate, St. Etheldred, St. Julian, St. Peter Southgate, St. Helen, St. George Tomblaud, St. Peter Hungate, St. Michael-at-Plea, St. Martin-at-Palace. The four first-named parishes are crossed by King Street, which is of great length, and inhabited by very poor people, who live in yards and alleys, near two large breweries. The Church of St. Peter per Mountergate was originally founded by Roger Bigod, but the present edifice was erected in 1406. It consists of a nave and chancel, with embattled west tower. In the chancel are twenty-four stalls, with singular carvings, which belonged to a college of secular priests, situated at the north-west corner of the churchyard.

This eastern side of the city has been much improved by the formation of a new road called Prince of Wales's Road, from the Castle Hill to the Foundry Bridge, near the Railway Station. Handsome houses have been built on each side of the new road, and broad pavements laid down.

This is now the thoroughfare to and from the Railway Station at Thorpe. The Railway Station here occupies an area of about fifty acres; the buildings are merely a series of sheds.

The northern district extends from the north-west to the north-east side of the river Wensum, comprising the parishes and churches of St. Michael-at-Coslany, St. Martin-at-Oak, St. Augustine's, St. Mary's, St. George's Colegate, St. Clement, St. Saviour, St. Paul, St. Edmund, and St. James. On this north side we enter the oldest part of the city, which seems to have been always chosen by the poorest portion of the population. All the parishes are crossed by streets and lanes in every direction, and most of the streets present very humble dwellings, many of them in narrow courts and alleys. The greatest improvement in this part of the city would be effected by the demolition of old houses in courts and alleys which are the haunts of disease.

St. Michael-at-Coslany (commonly called St. Miles) is a spacious Church with a lofty square tower and eight musical bells. The nave was re-built by John and Stephen Stallon, who were Sheriffs in 1511 and 1512. The south aisle was begun by Gregory Clark, and was finished by his son. At the east end of the south aisle there is a Chapel founded by Robert Thorp in the reign of Henry VII., encrusted with black flints like inlaid work. The altar piece by Heins represents the Resurrection and the four Evangelists; and the floor is paved with black and white marble, brought from the domestic chapel at Oxnead, in Norfolk.

The southern district is extensive and populous, and includes the parishes and churches of St. Stephen's, St. John's Timberhill, St. John Sepulchre, St. Michael at Thorn, St. Mark's in Lakenham, and the Old Church in Lakenham. The principal streets are Rampant Horse Street, Theatre Street, St. Stephen's Street, Surrey Street, and Ber Street, one of the oldest in the city. The Norfolk and Norwich Hospital is at the top of St. Stephen's Street. The far-famed Norwich Union Fire and Life Insurance Office is in Surrey Street. Chapel Field, in this quarter, is an open space of eight acres, well planted with trees and enclosed by an iron palisade. The Drill Hall, for the use of the Volunteer Rifle Corps, stands in the north-west corner of the field. It is a spacious building, often used for civil as well as military purposes. It is no ornament to the locality in an architectural point of view, having more the appearance of a large shed than anything else.

St. Stephen's Church was founded before the Norman Conquest, but has been all re-built at different periods; the chancel in 1520, and the nave in 1550. It is one of the most modern of the city churches, and is an edifice in the late perpendicular style of the sixteenth century, with a nave and clerestory, two side aisles, and a square tower. The windows

are large and numerous; some of them are new. In 1859, the interior was thoroughly restored at a cost of £1500, and a new carved pulpit and reading desk were put up at the same time. Five new windows were lately inserted in each side of the Church, and one over the south door of the chancel.

Nonconformists are numerous in the city, and have many chapels, several being of large size. Independents have the Old Meeting House in St. George's Colegate, Prince's Street Chapel, and the Chapel in the Field. Baptists have St. Mary's Chapel, St. Clement's Chapel, and several others. United Free Methodists have Calvert Street Chapel; Wesleyans, St. Peter's Chapel and a new one in Ber Street. Primitive Methodists, Dereham Road Chapel. The Presbyterian Church is in Theatre Street. The Unitarians have the Octagon Chapel in St. George's Colegate. The Free Church is in the chancel of St. Andrew's Hall. The Apostolic Church is in Queen Street. The Tabernacle is in St. Martin's at Palace. The Roman Catholics have a Chapel in St. John's Maddermarket and another in Willow Lane. The Jews have a Synagogue in St. Faith's Lane.

#### NORWICH CASTLE.

Alexander Neville, who published his book called "Norwicus," soon after the beginning of Queen Elizabeth's reign, gives an account of an ancient British castle, built on a mound, partly the work of nature and partly of art. He says this stronghold was founded by Gurguntus, the twenty-fourth King of Britain after Brutus, and it was called Kaer Guntun, or the Castle of Guntus. However, the founder of it died before it was finished. But Guthelinus's successor completed the work which he had begun, and fortified it with a wall, bank, and double ditches. Moreover, he made certain subterranean vaults to the castle, and changed its name to Kaer Guthelm, or the Castle of Guthelmen.

This account appears to be only traditional, but a castle was certainly built in the Anglo-Saxon period, probably by the first King of the East Angles. Sir Henry Spelman, in his "Icenia," wrote that if the city was called Northwic or Norwich from the Castle, then the Castle is very ancient, and perhaps older than the city where it is built. Though he believed the present structure to be the work of the Danes or Normans, he adduces evidence that there was a more ancient Castle, for a charter proved that guard service was due to it about A.D. 677 by Tombert, Prince of the Girvy. Mr. John Kirkpatrick, in his "Notes," says that the Castle of Norwich was also of ample extent before the coming of the Normans, appears from hence, that in Domesday we read, "there were eighty-one mansions empty in the occupation of the Castle." Also "this Castle of Norwich seems then to have been noble, and as the metropolis

of the province of the Iceni, to which that famous Prince of the Girvy (Tombert), and so considerable a guard of the Isle of Ely, if not the whole, were to do service, and to have first of all belonged to the East Angle Kings, afterwards to the governors, called aldermen, dukes, or earls." After alluding to cases of castle guard service, the learned antiquary before quoted continues: "So that it seems all the land in the nation was either assigned to bear, or was upon occasion chargeable with, the castle guard of some castle or other in ancient times. The Castle of Dover had a garrison of 1000 men, and other castles in England were defended in like manner as that of Norwich by the knights who held so many fees, on condition to ward a certain number of weeks, which services were at length generally turned to contributions in money."

Mr. John Kirkpatrick adduces ample evidence that this Castle of Norwich was often repaired by order of the Kings of England. Therefore, he infers that it was a Royal Castle, and that Camden is mistaken in supposing it to have been built by Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk. Camden, indeed, conjectured that Hugh Bigod was the founder from the lions cut in the stonework of the Castle, and he took those lions for arms, but the only lions to be seen were on each side of the entrance, and if designed for arms they may have been in allusion to the King's arms, which were two lions only in ancient times.

The style of architecture has been a matter of dispute, as to whether it is Saxon, Danish, or Norman. Mr. Boid in his history and analysis of the principal styles of architecture, ventures to challenge any one to prove the existence of any building in this country exhibiting real Saxon skill, but the terms Saxon or Norman are only applied to certain periods. Mr. Wilkins, of Norwich, who has described both the ancient and modern states of the fortress in volume twelve of the "Archæologia," believed, however, that the part which yet remains might have been constructed in the reign of Canute, but that it is, notwithstanding, in the style of architecture practised by the Saxons long before England became subject to the Danes, and is the best exterior specimen of the kind. Other and later writers, with much better evidence, believe the whole keep to be Norman work of the time of William Rufus, for it is similar in style to Castle Rising, built in the reign of that King by Albini. The earthworks and stoneworks are very similar of both castles. The whole of the exterior of the keep of Norwich Castle has been re-faced, the original style being preserved, but not the aspect of hoar antiquity.

Mr. Wilkins supposed that the Castle was surrounded by three ditches, which were crossed by three bridges, but no remains have been traced of the two outer ditches, and of course, if there was only one ditch to cross, the present bridge was the only one that ever existed. Mr. Harrod

proved that ancient buildings always stood on the sites of the supposed outer ditches, and that there was only one ditch and one bridge, which still exist. At the termination of this bridge, upon the upper ballium, are the remains of two circular towers, fourteen feet in diameter, which are supposed to have flanked the portal of the ballium wall.

The county prison stands on the mound on the east side of the keep, and consists of a range of buildings erected between 1824 and 1828 at a cost of £15,000. It comprises a governor's house, and three radiating wings, and cells for 224 male prisoners. From the prison, there is a shaft descending to the bottom of the mound, whence there is a passage to the Crown Court, and prisoners are brought down the shaft for trial.

High on a central mound the Castle stands overlooking all the city. Blanchflower its admirers delighted to call it in the Norman iron age. From the Castle Walk we survey the old city, and are at once struck by the depth of the basin in which Norwich is built, and by the height of the hills which hem it in on the north and east, their green slopes and fringe of trees contrasting pleasantly with the crowded mass of towers, churches, tall chimneys, and houses.

We take our position on the eastern side, and survey the broad vale of the Yare where the Romans came up in their galleys and landed on that side of the river, then a broad arm of the sea. We see where the first street (King Street) extends for a mile southward the whole length of the city, with tall chimneys of great breweries sending forth volumes of smoke, and the Churches of St. Peter per Mountergate, St. Etheldred, St. Julian, and St. Peter Southgate. Northward the same street extends to an open space called Tombland, once a burial ground, beyond which Wensum Street and Magdalen Street lead in a straight line to Catton.

More eastward we see Mousehold Heath, a wild recreation ground for the citizens, rising high from the valley, and the circle of vision includes the Hamlet of Thorpe, with its wooded heights, the Cathedral, and several churches. Walking round to the west side we have before us the spacious Market Place and the noble Church of St. Peter Mancroft, with a mass of buildings. Here in the foreground the old Guildhall is a conspicuous object. More to the north the principal objects in view are St. Andrew's Hall, the Church towers of St. Michael Coslany, St. Martin-at-Oak, St. Mary, St. Augustine, St. George's Colegate, St. Clement, and others.

#### THE SHIREHALL,

On the Castle Meadow, was erected from a plan by William Wilkin, Esq. It was commenced on September 9th, 1822, and opened September 27th, 1833, and is a poor imitation of the Tudor style of architecture. It stands

on the north-east side of the Castle, and is a substantial brick edifice, affording all the usual accommodations: Crown Court, Nisi Prius Court, and rooms for witnesses and others. The County Assizes and Sessions are held in these Courts. The Grand Jury room is a large apartment, and the walls are adorned with fine portraits of the late Lord Leicester and Lord Wodehouse, painted by Sir T. Lawrence: There is also a portrait of the late Henry Dover, Esq., for many years Chairman of the Quarter Sessions.

#### ST. ANDREW'S HALL

Stands in the centre of the city. It was built by the famous Sir Thomas Erpingham, and is a fine old ecclesiastical structure, originally the Church of the Blackfriars monastery. At the reformation and suppression of religious houses, the city Corporation obtained the transfer of this handsome edifice for the sum of £80! Since then it has been used as a public hall for all kinds of meetings, and for the celebrated Musical Festivals. The Hall is of perpendicular architecture, and has been recently restored and beautified. The roof is of open timber, and is supported by two rows of graceful pillars which divide the nave and aisles. The walls are adorned with many portraits of the city worthies, attired in their ancient civic robes. Portraits by famous painters—Lawrence, Gainsborough, Opie—hang all around; and among them the place of honour is assigned to that of Nelson by Sir William Beechey. Whatever be the merits of the other paintings, this is the one most admired by the natives of Norfolk. What to them are civic functionaries and kings and queens, by the side of such a hero? In all her roll of worthies, Nelson's is the name which Norfolk most delights to honour.

#### THE GUILDHALL,

An ancient specimen of flint work, stands in the north-west corner of the spacious Market-place. The Council Chamber is a handsome room fitted up with furniture of the period of Henry VIII. A glass case encloses a naval trophy in honour of Lord Nelson, being the sword of the Spanish Admiral, Xavier Winthuysen, presented by the Norfolk hero to the Corporation. The original letter accompanying the sword is enclosed in the case. The City Assizes and Sessions are held in the Court below. The magistrates hold Petty Sessions daily in their room.

#### THE NORWICH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Was founded in 1784, and is now located in a spacious room, built for the purpose in 1837, at the end of an avenue opposite the Guildhall. The

library contains about 30,000 volumes. The yearly subscription is twenty-one shillings paid by shareholders, and twenty-six shillings paid by others.

#### THE NORFOLK AND NORWICH MUSEUM

Is located in a building erected in 1839 in Broad Street, St. Andrew's. It has been much enlarged, and the institution is in a very flourishing condition, containing numerous specimens in geology, zoology, and ornithology. A large new room in the adjoining building is filled with specimens of British birds, contributed by J. H. Gurney, Esq., whose portrait adorns the room.

#### THE NORFOLK AND NORWICH LITERARY INSTITUTION

Is located in the upper part of the same building as the Museum. In 1822 it was established, and the rooms contain more than 20,000 volumes in the various departments of literature. The annual subscription of shareholders is a guinea-and-a-half, and of others two guineas.

#### THE FREE LIBRARY

Is a large building at the corner of St. Andrew's Broad Street, erected in 1856 and opened in 1857, under the Free Libraries and Museum Act, by the Corporation, at a cost of £10,000. It includes rooms for the Free Library, the Literary Institution, and the School of Art. The Free Library in the lower room contains about 4000 volumes, and the old collection called the City Library.

#### THE THEATRE ROYAL,

A small building tastefully fitted up, was opened in 1826, under the direction of the Norwich Company, and it was well patronised for a long time; but of late years it has been almost forsaken by the gentry. Near it is an extensive and elegant suite of Assembly Rooms, wherein balls and concerts were formerly given, but for some time the rooms have been occupied by the fraternity of Free Masons. A new Assembly Room has been built in the same locality.

#### BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS

Are numerous in Norwich. St. Giles' Hospital, commonly called the Old Man's Hospital, was established in 1249 for aged persons. The ancient Church of St. Helen was appropriated to its use, and new ranges of buildings have been added. Doughty's Hospital in Calvert Street was founded in 1687 by Mr. William Doughty, who bequeathed £6000 for its erection and endowment. Great additions have been lately made to this Hospital.

Thomas and Robert Cook founded their Hospital prior to 1701 and endowed it for ten women. The Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, in St. Stephen's, a large building of red brick, was erected in 1771 at a cost of £13,323 8s. 11d. It has been much enlarged of late years, and is the noblest institution in the county. Bethel Hospital in Bethel Street was built in 1713 by Mrs. Mary Chapman, and is supported by donations and subscriptions. The Institution for the Relief of the Indigent Blind, in Magdalen Street, was originated by Thomas Tawell, Esq., one of its chief benefactors. It is supported by donations and subscriptions, and it comprises a school for blind children, who are taught to read and sing and make various articles. There have been many charitable bequests of benevolent persons for distribution amongst the indigent poor. Among later charities may be mentioned the Stanley Institution in St. Paul's for Poor Females, the Jenny Lind Infirmary for Sick Children, and many others. There are many parochial charities, having benefactions belonging exclusively to the respective parishes.

#### SCHOOLS.

The Free Grammar School, originally built by Bishop Salmon, was established by Edward VI., under whose charter it is supported out of the revenues of St. Giles' or the Great Hospital in Bishopgate Street. Many eminent men were educated at the Grammar School in the Close, including Nelson, the Norfolk hero, whose statue stands opposite the school. The Commercial School, close to St. Andrew's Hall, was built some years since as a middle-class institution. The National Central School and nine other National Schools of the Church of England afford instruction to some thousands of boys and girls. There are several British Schools and others connected with the Chapels of Nonconformists. There are Church of England Model Schools for boys and girls in Princes' Street, attended by 600 children. About 10,000 children are very imperfectly instructed in the Day and Sunday Schools. Under the Elementary Education Act a School Board has been elected and some expense incurred, but as yet nothing has been done here to extend or improve elementary instruction. New schools are not so much wanted as the improvement of those already existing by the appointment of more efficient masters.

#### THE CITY SUBURBS.

The environs of Norwich are pleasantly situated, and the new roads and streets of new houses have been greatly extended, forming a new city, containing about half the population. Most of the city gentry and traders have residences in the hamlets, in which are some first-class houses and villas, surrounded by gardens. The working people, forming three-fourths of the

population, not being able to find houses in the old city, are obliged to live in the suburbs, occupying tenements, small, indeed, but healthy—far more so than the pent-up rookeries of the lanes, courts, and alleys within the old walls.

The Hamlet of Heigham is of great extent on the western side of the city, and includes three parishes, St. Bartholomew (the original parish), also St. Philip, and Holy Trinity. Here are many new roads and streets three Churches, three Chapels, and a population of 16,000. Here are the City Jail, the new Waterworks, the new Workhouse, and the new Cemetery, wherein 20,000 bodies already lie buried. This burial ground includes twenty-four acres of land, well planted with trees and shrubs. Here are many beautiful monuments erected as memorials of the dead. The Cemetery being of recent formation, much that will be beautiful here is yet only in the course of growth. The yews, the willows, the evergreens, the azaleas, the rhododendrons, the magnolias, and other vigorous exotics have not yet appeared. Still the Cemetery delights the eye and soothes the heart with masses of exquisite blossoms, whose perfumes shed a world of sweetness over the quiet sleepers under the green sward. Here the rich and the poor are laid together, at least not far apart. A scene like this reminds us that “the days of man are as a shadow that passeth away.”

Earlham Road may be called the “west end” of the city, many new roads and streets branching from it right and left. About 1200 families reside in comfortable houses in new streets on the right. We see long lines of rural villas, with pleasant gardens, on the left. Walking onwards, we pass the new Cemetery, and soon arrive at Earlham Park, where in the old mansion not long ago resided the philanthropist, J. J. Gurney, Esq., where he had often large meetings of the Friends around him, where he often entertained the rich and never forgot the poor, and where he wrote some of his best religious works. We pass a long plantation, through an arboreal avenue, and descending the hill reach the small ivy-mantled Church, standing in enclosed grounds,

Where the rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

Unthank’s Road, more south, extends for a mile from the city to Eaton, through a rural locality, wherein many handsome houses have been built of late years. On the east side there are long lines of new streets in a pleasant part of the hamlet.

Newmarket Road has been underdrained and planted with trees on the east side, adding greatly to the sylvan appearance of this picturesque approach to the city. Many large handsome houses have been built on each side of the road, and they are much admired for their handsome proportions. All these villas are adorned by beautiful gardens, which

make very agreeable residences, especially in the summer months. Mr. Daws, of Dereham Road, was the builder, and he deserves much credit for the greatly improved style of these and other rural residences in the suburbs of the city.

Ipswich Road, more eastward, is a beautiful drive from the city, for twenty miles through long avenues of trees. There are many rural residences surrounded by gardens on each side of the road.

The Hamlet of Eaton lies two miles south of the city, in the vale of the Taas. The manor is about 1300 acres, and belongs to the Dean and Chapter, but the soil is let to a number of lessees. The Church (St. Andrew), is an ancient edifice covered with thatch, and having an embattled tower with three bells. It was originally a Norman structure, but it appears to have been re-built in the Early English period; and to have been much altered in the 15th century. The village contains several long rows of small houses, inhabited by working people.

The Hamlet of Lakenham is of great extent on the south-east side of the city, and includes the Peafield, in which are many long lines of houses, inhabited by poor working people. St. Mark's Church is a small elegant structure, consisting of a nave and square tower, with turrets, pinnacles, and three bells. It was finished at a cost of £4000, and contains 900 sittings, most of which are free. The old Church stands on an acclivity above the river, and is a small structure with a tower and three bells. The benefice is a vicarage, united to Trowse Newton, and with it valued at £361, in the patronage of the Dean and Chapter.

Bracondale, Carrow, and Trowse form one hamlet on the east side of the city, containing some well-built houses, the residences of the gentry. Miss Martineau is the owner of the greater part of the land here, and resides at Bracondale Lodge, a handsome mansion with well-laid-out pleasure grounds. The late P. M. Martineau collected here many remnants of Gothic architecture in 1804, and used them in the erection of a lofty arch, and an edifice representing a small priory, with windows filled with stained glass.

A Nunnery formerly existed at Carrow Abbey, dedicated to St. Mary and St. John. It was founded in the year 1146 by two ladies, named Leftelina and Seyna. It was richly endowed by King Stephen, and consisted of a prioress and nine Benedictine nuns, which number was increased to twelve. The site within the walls contained about ten acres of land, and the revenues were great. At the dissolution, the Abbey and lands became private property. J. H. Tillet, Esq., is the present occupier of the Abbey.

The Hamlet of Thorpe lies on the south-east side of the city, and contains the Rosary burial ground and many handsome villas. This hamlet

is considered the Richmond of Norfolk, and seems to have been chosen by the city gentry for their places of residence. Many new roads have been laid out, and new villas built, surrounded by gardens. The picturesque road to the old gardens is a favourite walk of the citizens. Thorpe Lodge was the rural residence of the late John Harvey, Esq., "a fine old English gentleman," who was a great promoter of aquatic sports. The Old Hall, the name by which the manor house is now known, stands at the entrance of the village, where a new Church was lately built close to the old one.

Mousehold Heath is a hill not yet all enclosed, near Thorpe. Part of it is yet covered with furze in a state of nature, and it is associated with historical events. On this height the rebel Ketts encamped their rude army in tents of turf and boughs; here grew the Oak of Reformation under which the Tanner held his Court, and multitudes listened to the sermons of preachers who were encouraged to visit the camp. Down this steep slope the sturdy rustics rushed to fight for the waste lands which they regarded as their own. Here they defeated Lord Northampton and his Italian mercenaries, but they in turn were beaten by the Earl of Warwick, and in a terrible rout 3000 of them were slain.

Mousehold House, on the side of the heath next Thorpe, was the residence of General Harvey during the latter part of his life. He was familiarly called Sir Robert Harvey before his last promotion, and he was highly respected as a citizen. He was the son of John Harvey, Esq., and he entered the army early in life, and soon distinguished himself in active service. Sir Robert Harvey served as Assistant-Quartermaster-General of the British and of the Portuguese armies in Portugal, Spain, and France from 1809 to the close of the war in 1814, and was present at the battles of the passage of the Douro and Busaco, second siege of Badajoz, siege and storm of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz, battle of Salamanca, siege of Burgos, battles of Vittoria, Pyrenees (slightly wounded), Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, and Toulouse, besides numerous minor affairs. From 1809 to 1811, he was employed in procuring intelligence of the enemy in advance of the army, in organising nine Portuguese guerilla corps, the officers of which presented him with an elegant sword in testimony of his services with them, and in resisting the attempt of the enemy's passage of the Tagus at Chamusca. From 1811 to 1814 he was the organ of communication between the Duke of Wellington and the Portuguese troops. Sir Robert received the gold medal for the battle of Orthes, and the silver war medal with nine clasps. Sir Robert John Harvey, C.B., Ensign, October 8th, 1803; Lieutenant, March 24th, 1804; Captain, January 2nd, 1806; Major, July 25th, 1811; Lieutenant-Colonel, June 21st, 1813; Colonel, July 22nd, 1830; Major-General, November

23rd, 1841; Lieutenant-General, November 11th, 1851; General, July 17th, 1859; Colonel 2nd West India Regiment of Foot, June 15th, 1848. The late General was President of the Norwich Union Fire and Life Insurance Offices; also a County and City Magistrate. He died June 18th, 1860.

Among eminent citizens may be mentioned William Bateman, Bishop of Norwich in the fourteenth century, and founder of Trinity Hall, Cambridge; Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury; Dr. John Kaye, or Caius, founder of Caius College; Robert Green, a popular writer in the reign of Elizabeth; Dr. John Cosin, Bishop of Durham in the reign of Charles II.; the learned Dr. Samuel Clarke, the son of an Alderman of Norwich; Edward King, F.R.S. and F.S.A., an erudite antiquary; the Rev. William Beloe, translator of "Herodotus;" and Sir James Edward Smith, M.D., founder and first President of the Linnæan Society, and author of the "Flora Britannica." He resided at a house in Surrey Street during the latter part of his life.

Among the distinguished residents in the city were Sir Thomas Erpingham, Chamberlain to Henry IV., who built the beautiful gate facing the western end of the Cathedral, which is still called Erpingham Gate, and who had a house in the neighbourhood; Sir John Fastolf, a renowned warrior who signalised himself in the wars with France in the reigns of Henry IV., V., and VI., and who had a house opposite the Erpingham Gate; Sir Thomas Brown, author of many works, who lived in a house on the site of the present Savings' Bank in the Market Place. The Dukes of Norfolk occasionally resided at the palace formerly standing on the sites of the present Museum and Free Library, and the ground occupied by the Palace extended down to the river Wensum.

Norwich can boast of some excellent artists who had eyes to discern the beauties of their county. No one could survey the old gray ruins of Castles and Monasteries, the ivy-mantled Churches of the olden time, the leafy nooks, and woodland slopes, and pastures and corn fields that seemed to wave beneath the summer breeze, with an impression that Norfolk was a tame county. And the flat marshy levels of East Norfolk have been found rich in another kind of beauty: reedy lakes in a broad bluish green expanse that look boundless as the ocean; and strange effects of cloud and mist; and windmills and cattle in wet pastures; and here and there the wonderful charm and glow of sunset only to be seen in the flat lands.

John Crome, son of a journeyman weaver, was born here in a poor public-house in 1769. He commenced his working life as errand boy to Dr. Rigby, but with small success, and while still in his boyhood, he apprenticed himself to a house and sign painter. He shared a garret

lodging with a printer's apprentice, and the two began to draw and paint in their spare hours. He was so pinched in circumstances after he married, that he painted sugar ornaments for confectioners, and had at times to clip the material of his brushes from the cat's tail, and to use as canvas pieces of his mother's bed tick or his own apron. But his courage never failed; he applied himself to etchings and water colours as well as to oil painting, and exhibited great originality in his local landscapes, for which he got little, but they are now worth their weight in gold.

The walls and gates which formerly environed the old city are nearly all demolished. Seven of the twelve city gates were taken down in 1792, and the other five were all removed before 1809, but some pieces of the wall still remain to show its ancient form and strength. The ditches have been filled up, and the houses built upon them are considered to be within the ambit of the city, though on the outside of the walls. The Dungeon Tower, on the west bank of the Wensum, at the eastern side of the city, is a circular building, about fifty-two feet in height and twenty-four feet in diameter, with the remains of a spiral staircase reaching to the top. It was re-built in 1390, at the expense of the city. The Governor's Tower, on the height in the parish of St. Peter per Southgate, is the finest and largest of the towers. It is faced with flint, and occupies a commanding situation. The Boom Towers, near Carrow Bridge, stand on opposite sides of the river, and between them the boom or chain was formerly hung to prevent the entrance of hostile vessels. These boom towers are round and built of flint, and form picturesque ruins. Mr. H. Ninham has lately published etchings of the gates from Kirkpatrick's sketches of the gates in their original state.

#### CITY IMPROVEMENTS, &c.

Improvements in the city have been extensive during the last fifty years; but there are many narrow crooked streets and houses, with projecting gables, and quaint, half-timbered fronts. Many new streets and handsome rows of houses have been built beyond the city walls. The approaches to the Market Place have been improved by the widening of old, or the construction of new, streets. Among other improvements may be mentioned the formation of the Prince of Wales' Road, from the Castle Hill to Thorpe Railway Station. The east side of the Castle Hill has been lowered so as to allow easier gradients to the new road. On the same side of the Hill a new range of houses has been built, including the extensive works of Messrs. Holmes and Sons, agricultural machine makers. The area of the Cattle Market has been so much enlarged that it is now the largest in England. In the Market Place, the large drapery ware-

house of Messrs. Chamberlin is a splendid specimen of the Palladian style of architecture. The new warehouse of Messrs. Barnard, Bishop, and Barnards is a fine specimen of the Italian style, with ornamental iron work. Messrs. Gurney and Co. have made extensive additions to the Bank, the public room being nearly doubled in size, with new offices on the west side. The whole building is heated by a new apparatus similar to that of some London banks. The whole of the new work was carried out under the superintendence of Mr. Boardman, architect, Queen Street. The National Provincial Bank, in London Street, is a new building, with a handsome front. Messrs. Fletcher and Son have recently erected extensive printing offices, in a handsome white brick building, at the top of Davey Place. The basement forms a square of fifty-seven feet by sixty-seven feet, with six storeys above, comprising machine rooms, composing rooms, and binding rooms. Two of the floors are fireproof, formed with iron girders and brick arches. Mr. Boardman was the architect, and deserves much credit for the design, which is very superior to any other in this city.

#### THE "EASTERN DAILY PRESS."

An important feature was introduced into the city in October, 1870, when the proprietors of the *Norfolk News*, the most extensively-circulated of the county papers, started a daily journal, called the *Daily Press*. This constitutes the first effort in this direction ever made in the Eastern Counties, and as we write (1872), its increasing circulation and the general approval of the public, many of whom feel the great convenience of having a daily local organ, giving the latest news on their breakfast tables some hours in advance of the metropolitan journals, may be accepted as an augury of success. To this may be added that the advantage of prompt announcements, in a commercial centre like Norwich, of sales and other events past and to come, is one of no ordinary moment, and is deeply appreciated by all men of business.

#### NORWICH MANUFACTURES AND TRADES.

The production of textile fabrics has been, till lately, the great source of the wealth of the city, and by employing an immense capital, exciting industry and remunerating skilled labor, its commercial importance has been raised and its population doubled in the present century. Norwich formerly made a very distinguished figure in the weaving trade. That the art of making cloth from wool was exercised here from a very early period may be inferred from the simple mode of spinning from a distaff being continued here long after it was disused in other manufacturing districts.

From the days of the great Flemish immigration, St. Blaise has numbered many followers in Norwich. Fugitive weavers first settling at Worstead, a village near the north-eastern marshes, originated the name of a familiar article which soon figured largely in our exports. Blomefield, the Norfolk historian, tells us that in the reign of Henry VIII. the yearly sale of Norwich stuffs alone amounted to £200,000, and of stockings to £60,000! In 1770, Arthur Young estimated the amount at £1,200,000. But that old trade to the Continent and India is nearly all gone, and a new home trade has arisen in mixed textile fabrics. At the commencement of the present century the chief textile fabrics produced here were bombazines, camlets, crapes, and mixed fabrics. Paramattas were next introduced, and in the course of time superseded bombazines for mourning. Poplins then came into fashion, and the demand for this kind of goods increased every year. Poplins were followed by a long succession of mixed fabrics, bareges, balzarines, gauzes, nets, mousseline de laines, llamas, thibets, merinoes, lunettas, organdies, stuffs, cloths, velvets. The manufacture of shawls was also carried on extensively, and for a long time Norwich shawls were the fashion all over England. About the year 1820, Messrs. Grout and Co. built their silk mills, in which some hundreds of persons, male and female, are employed. The silk, after being properly prepared, is distributed to female weavers to be made into crape, which is in great demand. Any visitor on his way hither in the evening may pass through throngs of noisy girls, "factory mawthers," as they are called in Norwich, whose appearance is very different from that of their class in Lancashire. Here it is more rustic and various, as if some hundreds of rude, blowzy, and ill-dressed servant girls had been brought together from the country to learn to spin.

Sir Samuel Bignold was the chief promoter of a company for the purpose of building factories for the production of textile fabrics, in order to employ the operatives of the city. In 1833 a company was organised, a capital of £40,000 was raised, and ultimately two large factories were built, one in St. Edmund's and the other in St. James'. The former became a mill for spinning yarn, and is now in the possession of Mr. Parke. In St. James' factory the manufacturers occupy long rooms, either for spinning yarns or weaving fabrics. The machinery is driven by two coupled engines of a hundred horse-power. Both factories have been lately in full work.

The principal textile fabrics made in the city formerly were worstead stuffs, camlets, bombazines, plaids, balzarines, and mixed fabrics, in which silk, wool, and mohair were interwoven. Many articles formerly made here entirely of worstead are not produced now, and new ones are introduced yearly to suit the changes of fashion and the public taste.

The fabrics now made are chiefly paramattas, poplins, tamataves, Cashmeres, barèges, challis, winseys, linseys, grenadines, and other mixed fabrics produced by skilled operatives, who earn very low wages.

In traversing portions of old Norwich, we seem to pass through a city of departed greatness. The old mansions of the manufacturers know them no more, and wealth has flowed into new channels. Nevertheless, Norwich manufactures still possess much importance, and if they have lost ground in some directions, they have advanced in others. Norwich still produces the choicest crapes, the richest poplins and fancy goods. In the west end of London the shawls of Norwich still captivate the World of Fashion, and to purchase some of them requires a long purse. There has been a great revival of the trade in this year 1872, and we hope it will long continue.

#### THE WHOLESALE BOOT AND SHOE TRADE

Has arisen within the last thirty years in this city and increased to a wonderful extent. Many large old houses have been turned into warehouses for the trade. There are thirty manufacturers who employ fifteen thousand people, one-third men, one-third women, and one-third children. The introduction of sewing machines has greatly increased the manufacture. Thousands of pairs of boots are produced daily by machines driven by steam-power. Uppers and soles are cut out by machines, and when fitted, uppers are attached to a pair of soles in one minute; sixty pairs are finished off in one hour, or 600 pairs in one day by one pair of hands and a machine. The most improved machines are used, and some new inventions are applied by which the work is done more perfectly than it can be by hand. Steam power has been applied to all the machines. The result has been not to diminish but to increase the number of hands; but the wages are very low. The trade attracts poor people from the country, and its tendency is to increase their number in the city.

#### CARROW WORKS,

Situated on the south bank of the river, are the most extensive in the city, or indeed in the Eastern Counties, for the production of mustard, starch, blue, paper, and flour. Messrs. J. J. Colman and Co. employ about 1200 men and boys in various departments, and the engines that drive the machinery are above 1000 horse power. The works cover five acres of ground, and are traversed by railways in every direction. There are separate mills for the manufacture of mustard, starch, blue, paper, and flour, with hands skilled in each kind of work, and a manager in each department. Water is supplied from an Artesian well, 1000 feet in depth, all over the works. Immense quantities of goods are produced,

and about 100 tons weekly are sent away by railway to all parts of the country. By the use of machinery of the most improved construction, and by selecting seed of the finest quality, the firm produces mustard unrivalled for purity and flavour. This mustard obtained the only prize medals awarded for the article at the London Exhibition in 1862, and Dublin 1865, and the only silver medal at Paris in 1868. The same firm also obtained medals for starch at the London Exhibitions in 1851 and 1862; Dublin, 1865; York, 1866; and Paris, 1868.

#### VINEGAR WORKS.

Messrs. Hills and Underwood have extensive works at the bottom of the Prince of Wales' Road for the production of vinegar, which is allowed to be of the finest quality, and is sent wholesale all over the country. The two floors of the granary are each fifty feet square, and always contain several thousand quarters of malt from which the vinegar is brewed. The premises have been lately much extended, and new buildings for offices and receiving rooms have been erected on the north side of the road. There is a handsome entrance to the new offices and warehouse, with an iron palisading in front. Mr. Bunn, Pottergate Street, was the architect.

#### BREWERIES.

There are several large breweries in Norwich, which together produce 500,000 barrels of beer yearly. The largest is that of Steward and Patteson in Pockthorpe; the next that of Messrs. Bullard and Sons in St. Miles'. Lately the firm greatly extended the premises by taking in nearly all one side of Upper Westwick Street, which they widened, making a great improvement. The Old Brewery in King Street passed into the hands of Messrs. J. B. and H. Morgan in 1845. Since then they have greatly enlarged their premises and increased their business. Messrs. Youngs, Crawshay, and Co., have also extended their brewery in the same street.

#### MACHINISTS.

Norwich has become noted for metal manufactures, especially in iron and the production of steam engines; also of machines and implements for agricultural and horticultural purposes. By the use of these implements, the produce of the land has been much increased. The chief manufacturers are Mr. Smithdale, King Street, of engines; Messrs. Holmes and Sons, Castle Hill, and Messrs. Riches and Watts, Duke Street, of agricultural implements; Messrs. Barnard, Bishop, and Barnards, and Messrs. W. S. Boulton and Co., of horticultural implements, iron chairs, tables, conservatories, &c.

Mr. Thomas Smithdale has a very large establishment at St. Anne's Staithe, near King Street, on the site of an ancient monastery, remains of which still exist near the river. In his large foundry castings are made up to ten tons, and the workshops contain heavy machinery. Mr. Smithdale builds engines from three-horse to a hundred-horse power, and also constructs hydraulic presses, cranes, crabs, mill works, planing, shaping, and drilling machines, with boilers of all sizes.

Messrs. Holmes and Sons, engineers, &c., greatly extended their premises in 1862 on the east side of the Castle Hill. They built a large show room opposite the Castle, and there they exhibit engines and machines of every description. They have by their energy and indefatigable perseverance placed themselves in a position of enviable prosperity, and gained many prizes at agricultural exhibitions for their machines and collections of implements. They have received about a hundred awards for superiority in their steam engines, thrashing machines, seed shellers, corn seed, and manure drills, distributors, and saw benches.

Messrs. Barnard, Bishop, and Barnards (Norfolk Iron Works, St. Miles') are engineers and galvanizers, manufacturers of machine-made galvanized wire netting for game, poultry, sheep, and aviaries, lawn mowers, strained wire fencing, &c., wholesale and for exportation. These extensive works cover an area of one acre. Entering by Coslany Street, the new counting-house is joined on the right by a fine suite of offices, and on the left by the smith's shop, which is backed by fire-proof workshops seventy-five feet in length and five stories in height. The large foundry is at the east end of the works. About 400 men and boys are employed here. Messrs. Barnard, Bishop, and Barnards are manufacturers of wrought iron park gates, park and garden chairs and stools, iron bedsteads, patent self-rolling mangles, patent turnip and root-pulping machines, patent root graters and turnip cutters, and a variety of other machines, cooking ranges, &c. The ranges are an improvement on those known as kitcheners, and possess the advantages of baking bread and pastry in the bottom shelf of the oven, which cannot be done by any other kind. Messrs. Barnard, Bishop, and Barnards have built new premises in the Market Place which are quite an ornament to the city. The new building comprises four storeys above the basement. The elevation presents a red brick rusticated front, surmounted with red brick cornices. All the numerous windows have moulded brick architraves. Those on the second floor have ornamental iron balconets, while running before those on the first floor is a handsome ornamental iron balcony, supported by moulded stone corbels. At each end of the shop front are massive red granite pilasters. The front is supported by iron columns, and has a

handsome wrought iron cornice. The premises are very commodious, and include extensive show-rooms.

The works of W. S. Boulton and Co., in Rose Lane, have been long established and lately greatly extended to afford facilities for an increasing business. In addition to the manufacture of wire, game, and other netting, of which large quantities are produced, we may mention lawn mowers, garden implements of every sort, garden chairs, croquet awnings; all kinds of iron and wire fencing, gates, hot air and hot water apparatus, &c. This firm has introduced manufactures hardly known before in Norfolk; including the construction of conservatories, green-houses, forcing pits, plant preservers, ground vineries, melon frames, &c. Two new workshops have been lately erected specially for this branch of the business, the following being the dimensions:—One 110 feet in length, thirty feet in width, with three floors. This is filled with improved wood-working machinery, such as saw benches, planing, moulding, morticing, and shaping machines, &c. The second workshop, used for the construction of horticultural buildings, is 120 feet in length, and forty-one feet in width, with four floors. The foundry and galvanizing trades are carried on here in all their branches. In 1869 this firm gained six prizes for horticultural appliances at the Great International Exhibition at Hamburg, and also at Altona, in Sleswick Holstein.

### WHOLESALE TRADE.

Norwich merchants carry on an extensive wholesale trade in corn, flour, malt, hops, wool, coals, iron, timber, upholstery, provisions, and in all sorts of grocery and drapery goods. The merchants here supply retailers as advantageously as any London house. The quantity of goods brought into the city by river, roads, and railways, exceeds 300,000 tons, which goods are of course sold and distributed all over the Eastern Counties. There are several wine and spirit merchants in the city, who are large importers: Messrs. Bolingbroke and Woodrow, of the Wine Company, St. Giles' Street; Messrs. Barwell and Sons, St. Stephen's Street; Messrs. Norgate and Son, St. Stephen's Street; Mr. Morley and Mr. J. Chamberlin, Post Office Street, all of whom hold large stocks of wines and spirits.

The railways have afforded facilities for the carrying trade of the city. The goods traffic from all places to Norwich for the year ending July, 1867, was 22,661 tons at Victoria Station, 30,000 tons at Thorpe Station, and 17,616 tons at Trowse; total 70,277 tons. The coal traffic in addition from all parts to Norwich was 25,349 tons at Victoria Station, 17,000 tons at Thorpe, and 16,706 tons at Trowse; total, 59,055 tons. The goods sent away from all three railway stations at Norwich amounted to

80,968 tons. In the same year the traffic at Trowse included, inward, 57,058 cattle, 76,154 sheep, and 9855 pigs; outward, 35,083 cattle, 59,063 sheep, and 12,403 pigs. In 1870, the number inward greatly increased.

Norwich, as compared with Yarmouth, produces the greater traffic on the railways. In the year ending July, 1867, the goods traffic from all places to Yarmouth was 25,123 tons at both stations. The goods sent from both stations to all places was 32,081 tons. The fish traffic was immense in addition. In the same year, the goods traffic from all places to Lowestoft was 11,513 tons, and coals 2179 tons. Goods sent from Lowestoft by railway to all places, 9069 tons; coals, 13,979 tons; and fish, 15,966 tons; total, 39,034 tons.

#### THE RIVER AND NAVIGATION.

The navigation of the Wensum and the Yare affords great facilities to the trade of Norwich, and was much improved by a canal cut across the marshes from Reedham to Lowestoft. The general navigation from the city to Yarmouth and Lowestoft is by wherries, which are peculiar to the rivers of Norfolk and Suffolk, and those used on the Yare carry from fifteen to sixty tons, and draw from three to four feet of water. By these wherries large quantities of coals, stone, timber, iron, marl, corn, malt, flour, and other heavy goods are conveyed to and from the city. The river has been deepened for a great part of its course to Yarmouth, and might be much more improved.

The river Wensum rises near Rudham, in West Norfolk, and winding through that division of the county for thirty miles, passes through Norwich and flows into the Yare below the city. Within the historic period a broad arm of the sea flowed up the valley of the Yare, covered all the land, now green meadows, between Whitlingham and Thorpe, and indeed the waters flowed over a great part of the ground on the north side of the city. After the tenth century the waters gradually receded, leaving only the present stream. The river, on leaving the city, enters the beautiful vale of Thorpe, one of the most delightful suburbs in the Eastern Counties. On the high grounds along the north side of the river there are many gardens and handsome residences of the city gentry. Being only two miles from Norwich, it has become of late the retreat of the city gentry, many of whom have erected handsome houses and laid out spacious gardens. Indeed it is a village the situation of which would admit of being ornamented with the finest gardens in England. Quitting Whitlingham the river Yare winds onward between green meadows to Bramerton, where a rural retreat called Wood's End is the resort of pleasure-seekers in the summer months. From the high ground at Bramerton the traveller may behold a wide and far-extended valley, as yet

ill-drained and ill-cultivated, but presenting green meadows, woody banks, villages, churches, and mansions of the gentry. In days before man appeared on the scene this tranquil valley was covered by a broad arm of the sea; but those days have long since passed away, and a thousand years ago the tempestuous waters subsided into the present peaceful river, now abounding with a variety of the finny tribe.

Leaving Bramerton, the river winds along rolling onward deep and strong to Coldham Hall, near Surlingham, where another rural retreat attracts the disciples of old Izaak Walton from all parts of the country to carry on their gentle sport. Many anglers lodge at Coldham Hall for weeks together for the sake of fishing. Here grand angling matches have been held, as this is a good place for the sport, the river abounding with bream, roach, perch, and other varieties of the finny tribes.

The stream becomes broader as it flows on to Buckenham Ferry. This place is celebrated for the excellence of the fish caught in the river. Langley Park is about three miles from this place, on the south side of the river. The mansion is a beautiful structure, the seat of Sir Thomas P. Beauchamp, Bart.

Two miles from the Ferry at Claxton are the ruins of the Castle built by the famous William D'Albini, surnamed the "Strong Hand" from the tradition of his having slain a lion. The building was situated on a hill, and consisted of a keep, two circular towers, a grand entrance tower, a barbican, and embattled walls, and was surrounded by a deep moat. Nothing now remains but the ruins of a gateway and the keep.

Passing Buckenham Ferry the river flows onward to Cantley, another noted fishing-place; and thence to Reedham, where it receives the waters of the Waveney near Burgh Castle, the famous Roman station. The river rushes into the salt waters of the sea at Breydon, a broad expanse of sea water flowing up from the harbour at Yarmouth. The Yare is navigable for small sea-borne vessels for the whole length of its course, thirty-six miles, from Norwich to Yarmouth.

The Wensum and the Yare converge at Trowse a little below Norwich; and are joined by the Waveney below Reedham, and by the Bure which flows into the harbour at Yarmouth. There is little doubt that there was formerly a great estuary at Yarmouth, but the water has been confined by the sands which formed the Denes along the coast into the narrow channel which flowed through Gorleston. In former times, the Waveney flowed through Mutford lock, a dam erected under the advice of some Dutch engineers in order to prevent the incursions of the sea. However this may be, it is certain that the whole flow of the river between Norwich and Yarmouth is maintained by a fall of four or five inches. This fact is attended with great advantage to the eastern district.

## CHAPTER V.

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### A DESCRIPTION OF GREAT YARMOUTH.

THIS Seaport, Borough, and Market Town, is situated in the Hundred of Flegg, in the Eastern Division of Norfolk, at the mouth of the river Yare, from which it derives its name. It is distant 123 miles (north-east) from London, in 52 deg. 35 min. (north latitude) and 1 deg. 46 min. (east longitude) of the meridian of Greenwich. It stands on a narrow peninsula, less than a mile in breadth, between the river Yare and the North Sea, and its site was originally covered by the sea, which receding left a bank of sand, whereon a few fishermen settled and increased in numbers at an early period.

The name of this town is entirely appropriate to its situation, from which indeed, like many others, it is taken. Yarmouth is as expressive of the Yare's mouth, or the mouth of the river Yare, as a compound word can be. The Angles called it *Garmud*, that is the mouth of the *Gariensis* or Yare, which river rises in the middle of Norfolk and, after receiving the Waveney and Bure, flows into the North Sea. It is still a disputed point whether this be the *Garianonum* of the Romans or not, and the name may have been applied to a large area, including Caistor, near Yarmouth.

In the celebrated *Notitia Imperii*, or "Survey of the Roman Empire," it appears that the commander of the Stablesian horse, under the title of the Count of the Saxon shore in Britain, was stationed at a place called *Garianonum* (the mouth of the Yare); hence that commander was styled *Garianensis*, signifying the commander at the mouth of *Gariensis*, or the river now called the Yare. But antiquaries are not agreed where that ancient fortress was situated. Camden places it at Burgh Castle; while others place it at Caistor, near Yarmouth. Sir Henry Spelman says: "The vestiges of both situation and river are not to be ascertained. Two places seem to lay claim to it—Burgh Castle, in the county of Suffolk,

which at this day hangs over the south side of the river; and Caistor, a small village, four miles distant on the north. Both have a Roman appearance: the former, a four-sided, oblong, pitched camp crowned with a wall, but too remote from the sea, and in a place so surrounded with marshes and narrow passes as to be incommodiously situated for troops of horse; the latter on the very shore on an open plain, discovering also the ruins of a wall and fortifications, and very commodious for the excursions of horse for the defence of the shore, which was given in commission to this count and this cavalry; for the interior and midland parts were guarded by another count, and rather with cohorts of foot than troops of horse. I therefore am of opinion that Caistor is the *Garianonum*, though Camden is pleased with Burgh. Caister, a name taken from the Romans, conduces to my opinion, especially since nothing (that I know of) will be found of this name throughout England but Roman."

It is very certain from several circumstances that the Romans inhabited both places, but more especially from the numerous Roman coins and pieces of urns dug up at each place. Most of them have been found at Caistor, in a place called the "East Bloody Furlong," belonging to Mr. Thomas Wood, a person of knowledge in these things. And it is remarkable that the coins found at Caistor are of more ancient date than those found at Burgh Castle: hence there is great reason to think that Caistor was the first principal fortress on this shore.

Another station might be found necessary at a later period, and therefore constructed on the south side of the river, and called *Garianonum*, to distinguish it from the other, and though further distant from the shore, yet perhaps more suitable for the residence of the Commander-in-Chief. And as these two stations were extremely well situated on each side of the river, upon fine eminences, and in sight of each other, the troops, upon every emergency, might give notice by proper signals, to each other; and consequently more advantageously command the adjacent shore and the entrance into the river, notwithstanding its various channels, than if there had been only one station.

The course of the river Yare here shows a peculiarity which is observable on other parts of the eastern coast, for it turns suddenly to the south when near the sea, and runs parallel with the beach for nearly a mile to its outfall; whereby a sort of peninsula is formed, occupied by the town and its outskirts. That long sand bank was produced, as geologists tell us, by causes which have long prevailed on these eastern shores, as exemplified at the mouth of the Humber: waste of land and set of currents. But within the historical period a broad estuary occupied the site of the breezy Denes, stretching its arms as far as Caistor, three miles to the north, and its main channel as far as Norwich. Ancient

writers named it *Garrueno*, in which is perhaps preserved the Icenic *Garu-an*, or rough water, whence the name of *Gar-les-ton*, or the town beside the *Gar*, now called *Gorleston*, which existed before *Yarmouth* became a town. *Swinden*, on the authority of previous writers, states that *Cerdic*, the warlike Saxon, with his son *Kenric* and 1600 men, came over in five ships and landed on the *Norfolk* coast, then part of the province of the *Iceni*; and after several battles, subduing the natives, set sail from *Yarmouth* to the west, where they founded the Kingdom of the *West Saxons*. Returning from this expedition about the year 495, they built a new town on the west side of the *Gariensis*, and called it *Jiermud*, or *Yarmouth*, but afterwards removed to the opposite side of the river. *Cerdic* sand, or *Cerdic* shore, seems to have been a great sand bank, formed along the shore between two branches or channels of the *Yare*, by which two channels the river then entered the sea, one flowing near *Caistor*, the other near *Gorleston*. It is said that after the Romans had left this island, the Saxon adventurers carried the news of their success to their own country, and this place being suitable for landing troops, new invaders came hither and gave its present name to the town and settled in it.

About the end of the fifth century, the fishermen along the eastern coast, and others from the opposite shores, resorted to the sea banks where *Yarmouth* now stands, annually every autumn to catch herrings. There were many inducements for making use of this particular spot which had newly emerged from the waves, and as nobody thought it worth claiming it was left unoccupied. The fishermen finding it a convenient situation for landing fish and drying their nets made it a place of temporary residence, erected tents or booths, and carried on their trade. When the fishing season was over they struck their tents and returned to their homes. But at length finding the place very suitable for a longer residence than the fishing season required, they formed themselves into a small community and began to build houses, which in time increasing in number, and being formed into regular streets, acquired a very respectable aspect and grew into a flourishing town. Hence it is evident that the fishermen of the eastern coast with some foreigners were the founders of the town of *Yarmouth*, one of the first built in the *Eastern Counties*.

The *Denes* or sandbanks on which the town is built are peculiar, having been gradually formed within the historic period at the entrance of the *Yare*. These accumulations of sand eventually became dry land, being aided in the transformation by the light sand drifted from the beach, by the prevailing north-east winds, which sweep the coast in the spring. These *Denes* now present the appearance of a narrow level peninsula between the sea, the river *Bure*, and the haven.

We have but little information about the affairs of any town in eastern England during the Anglo-Saxon period, and that little is not very certain. We need not be surprised that local affairs should have received little attention, when we find some of the more important events of national history left unrecorded by the writers of that period. The annals of this town are almost a blank for 500 years of wars and turmoil, when the great mass of the people were buried in profound ignorance and superstition. A brief sketch may, however, be given of the rise and progress of the borough.

After the Anglo-Saxon Octarchy became one kingdom the town began to make rapid strides in the scale of commercial importance; and to settle the disputes of its fishermen and merchants, certain portreeves, or bailiffs, were sent by the Barons of the Cinque Ports, on the south coast, invested with the necessary powers, but they stayed only forty days during the herring season, namely from Michaelmas to Martinmas. Subsequently a free fair was established, and a burgh was founded for the mutual consideration of comfort and defence.

Yarmouth became a fishing town of some importance during the Anglo-Saxon period, and in the reign of Edward the Confessor it contained seventy burgesses. Almarus, the Bishop, had in that reign a certain Church of St. Bennet-at-Holm. What the burgesses were does not appear from Domesday Book, but no doubt they were traders by sea. The Anglo-Saxon Kings kept this burgh or borough in their own hands, and the traders were called burgesses. Domesday Book makes no mention of villains, borderers, servi, &c., whence it may be inferred that the burgesses were always freemen.

According to Domesday Book (1068), Edward the Confessor held Yarmouth, which then contained seventy burgesses, who were traders or merchants. It was then valued with two parts of the sac of three hundreds at £18 by tate, and the Earl's part was £9 by tate. The King's parts in 1086 were £17 15s. 4d. blanes, and the Earl's parts £10 blanes. The Sheriff had £4 and one hawk in the time of King Edward for a fine. The burgesses gave £4 gratis, and in friendship.

The part of the town first built was at the north end, near a place since called Fuller's Hill, so named, according to the tradition of one Fuller, a builder thereof, from which period the houses were continued in a northerly direction, for the greater convenience of being near the north haven, where trade was carried on. And this seems to account for the Church being built so far to the north of the town, that being then the most populous part. About the year 1100 the north haven began to be stopped up with sands and rendered useless, and the inhabitants removed to places near the south channel of the river, which became the principal haven. Thus

the northern parts were deserted, and the town increased gradually to the southward along the south channel of the river.

The Kings of England, after the Conquest, granted this burgh of Yarmouth to some Earl, who always deputed a Reeve or Portreve to collect the customs, determine controversies, and administer justice to the burgesses, according to the custom of ancient burghs. But these Reeves, from the nature of their office, had but limited prerogatives in comparison with the officers appointed immediately by the King. The first of these that we meet with is in the ninth year of Henry I. when on account of the increase of the inhabitants, that King appointed a Provost to govern the town. The office, and probably the residence of this magistrate, was in or near the Conge, which at that time was the principal place of trade, and so continued as long as Grub's Haven, northward, was navigable to the sea. And the quay opposite to the Conge, sometimes called the King's Conge, was denominated the Lord's Conge, which title it first acquired when the burgh was under the Earl, and retained it for many centuries after.

Henry I. thus took the town under his protection for the purpose of terminating the frequent disputes between its inhabitants and the Barons of the Cinque Ports, who for a long time despatched bailiffs here to superintend and regulate the business transacted during the grand mart, or free fair, held yearly for the sale of herrings. The Barons of the Cinque Ports appear to have exercised this prerogative long after the period when the town was first constituted a burgh, their bailiffs having been admitted into Court to hear and determine causes in conjunction with the magistrates. In 1208, King John by a charter granted at Marlborough, made the town a free borough and granted it many privileges, on condition of the inhabitants paying to him and his heirs a yearly fee farm-rent of £55 in lieu of all the customs arising from the port, and this sum is still paid to the Crown by the Corporation. After the receipt of this charter, the burgesses made considerable commercial progress and formed themselves into Guilds, or a sort of trade unions, for the protection of trade, or rather of some monopoly or other. In the succeeding reign of Henry III., the long subsisting disputes between the burgesses and the inhabitants on the west side of the river in Gorleston broke out at intervals with such violence as to call for royal interference. The King instituted an enquiry into the pretensions of both parties, and a verdict was returned "that the Haven of Yarmouth appertaineth of right to the burgesses, and that all wares, and merchandises ought to be unladen and sold in the borough," and not at Gorleston, which was a fishing station before the town of Yarmouth arose from the waves.

The situation of Yarmouth being as it were the key or grand entrance

into the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, it was necessary that something should be done to provide for its security. Accordingly we find that in the year 1260, in consequence of a petition of the burgesses, King Henry III. granted them leave to build a wall and make a moat round the town. It does not appear, however, that the walls were then begun, or if begun, they were not finished for 100 years after.

When finished the walls were 2240 yards in length, and had sixteen towers and ten gates. A castle having four watch-towers, and upon which a fire beacon was placed in 1588, was also built in the centre of the town. In the same year a mound called South Mount, was thrown up and crowned with heavy ordnance. The castle having been demolished in 1621, and the changes introduced into the system of warfare rendering further defences necessary, strong parapets were constructed in front of the town and cannon planted in them facing the sea. The circuit of fortifications thus completed was two miles and a-half.

Though many inquisitions had been taken by royal authority for settling the disputes between the inhabitants and the Barons of the Cinque Ports, there was an open rupture in the 25th of Edward I., when according to Hollingshead, "The King passing into Flanders to assist the Earl thereof against the King of France, had no sooner landed than the men of the ports, through an old grudge, long pending, fell together upon the sea with so much fury, that notwithstanding the King's commands to the contrary, twenty-five ships of Yarmouth were burnt." In this desperate encounter many lives were lost, and goods to the value of £15,356 were destroyed; but we are told by the historian of Yarmouth, Manship, "That a grievous requital was not long after made by the men of this burgh against the portsmen." These disagreements continued for a long time, and fill up the annals of the town, but such contentions are of no interest now. We shall pass over these, and notice some events more to the credit of the inhabitants.

In 1294, in the reign of Edward I., the French attempted to invade England with a fleet of 400 ships, assisted by the treachery of Tuberville, but the plot miscarried, and the men of Yarmouth, putting to sea a fleet of armed ships, captured and burnt Cherburgh in Normandy, while a fleet from the Cinque Ports ravaged the whole coast of France within twenty miles of Dieppe. For this and other services rendered by the burgesses, Edward I. granted them two more charters, one in 1298 for acquitting them of tollage and other taxes, and the other in 1309 for regulating their trade and commerce.

Though the town never obtained the honour to which it long aspired of being reckoned one of the Cinque Ports, it was a very important naval station at an early period. At the commencement of the reign of Edward

III., it had eighty ships with forecastles and forty without. In 1337 the Yarmouth fleet consisted of twenty men of war, and conveyed the King's plenipotentiaries to the Court of Hainault, and on its return took two Flemish ships, laden with men, money, and provisions for Scotland. In 1342, the King, Edward III., embarked on board this fleet on his expedition to Brittany, but while he lay entrenched before Vennes, Prince Louis of Spain dispersed the fleet and thus drove the King, Edward III., to great straits for want of provisions. For the memorable siege of Calais in 1346 the principal seaports were ordered to supply a certain number of ships of war to carry out the objects of the King's ambition or lust of conquest. The North Sea fleet consisted on that occasion of 240 sail, out of which number Yarmouth supplied forty-three, containing 1075 sailors. John Perebourn, a burgess of the town, was the admiral, to which rank he had been elevated in 1340, when he defeated the French fleet off Sluys, in Holland, after a desperate engagement in which the French lost 230 ships and 30,000 men. In that fatal battle was used that diabolical preparation, *Greek fire*, composed of sulphur, bitumen, and naphtha, combustible under water, and burning with such intense heat as to consume metals. Consequently if it fell on a warrior it penetrated his armour and peeled the flesh from his bones with exquisite torture.

During the Civil Wars between Charles I. and Parliament, Yarmouth declared for the latter, on the 9th of July, 1642, and the town was consequently put in a state of defence. The houses and workshops adjoining the walls were taken down, the gates rampired and locked, and the east leaf of the bridge drawn up every night. In 1645, additional fortifications were made, and breastworks and platforms erected at the seaside. In 1648, the burgesses raised 600 foot and fifty horse soldiers for the Parliament. Oliver Cromwell was a frequent visitor to the town, and lodged with his friend and counsellor, John Carter, in his house on the South Quay. John Carter was one of the bailiffs of Yarmouth when the town declared for the Parliament, whom Cromwell often visited, and whose son married Mary Ireton, daughter of the famous General. Moreover, according to tradition, the final consultation was held here as to what should be done with Charles I. According to the narrative, "A meeting of the principal officers of the army was held in this house. They chose to be abovestairs for the privacy of their conference; they strictly commanded that no person should come near the room, except a man appointed to attend; their dinner, which was ordered at four o'clock, was put off from time to time till past eleven at night; they then came down to a very short repast, and immediately set off post, many for London and some for the quarters of the army." We may easily imagine what passed in that gloomy conclave of military Puritans, prompted by dire revenge. Ful

details of all the proceedings in this eventful period are given in our historical narrative.

During the long war between this country and France, Yarmouth became a grand station for part of the British navy, and its relative consequence may be seen by an Act framed in 1797, requiring 17,948 men to be raised in the seaports, according to the tonnage of each place. The quota for London was 5,725; Liverpool, 1,711; Newcastle, 1,240; Hull, 731; Sunderland, 669; Bristol, 666; Whitby, 573; and Yarmouth, 506. Yarmouth Roads afford a safe anchorage for a numerous fleet exactly opposite the town, and consequently the Roads are a great rendezvous for all vessels sailing in the North Sea.

Since the reign of Edward I. till lately, the town sent two burgesses to Parliament. Until the passing of the Reform Act in 1832, the freemen were the only electors. About 800 of these freemen were disfranchised for non-residence, and the remainder (about 1100) experienced the same fate in 1848, under the powers of a special Act of Parliament. The number of electors was, however, greatly increased under the Reform Act of 1832, and continued to increase till 1867, when the town was disfranchised by the new Reform Act on account of the bribery that had prevailed at elections.

The burgesses at various periods from 1208 to 1702 received twenty-five charters, some confirmatory of former privileges, and others conveying additional immunities. The last, granted by Queen Anne, March 11, 1702, settled the work of government, and constituted the burgesses one body politic and corporate, by the style of "The Mayor, Aldermen, Burgesses, and Commonalty of the Borough of Great Yarmouth." In the Municipal Reform Act of 1835, the borough is included in section 1 of Schedule A, among those boroughs the parliamentary boundaries of which are to be taken for municipal purposes till altered by Parliament. Under this Act it is governed by a Mayor, twelve Aldermen, and thirty-six Councillors.

The Water Works were formed in 1855, at a cost of £80,000, raised in £10 shares by a company of shareholders under an Act of Parliament obtained in 1853. The water is obtained from Ormesby "Broad," about eight miles north from Yarmouth, and is very soft, being supplied from springs and rain. Two steam engines pump the water from the Broad into the filter beds, and after filtration force it up to the reservoir at Caistor, whence it flows by gravitation to all parts of the town of Yarmouth. The filter beds are composed of layers of sand and gravel so disposed that the finest sand is on the surface of the coarsest gravel at the bottom. The filters being frequently cleansed, the water is always pure and wholesome.

The Gas Works on the South Denes were erected in 1824 by Mr. G. H. Palmer, who afterwards sold them to a company of shareholders. Since

then the works have been enlarged at various times to meet the wants of a rapidly-increasing population. In 1863 the company expended £30,000 and had a working capital of £5000, when a new Act of Parliament was obtained giving power to raise an additional capital of £60,000 and to extend the works so as to make the necessary provision for lighting the town and neighbourhood.

#### THE PARISH AND THE CHURCH.

The parish of Great Yarmouth contains about 1510 acres of land and 36,000 inhabitants. Population in 1801, 16,573; in 1811, 19,691; in 1821, 22,000; in 1831, 24,115; in 1841, 28,038; in 1851, 30,879 souls, of whom 13,628 were males and 17,231 females. Since then the population has greatly increased. In 1851 the town contained 6,886 houses inhabited and 311 empty, and eighty in course of erection. Of late years many new streets have been built at the south end of the town. The large increase in the number of houses as compared with the population is owing to the absence of a great number of seamen from the port.

In the year 1096, Herbert, Bishop of Norwich, founded the largest parish church in England at Yarmouth. It was dedicated to St. Nicholas, supposed to be the patron of fishermen. The founder made the church a priory, as a cell subservient to Norwich. Three parish chaplains and one deacon usually officiated in it, and it appears that the prior was obliged to provide them, for in the 34th of Henry VI. the town received a fine of the prior, for "want of a parish chaplain and a dean, 20s., and unless they be provided before St. Michael next ensuing the aforesaid prior shall incur the penalty of eight marks." This church is said to have been completed in 1119; but all that can be seen of that date is a portion of the central tower below the bell chamber, the lower part of the tower having been cut away and cased to form the piers of the tower arches in the decorated period. Succeeding bishops and priors made additions and alterations; fishermen brought their offerings to help on the work; the bachelors of the town began an aisle in 1338, but were stayed by the plague. The rood loft was erected by Roger de Haddesco, prior of St. Olaves, in 1370, and ornamented with curious devices at his own cost. Formerly sixteen chapels or oratories were attached to it, and it contains a fine organ by Jordan, built in 1733. Extensive restorations were made in 1848, and are still in progress. It contains an old font of Purbeck marble, a copy of Rueben's "Elevation of the Cross," monuments to the England, Fuller, Hall, and other families. The register commences in 1558. The structure consists of three aisles; the middle remarkably the least both in height and breadth, but extending further towards the east than the other two. The breadth of the three aisles together is 108 feet.

In the east end of the middle aisle stands the communion table, where formerly stood before the Reformation the great or high altar, and over it a loft or perch called the rood loft, which supported a large crucifix.

The chancel is remarkable for its side aisles and large dimensions ; and when we view the interior from the end of the nave, we find the fine effect of the early English arches, heightened by amplitude of space. And while pacing slowly hither and thither, we may read passages of history in the varied architecture, Norman, transitional, perpendicular, and decorated. We may look in vain for brasses, for they were torn up by order of the Corporation more than three hundred years ago, and cast into weights for the use of the traders ; as Weaver says, "an inhuman, formidable act, by which the honourable memory of many virtuous and noble persons deceased is extinguished."

Little of the original structure of this venerable pile remains, except the tower, in the upper part of which several windows were discovered and re-opened. So numerous were the chapels to the church, that in the reign of Edward III. it was thought necessary for divine service to erect a new edifice at the west end, which was called the "new work," and intended as an additional aisle or chapel to the church ; but it was never completed, in consequence of the great plague of 1349, whereby most of the inhabitants died. Since 1845, the whole of the interior of the edifice has been restored and beautified, so as to make it like a new church.

There are several district churches and chapels of ease ; that of St. George was built in 1716, under the authority of an Act of Parliament ; that of St. Peter in 1835, at a cost of £12,000, by Scoles ; that of St. John in 1857, chiefly for seamen. Chapels have been built here for the Roman Catholics, for the Jews, the Wesleyans, Primitive Methodists, General and Particular Baptists, Independents, Society of Friends, and Unitarians. Adjoining the parish churchyard there is a cemetery of twelve acres. There is also a Roman Catholic burial ground.

#### THE MODERN TOWN.

The present town extends considerably beyond the old walls, on the north towards Caistor, on the south towards the mouth of the haven. The principal streets are well-built, and are crossed at right angles by 145 narrow lanes called rows. Many of the houses, both in the old and new parts of the town, are lofty, and there are terraces fronting the sea. The streets are well paved, lighted with gas, and drained under the Public Health Act. The houses are supplied with water, laid on by a company incorporated in 1853. The principal public buildings are the Town Hall, built in 1716 ; the Tollhouse ; the Custom House, on the Quay ; the Royal

Hospital, founded in 1838; the Fishermen's Hospital, built in 1702; the Workhouse, built in 1838; and the Borough Gaol.

Yarmouth is rather behind in the number of schools considering the large population. The old Grammar School was originally established by the Corporation after the Reformation. The new Grammar School was recently opened by the Prince of Wales. The Charity Schools, for clothing and educating one hundred boys and fifty girls, are supported chiefly by voluntary contributions, and were founded in 1713; but the present schoolrooms on Theatre Plain were built in 1723. The Priory National School occupies part of the old Priory near the churchyard of St. Nicholas, and was opened in 1851. Nonconformists, who are numerous here, have several schools, wherein some hundreds of children receive elementary instruction.

The new Grammar School is a very fine building in the Gothic style, freely treated to meet the requirements of the case, the house having a domestic character, while greater architectural emphasis is given to the school itself. The wall material is of red brick, with occasional bands of black bricks and stone dressings. The group is well broken up and forms an effective outline. The school occupies the western portion of the block of buildings, and has a large four-light traceried window in the north front, with a corresponding window of a plainer character to the south. The west side has four two-light windows, with heads carved up to the main roof, forming small gables. The bell turret is about seventy feet in height, and has a broach spire covered with slates and lead, surmounted by an ornamental finial with lightning conductor. The principal entrance is by a doorway under the turret leading to a spacious lobby about thirty feet by sixteen feet. Opposite the front entrance is the doorway opening to the play-ground; on the left is a corridor leading to the house; on the right are the entrances to the large school, and at either ends are staircases leading to the class-rooms. The school-room—sixty-four feet by twenty-six feet—is lofty and well lighted, having an open timbered roof stained and varnished.

#### THE MARKET PLACE.

The Market-place comprises about three acres, and the market, which is held on Wednesdays and Saturdays, is well supplied with provisions. What with the large area, the great gathering there on Saturdays of town folk and rustic folk, their words and ways, the market presents a highly animated scene. The long rows of stalls stretch out further than any one can see, and we may pass from the display of fish, flesh, and fowl at one end, through peas and potatoes, cakes, and strawberries, to baskets, bedsteads, boxes, boots, frippery, old iron and new hardware, old chairs,

tables, and old books. There sits a busy knife grinder, whirling off a hissing stream of sparks amid an admiring group. There the dealer in literature disperses odd volumes to rural shelves, and announces that he is ready to buy as well as to sell. In another place we see what becomes of some of the rushes that grow in East Norfolk, for here are hassocks, cushions, matting, and horse collars all made of rushes. Some of the stalls are roofed, but most are uncovered, and near each there is a small sentry box, in which the women can sit sheltered from sun and rain while selling their poultry, butter, or vegetables. The lover of floral beauty will soon permit his eye to rest on the produce of the market garden, where it may revel in a perfect sea of lusciousness—asparagus, seakale, peas (marrowfats and blues), beans (kidneys, dwarfs, and Windsors), salads and cresses, radishes in radiating and globular bunches, cabbages and cauliflowers, cucumbers and all the pumpkin tribe, fruits in shining heaps of cherries, glistening currants, strawberries and raspberries on wooden trays.

If we turn from the people to look at the Market Place, we see on the west side tall houses and handsome shops, with numerous bay windows above, and among them an old-fashioned oriel; a long line, broken only by the narrow entrances of the rows. Some of these rows or alleys, which traverse the town from end to end, are so narrow that you can easily touch both sides at once by stretching out your hands while walking through. The eastern side of the Market Place makes less show. Here stands the old Fishmarket, and a little further on there is the Fishermen's Hospital, a low quadrangular building, with its curious gables and dormers terminating in finials, showing us what the architect of 1702 regarded as an appropriate style.

#### THE QUAY SIDE OF THE TOWN.

There are several very ancient houses in the town, one of which, on the Quay, in 1596 was the residence of a granddaughter of Oliver Cromwell, and is now the property and residence of C. J. Palmer, Esq., F.S.A., a well-known antiquary and author, from whom it receives all the care which so interesting a memorial of the past deserves. In the drawing-room, which is elaborately ornamented with rich carved work, a meeting of the principal officers of the Parliamentary army is said to have been held for the purpose of deciding the fate of Charles I. The room is a singularly-beautiful specimen of the genius and handiwork available three hundred years ago.

The North and South Quays are more than a mile in length, and are the finest in England, and have some resemblance to the Boontjes at Rotterdam, presenting scenes of land traffic and water traffic, lading and

unlading of vessels, the moving to and fro of vehicles, the double row of elms, the lines of ships on one side and the lines of old houses on the other. Among the latter are some that give us demonstration of the admirable effect which the old builders knew how to produce by flint walls, by porch and parvise, by oriel, gallery, and balustrade.

The edifice known as the Dutch clock, dating from the last quarter of the sixteenth century, has religious as well as commercial associations. Morning prayer was once offered therein under the sanction of the Corporation. The Dutch and Flemings, who fled from persecution in their own country to this town, had permission to use it as a chapel. The old clock still marks the hour, and the mariner's compass, three feet in diameter, carved in stone, still stands in front; but an old custom is discontinued of the town waits assembling on the top of the building, and performing on musical instruments. Now the house is occupied by Haven Commissioners, and a Public Library containing ten thousand volumes. Another relic is masked by the front of the Star Hotel, a house that carries our thoughts back to one of the decisive periods in English history. The Nelson room in this Hotel is so called because Nelson once dined in it; his portrait, by Keymer, a Quaker, who was an admirer of the famous Admiral, hangs at the end. The walls are decorated with antique carved work, oaken panels, and pilasters, styles formed of a half-length female figure, supported by the head of an animal, arched fillets and diaper work, and quaint devices wrought in wood.

#### THE SEA SIDE OF THE TOWN.

Here are long ranges of handsome buildings, extending from the north end to the south end, a mile in length. Here are many first-class hotels and lodging-houses for visitors.

The Marine Drive is a long straight highway, which stretches along the whole seaward side of the town from the north to the south, and forms one of the principal attractions to visitors. On a fine breezy day it is a very agreeable resort, with an outlook upon a busy sea and a busy shore. The Drive, from one end to the other, cannot fail to interest a stranger, especially a health seeker, as he passes many hotels, bath houses, and public houses, throngs of men and women busy around heaps of fish, groups of beachmen sauntering up and down near the graceful yawls, in which, when required, they go out on the stormy sea with right good will.

The Sailors' Home was opened in January, 1859. The building is in the free Italian style, the character and colours of the materials at the different storeys being most skilfully diversified. On the basement storey are the night refuge, the drying closets, the kitchens, larder, water

closets, lavatory, receiving room, &c. On the ground floor there is a large news room and coffee room, from which there is a view of the beach and roadstead. On this floor there are several fine rooms, and the entrance hall from the front, out of which hall there is a staircase to the rooms above.

The Naval Asylum on the South Denes forms a large quadrangular building, with piazzas and a detached range of offices, built in 1809, at a cost of £120,000, and used as a Naval Hospital until St. Nicholas Gat, by shoaling its waters, rendered that entrance to the roads unsafe for men of war, and the Admiralty consequently ordered that the building should be converted into Foot Barracks. Afterwards it was made a Military Lunatic Asylum, and then an Hospital for Invalid Soldiers; but in 1863 it was re-transferred to the Admiralty and adapted for the reception of naval lunatics.

The Militia Barracks, a handsome range of buildings on the South Denes, were built in 1856, for the East Norfolk Militia and the Norfolk Artillery Militia.

The Royal Armoury, in Southtown, was built in 1806, at a cost of £15,000, for the reception of naval and military stores, but after being disused for many years, in 1855 it was converted into Militia Barracks.

The Coast Guard Station on the South Beach is a good building of white brick, erected in 1859, at a cost of £3500. It occupies three sides of a triangle, and comprises residences for an officer and twelve men.

The Jetty was erected in 1808, at a cost of £5000. It is twenty-one feet wide and 520 feet in length. During the fishing season the Jetty is the most amusing place in the town. The Britannia Pier, constructed in 1856, consisted of eleven bays of twenty feet, and thirteen of thirty-five feet span, terminating in a circular head; extremity 750 feet from the entrance gates; width twenty-four feet. During a storm in the winter of 1859, a sloop was driven by a high wind against the Pier, taking off seventy feet. The present circular head was subsequently added; but the Pier was again seriously damaged in 1868 and 1869. The Wellington Pier, more south, is constructed entirely of timber, the platform being upon piles. The Pier is thirty feet wide, and 700 feet in length, the head being 100 feet wide. This Pier was erected as a memorial to the Duke of Wellington, but he never had any connection with the town. A standard emblazoned with the arms of the Duke is hoisted on the anniversaries of the great battles in which he was engaged, as at Waterloo. The Wellington Pier is the most fashionable resort in the evening during the season, the company assembling here do so to meet their friends, and to enjoy the sea breeze, or to listen to bands of musicians playing enlivening airs.

The New Assembly Rooms, opposite the Pier, were built in 1862 by a Limited Liability Company at a cost of £4000. They comprise a handsome Assembly-room in the centre, a reading-room, a spacious billiard-room, ladies' reading-room, and other apartments, all well furnished.

#### THE NORFOLK NAVAL COLUMN,

To the memory of the gallant Nelson, stands on the South Denes, about a mile from the town, and was erected by the contributions of the gentlemen of Norfolk, under the direction of William Wilkin, Esq., the architect. This beautiful monumental pillar is of the Grecian Doric order, elegantly fluted, and 144 feet high, ascended by an easy flight of 270 steps. Upon the plinth are the names of the four ships, "Vanguard," "Captain," "Elephant," and "Victory," on board of which the heroic Admiral's flag was so valorously displayed, and on the coping of the terrace are inscribed the names of the four principal battles, Aboukir, St. Vincent, Copenhagen, and Trafalgar. On each of the four sides of the pedestal is a flight of steps leading to the terrace, which affords a promenade round the shaft. The roof is supported by Caryatides, surmounted by a ball and a figure of Britannia, exquisitely cast, holding in her hand a trident and laurel wreath. On the west side there is a very elegant Latin inscription from the pen of Mr. Serjeant Frere. The view from the top of the column will repay anyone mounting 270 steps. On a clear day Norwich is visible, and the eye wanders over leagues of the flat inland country, over the expanse of Breydon water, along the course of the river, and from the cheerful heights of Gorleston to the Suffolk cliffs near Lowestoft.

Then turning round the spectator looks forth upon the broad blue sea, and the roads thronged with vessels and fishing boats sailing to the mouth of the river, and the red lightships which mark the gateways, and the tossing billows in the distance where the Knoll and Scroby sands form dangerous shoals, the foaming tumult in those spots contrasting with the comparative calm within the great banks which Nature maintains, protecting the roads as with a breakwater. Yet notwithstanding this protection this part of the coast is as dangerous to the mariner in a north-easterly gale as any part of our eastern shores.

Yarmouth in the summer season has become the resort of many thousands of pleasure-seekers; as many as ten thousand visitors have been in the town for months together. Of late years this watering place has been greatly extended and improved. A new Marine Parade, three miles in length from north to south along the beach, affords visitors opportunities for healthy walks and drives close to the sea. The new piers, extending far into the sea, invite ladies to walking exercise to inhale the invigorating

breeze, and to feel the influence of the foam-crested waves, or to watch the foaming billows as they dash on the beach, or to see the mild, silvery splendour of the rising moon.

It is curious to notice the increase of watering-places along the Eastern coast. Formerly, Yarmouth and Lowestoft had a kind of monopoly; but now we have Hunstanton, Cromer, Southwold, Aldborough, Felixstow, Walton-on-the-Naze, and Dovercourt, all claiming a share of public favour. The effect upon Yarmouth has not been injurious, a result which is probably attributable to the growing wealth of the country and the tendency of families to pass a few months in each year at the seaside; and the large number of lodging-houses at Yarmouth. Here, as at other watering-places along the coast, we may observe a great variety of characters, all in pursuit of pleasure, and all more or less amusing. Some few really come for health, some for meditation, some for flirtation, but more for idleness. There are others without any object in life—mere vacant loiterers, to whom every day and every hour in the day is much too long. If they had the run of Paradise for three months, they would like to go to the other place for a change.

The late Mr. Dickens, in a paper entitled “The Norfolk Gridiron,” full of humorous conceits and pleasant gossip, and which appeared in *Household Words*, says:—“St. Nicholas, the patron of fishermen and children in general, and of Great Yarmouth in particular, has no special or legendary connection with gridirons; and yet Great Yarmouth is one vast gridiron, of which the bars are represented by ‘Rows,’ to the number of 156. Repel the recollection of a Chester Row, a Paradise Row, or a Rotten Row. A Yarmouth Row is none of these. A row is a long narrow lane, or alley, quite straight, or as nearly so as may be, with houses on each side, both of which you can sometimes touch at once with the finger tips of each hand, by stretching out your arms to their full extent. Now and then the houses overhang, and even join above your head, converting the row, so far, into a sort of tunnel or tubular passage. Many and many a picturesque old bit of domestic architecture is to be hunted up among the rows. In some rows there is little more than a blank wall for the double boundary. In others, the houses retreat into tiny square courts, where washing and clear starching are done, and wonderful nasturtiums and scarlet-runners are reared from green boxes, filled with that scarce commodity, vegetable mould. Most of the rows are paved with pebbles from the beach; and, strange to say, these narrow gangways are traversed by horses and carts which are built for this special service, and which have been the cause of serious misunderstanding among antiquaries, as to whether they were, or were not, modelled after the chariots of Roman invaders. Of course, if two carts were to meet in

the middle of a row, one of the two must either go back to the end again, or pass over the other one, like goats upon a single-file ledge of precipice. The straightness of the passage usually obviates this alternative. A few rows are well paved throughout with flagstone; carts are not allowed to enter them, and foot passengers prefer them to the pebbly pathways. Hence they are the chosen locality of numerous little shopkeepers. If you want a stout pair of hob-nailed shoes, or a scientifically-oiled dreadnought, or a dozen of bloaters, or a quadrant or compass, or a bunch of turnips the best in the world, or a woollen comforter and nightcap for one end of your person, and worsted overall stockings for the other, or a plate of cold boiled leg of pork stuffed with parsley, or a ready-made waistcoat, with blazing pattern and bright glass buttons—with any of these you can soon be accommodated in one or other of the paved rows. Here, you have a board announcing the luxurious interval during which hot joints are offered to the satisfaction of a salt-water appetite; from twelve till two no one need suffer hunger. Elsewhere is the notice over the door, that within are—‘Live and boil’d shrimps sold by the catcher.’ Shrimps unadulterated, caught and sold by the very catcher himself—the original article, and no mistake! From time immemorial there has been a Market Row, in which two people *can* walk arm-in-arm, as they stare at the *élite* of Yarmouth shop-windows; and there is a Broad Row, across which, if an Adelphi harlequin could not skip from first floor to first floor, he would get from the manager very significant hints about his abilities.”

Every reader of “David Copperfield” will remember Dickens’ sketch, in which he jots down the first impressions occasioned by a sight of the Denes: “It looked rather spongy and soppy, I thought, as I carried my eye over the great dull waste that lay across the river; and I could not help wondering, if the world were really as round as my geography book said, how any part of it came to be so flat. But I reflected that Yarmouth might be situated at one of the poles, which would account for it. As we drew a little nearer, and saw the whole adjacent prospect, lying a straight low line under the sky, I hinted to Peggotty, that a mound or so might have improved it; and also, that if the land had been a little more separated from the sea, and that the town and the tide had not been quite so much mixed up, like toast-and-water, it would have been nicer. But Peggotty said, with greater emphasis than usual, that we must take things as we found them; and that, for her part, she was proud to call herself a Yarmouth Bloater.”

A more recent article from the same pen (*Household Words*, No. 147) gives a more accurate and less fanciful description of these levels:—

“The highest portion of the South Denes is a ridge running parallel with the shore, and raised not many feet above it, but still commanding a

most pleasing panorama of sea and land, town and country. It is annually used as a race-course; and for a walk or a canter, there are not many more cheerful and healthy spots on the face of the earth. Only, if a squall comes on, there is no shelter to be had, unless one could, rabbit-like, scoop a cave in the earth. But the whole peninsula is nearly a level plain. It is covered with herbage, so short and fine, that to turn sheep and cattle to feed there, seems almost as cruel as driving them to graze upon a green Brussels carpet which has undergone a dozen years of family service. It is marvellous that they do live and grow. Numbers of brood geese also find the materials whence to produce their eggs and young. The main agent which now causes any change in the level of the Denes is the wind, which not only deposits the drifting sand around every tuft of grass, but also opens a wider gap at any spot left bare of vegetation. On the North Denes (where stand the mills immortalized in *Robinson Crusoe*), every tuft of furze is the foundation of a hillock; just as the African sand-winds raise a small mound over the carcase of every camel left exposed on the surface of the desert. They are admirable hills, in small, for infantile geographers to explore, with a reckless determination of making grand discoveries."

## YARMOUTH HAVENS.

For a thousand years, the inhabitants of the town experienced great difficulties, and incurred continued and heavy expenses, in constructing havens and in preserving them from decay, owing chiefly to the level state of the adjoining coast, the extensive shoals of sand, silt, and gravel in the roads, and the scanty flow of water, even at the highest Spring tides, which seldom exceed six or seven feet, whilst the neap tides only rise about four feet, and the depth of water at the mouth of the haven is seldom more than eleven feet during the Spring floods.

When the north channel of the estuary was entirely choked up, a powerful impulse was given to the inland waters down the south channel of the river Yare, which then flowed into the sea near Corton, four miles south of the present haven, but the place called Newton has been long since covered by the sea. This channel subsequently forced an opening a little further to the south beyond Corton, but about 1337 it became so choked with sand banks at the entrance that the navigation was entirely stopped. Under these distressing circumstances, the men of Yarmouth obtained permission from Edward III. to cut a new haven opposite the village of Corton, but this, after costing an immense sum of money, became so filled with stones and gravel as to be navigable only for boats. After this, a second haven, then a third, then a fourth, then a fifth, then a sixth haven was formed, each at a vast expense, and each a failure

In 1559, the burgesses, having somewhat improved their finances, with a highly commendable perseverance, determined on beginning the present haven, the seventh formed by artificial means, and in this their efforts were ultimately crowned with success.

The last haven was projected and constructed by Janis Johnson, a native of Holland, and affords secure anchorage at all times. There are two piers at the mouth of the Yare; one on the south 1230 feet in length, and one on the north 400 feet in length, erected on timber piles, and secured by iron railings. These piers are noteworthy monuments of the energy and perseverance which still maintain them, but cannot preserve them from decay.

Among causes of decay is the tere-do, which eats out the heart of the piles by innumerable borings. As naturalists tell us, the same species prevails on the coast of Holland, and this is an enemy against which defence is perhaps impossible in ports that open directly to the sea.

Yarmouth is surrounded by a vast extent of sand, and the consequence of this is that the tide only rises five feet at Yarmouth. The tidal scour at Yarmouth is greatly reduced, and occasions a large outlay in maintaining the bar and extending the draught of water. But if the tide rose as high at Yarmouth as at Lynn, it might produce disastrous results, and would probably drown the town.

The result of the convergence of the rivers we have mentioned at Yarmouth is to give that port a monopoly of the carrying trade of the district; and so injurious was this monopoly, that forty-three years since the late Sir William Cubitt obtained an Act of Parliament for the construction of a harbour at Lowestoft, the capital for which undertaking was mainly supplied by a Norwich company, but the money subscribed, £150,000, was insufficient to carry out the works on a scale adequate for the harbour to be made available to any great extent.

When the Railway Company took the matter up, and made the port of Lowestoft what it is now, then its full advantages began to be realised. The Yarmouth people then set about improving their harbour and lowering the port charges, the result being great benefit to Norwich and to the surrounding district. There are now two harbours within a few miles of each other, constituted on totally different principles—that if Yarmouth being maintained by the flow of water from the land, while that of Lowestoft is maintained chiefly by dredging.

Engineers believe that the result of a thorough investigation, conducted by competent persons, would show that the land water gave very little advantage in securing power to the port of Yarmouth, and that of the rivers were allowed to pass through to the sea in other directions, a large area of land situated in their neighborhood, which is now rendered

unproductive by the flood and tidal waters, would be utilised and rendered productive.

## TRADE OF THE PORT.

The situation of the town affords many advantages in a commercial point of view. The Yare is here navigable for vessels of 250 tons burthen, and to Norwich, a distance of thirty-two miles, for smaller vessels, without the intervention of locks. The Waveney, which falls into the Yare, is navigable to Beccles and Bungay, a distance of twenty-two miles; and the Bure, which flows into the Yare, is navigable to Aylsham, thirty miles; and another branch to North Walsham, twenty-five miles hence—thus opening an extensive channel of inland communication. Most of the produce of East Norfolk is brought to this port by water conveyance to be exported.

At spring tides, vessels of sixty or seventy tons can get up to Norwich. The number of registered vessels belonging to the port is about 400, exclusive of about 500 fishing smacks and small craft, and the seamen are able navigators. From thirty to forty vessels, some of them from 300 to 500 tons burthen, are built here yearly for London and other merchants. There are several extensive bonding warehouses, with no limitations except tobacco.

The Custom House is a large building near the centre of the South Quay, and belonging to it there is an extensive warehouse on the South Denes. The gross receipt of customs here in 1833 was £56,487; in 1841, £79,726; and in 1862, £23,000.

Yarmouth has been the chief port of Norwich and Norfolk for centuries past, and is likely to continue so for centuries to come. There has always been a great exportation of grain, malt, &c., and a considerable importation of coals. Formerly, the exports of grain coastwise amounted to 480,000 quarters per annum; but after the opening of railways, the exports declined. Before 1858, the imports of coals varied from 150,000 to 200,000 tons of coal, and from 64,000 to 90,000 tons of other goods. For ten years prior to 1858, the customs dues of the port ranged from £46,000 to £60,000 per annum, and the haven and pier dues from £10,000 to £12,000. After the construction of the present haven (the seventh), the trade of the port rapidly increased, and about 500 vessels were registered as hailing from the port before 1824. In 1848, the number of coasting vessels inwards laden was 3123; of foreign vessels laden, 275; and of coasters outwards, 1414. In 1849, the number of coasters inwards laden was 2915; of foreign vessels inwards laden, 261; and of vessels outward laden, 1462. The number of unregistered vessels in 1849 was 1025, and of registered 105. Formerly, from the North of England,

immense quantities of coals, salt, and other heavy goods were brought by sea to Yarmouth, and by river to Norwich, for distribution over the eastern side of Norfolk and Suffolk. The importation of coals has been diminished at Yarmouth, not only by the opening of railways, but also by the working of the central coal fields of England, which were formerly kept out of the Eastern market by the want of facilities of transit. Various coal companies have been formed in this Eastern district, and by means of railways they take the lead in that branch of business, and larger quantities of coals are brought in at greatly reduced rates.

The exports of corn, malt, &c., have been about 180,000 quarters yearly, and the imports from 150,000 to 200,000 tons of other goods. The imports in the year ending March, 1863, were—of coals, 146,856 tons; of other goods, 68,220 tons; of corn, 87,584 quarters. During the year ending March, 1863, the exports were—of corn, 162,605 quarters; of other goods, 34,182 tons. In the half-year ending March, 1867, the imports and exports of coals amounted to 45,878 tons; of other goods, 110,516 tons; total, 156,414 tons. The imports and exports of corn amounted to 79,603 quarters. The dues amounted to £3337 3s. 11d. under the old Act.

During the year ending March 25th, 1869, the quantity of coals imported into Yarmouth was 106,025 tons, the port and haven dues on which were £1770 13s. 0d. The quantity of corn and seed exported and imported was 276,052 quarters, the port and haven dues on which were £1725 3s. 0d. The dues upon ships, fishing vessels, and sundry goods were £6859 10s. 11d. The total amount of port and haven dues was £10,355 5s. 11d. Barley is the chief article exported. There are many large malting-houses in the town, and one large brewery which supplies two thousand barrels of ale weekly to London alone. This brewery is the largest in the provinces, and Messrs. Lacon and Co. are the proprietors. But the chief business of the port lies in its extensive and unrivalled fisheries, which have been a constant source of wealth and employment to the inhabitants from the foundation of the borough to the present time.

The principal shipowners of the port are Messrs. Stone, Johnson, Blake, Foreman, Barber, and Veal. Smackowners: Messrs. Smith and Sons, Hewitt and Co., Attwood, Hawes, Parsley, R. and A. Brown. Exporters of corn: Messrs. Watling and Bunn, Gambling and Press. Exporters of malt: Messrs. Dowson and Watling, Combe and Delafield. Importers of Coals: Messrs. Bessey, Blake, Girling, Moyse, Barber. Importers of timber: Mr. E. H. L. Preston, Messrs. Jecks and Ranson, and Mr. Saul.

#### THE FISH WHARF.

The new structure on the South Quay is more useful than ornamental,

and it was erected and completed in 1868. Though not a building of imposing exterior, it is of great extent, having a wharf frontage capable of accommodating a large fleet of trawling cruisers, as well as the crowd of luggers that usually unload at the quay sides. It is upwards of 750 feet in length and forty feet in width, and the floor is flagged with Caithness stone. The building is spanned by a queen post roof, supported on 148 iron columns, and there are many fish offices for the salesmen. Water is supplied by nine pumps, and the interior is well lighted from thirty-six sky lights, ten feet by six feet each, being inserted in the east side of the roof, the structure being entirely open to the haven, but enclosed in the rear, with openings through to give access to the tramways. From the quay to the platform of the market, there is an incline, which allows of its being placed at such a level above the rails and the road, that the "swills," "peds," "baskets," and boxes can be transferred easily into the railway trucks or carts of the fish owners. The total cost, including land, &c., was £20,000, and the value of the fish landed here in 1869 was £250,000.

#### THE FISHERIES.

Yarmouth was formerly the principal station for the herring fishery, and in the reign of Edward III. various statutes were passed for the regulation of a fair held in the town. For a long time the fishery made very little progress, and till a recent epoch the Dutch captured by far the larger proportion of the fish taken on these eastern shores. At length vigorous efforts were made by the Government to stimulate people to explore this field of labour by means of bounties, but with little success. In the present century the fisheries have been more fully developed, and caused an extensive carrying trade.

Mr. I. Preston in his history states that in 1819 about 250 boats and nearly 3000 men were employed in the herring fishery, and that the capital employed was nearly £400,000. The mackerel fishery employed from thirty to thirty-five boats of from twenty-five to forty tons each, and from 350 to 400 men were engaged in that fishery. The quantity of mackerel caught in the season was from 700,000 to 1,200,000, and the yearly produce of sales from £6000 to £8000. A large portion was then conveyed to the London market. The mackerel fishery begins in May and ends in July. About one hundred vessels are now engaged in it of from forty to fifty tons measurement, rigged in what is called "lugger" fashion and carrying ten hands each. Generally this fishery employs 3200 tons, with 100 boats, and 1000 men, and produces about £15,000 yearly. This town has always had a high reputation for the herring fishery, which usually begins about Michaelmas and continues till Christmas. About 200 boats of thirty-six to fifty tons, and 1300 men

and boys, are employed in this fishery, which produces about 100,000 barrels yearly.

The fisheries have been found of very great importance as sources of railway traffic, the average catch for seven years having been twenty lasts per boat. During the season, one boat has been known to bring in forty-three lasts of 13,200 each. In a good season like that of 1869, each boat ought to make £450 to £500; but the season is not always good. It is wonderful, while there are in the seas around this island such shoals of fish of every kind, that fisheries as a branch of industry have not been more extended, especially as we have such unfailing stores of salt for the preservation of fish and such rapid means of conveyance to all parts of the country. Millions of our population have been at various times in an almost starving condition, while unlimited quantities of wholesome food were in the seas around them. However great the extent of business hitherto caused by the fisheries may have been, it is small compared to what it might become if this branch of industry were carried out on a comprehensive scale by well-organised companies. If half or quarter of the capital now sunk or lost in railways had been invested in the fisheries, it would have been far more beneficial to the country. There might be fishing stations within fifty miles of each other, all around this island; and ten times the number of persons who are now able-bodied paupers might be employed with a far less amount of money than is now expended yearly for their maintenance. With a well-organised system, there might be always a steady supply. The great obstacle at present to the use of fish as food is the uncertainty of price, arising from the uncertainty of supply. Sometimes there is a scarcity and sometimes a glut of fish, but the laws of their migration are constant in their operation, and the supply of this kind of food might be rendered as regular as the supplies of any other kind of food. Associations might be formed round the coast for fishing operations over large tracts of water, where no rent and no taxes would have to be paid, and would be found more profitable than the same extent of land; and the benefits accruing would be unlimited supplies of food, employment for many thousands of men, nurseries for seamen, and indefinite increase of our export trade. Industrial pursuits would be widely extended in every direction, and the hardy people along our coasts would be trained to peaceful habits. Nurseries for seamen would be established, it being well known that fishermen generally prove the best sailors. England will most surely maintain her supremacy on the sea by increasing the number of her sons,

Whose march is on the mountain wave,  
Whose home is on the deep.

## CHAPTER VI.

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### A DESCRIPTION OF SUFFOLK.

**S**UFFOLK is a maritime county, bounded on the east by the North Sea, on the west by the county of Cambridge, on the north by that of Norfolk, and on the south by Essex. It extends from 51 deg. 56 min. 36 sec. (north latitude), and from 23 min. to 1 deg. 44 min. (east longitude), and comprises an area of 1512 square miles, or 967,680 statute acres. The river Waveney, flowing from west to east, divides the two counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, which are similar in physical features, stratification, soil, climate, and productions; similar in their natural history, botany, flora, and fauna; similar as to their agriculture, and their inhabitants in every period.

Geologists exploring the Norfolk and Suffolk coast have discovered a deeply-buried forest, containing the remains of plants and trees of species, which still exist, associated with the bones of the hippopotamus, rhinoceros, mastodon, elephant, beaver, and other animals. Sir Charles Lyell says that "the least interrupted series of consecutive documents to which we can refer in the British Islands when we desire to connect the tertiary with the post tertiary periods, are found in the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex." The celebrated geologist, in reference to the Suffolk coast, states—"The cliffs of Suffolk, to which we next proceed, are somewhat less elevated than those of Norfolk, but composed of similar alternations of clay, sand, and gravel. From Gorleston in Suffolk, to within a few miles north of Lowestoft, the cliffs are slowly undermined. Near the last-mentioned town there is an inland cliff about sixty feet high, the sloping latus of which is covered with turf and heath. Between the cliff and the sea is a low flat tract of land called the Ness, nearly three miles long, and for the most part out of reach of the highest tides. The point of the Ness projects from the base of the original cliff to the distance of 660 yards. This accession of land, says Mr. Taylor, has been effected at distinct and distant intervals by the influence of currents running between

the land and a shoal about a mile off Lowestoft called the Holm Sand. The lines of growth in the Ness are indicated by a series of concentric ridges or embankments enclosing limited areas, and several of these ridges have been formed within the observation of persons now living. A rampart of heavy materials is first thrown up to an unusual altitude by some extraordinary tide, attended with a violent gale. Subsequent tides extend the base of this high bank of shingle, and the interstices are then filled with sand blown from the beach. The *Arundo* and other marine plants by degrees obtain a footing, and, creeping along the ridge, give solidity to the mass, and form in some cases a matted covering of turf. Meanwhile another mound is forming externally which by the like process rises and gives protection to the first. If the sea forces its way through one of the external and incomplete mounds, the breach is soon repaired. After a while, the marine plants within the areas enclosed by these embankments are succeeded by a better species of herbage affording good pasturage, and the sands become sufficiently firm to support buildings.

Of the gradual destruction of Dunwich, once the most considerable seaport on this coast, we have many authentic records. Gardner, in his history of that borough, published in 1754, shows, by reference to documents beginning with Domesday Book, that the cliffs of Dunwich, Southwold, Eastern, and Pakefield have been always subject to wear away. At Dunwich, in particular, two tracts of land which had been taxed in the 11th century, in the time of King Edward the Confessor, are mentioned in the Conqueror's survey, made but a few years afterwards, as having been devoured by the sea. The losses, at a subsequent period, of a monastery, at another of several churches, afterwards of the old port, then of 400 houses at once, of the church of St. Leonard, the high road, town hall, gaol, and many other buildings, are mentioned, with the dates when they perished. It is stated that in the 16th century not one quarter of the town was left standing, yet the inhabitants retreating inland, the name was preserved. There is, however, a church of considerable antiquity still standing, the last of twelve mentioned in some records.

In 1740, the laying open of the churchyard of St. Nicholas and St. Francis in the sea cliffs is well described by Gardner, with the coffins and skeletons exposed to view, some lying on the beach and rocked

In cradle of the rude imperious surge.

Of these cemeteries, no remains can now be seen. Ray also says, "that ancient writings make mention of a wood a mile and a-half to the east of Dunwich, the site of which must at present be so far within the sea." This city, once so flourishing and populous, is now a small village, with

about twenty houses and a hundred inhabitants. There is an old tradition, "that the tailors sat in their shops at Dunwich, and saw the ships in Yarmouth Bay;" but when we consider how far the coast at Lowestoft Ness projects between these places, we cannot give credit to the tale, which, nevertheless, proves how much the inroads of the sea in times of old had prompted men of lively imagination to indulge their taste for the marvellous.

Gardner's description of the cemeteries laid open by the waves reminds us of the scene which has been so well depicted by Bewick, and of which numerous points on the same coast might have suggested the idea. On the verge of a cliff which the sea has undermined are represented the unshaken tower and western end of an abbey. The eastern aisle is gone, and the pillars of the cloister are soon to follow. The waves have almost isolated the promontory, and invaded the cemetery, where they have made sport with the mortal relics, and thrown up a skull upon the beach. In the foreground is seen a broken tombstone, erected, as the legend tells, "to perpetuate the memory" of one whose name is obliterated, as is that of the county for which he was "Custos Rotulorum."

A cormorant is perched on the monument, defiling it, as if to remind some moralizer, like Hamlet, of "the base uses" to which things sacred may be turned. Had this excellent artist desired to satirise certain popular theories of geology, he might have inscribed the stone to the memory of some philosopher who taught "the permanency of existing continents"—"the era of repose"—"the impotence of modern causes."

The incursions of the sea at Aldborough were formerly very destructive, and this borough is known to have been once situated a quarter of a mile east of the present shore. The inhabitants continued to build further inland, till they arrived at the extremity of their property, and then the town decayed greatly, but two sandbanks thrown up at a short distance now afford a temporary safeguard to the coast. The sea now is twenty-four feet deep where the town formerly stood."

The aborigines of Suffolk and Norfolk were a Celtic tribe, named the "Iceni," a bold, warlike people, of whom few vestiges have been traced, but whose seat of government appears to have been at Dunwich, the ancient site of which place is now covered by the sea. In the first century of our era, the Roman legions advancing from the district of the Trinobantes in Essex entered Suffolk, and made roads which traverse the county from south to north. They built camps at Walton, Dunwich, and Burgh Castle on the banks of the Waveney.

Of Roman camps, Suffolk presents few examples, but this will create no surprise when we advert to the description Tacitus has given of the strongholds of the "Iceni. (Annals 6213.) *Septum Agresti Aggere*, a

low bank surrounded by a quickset, a type of fortifications which in its permanent features very slight, would naturally disappear. Of the Romano-British type of earthwork which in fact was but a type of the Roman ones, there are no examples in Suffolk, which is probably accounted for by the fact that the Romans left the much more formidable strongholds of Burgh, Walton, and the walled city of Colchester, in Essex, thus relieving the inhabitants of the east coast from the necessity of erecting this kind of earthwork, imposed on Sussex by the absence of all fortification constructed of masonry. Suffolk possesses thirty-five camps and other fortifications, but of one-half the recorded descriptions are so vague as to render any classification impossible.

After the invasions of the Gothic tribes, the Angles and Saxons, the territory now comprised in the counties of Suffolk, Norfolk, and Cambridge, was formed into the kingdom of East Anglia about the year 527, and the relative position of this district obtained for its inhabitants the name of Southfolk, in contradistinction to those of Norfolk, whence by contraction its modern name. Dunwich, once a large city, was the first capital of East Anglia, and the seat of the bishopric which was founded by Felix, a priest of Burgundy, brought about by Segebert about 630. Felix was very successful in converting the inhabitants of his diocese in Suffolk and Norfolk, and he caused the erection of many Churches and Monasteries, most of which are now demolished.

The earliest mention of Norfolk and Suffolk appears to be in the ninth century (A.D. 895.) After this period, they were frequently mentioned as separate counties, and more particularly in the reign of Edward the Confessor, who made Suffolk a separate earldom, and bestowed it on Gurth, Harold's brother. Documentary records of the Anglo-Saxon period are scanty, but we gather from the names of places some hints that may throw a little light on the early history of East Anglia, and indicate who were the early settlers in the district.

There are some remains of monastic buildings erected in the Anglo-Saxon period. A little north of Burgh Castle are a few vestiges of a monastery built by Furseus, who, under the patronage of Segebert, the first Christian King of East Anglia, and Felix, the first bishop of the diocese, collected a number of religious persons, and placed them under the monastic rule at Burgh, then called Cnobersburg, after the name of a Saxon Chief who resided there. On the death of Segebert Furseus quitted his monastery at Burgh, and went to France, after which time the establishment dwindled down to nothing, and became the habitation of some Jews.

There are several churches in Suffolk, portions of which lay claim to Saxon antiquity, as the tower of Flixton near Bungay, and others with round

towers near the coast. Norman architecture is of frequent occurrence in the churches of the county. Several of these also display magnificent timber roofs, which exhibit a combination of boldness, picturesque effect, and geometrical skill. The gateways of Bury Abbey attest the grandeur of that wealthy establishment, and at Butley, Sibton, Herringfleet, Bungay, and Leiston, there are more or less picturesque remains of ancient monastic splendour. There are other remains at Ipswich, Sudbury, Blythburgh, Clare, Campsey Ashe, Dodnash, Gorleston, Kersey, Ixworth, Orford, Wangford, Mendham, &c.

Of castellated architecture the following recall the stern magnificence of feudal times :—Orford, with its polygonal keep ninety feet in height ; Framlingham, a mere shell of a proud Norman fortress ; Bungay Castle, with its massive ruins ; Haughley Castle, Mettingham Castle, Wingfield, and others of ancient date. Ancient mansions are seen in different parts of the county, of which the most remarkable is Hengrave Hall ; and there are many elegant seats, the principal being the residence of the Duke of Grafton at Euston Park ; Heveningham Hall, the seat of Lord Huntingfield ; Flixton Hall, the seat of Sir A. Shafto Adair, Bart.

The soil of Suffolk is so exceedingly variable, that it is difficult to define the localities of each. The heavy land district constitutes what is known as central Suffolk. The eastern sands extending from the mouth of the Deben to Yarmouth are very light, and much of the district from Beyton to Mildenhall, and from Newmarket to Brandon, consists of a blowing sand on a light chalky clay. The Fen district is limited to the extreme north-west corner of the county and is of small extent. The quantity of pasture land is much reduced. The quantity of arable land is much greater, and is carefully cultivated.

Suffolk takes a high rank as an agricultural county, but of late years a much smaller proportion of its population than formerly has been dependent on agriculture for subsistence. The net rental of property in Suffolk was estimated in 1851 at £912,062, probably now more than a million sterling. The property is much divided, and there are no estates so large as to create a decided political preponderance, and there are more proprietors occupying their own land in Suffolk than in any other county. On the heavy lands, farms seldom exceed 300 acres in extent. On the light lands, farms vary from 300 to 1500 acres. The rotation of crops and manner of cultivation in the heavy land district are—First year, fallow, tares, beet or turnips ; second year, barley ; third year, half clover, half peas, or beans alternately ; fourth year, wheat. There is much variation in the course of cropping among the small farmers ; but on the best cultivated farms this may be taken as the general course. On the light lands, a different course of management is adopted ; but it is generally

farmed on the four-course system. Thorough drainage is much practised in the county.

Suffolk is famous for its breeds of horses, including thoroughbred stud horses, hunters, and cart stallions. The latter are of great size, and extend over a wide area of cultivated land; and for uniformity of character in colour, symmetry, and size, they are unrivalled. The county is also celebrated for its breeds of cattle, sheep, and pigs.

Suffolk scenery is generally quiet in the Eastern Division; gentle undulations sprinkled here and there with copse and plantation, great breadths of grain for many a mile, everywhere meet the eye. Though it has some features in common with Norfolk, the tourist cannot fail to note that St. Edmund's county is more varied in surface and softer of aspect than its neighbour beyond the Waveney. For scenes of rural ease and plenty, there is no part of our island that contents the eye so fully as this part of East Anglia, and there is everything that denotes settled habitation and long possession, as if the same families had always dwelt in the homesteads.

The Western Division of the county, more especially the north-west corner, near the river Ouse, in the hundred of Lackford, is noted for the preservation of game, and in few districts do pheasants, partridges, hares, and rabbits thrive better. For this reason there are thousands of acres mainly devoted to the preservation of game. The Great Warren on the south-west side of Thetford is a noted game preserve. It comprises near 3000 acres of land, on which myriads of conies of a peculiar kind are preserved in addition. The warren is bounded on the north by the river Ouse, on the south and east by the Canon's farm, and the west by the estate of the Duchess of Cleveland on the Suffolk side of the river. The warren land is composed of a peculiar soil, admirably adapted for game. The surface is a light sand, lying upon a recently upheaved and disturbed stratum of chalk, which underlies the whole length and breadth of the warren. A great part of it is covered with a minute and lichen-like vegetation, crowned with the fern-like brake, which somewhat resembles a sort of miniature plantation. A numerous gang of game preservers, called the warraners, are constantly employed by the proprietor in watching the myriads of silver-grey rabbits, wild fowl, and other game, which are the sole occupiers of the soil. The "Warren Lodge" stands in the centre, and is the home of the chief warrener, whose wife manages for the rest of the keepers. Some of these men rarely quit the scene of their duties, and they become so accustomed to their "home upon the warren," that they seem to care little for the society of other men. They generally wear a long blouse or slop which reaches below their knees. Thus attired, they prove to be skilful gamekeepers, and they are exceed-

ingly cunning in concealing themselves from the observation of any would-be poachers who may venture on their preserves.

This is a well-watered county ; the principal rivers are, southward, the Stour, the Gipping, the Orwell, the Deben, and the Ore ; northward, the Waveney, the Little Ouse, and the Lark, beside numerous smaller streams. The Stour first meets the tide at Manningtree, in Essex, and expands into a broad estuary, which at high water presents a beautiful appearance, but at low water shrinks into a narrow channel. Proceeding eastward, it is joined near Harwich by the Orwell ; and their united waters, having formed the Port of Harwich, flow into the North Sea between that town, in Essex, and Languard Fort, at the south-eastern extremity of Suffolk. The Stour divides the counties of Suffolk and Essex, and is navigable up to Sudbury, in the south-western part of Suffolk. The Gipping is formed by the confluence of three rivulets in the middle of the county at Stowmarket, from which place it was made navigable to Ipswich in 1793. Below Ipswich, it assumes the name of Orwell, expands into a broad estuary, and continues its course to its junction with the Stour opposite Harwich. The Orwell is navigable for ships of considerable burden up to Ipswich, and its banks are adorned with beautiful scenery, woods, parks, and seats of the gentry. The Deben rises near Debenham, and at Woodbridge expands into an estuary, and flows thence in a southerly direction to the North Sea, to which it is navigable for large vessels. The Ore rises from a spring near Framlingham, flows eastward, and expands into an estuary as it approaches Aldborough, where it suddenly turns southward and flows into the sea below Orford. The Waveney rises near Lopham, in Norfolk, flows from west to east, dividing the two counties, and joins the Yare at Reedham, near Breydon water, an expansion formed by these united rivers, narrowing again and then turning southward to the sea, from which it is navigable to Beccles and Bungay. Westward, the little Ouse is navigable to Thetford, and the Lark to Bury St. Edmund's. Thus natural facilities are afforded for water conveyance of goods in most parts of the county.

The productions of the county are wheat, barley, peas, beans, seeds of various kinds, mangolds, turnips, and other roots. The wheat is of excellent quality, and usually commands a high price. The barley is amongst the best grown in England, and is largely malted for the Burton and other large breweries. Mangel wurtzel and turnips are grown of great weight and good quality for grazing purposes. Some farmers grow flax in the neighbourhood of Eye, Debenham, and Framlingham ; and factories are in operation for preparing the flax. There is a great whole-sale trade in cattle, corn, malt, &c., at different markets in the county,

especially Ipswich and Bury. Suffolk manufactures are such as are in some way connected with agriculture.

There is no other part of England containing so many manufacturers of engines and machines for agricultural purposes, or where the implements of husbandry are made more perfect than in Suffolk. This is owing to the large capital employed in the business, and the competition among the manufacturers, which tends to the detection of every defect, and ingenuity is exercised to make improvements in every respect. The principal firms are Messrs. Ransome, Sims, and Head, Ipswich; Messrs. Garrett and Sons, Leiston; Messrs. E. R. and F. Turner, Ipswich; Messrs. Woods, Cocksedge, and Warner, Stowmarket; Mr. Burrell, Thetford. There are many other firms engaged in this department of industry; but as we are only drawing up a rapid sketch of the county, we must pass them by. We may be justified in assigning the foremost place among agricultural machinists to Messrs. Ransome, Sims, and Head, and Messrs. Garrett. Both their concerns were of humble origin, and rose from small beginnings to colossal dimensions. Their engines and implements may be found in every English county, in every country in Europe, and in our Colonies.

The manufacture of artificial manures is also carried on to a great extent, especially from coprolites, which are found in great abundance in Suffolk. This branch of business was begun more than twenty years ago by Mr. E. Packard, of Saxmundham, on a very small scale, and the firm of which that gentleman is the head now sends out 20,000 tons annually of manure made from coprolites; while Messrs. Fison, of Ipswich, Messrs. Prentice, of Stowmarket, and other manufacturers, produce very large quantities of this and other kinds of artificial manures. Messrs. Prentice have also established the manufacture of gun cotton.

There are many maltstries and breweries in the county, and vast quantities of malt are produced at Stowmarket. Along the coast there are some thousands of fishermen, and at Lowestoft many vessels are equipped for the fisheries, which are on a great scale. The mackerel and herring fisheries are now very important at Lowestoft, employing hundreds of vessels and some thousands of hands. Notwithstanding the great success of this branch of industry, most of the fishermen are very poor.

On looking at returns as to the social condition of the people in Suffolk, some curious facts present themselves. The births are one in thirty-two of the population, and eight per cent. are claimed as illegitimate; the deaths are one in fifty-one of the population—the proportion in all England being one in forty-six, and in Norfolk one in forty-eight. The criminal returns exhibit a great increase of crime during the century. Between 1801 and 1851, the population increased fifty-six per cent.; crime more than 300

per cent. in the half-century. Pauperism is the plague-spot of the county. One in every twelve persons in this county is a pauper, and the average cost of relief for the five years ending in 1851 was £142,688 per annum.

The educational returns of this county are almost as discouraging. In 1851, there were 143 parishes without any school, except here and there a dame's school. In the hundreds of Hoxne and Risbridge, only eight per cent. of the males attended any school; and in a large number of schools in the county, the average attendance of the children was less than two years. Out of 1219 in-door paupers in Suffolk, ten only could read and write well; nearly eighty per cent. of the felons were without any education, forty-six per cent. of the men and fifty-two per cent. of the women who were married could not sign their names to the marriage registers.

Suffolk returned sixteen members to Parliament before the passing of Reform Act of 1832, but then Aldborough and Dunwich were disfranchised by that Act, and Eye reduced to one member. Subsequently, Sudbury was deprived of its privilege on the ground of corruption. The county is divided for electoral purposes into two divisions, the eastern and the western. The polling places for the eastern division of the county are—Ipswich, Needham, Woodbridge, Framlingham, Saxmundham, Halesworth, Beccles, Bungay, Lowestoft, and Gorleston. The polling places for the west are—Bury St. Edmund's, Lavenham, Stowmarket, Wickham Brook, Mildenhall, and Hadleigh.

The population of Suffolk at the six decennial periods of enumeration was found to amount, in 1801, to 214,404; in 1811, to 233,963; in 1821, to 271,541; in 1831, to 296,317; in 1841, to 315,073; in 1851, to 337,215, including 166,308 males, and 170,907 females; in 1861, to 337,070. The number of inhabited houses in 1851 was 69,282; empty, 3107; and those building, 449. The annual value of the real property of the county as assessed for the purposes of the property-tax, in the year 1813, was, £1,127,404; in 1851, it was £1,834,252. The annual value of real property rated to the poor was, in 1850, £1,366,648.

The towns of Suffolk containing more than 2000 inhabitants with their population in 1861:—Ipswich, 37,950; Lowestoft, 9,534; Beccles, 4,266; Woodbridge, 5,515; Stowmarket, 3,639; Halesworth, 2,521; Eye, 2,430; Southwold, 2,032; Leiston, 2,227; Newmarket St. Mary, 2,002; Bury, 13,318; Sudbury, 6,018; Bungay, 3,805; Mildenhall, 4,046; Hadleigh, 3,606; Long Melford, 2,870; Framlingham, 2,252; Gorleston, 4,472; Haverhill, 2,434.

Ipswich and Lowestoft had increased in population in 1871, but most of the other towns had decreased.

## THE TOWNS OF SUFFOLK.

The principal towns in the eastern division of the county are either on the coast or near the coast, and almost in straight lines from south to north. The East Suffolk Railway crosses the county in the same direction, and there are stations at Ipswich, Woodbridge, Melton, Wickham Market (for Framlingham), Saxmundham (with a branch to Leiston and Aldborough), Halesworth, Beccles, Lowestoft, and Southtown next Yarmouth. The Eastern Union Midland line has stations at Bramford, Claydon, Needham Market, Stowmarket, Haughley Junction, Finningham, Mellis (for Eye), and Diss. There is a western line from Haughley to Bury and Newmarket, also branch lines from Ipswich to Hadleigh and Sudbury, in the south of Suffolk.

## IPSWICH.

This is a flourishing port, borough, and market town, and the chief town of Suffolk, in the eastern division of the county, sixty-nine miles (north-east) from London, pleasantly situated at the head of the river Orwell, which, joined by the river Gipping, flows for twelve miles direct to the sea. The town first received its name from its being situated where the fresh water river Gipping flows into the Orwell. "What's in a name?" A great deal—and formerly a great deal more than was necessary; for in Domesday Book it is spelt Gyppeswed, Gippeswiz, Gippeswic, and afterwards Yppswyche; but divested of all superfluous letters by those terrible innovators, the printers, it now stands before us simply as Ipswich.

The ground on which the town stands presents so many advantages, that it attracted settlers at an early period. In approaching it by the London road, it appears to be low; but viewed from Wherstead Hill, it appears to more advantage, being situated on the side of a rising ground, with a south aspect, and a gradual descent to the River Orwell. The hills which rise above it to the north and east contribute greatly to its salubrity, sheltering it from bleak winds and furnishing springs of pure water, with which the town is so well supplied that it has suffered less from the ravages of fire than perhaps any place of similar extent and population. The printers are all democrats in the republic of letters, and have left scarcely a name unchanged in the whole topography of eastern England. Thus the Orwell was called in the Anglo-Saxon annals the Arwan; probably it was originally Arwell, as we have Arwerton on one side of it, and Arwich (Harwich) on the other, at which place the river flows into the North sea. Here those rascally pirates, the Danes, often landed, and spread along the shore in black array. It is recorded that about the year 880 a battle took place near the mouth of the Orwell, between the East Anglians under King Alfred and the Danes, who were

all routed and slain and sixteen of their ships destroyed. The Danes renewed their attacks in the years 991 and 1000, when they sailed up the Orwell, damaged the walls, and plundered the town, then flew back to their ships. On another occasion they came and levied the enormous fine of £10,000 upon the cowardly inhabitants, who, instead of fighting, bought off the invaders.

Ipswich dates from an early period in the history of the Saxon Octarchy, when it had a mint, and was fortified with walls and surrounded by a moat. Like other boroughs that were in the demesne of the Crown, it was held by the sovereign himself, or perhaps one-third of the revenue was granted to some earl, and the other two-thirds remained in the possession of the Crown. Sometimes the earl let the revenues of the borough to some other persons for a certain annual rent, but he never neglected his third. Some of the inhabitants had property outside of the town held by military service, and these were the only *freemen* properly so called. The rest were only serfs, and had no property at all; they held what little they had at the will of their masters, and consequently had no will of their own, being thus happily saved the trouble of thinking for themselves, even in secular matters, as they were also in religious matters by the priests. An extract from Domesday Book, which was finished in 1086, will show that in "the good old times" the inhabitants of Ipswich enjoyed these rare privileges to the fullest extent:— "Half hundred of Gippeswid. This Roger Bigod keepeth in the King's hand. In the time of Edward the Confessor, Queen Edith, who was the daughter of Earl Goodwin, had two parts of the borough, and Earl Guert, her brother, had the third part, and the queen had a grange or demesne, to which belonged four caracutes or hides of land." It goes on further to state that "in the time of King Edward the Confessor, there were 538 burgesses who paid custom to the king, and they had forty acres of land. But now (1086) there are only 110 burgesses, who pay custom, and 100 poor burgesses who can pay no more than one penny per head to the king's geld. So upon the whole they have forty acres of land and 328 houses now empty; and which in the time of King Edward scotted to the King's geld. Roger, the vice earl, let the whole for £40, to be paid at the feast of St. Michael; afterwards he could not have their rent, and he abated sixty shillings of it; now it pays £37, and the earl always has the third part." It is not said whether the revenues were let to one or more persons, but probably to some of the principal burgesses of the town. Sometimes the king held certain boroughs himself, and appointed one or more officers, who were called *præpositi*, or provosts, and under the Norman kings these officers were called *ballivi*, or bailives or bailiffs.

The Rev. R. Canning, editor of the best edition of Kirby's "Suffolk Traveller," has drawn a great portion of his information from Mr. Bacon's manuscript entitled "The Annals of Ipswich," a large thick volume of 800 folio pages belonging to the Corporation. This document is the basis of every local history.

Though of some antiquity, the town is not remarkable for any historical event before the Norman Conquest, when it was a small place, containing few inhabitants, compared to the present extent of the borough. Ipswich was a borough at the time of the Norman survey, and William I. granted it a free market. The burgesses were first incorporated by King John, who granted them extensive privileges. Since that time, the burgesses have received seventeen charters, of which the most important are those of Edward IV. and Charles II.; and under the latter, the government was vested in two bailiffs, twelve portmen, twenty-four common councillors, with steward, recorder, town-clerk, two coroners, a treasurer, and inferior officers. The Corporation, like all others, came under the Municipal Act of the 5th and 6th William IV., and now consists of a Mayor, ten aldermen, and thirty councillors. Courts of Quarter Sessions are held for the trial of causes and of prisoners accused of crimes. The borough obtained the elective franchise in the 23rd Edward I., since which time it has continued to return two members to Parliament. The right of voting was formerly vested in the burgesses generally not receiving alms, about 1100, of whom not more than 400 were resident; but by the Act of the 2nd and 3rd William IV., the non-resident burgesses were disfranchised, and the privilege of voting was extended to the £10 householders in the borough. In the 26th Henry VIII., Ipswich was made the seat of a suffragan bishop, who was consecrated by Archbishop Cranmer, and had a mansion in the parish of St. Peter, the remains of which are now used as a malthouse. During the prosecutions in the reign of Mary, several persons suffered martyrdom here for their religion. Among the monastic establishments formerly existing here, were a priory of Black Canons, of the Order of Augustine, originally founded in 1177 in Christ Church, which, being destroyed by fire, was re-founded soon after by John, Bishop of Norwich, for a prior and six canons; and a priory of Black Canons, founded in the reign of Henry II. by Thomas Lacey and Alice his wife in honour of St. Peter and St. Paul. Cardinal Wolsey suppressed this, and erected on the site his college for a dean, twelve secular canons, eight clerks, and eight choristers, with a grammar school intended as a nursery for his college at Oxford. It was demolished after the Cardinal fell into disgrace. A monastery of Black Friars was founded in the reign of Henry III. in the parish of St. Mary at the Quay, of which convent the existing portions contain the most perfect relic of antiquity in the town.

There was a monastery of White Friars in the centre of the town, of which there are no remains ; and a house of Grey Friars, founded in the reign of Edward I. by Sir Robert Tybelot, of which some portion of the walls is remaining.

The Free Grammar School is of uncertain foundation ; it was endowed by Henry VIII. with £38 13s. 4d. per annum from the fee farm rent of the borough, which endowment was confirmed by a charter of Elizabeth, and augmented with subsequent legacies.

Queen Elizabeth visited the borough in 1561, stayed four days, and sailed down the Orwell in great pomp, attended by the Corporation attired in their robes of office. George II. also visited the town on his way from Lowestoft, upon which occasion an address of congratulation was presented to him by the Corporation. George IV. also visited the town when Regent. Full details of all these visits and other events are given in succeeding chapters.

Ipswich comprises the large populous parishes of St. Clement, St. Helen, St. Mary at Elms, St. Mary at the Quay, St. Mary Stoke, St. Mary at the Tower, St. Matthew, St. Nicholas, St. Peter, St. Stephen, and within the limits of the borough the parish of Whitton with Thurleston, and part of that of Westerfield. The parish churches are all ancient handsome structures in various styles of architecture. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, Methodists, Unitarians, the Society of Friends, also a Roman Catholic Chapel and a Synagogue for the Jews.

Under an Act passed in 1816 the town was paved, and is lighted with gas, and a fund has been raised for its general improvement. There are a few handsome streets, and some narrow and irregularly built. The houses are generally well built, and many of them are ancient and decorated with carved work. The erection of some new ranges of buildings and the construction of several new streets have greatly improved the appearance of the town. The inhabitants are well supplied with water from the river and from springs ; the air is salubrious and the temperature mild, the town being sheltered from the colder winds by hills on the north-east. The environs are pleasant and picturesque.

The public buildings are the Town Hall, recently built at a cost of £15,000 ; the Corn Hall built in 1850 ; the Custom House built in 1845 ; the East Suffolk Hospital built in 1835, with additions in 1869 ; the Museum ; the County Courts ; Temperance Hall, built in 1810 ; the Post Office ; a Public Hall, built by a Company, and large enough for 2000 people at public meetings, concerts, &c.

The Market Place, constructed in 1811 at an expense of £10,000, comprises two spacious quadrangular ranges of buildings, supported on

columns of stone, adjoining which is the enclosed cattle market. The market days are Tuesday and Saturday; the former, for corn, is held in the new Corn Hall, a large building erected at an expense of £33,000. The fairs are on May 4th, called St. George's Fair, for cattle; August 26th, for lambs; and September 25th, for butter and cheese, which last has almost fallen into disuse. The articles manufactured in the town are chiefly engines and machines for agricultural purposes, boots and shoes, paper, pottery, and Roman cement, from all which arises a great wholesale trade.

The Old House, as it is called by the people, is now occupied by a bookseller, and a very picturesque old house it is, with its carved panels, pilasters, and brackets. The Museum is a model of its kind, for it was arranged with admirable method by Professor Henslow, whose portrait hangs above a case of plants which he gave to the town. There is also a painting of Thomas Clarkson, representing him as addressing an anti-slavery meeting. The Mechanics' Institute has a good library and reading-room, which is generally filled with readers.

#### SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.

The Free Grammar School, long held in the refectory of the Black Dominican Friary, is now held in a handsome edifice built in 1852; and has £57 yearly endowment, eight scholarships, and two exhibitions. The Blue Coat and Red Sleeve Schools are also endowed. The Industrial Training School, for penitent orphan females, was founded in 1857, and is supported by voluntary contributions. There are also national and denominational schools for elementary instruction. The East Suffolk Hospital was founded in 1836, accommodates about forty indoor patients, and has usually about 200 outdoor patients. Two Lunatic Asylums, the Bellvue and the Grove, are in St. Helen's parish, with ten and eleven inmates. There are several Almshouses, a Shipwrecked Seaman's Society, and other charitable institutions. The total yearly amount of endowed charities is £2459.

The Museum of Natural History was built in 1847, and is supported by a corporation rate. The Public Library contains about 8000 volumes. The Mechanics Institution includes a large Lecture Hall, and has a library of about 7000 volumes. There are an Arboretum, Public Gardens, a Horticultural Society, a Young Men's Christian Association, and a Church of England Young Men's Society. The Working Men's College and Club is one of the most flourishing institutions of the kind in the Eastern Counties.

## TRADE OF THE PORT.

The Port of Ipswich is rapidly rising in importance, and has a very large foreign and coasting trade. The number of vessels above fifty tons burden registered at the port before 1842 was 119, and their aggregate tonnage 12,339. The coasting trade consists chiefly in corn and malt, and in timber for ship building, with which it supplies the dockyards. Very extensive improvements have been made to facilitate commercial enterprise. The river was fourteen feet deep up to the town, but it has been made deeper. The navigation is thus improved. Boats sail with every tide to Harwich, affording an aquatic excursion of twelve miles, with views of beautiful scenery on each side of the river.

The Harbour includes quays and a wet dock, the latter formed in 1842, and although the Orwell dries far down at low water, vessels drawing sixteen feet can now ascend to the town and float in the wet dock. The vessels belonging to the port in 1864 were fifty-two small sailing vessels, with an aggregate of 1728 tons; 127 large sailing vessels, of aggregately 13,923 tons; five small steam vessels, of aggregately 219 tons, and five large steam vessels, of aggregately 436 tons. The vessels which entered in 1863 were six British sailing vessels, of aggregately 1529 tons, from British colonies; eighty-eight British sailing vessels, of aggregately 9864 tons, from foreign countries; 114 foreign sailing vessels, of aggregately 14,096 tons, from foreign countries; 1022 sailing vessels, of aggregately 3440 tons, coastwise. The vessels which cleared in 1863 were forty-eight British sailing vessels, of aggregately 3921 tons, to foreign countries; seventy-one foreign sailing vessels, of aggregately 6995 tons, to foreign countries; one British steam vessel of 147 tons, to foreign countries; 852 sailing vessels, of aggregately 45,138 tons, coastwise; and sixteen steam vessels, of aggregately 3440 tons, coastwise. The amount of customs in 1862 was £19,726, it greatly rose in 1865, and was £24,371 in 1867.

The present trade of the town is considerable, and belonging to the port there are 188 ships, representing an aggregate burden of 16,159 tons. There are four ship-building yards, belonging to Messrs. Cobbold, Bayley, Robertson, and Lambert. Malting and brewing is also carried on to a large extent. The imports are iron, coals, stone, timber, slates, and linseed, for the production of linseed oil and oil cake at the extensive works of Messrs. Barber and Mr. Mason.

The Canal from Ipswich to Stowmarket, constructed in 1793 at a cost of £26,380, affords great facility for inland navigation. It has been constructed in the old channel of the river Gipping from Ipswich to Stowmarket. The Quay is accessible to ships of 200 tons burden. The

Custom House is a neat brick building. Ship-building is carried on to a considerable extent, and several of Morton's slips are in use. There are rope-walks for the supply of the shipping, and all other branches of industry required for the prosperity of the port. There are commodious public baths on the quay and some beautiful walks near the river Orwell.

The Orwell Works of Messrs. Ransome and Co. are the most extensive in the Eastern Counties for the building of engines and the production of machines and implements of husbandry. The works cover an area of eleven acres, placed on a most convenient position on the banks of the Orwell, bounded on the west by the dock. A tramway traverses the whole area. About 1,200 mechanics are employed here, exclusive of seventy clerks in the various offices, one of which is 100 feet in length, fitted with desks. The store-room for the models is also 100 feet in length. The drawing office contains a large staff of intelligent draughtsmen, each design being registered for future reference. The smithy department is about 120 feet by 180 feet, and contains eighty forges, steam hammers, bending machines, and other machines for saving labor and improving the quality of the work. The foundry is an interesting part of the works. Castings can be made here up to thirty tons weight. The boiler shop is large, and always full of busy workers. The shop devoted to thrashing machines is 220 feet by 125 feet, and there are other shops for turning, planing, grinding, &c.; also store-rooms for materials and implements. The steam engines employed amount to near 200 horse power, and the whole place seems alive with machinery in motion. Messrs. Ransome and Co. are manufacturers of improved iron ploughs in great variety, thrashing machines for horse and steam power, chaff cutters, turnip cutters, pulpers, corn mills, and every sort of implement. The works are widely known for the manufacture of patent railway fastenings, and for the patent solid chilled railway crossings, which have been proved to be the most durable. We must not omit to mention the workmen's hall, and a library of 3,000 volumes. The library is managed by a committee of foremen and workmen, and for a penny per week every workman has access to ample stores of literature.

#### EMINENT MEN OF THE TOWN.

Among distinguished natives of Ipswich, we may mention Cardinal Wolsey, who was born in the parish of St. Nicholas, and received the rudiments of his education in the Grammar School of the town. Dr. William Butler, physician to James I. Dr. Laney, successively Bishop of Peterborough, Lincoln, and Ely. Ralph Browning, Bishop of Exeter, of which see he was deprived at the commencement of the Civil War. Clara Reeve, the authoress of the "Old English Baron," whose father was for

many years minister of St. Nicholas' parish. Mrs. Sarah Trimmer, who wrote books for the young. Thomas Green, author of "Extracts from the Diary of a Lover of Literature," a very enlightened critic. Joshua Kirby Baldry was an eminent artist, who died in 1829. Ralph Brownrigg, D.D., was the son of a merchant in Ipswich and a learned divine, who died in 1659. William Butler, M.D., one of the greatest physicians of his time, was born here about 1535 and died in 1618. Robert Clamp, a native of this town, died in 1808, aged thirty-nine. He was articulated to Joshua Kirby Baldry, who was also a native of Ipswich, after which he practised as a portrait engraver in London, and many of his productions are to be seen in a work called "Harding's Biographical Mirror," three volumes quarto.

#### THE RIVER ORWELL.

Excursionists in the summer months frequently take pleasant trips down the river Orwell to Harwich, or Felixstow, or Aldborough, or Southwold. The Orwell resembles more an arm of the sea than a river, winding with frequent bold curves between flat muddy banks, that rise with green slopes to the wooded uplands in their rear. Grimston Hall, on the north side of the stream, was the birthplace of Thomas Cavendish, the second Englishman who sailed round the globe, made his name a terror to the Spaniards in the Pacific, and brought home plenty of gold.

The Orwell is bordered the whole length on both sides by gently-rising grounds, adorned with seats of the gentry, woods, and parks stocked with deer and abounding in game; lawns and well-cultivated lands reach down to the water's edge, embracing everything that can diversify a landscape. The stream has the appearance of a lake, and is for its extent one of the most beautiful salt rivers in England. It is mentioned by Chaucer in the prologue to his "Merchant's Tale," and by Drayton in his "Poly Olbion," and has been the theme of many a modern poet's muse. An unknown poet wrote the following sonnet on the Orwell:—

Orwell, delightful stream, whose waters flow,  
 Fringed with luxuriant beauty, to the main!  
 Amid thy woodlands taught, the muse would fain  
 On thee her grateful eulogy bestow.  
 Smooth and majestic though thy current glide,  
 And bustling commerce plough thy liquid plain,  
 Though graced with loveliness thy verdant side,  
 While all around enchantment seems to reign;  
 These glories still with filial love I taste,  
 And feel their praise;—yet thou hast one beside,  
 To me more sweet; for on thy banks reside  
 Friendship and truth combined; whose union chaste  
 Has soothed my soul; and these shall bloom sublime  
 When fade the fleeting charms of nature and of time.

## LANDGUARD FORT

Stands upon the point of land which forms the south-east corner of the county, at the mouth of the Orwell, and has the appearance of an island at high water. It is situated on a gently-rising ground, so that from the walls there is a view in every direction, including one of the Northern Ocean bursting on our sight. Who has not felt the extraordinary sensation experienced on first beholding the sea. James Bird asks—

Beats there a heart, which hath not felt its core  
Ache with a wild delight, when first the roar  
Of ocean's spirit met the startled ear?  
Beats there a heart so languid and so drear,  
That hath not felt the lightning of the blood  
Flash vivid joy when first the rolling flood  
Met the charmed eye, with all its restless strife  
At once the wonder and the type of life?

The first fort was built at the commencement of the reign of Charles I., for its chapel was consecrated by the Bishop of Norwich, September 7th, 1628. It was built chiefly as a defence against the Dutch, who often threatened our eastern coast. The old fort had four bastions, with fifteen large guns in each, and stood a little to the north of the present erection, on the spot which is now the burial-place for the garrison. Near this spot the Dutch landed 3,000 men in the year 1667, and marching under cover of some sand hills, lodged themselves within musket shot on two sides of the fort. After an hour's incessant firing with their small arms, they were put to flight by the discharge of two or three guns from a small galiot, which fired upon the shingle and scattered the pebbles so destructively as to throw the foreign invaders into complete confusion.

The old fort was demolished, and the present one erected in its stead, in 1718; but the soil being unfavourable, the foundations were not laid without great labour and expense. It is built of dark red brick, with bastions, curtain, inner and outer defences, a ditch and magazines, and the usual appurtenances of a military post. The entrance to the fort is by a drawbridge. Over the gateway is the chapel. On the right are apartments for the governor, and facing the gate are the barracks for the soldiers, who generally consist of a detachment of two companies. The fort completely commands the entrance into the harbour, which, though between two and three miles over at high water, is too shallow to admit ships of any great burthen, except by a narrow and deep channel on the Suffolk side.

According to tradition, the opening of the two rivers Orwell and Stour was anciently on the north side of the fort, through Walton marshes, and from the soil and situation of Langer common and Langer marshes, it is

likely that they may have been covered by the sea; but if so, it must have been at a very early period, for frequent mention is made in the court rolls of the manor of Walton of Langer Common in Felixtow, upwards of two hundred years before any fort was built there.

WALTON (ST. MARY),

A parish situated at the south-east corner of the county, ten miles south-east-by-east of Ipswich. It comprises about 1,200 acres of flat land, generally a rich loam. There is no doubt of this place having been a Roman station, from the variety of Roman urns, coins, rings, &c., found here. The coins found are of the Vespasian and Antonine families, of Severus and his successors, to Gordian III., and from Gallienus to Arcadius and Honorius. Constantine the Great, it is thought, may have established a station here when he withdrew his legions from the frontier towns in the east of Britain, and built forts to supply their places.

The following description of the Roman walls appears in the minutes of the Antiquarian Society in 1722:—"Some distance east of Walton are the ruins of a Roman wall, situate on the ridge of a cliff near the sea, between Landguard fort and the Woodbridge river or Bawdsey haven. It is one hundred yards long, five feet high above ground, twelve broad at each end, turned with an angle; it is composed of pebbles and Roman brick in three courses; all round footsteps of buildings and several large pieces of wall, cast down upon the strand by the sea undermining the cliff, all which have Roman brick. At low-water mark very much of the like is visible at some distance in the sea. There are two entire pillars with balls. The cliff is one hundred feet high."

So great have been the encroachments of the sea on this part of the coast within the present century, that no remains of this wall now exist except a few fragments, which may be seen above the waves at low water. It is asserted that some miles out at sea, at a place well-known to mariners, some fragments of walls have been broken off, being formed of materials cemented together, and hardened by the water. It is therefore supposed that the sea has encroached for many miles on this shore; and it is stated in the eleventh volume of the *Archæologia* that "there was formerly a town called Orwell, which extended into the sea to the place now called the West Rocks."

Walton Castle was a strong fortress in the Norman period, when Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, was lord of the manor and of the ancient castle. In consequence of this earl and several of the barons having in 1173 taken part with the sons of Henry II. in their unnatural contest with their father, that monarch in 1176 caused all the castles whose owners had acted against him in this rebellion to be razed to the ground, including

those at Walton and Ipswich. So effectual was the demolition of Walton Castle, that the stones were carried into all parts of Felixstow and Trinity, and footpaths raised with them on both sides of the road.

The living of Walton is a discharged vicarage endowed with the rectorial tithes, with that of Felixstow annexed. A cell of Benedictine monks, subordinate to the monastery of Rochester, was founded here in the reign of William II., and continued till 1528, when it was given to Cardinal Wolsey towards the endowment of his intended colleges. The Baptists have a chapel here.

Walton and Felixstow are now distinct parishes, but formerly Felixstow was included in Walton, and so late as the reign of Henry VIII. Cardinal Wolsey was said to have had an annual income from the church of Felixstow in Walton. Walton is a neat and remarkably-pleasant village, containing many good houses, several of which are desirable places of residence, enjoying beautiful prospects of the surrounding country with an extensive view of the North Sea.

#### FELIXSTOW

Is a watering place situated at the foot of a range of bold heights which are found to be advantageous because of the look-out and the means they afford for alternations of temperature. Here it was that Felix, a Burgundian monk, landed about the year 654, the first Christian missionary and bishop to the East Angles, and from him the place derives its name. The memory of the good bishop will be perpetuated here in the name of the village. He founded here a religious house called the Priory of St. Felix, but all that remains of it is a piece of land called "The Old Abbey Close," and a fenny close called "The Old Abbey Pond." A great quantity of a peculiar herb is found in these pastures, which at a certain time of the year taints the cream and butter made from the milk of the cows which have fed upon it with the flavour of onions. It is extremely difficult to eradicate, and is detested by the peasantry, who call it "monk's grass."

Roger Bigod, first Earl of Norfolk, had granted to him after the Conquest 176 manors in Norfolk, and 117 lordships in Suffolk. Upon one of these he founded his priory of Benedictine monks, and endowed it with the manor of the ancient priory of Felixstow, with the Churches of Walton and Felixstow, and with the tithes and other appurtenances in Walton. About the year 1105, the earl gave it as a cell to the Monastery of St. Andrew at Rochester. This gift was confirmed by King William, and the monks were ever after called "The Monks of Rochester." The site of this priory, with the great tithes of Walton and Felixstow, were given to Cardinal Wolsey in the 26th Henry VIII.; but long after his fall,

in the nineteenth year of Queen Elizabeth, they were granted to Thomas Seckford, her Master of Requests, who built the celebrated almshouses at Woodbridge. The Church of Felixstow must be a very ancient edifice, but we have no record of the date of its erection. It is in a very dilapidated state; the steeple is nearly in ruins; the rest of the edifice has been repaired.

At the Point there are signs of the ravages of the sea, the cliff is much worn, and presents a curious variety of colour—reddish-yellow at the top, darkening as it descends into brown and black, with horizontal streaks of yellow and buff. By searching along the base of the cliff, people have found fossil shells and coprolites which had been washed out of the hardened clay. Professor Henslow first pointed out the fertilising properties of these coprolites, which poor folks now collect for sale. Geologists say that these curious things are animal deposits of the antediluvian ages, fossilised into the appearance and form of oblong pebbles. They are found in great beds in other parts of Suffolk.

A rugged, sandy green, and the salt marsh, from which unpleasant smells arise in the evening, extend along the front of the village for nearly half its length. If the tourist ascends the hill to the Martello tower, he will have a broad view all across Langer Common to Landguard Fort, green marsh and pale dry sand, and out to the tower on the Naze. The inland prospect is quite rural, with many old farmhouses, and for many miles in that direction the land is as fertile as any in Suffolk. There are the Sandlings—acres which produce wonderful crops of carrots. A great attraction here is the abundance of excellent water supplied by springs gushing from the cliffs.

The beach is firm smooth sand, good for walkers or bathers. We may ramble on until the view opens of the bay and estuary of the river Deben. Beyond appear the lighthouses of Orfordness, standing apparently far out at sea. Bernard Barton, the Suffolk poet, answers an enquiry for a beautiful abiding place in these lines :—

On that shore where the waters of Orwell and Deben  
Join the dark, heaving ocean, that spot may be found :  
A scene which recalls the lost beauties of Eden,  
And which Fancy might hail as her own fairy ground.

That shore might be a paradise for the poet; but few ordinary people would like to live in so lonely a place.

#### ALDBOROUGH OR ALDEBURGH (ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL),

A seaport and parish (formerly a representative borough and market town), having separate jurisdiction, in the union and locally in the Hundred of Plomesgate, southern division of the county of Suffolk, twenty-five miles

(north-east-by-east) from Ipswich, and ninety-four (north-east) from London. This place takes its name from its situation on the river Alde, and was formerly of very considerable extent and importance, possessing many valuable privileges. Owing to the encroachments of the sea (which within the last century has destroyed the Market-place, with an entire street and a great number of houses), it has been reduced to an inconsiderable town ; but from the salubrity of the air and the convenience of the shore for sea-bathing, it has lately become a place of fashionable resort during the summer. Baths for the accommodation of visitors have been erected, and machines are in attendance on the beach. The town is situated in a pleasant vale, rather below the level of high water mark, having the river Alde on the north, and on the south the navigable river Ore, which flows from Orford to this place ; it is sheltered by a steep hill, the extended summit of which forms a magnificent terrace, affording a delightful promenade and a delightfully-diversified prospect, embracing an extensive view of the North Sea. The strand, to which the descent from the town is gradual, consists of firm sand, favourable for bathing and walking. At the southern extremity of the main street, which is nearly a mile in length, are a battery, on which during the late war two eighteen-pounders were mounted ; another of five guns, and a Martello tower for the protection of the coast. The old houses are in general ill-constructed, but those erected for families during the season, or for the accommodation of visitors, are well-built and respectable ; among these is an elegant marine villa, in the Italian style, built by the late Leveson Vernon, Esq. There is a Public Subscription Library, situated on the Heads ; a neat and commodious Theatre is open for a few weeks during the season ; and assemblies are held occasionally at the principal inns. The trade of the port consists chiefly in the exportation of corn, and the importation of coal and timber, in which forty-six vessels, averaging fifty-two tons burden, are employed. The Custom-house is a neat and convenient building near the Quay ; and the harbour, which is safe and commodious, attracts a number of seafaring people and fishermen, by whom the town is principally inhabited. Many of these are Trinity House pilots, who form themselves into small associations, and purchase swift-sailing cutters, in which they traverse the North Sea, frequently approaching the coast of Norway, in search of vessels requiring assistance. The principal employment of the other inhabitants consists in the taking and drying of herrings and sprats, the latter of which are found here in profusion, and exported to Holland ; soles and lobsters of superior flavour are taken also in abundance. The market, formerly on Wednesdays and Saturdays, has been discontinued ; the fairs are held on March 1st and May 3rd. Aldborough claims to be a borough by prescription. The earliest charter

extant was granted by Henry VIII. in 1529, since which it has received several others, the last and governing charter being granted by Charles I. in 1637.

The officers of the corporation are two bailiffs, ten capital and twenty-four inferior burgesses, a recorder, town clerk, two chamberlains, two sergeants-at-mace, and others. The bailiffs and capital burgesses compose the council, which is the governing body; the former are chosen from amongst the latter on September 8th, and also act as coroners; the capital burgesses are elected for life from among the inferior burgesses, by the common council, who also choose the inferior burgesses, recorder, and town clerk. The bailiffs, the late bailiffs, and the recorder, are justices of the peace for the borough, which is co-extensive with the parish. They have power to hold a court of general sessions for the trial of misdemeanours, which has not been held since 1822; also a court of record for pleas to the amount of £30, and a court of *pie poudre*, both of which have long been obsolete.

The revenue of the corporation arises principally from the proceeds of the town marshes, comprising 188 acres of land, used for depasturing cattle; they were purchased in 1610, and are vested in trustees. The Town Hall is an ancient building of timber, under which is the common Gaol, consisting of a single cell, for the confinement of disorderly persons; the borough magistrates generally commit to the County Gaol. The borough first exercised the elective franchise in the thirteenth of Elizabeth, from which time, until its disfranchisement by the Reform Act in the second of William IV., it returned two members to Parliament. The right of election was vested in the bailiffs and burgesses not receiving alms; the bailiffs were the returning officers.

The parish comprises, by measurement, 1,150 acres; it contains a small portion of good arable land, but it chiefly consists of heath and of land laid out in sheep walks. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at £33 6s. 8d.; present net income, £220; it is in the patronage of F. J. V. Wentworth, Esq. There is a manor of thirteen acres attached to the vicarage. The Church is an ancient structure of flint and freestone, standing on the summit of a hill at the northern extremity of the town, with a square embattled tower, surmounted with a turret, affording an excellent landmark for mariners. There are places of worship for Particular Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyans. A National School is supported by subscription, and the rental of a quay or wharf on the river Ore is applicable to the purposes of education. There is also a fund of £5 per annum for apprenticing poor children, payable out of the town marsh, the produce of a benefaction of £100 by Captain William Lawes.

Near the Moot Hall stood the cottage in which Crabbe the poet was born, but it fell down about twenty-five years ago by dint of wind and weather. Judging, however, from engravings, it was like those gloomy little buildings which still remain. When we last visited the town, in answer to our inquiries, nobody could say any thing about the birthplace of the poet, and few knew that he ever lived in the place.

We entered the old Church in which the poet served his first curacy, and saw a monument erected to his memory on the north side of the chancel, where his bust, with its ample brow and thoughtful expression, showed that he was no ordinary man. We read the inscription on the pedestal :—

“To the memory of George Crabbe, the poet of nature and truth, this monument is erected by those who are desirous to record their admiration of his genius in the place of his birth.”

Thus it appears that the poet was not quite forgotten in his native place, though while he lived he obtained little honor or profit in his own county.

#### DUNWICH.

The ancient Sitomagus of the Romans was a city supposed to have been inhabited by the Sitones, a Belgic tribe, but where the city was situated has not been decided by antiquaries. Some suppose it to have stood on the former site of Dunwich, now covered by the sea. Others suppose it to have been situated near Thetford, on the Suffolk side of that town. The Roman legions, leaving the territory of the Trinobantes about A.D. 58, had to fight their way through the country of the Iceni, and they appear to have marched from south to north along the coast through Suffolk, building camps in their progress near Walton, Dunwich, and Lowestoft. Sitomagus, therefore, is more likely to have been situated near the coast than so far inland as Thetford. The Roman vessels which followed the march of the legions along the coast could easily bring supplies of provisions or arms to a place on the coast for the soldiers, who no doubt had a station where the ancient city formerly stood. Dunwich, at a very early period, was the capital of the Iceni, as it certainly was in the sixth century, and the seat of government. We may easily believe that so important a place was the Sitomagus of the Romans that there the native kings resided, and that there King Prastagus with his Queen Boadicea held their court.

Nearly all the towns in East Anglia appear to have been of Anglo-Saxon origin, and Dunwich is perhaps the most ancient. It was the see of a bishop and an important commercial city. It is certain that in the reign of Sigebert King of East Anglia, Felix of Burgundy, the bishop, fixed his episcopal see at Dunwich, in the year 630, and there his successors

continued for 200 years. When a survey was taken in the reign of Edward the Confessor of all the lands in the kingdom, Dunwich contained two curves of land, but one of these was swallowed up by the sea before the Norman Conquest. In the reign of William I. there was an extensive forest near Dunwich, and Gardner in his memorials of that ancient city tells us that he had seen some manuscripts which affirmed that the Conqueror "gave leave to the Rouses of Badingham to hunt and hawk in his forest at Dunwich. The very ancient family of Le Rus, de Rus or De Rous, were established in Suffolk at an early period. J. Bird, the Suffolk poet, thus describes the place :—

Time was when Dunwich forest spread afar,  
 Where Neptune now rides proudly in his car,  
 Where lofty oaks long reared their heads on high,  
 Howled at the storms that swept in grandeur by,  
 Tuned their glad peans to the gentler sway  
 Of winds that whispered from the sunny bay,  
 While the dells echoed to the bugle's sound,  
 And the loud cheering of the eager hound ;  
 While shouts arose from wooded hill and plain  
 From brave de Rous and from his gallant train,  
 Voices of gentle knights and damsels fair,  
 Who watched their hawks swift darting through the air  
 To swoop the towering heron in her flight,  
 That soared so high the disappointed sight,  
 Rested in clouds, through which the quarry flew,  
 While the bold falcon hastened to pursue,  
 And rushing on as lightning sure and fleet,  
 Struck down the heron at his lady's feet.

When the Domesday survey was taken, Dunwich contained eleven bordarie, twenty-four freemen, each holding forty acres of land, 136 burgesses, 178 poor, and three churches. In the reign of Henry II. "it became the demesne of the Crown, and was a town of good note, abounding with much riches and sundry kinds of merchandizes." The annual fee farm rent then paid by it was £120 13s. 4d. and 24,000 herrings. This was probably the period of its greatest prosperity before the old town was swallowed up by the sea.

Under Richard I., Dunwich was fined 1,000 marks, Ipswich 200, and Yarmouth 200, for unlawfully supplying the King's enemies with corn. These sums may convey some idea of the relative importance of the towns at the time. King John, in the first year of his reign, granted a charter to Dunwich, by which its inhabitants were empowered, among other things, to marry their sons and daughters as they pleased, and also to give, sell, or dispose of their property in the town as they thought fit. This charter, dated at Gold Cliff, 29th of June, cost them 300 marks, besides ten falcons and five ger-falcons.

Dunwich was then a large city, with many roads, streets, public buildings, and several churches and chapels, dedicated to St. Leonard, St. Martin, St. Nicholas, St. Francis, St. Catherine, and St. John the Baptist. The Town Hall was a large building, and the port was crowded with shipping. The town stood on a hill, composed of loam and sand of a loose texture, on a coast without rocks, so that it is not surprising that the houses should be undermined by the sea. A wood, called the King's Forest, extended several miles south-east of the town, but it has been for many ages covered by the waves.

In 1347, the port of Dunwich sent six ships, with 102 mariners, to assist in the siege of Calais; but during the war with France, most of the ships were lost, together with the lives of 500 men, and goods to the value of £1000. This heavy loss was nothing to the destruction of the town, caused by storms at sea occurring so frequently that the place seemed destined to fall. At different times, after 1286, nearly all its churches and public buildings were swept away by the waves.

In the reign of Edward I., after the town of Dunwich had declined considerably, it had eleven ships of war, sixteen fair ships, twenty barques or vessels trading to the North Sea, Iceland, &c., and twenty-four small boats for the home fishery. In the twenty-fourth year of the same reign, the men of Dunwich built at their own cost, and equipped for the defence of the realm, eleven ships of war, most of which carried seventy men each. Four of these vessels, with their artillery worth £200, were taken and destroyed by the enemy, while on service off the coast of France.

On the night of January 1st, 1286, the town of Dunwich suffered considerable damage from the violence of the winds and waves during a storm at sea, by which several churches were overthrown and destroyed in several places. In the first year of Edward III. the old port was rendered entirely useless; and before the twenty-third of the same reign great part of the town, containing more than 400 houses which paid rent to the fee farm, had fallen a prey to the waves. After this the Church of St. Leonard was overthrown, and in the course of the same century two other churches were destroyed. In 1540 the Church of St. John Baptist was demolished, and before 1600 the Chapels of St. Anthony, St. Francis, and St. Catherine, with the Southgate and Goldengate, were swallowed up, so that not a quarter of the town was left standing. In the reign of Charles I. the Temple buildings yielded to the irresistible force of the waves, and the sea reached to the Market-place in 1677, when the townsmen sold the materials of the Cross. In 1715 the Jail was absorbed, and in 1729 the furthest bounds of St. Peter's Churchyard were washed away.

the Church itself having been previously swallowed up. The Town Hall and all the public buildings soon after shared the same fate. James Bird thus describes the desolation of the ancient city—

Where the lone cliff' uprears its rugged head,  
 Where frowns the ruin o'er the silent dead ;  
 Where sweeps the billow on the lonely shore,  
 Where once the mighty lived, but live no more ;  
 Where proudly frowned the convent's mossy wall,  
 Where rose the gothic tower, the stately halls ;  
 Where bards proclaimed and warriors shared the feast,  
 Where ruled the baron and where knelt the priest ;  
 Where stood the city in its pride—tis gone—  
 Mocked at by crumbling pile and mouldering stone,  
 And shapeless masses, which the reckless power  
 Of time hath hurled from ruined arch and tower.  
 O'er the lone spot, where shrines and pillared halls  
 Once gorgeous shone, the clammy lizard crawls ;  
 O'er the lone spot where yawned the guarded fosse,  
 Creeps the wild bramble and the spreading moss.  
 Oh ! time hath laid that lordly city's brow  
 In which the mighty dwelt : where dwell they now ?

SOUTHWOLD (ST. EDMUND'S),

A sea-port, incorporated market town, and parish, having separate jurisdiction, in the Union and Hundred of Blything, East Division of the county of Suffolk, thirty-six miles (north-east) from Ipswich, and 104 (north-east) from London.

The ancient names of this place were Suwald, Suwalda, Sudholda, and Southwood, probably derived from an adjacent wood, the western confines still retaining the appellation of Wood's-end Marshes and Wood's-end Creek. It is supposed that the Danes, about the year 1010, had a fortified port here, but authentic information reaches us no further back than to 1202, when the first chapel was built by the prior and monks of Thetford, in right of their cell at Wangford. The towns appear to have enjoyed considerable prosperity for about a century and a-half previous to the year 1659, when a dreadful conflagration took place, which in a few hours consumed the Town Hall and nearly every public building, except the Church, doing damage to the amount of more than £40,000. Another remarkable event was the memorable sea-fight between the English, under the command of the Duke of York, and the Dutch, under Admiral de Ruyter, which took place in Sole Bay to the east of the town, on the 26th of May, 1672, in which, though the English proved victorious, they lost many brave and distinguished officers, among whom was the Earl of Sandwich.

The haven, which is formed by the mouth of the river Blyth, was

originally at Dunwich, but the incursions of the sea on that ancient city having in the early part of the fourteenth century rendered the haven no longer navigable, it was cut in the year 1590 near to its present situation ; in the year 1747 it became choked up with sand, and was cleared out by Act of Parliament. A pier was erected on the north side in 1749, and in 1750 the Society of the "Free British Fishery" were incorporated, having established a branch of their undertaking at this port ; in 1752 a south pier was added to complete the works ; by the same Act of Parliament duties were also imposed on imports and exports.

The town is pleasantly situated on a hill overlooking the North Sea, and is rendered peninsula by the sea and a creek, called the Buss Creek, which runs into the river Blyth, over which is a bridge, anciently called "Myght's," and formerly a drawbridge leading into the town ; it consists principally of one paved street. The houses are mostly well built and of modern appearance, and the inhabitants are well supplied with water. The most considerable residences, however, are on elevated sites, commanding fine sea views, and especially on the cliffs, which are covered with all kinds of lodging houses for the accommodation of visitors, especially those resorting hither for sea-bathing, for which Southwold, from the nature of its situation and the convenience of the beach, is admirably adapted. There are hot and cold baths, and a good promenade ; also a reading-room called the Casino, on the Gun Hill, with an assembly-room. On St. Edmund's, commonly called Gun Hill, are six eighteen-pounders, presented by the Duke of Cumberland, who landed here from the Netherlands October 17th, 1745. To counteract the encroachments of the sea, a breakwater has been made under Gun Hill cliff, extending upwards of 300 yards. The trade of the town consists in the home fishery, which is principally for soles, and employs several small boats ; in the curing and reddening of herrings and sprats, in malting, and in the preparation and exportation of salts, for which there is a manufactory. The chief imports are coal, rock salt, firs and deals, culm, iron, stone, slate, glass, earthenware, chalk, oats, &c. ; and the exports wheat, barley, malt, oak, timber, bark, wool, refined salt, and fish.

The last Harbour Act received the royal assent 29th May, 1830, since which the scale of duties has been somewhat reduced. The entrance into the haven is on the south side of the town ; the superintendence of it is vested in Commissioners, who, though they have considerably improved the navigation within the harbour, find great difficulty in keeping it open, on account of the accumulation of sand about the bar. The amount of duties paid at the custom-house in 1840 was £258 ; the number of vessels which entered the port in the same year was 218, and of those which cleared, 104. The river Blyth was made navigable to Halesworth,

nine miles distant, under an Act passed in 1757. The market is held on Thursday, and a fair is held on Trinity Monday. The first charter of incorporation was granted by Henry VII. in 1490, and confirmed, with extended privileges, by Henry VIII. and subsequent sovereigns. The Corporation now consists of a Mayor, four Aldermen, and twelve Councillors, under the Act of 5th and 6th of William IV., cap. 76. The Mayor and late Mayor are justices of the peace, and, by a commission granted in 1841, the number of magistrates is four. The Guildhall was erected by the Corporation at a cost of £800, and the old Gaol having been taken down, a new one was built in the year 1819, which is now a National School. The parish comprises 646A. 3R. 7P. The living is a perpetual curacy, annexed to Roydon; patron, Earl of Stradbroke; the benefice is endowed with the great and small tithes, which have been commuted for a rent-charge of £68, and its value, including a good residence, is estimated at about £136 per annum. The Church, a very elegant structure, was built about 1460, in the later English style, with a large and lofty tower, surmounted by a spire, and constructed of freestone, intermixed with flint of various colours. At each angle of the east end of the chancel is a low hexagonal embattled tower, decorated with crosses; the south porch is very elegant, and above the clerestory roof is a light open lantern; the ceiling was, in former times, handsomely painted, and the interior very richly ornamented, as appears by the carved work of the rood loft, screen, and seats of the magistrates. The gallery was enlarged in 1836. On the south side of the churchyard are three gravestones in memory of Thomas Gardner, the historian of Dunwich and Southwold, and his two wives and daughter, on which are some singular inscriptions. The Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyans have each a place of worship; and there are a National School for boys and girls, and a Girls' School on the British and Foreign system. The Corporation have under their control for the building and maintenance of bridges, sea-walls, &c., and of the Town Hall, for the payment of the salaries of the Corporation officers, and for general purposes of improvement, the following estates, viz., the manorial rights of Southwold, granted by Henry VII. in the fifth year of his reign; an estate in Southwold, consisting of about 300 acres, the principal part of which was devised by William Godell in 1509; a windmill, a house, and several shops in the town, now severally let to tenants at rack-rents; and an undivided moiety of twenty acres of land at Roydon, taken in exchange from Sir Thomas Gooch, Bart., in lieu of a parcel of land in Benacre, purchased by the Corporation about the year 1642. John Sayer, in 1816, bequeathed £200 four per cent. consols, towards the support of the Burgh School; but that institution having been relinquished, the dividends are now

applied, according to the will of the donor, to the relief of widows of Trinity pilots and masters of vessels belonging to the port. A dispensary and lying-in institution are supported by subscription, and a friendly society for the relief of shipwrecked fishermen was established in 1840. A lecture hall was erected in 1865, and is used by the Oddfellows for their meetings. On a hill called Eye Cliff, at a small distance from the town, are vestiges of ancient encampments, and in many parts of circular tents, now called fairy hills, most probably of Danish origin. Numerous coins of Roman Emperors and British Kings have been found in the immediate vicinity, and fossil remains of the elephant and mammoth have been discovered in the cliffs, which are rich in agates, cornelians, and other valuable stones. Suffolk crag and gravel ensure a dry soil for visitors who come here for a sea-side sojourn. From St. Edmund's Hill they may pace along Gun Hill and the Ladies' Walk, and obtain views over land and sea, or lounge at the coastguard station, where a Manby's apparatus is kept in good order, and was used in 1859 with such success that forty-six lives were saved.

Proceeding northwards along the beach, beside the bright green sea, we come to Easton Broad; and a little further on there is Covehithe Broad, all but choked up with reeds, wherein flocks of little birds find shelter. Here a channel crosses the beach, and a story is told of a town swept away. Then we ascend a cliff, which stretching seawards forms Covehithe Ness. Then we come to a common, where it is delightful walking between the clumps of furze while a lively breeze sets in from the sea. Next we reach Kessingland, a village amid fields, with its church tower backed by trees.

A little further on we arrive at Pakefield, a large village on the cliff, with a few good houses and the usual cottages and lumber of a place of fishermen. Now there are signs that we have come to a region of shallows, for the blue sea shows large brown patches where the sands lie near the surface. Hereabouts is "Abraham's bosom," as sailors call a portion of the deep water which is protected by the sandbanks from the north and west. Here we descend to the beach, and find firm footing in the parish of Kirkley, which now forms part of the new town of Lowestoft.

#### LOWESTOFT (ST. MARGARET),

A sea-port, market town, and parish in the Incorporation and Hundred of Mutford and Lothingland, Eastern Division of the County of Suffolk, forty-four miles (north-east by north) from Ipswich, and 115 (north-east by north) from London.

The name of this town is derived from Low-toft, a market formerly held beneath the cliffs. The great plague which devastated the continent

of Europe in 1349 raged here with such fury, that not more than one-tenth of the inhabitants escaped the contagion; and in 1547 and 1579 the same malady again prevailed. It suffered severely from fire in 1605, and during the usurpation of Cromwell it was exposed to heavy exactions from its attachment to the royal cause. Cromwell entered the town at the head of 1000 cavalry in 1643, and seizing several persons, sent them prisoners to Cambridge. Two sanguinary engagements took place off the coast during the war with the Dutch in 1665 and 1666, and two of the British Admirals on those occasions were natives of Lowestoft. In consequence of the numerous wrecks, two lighthouses were erected by the Trinity House, one of which was built on the cliff in 1676, and the other on the beach beneath. By steering in such a direction as to make the upper and lower lighthouses coincide, vessels are guided to a channel of a quarter of a mile in breadth, between the Holme and Barnard sands. A lifeboat, which is maintained by voluntary contributions, has been stationed here for some years, and has been instrumental in preserving the lives of numerous shipwrecked mariners. There were formerly forts at the north and south ends of the beach and at the Ness. The town is situated on a lofty cliff, bordering on the North Sea, and consists principally of one street, nearly a mile in length, which is well paved, and of several small ones which diverge from it obliquely, the whole being well lighted with gas. The houses, for the most part of brick, are neat and modern, and the inhabitants are well supplied with water. The air is salubrious, especially for invalids, and the shore, gradually descending to the sea and having a firm bottom, is commodious for bathing. There are a theatre, a spacious assembly-room, and a subscription reading-room and library. A bathing-house, fitted up with hot and cold water baths, was erected by subscription in 1824, and is a handsome building of pebble stones, with rusticated angles, situated at the south end of the High Street, on the beach.

The trade principally arises from the mackerel and herring fishery, in which about eighty boats, of from forty to fifty tons burden each, are engaged, employing about 800 men. Large quantities of mackerel are sent to London; and about 40,000 barrels of herrings, many of which are forwarded to the metropolis and other home markets, and to Italy, are cured and smoked in houses at the base of the cliff, extending the whole length of the town. There are breweries and rope and twine manufactories of considerable extent, and shipbuilding is carried on.

Agreeably with the provisions of an Act of Parliament obtained in 1827, for forming a navigable communication between Lowestoft and Norwich, a cut was made from the sea to Lake Lothing, near the town, which forms a harbour capable of receiving vessels of about 200 tons

burden, opened by the admission of the sea on the 18th of May, 1831.

The market is on Wednesday, for grain and provisions; and toy fairs are held on May 12th and October 10th. The county magistrates hold petty sessions weekly at this place, and manorial courts occasionally take place. The town having been part of the ancient demesnes of the Crown, the inhabitants are exempted from serving on juries out of it. There is a commodious town hall, and a market cross.

The parish comprises by admeasurement 1390 acres. The living is a discharged vicarage, endowed with the rectorial tithes, and valued in the King's books at £10 1s. 0½d.; patron, the Bishop of Norwich. The tithes have been commuted for a rentcharge of £351; and the glebe comprises four and a-half acres, to which there is a house. The church is a large and handsome structure, in the later English style, with a tower surmounted with a wooden spire covered with lead, and a south porch, and contains a fine east window of stained glass, a large brass eagle, formerly used as a reading desk, and a very ancient and handsome font. A chapel of ease was re-built by subscription in 1698, near the centre of the town, but has been used for parochial purposes since the erection of a new chapel.

From the increase in the population, and the inconvenient distance of the parish church, a new church was erected by subscription in 1833; it is a handsome structure in the early English style, containing 1263 sittings, of which 939 are free. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Wesleyans. A free school was founded and endowed in 1570 by Thomas Arnot, with £16 per annum. Another school, on the east side of the High Street, was founded and endowed in 1735 by Mr. John Wilde; the bequests now produce £121 per annum, and the surplus, with other parish property, amounting in the aggregate to £271, is applied to the augmentation of the salary of the master of Arnot's school and other charitable uses. There are also schools supported chiefly by the Vicar, and various charitable bequests and institutions for the poor, among which are a fisherman's hospital, a neat building below the cliff, erected in 1838 for six aged masters of fishing vessels; and a dispensing infirmary, built in 1840. In the centre of the High Street are some vestiges of a religious house, consisting of a curious arch and cellars with groined arches, evidently part of an ancient crypt. The surrounding cliffs abound with organic remains, such as the bones and teeth of the mammoth, the horns and bones of the elk, with *Cornua ammonis* and shells and fossils of various kinds. The celebrated William Whiston, Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge, and Mr. Potter, the learned translator of Æschylus and Euripides, were vicars of the parish; as was also, for the space of fifty-one years, John Tanner, brother of Bishop Tanner, author of the

“Notitia Monastica.” He greatly embellished the church, and purchased the impropriate tithes for the benefit of his successors in the benefice.

Until within twenty years, Lowestoft was a mere fishing village, boasting of little but agreeable situation and singular salubrity, frequented almost wholly by persons whose views were directed rather to piscatorial purchases than to picturesque position, and who were much more learned in the connection between bloaters and Billingsgate than on mural monuments or mediæval memorabilia. In time, however, the great natural advantages of the place attracted public attention, and the harbour was formed under the auspices of Mr. Cubitt. This harbour and navigation afterwards fell into the hands of Government, of whom it was purchased by a private company in 1842; and after effecting some improvements, and retaining possession till October, 1844, they sold the property to Sir S. M. Peto, to whom was reserved the completion of the undertaking. To him, also, is owing the rise of an almost entire new town, with a rapidity and completeness of finish and maturity of aspect perfectly marvellous, its streets being laid out in the most advantageous manner and in strict accordance with the modern provisions for securing the sanitary condition of the residents; provided with baths, and all the minutiae of a watering-place; claiming precedence for its harbour, as being the best on the entire eastern coast; and the whole connected by railway with the metropolis, with which it is brought within the compass of a five hours' journey.

When the evidence of the discernment and liberality of Sir S. M. Peto began to be fully apparent, Lowestoft became annually the rendezvous of the *élite* of the Eastern Counties, and is, moreover, rapidly approximating, in metropolitan estimation, to Brighton, and other fashionable marine resorts in the same latitude; one great point being its freshness and novelty, and the absence of those cockneyisms which have converted its more ancient brethren in the south into mere continuations of suburban London. Here ever-varying scenes pass beneath one's view; for the bustle and business on the beach are incessant, alternating with the quiet and quaintness of the old town, and the elegance and splendour of the new, while the charming walks on the edge of the cliff, and the invigorating runs on the sands, produce—in combination with a genial climate and bracing sea-breeze—that vigorous health and corresponding buoyancy which render existence a pleasure. The harbour is formed by two piers extending for 1300 feet each into the sea, and encloses an area of twenty acres. Its width is 800 feet, and the average depth of water twenty feet, the spacious basin thus formed being sufficiently capacious to accommodate 600 or 700 vessels. The north pier is devoted entirely to business, and has on it a number of sheds principally intended for the reception of cattle; and at the back of these is a tramway connected

with the railway, extending straight into the sea due east for 700 feet, bending to the south-east for 300 feet, and then bending to the south for 300 feet more, making a total length of 1300 feet. The south pier extends from the shore straight out into the sea for 1300 feet, and is used as a grand promenade, than which there is none superior of its kind in England. The head of each of these piers is circular and sixty feet in diameter, and in the centre of each is a lighthouse, the brilliant red lights in which, as well as in the light ship, and the several lighthouses about the harbour and its entrances, being at night a source of constant interest and curiosity to all strangers, and tending greatly to vary and heighten the effect of the scene.

Beyond the south pier there is a sea wall with towers of flint and stone. At the back of this is a broad esplanade a quarter of a mile in length, commanding a beautiful view of the sea.

The entrance to the harbour is between the two piers towards the south-east, and is 160 feet wide, with a depth of twenty-one feet at low water. The piers themselves consist of a stupendous timber framework, creosoted to keep out the worm, and are fourteen feet high above the water and thirty feet in width, and are filled up with immense blocks of stone, so as to present a solid mass of masonry; the top being covered with substantial flooring of four-inch plank. The inner harbour is connected with the outer by a lock fifty feet in width; it consists of a large piece of water two miles in length. Upwards of 3000 feet of wharfage, capable of accommodating vessels of 300 tons, is now completed, and cranes and warehouses for the discharge and storage of goods erected. As a harbour of refuge, Lowestoft stands in a good position.

#### THE TRADE OF THE PORT.

The vessels belonging to the port at the beginning of 1864 were 162 small sailing vessels of aggregately 3784 tons; forty-five large sailing vessels of aggregately 4379 tons; four small steam vessels of aggregately seventy tons, and two large steam vessels of jointly 569 tons. The vessels which entered in 1863 were sixty-seven British sailing vessels of aggregately 7228 tons from foreign countries, ninety-two foreign sailing vessels of aggregately 14,808 tons from foreign countries; seven British steam vessels of aggregately 3117 tons from foreign countries; 706 sailing vessels of aggregately 62,714 tons coastwise, and fifty-two steam vessels of aggregately 13,296 tons coastwise. The vessels which cleared in 1863 were twenty-four British sailing vessels of aggregately 1577 tons to foreign countries; one British steam vessel of 147 tons to foreign countries; thirty-seven foreign sailing vessels of aggregately 8165 tons to foreign countries; 146 sailing vessels of aggregately 8426 tons coastwise; and

eight steam vessels of aggregately 1720 tons coastwise. The amount of customs in 1862 was £3605; in 1867, £3080. There are ship builders, boat builders, house builders, sail makers, rope makers, oil-cake makers, and owners of oil and flour mills. Population in 1861, 10,663; number of houses 2290, and since then the number is much increased.

#### THE FISHERIES.

Of all the seas in the world, the North Sea, which rolls along the eastern coast of England, is the richest in the stores of fish which it contains. Cod, turbot, soles, whiting, mackerel, herring, and many other varieties, abound in it. Some are taken all the year round in great quantities; others, like the mackerel and herring, afford a periodical harvest. And not only is fish so abundant in the North Sea, but the quality is equal to the quantity, the fish being superior in flavour and nutritious qualities to that of any other sea in the world. It seems to be a vast store-house of fish. English, Scotch, Dutch, Danes, and Norwegians, all fish it hard, yet there is no diminution of the supply. Two-thirds of the population of Norway live by catching herrings and cod out of it, and in England the business of fishing in this sea is assuming immense proportions. Thousands of vessels of great size, and with every appliance that ingenuity can suggest, continue to issue forth from all the ports of the eastern coast, and also from the Channel ports; yet there is no falling off in the supply. A Royal Commission investigated the subject for a long time, and the results of its enquiries proved that the North Sea is inexhaustible—that any mile of this sea is more productive than the same extent of land. The fisheries pursued on this eastern coast now constitute the most important branch of local maritime industry. The amount of capital invested in boats, nets, &c., is very large. The mackerel fishery in the summer is extensive, but it is exceeded in importance by the herring fishery, to which there is scarcely any limit. Yarmouth and Lowestoft are the principal stations of this great herring fishery, and during the autumn the local event is the number of lasts landed. A last is 13,200 fish, and sometimes the deliveries at the two ports are at the rate of 200 lasts daily, or 2,500,000 herrings available for food.

The following is a return of the quantities of fish landed at the fish market in Lowestoft in 1869. Herrings in lasts 7226, of 13,200 per last. Mackerel in hundreds 7885, of 120 to the hundred. Cod in scores 241, or 4820 cod. Soles in packages, 36,461. Fish offal in packages, 26,095. In a good season like that of 1869, each boat should realise from £450 to £500.

The wholesale fish market is on the south pier, and is well arranged for the landing and packing of fish in "swills," "peds," and baskets, which are soon put in the railway trucks and sent to all parts of England.

## LOTHINGLAND.

Lowestoft is the chief town in the Hundred of Lothingland, which is an island having Lake Lothing on the south, the river Yare on the north, and the Waveney on the west. Lake Lothing is a fine expanse of water extending from Mutford to Somerleyton, where it receives the waters of the Waveney. Near Mutford the lake is called Oulton Broad, a beautiful piece of water lying between the Mutford and Carlton railway stations. During the summer months numbers of anglers resort to this Broad and find good sport, as it is full of fish. Regattas are held every year on each division of the lake, affording much enjoyment and frolic to visitors and the inhabitants.

The walks and drives in the neighbourhood are diversified and pleasing; and whether the romantic vicinities of the lake or the woodland glades and sylvan scenery found towards Somerleyton be chosen, the Rambler will find his attention equally attracted by the numerous objects for contemplation profusely scattered around. The lover of nature will meet spots where imagination may indulge in her

Airy mood  
To every murmur of the wood;  
The bee in yonder flowery nook,  
The chidings of the headlong brook;  
The green leaf shivering in the gale,  
The warbling hill, the lowing vale.

The extreme beauty and luxuriance of English rural scenery has ever been a favourite theme of our descriptive writers and poets, and has been especially celebrated by the Suffolk poets, Crabbe and Bloomfield. It is, moreover, one of those national features of which an Englishman may well be proud, because of the efforts of his countrymen in aid of the bounty of nature, for much of the beauty of our rural scenery is owing to the high state of cultivation to which the land has been brought and the consequent fertility that is the prominent feature of all English landscapes, although irrespective of that trait, perhaps no other country can present such an extent and diversity of views, undulating plains, swelling heights, grassy nooks, and sparkling rivulets.

And for this rustic order of landscape, presenting "Nature's silent fingering," Suffolk is unsurpassed, more especially in this corner of the county named Lothingland. In a district where the walks or drives are so numerous and all so beautiful, it would be almost capricious to point out any as being entitled to pre-eminence. Nevertheless, we shall endeavour to describe a few spots, with some slight minutiae regarding some objects of interest. A walk of about a mile from the town brings us into a lane leading to Mutford Bridge, where an artificial embankment

divides Lake Lothing into two portions, the inner one being named Oulton Broad, full of fresh water, the flood-gates separating it from the salt on the side next the sea.

Should the pedestrian still wish to continue his walk, a delightful one will take him to Oulton, along a line of peculiar verdure and loveliness. The hedges here exhale delicious fragrance, composed as they are of sweet briar, eglantine, and hawthorn, the wild rose, though scentless, adding much to the beauty of their appearance. Beneath the banks "many a garden flower grows wild," the hyacinth, the violet, and the mignonette, lending their perfumes to regale the senses of the wanderer. Nearly all the lanes of this vicinity abound with beautiful strips of heath, overhung with the yellow-flowered gorse.

Heaths of all hues and every tinge  
Carpet those hidden bowers,  
A thousand times more beautiful  
Than summer's gaudy flowers.

On reaching Oulton, a large structure called the High House at once attracts the rambler's attention, from its pleasant situation and dilapidated condition. It stands at the corner of the road, and has long been a theme of wonder to the lovers of the marvellous, for this is a "haunted house." Many versions of the story are told, but all agree that a murder has to do with it. One is that periodically a figure mounted on a coal-black horse, with fiery eyes and expanded nostrils, followed by a pack of yelping dogs with foaming mouths, dashes through the front door and vanishes into the adjoining room. This is the squire who murdered his wife. Another is that a female figure "walks" every night at twelve, habited in white, carrying a cup in her hand. This is the wife who poisoned the squire, and is condemned to walk and have the instrument of her guilt constantly before her. There are a great many other versions, but the truth seems to be that the property, having been for some time in Chancery, has fallen out of repair and that no tenant will take it in consequence, neither party being willing to risk their money by putting it in habitable condition. In truth, all around is a strange neighbourhood, abounding in quaint story and ancient legend, affording fit themes for a "poetic child." The park-like fields and grassy meres each have their charms. Some of the meres surrounded by gloomy woods are still the reputed haunts of goblins who nightly wander here and hold unhallowed feasts.

#### OULTON,

A parish in the Hundred of Lothingland, three miles (west) from Lowestoft, is bounded on the west by the river Waveney, which receives the surplus water of Lake Lothing. The parish comprises 1900 acres,

including a lake of 100 acres. The living is a rectory ; the tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £450, and the glebe comprises fifty acres, valued at £38 4s. per annum. The Church originally seems to have been built in the form of the Latin cross, but both transepts have been taken down. The steeple stands between the nave and chancel, and the whole building is in the Norman style. There are some curious ancient brasses in the chancel, one of the date of 1479 to John Fastolf and his wife, the male figure clad in armour.

The executors of General Oliver are Lords of the Manor of Oulton, which was successively held by the Bacon, Fastolf, Hobart, Allen, Graves, and Bucknell families ; but the owner of Somerleyton Hall has paramount jurisdiction. A great part of the land belongs to John Penrice, Esq., Mr. R. T. Woods, Rev. R. A. Arnold, Mrs. Reeve, J. Chapman, Esq., W. R. Seago, Esq., and Mr. George Borrow, who lives near the Broad, the well-known author of "The Bible in Spain," "Lavengro," &c. Oulton Hall, now a farm-house, a fine old mansion, is occupied by George Crabbe, Esq., a relative of the Suffolk poet. Normanston Court is the property of E. Leathes, Esq. ; it is beautifully placed, and commands a fine view of the lake and the surrounding country.

#### CARLTON COLVILLE,

A parish in the Hundred of Lothingland, situated near the branch line from Lowestoft to Beccles, two miles from Lowestoft. The station joins the high road, and is about 400 yards from Lake Lothing and Oulton Broad. The parish is extensive, including a straggling village and the hamlet of Mutford Bridge. The village is about a mile and a-half from the railway station. The Church of St. Peter is an old building, with a square embattled tower, containing five bells ; it has a nave and chancel, and a porch on the south side. The living is a rectory, held by the Rev. W. H. Andrews, and in the patronage of the family. The tithes were commuted at £395 yearly, with residence and eighteen acres of glebe land. Here is Colville House, an institution for imbecile children of the upper and middle classes ; it stands in a beautiful park and healthy locality.

#### BLUNDESTON (ST. MARY),

A parish in the Hundred of Lothingland, three and a-half miles (north-west) from Lowestoft, situated near the river Waveney, which forms its boundary on the south-west. The living is a discharged rectory, with that of Flixton united. The tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £610, and there are nearly thirteen acres of glebe, valued at £18 per annum. The Rev. G. Clarke in 1726 gave land for the instruction of poor children ; yearly value, £11. The greater part of the land here belongs

to J. Johnson, Esq., Mr. T. Owles, and Mr. Thomas Wood, who has an ironfoundry in the parish.

SOMERLEYTON (ST. MARY),

A parish in the Hundred of Lothingland, five miles (north-west) from Lowestoft, near the river Waveney. The parish comprises 1410A. 1R. 32P. The living is a rectory, valued in the King's books at £12; the tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £350. There is a glebe house, and the glebe comprises 45 acres, valued at £68 12s. yearly. This parish is one of the most picturesque in the county, and forms part of a great estate extending into adjacent parishes. The records of the Manor of Somerleyton extend back to the time of the Norman Conquest, when it was called Somerledetun. In Domesday Book (1086) the rights, privileges, and indemnities of the lord, freemen, and tenants are particularly described. It was at this period held as a royal manor, under the stewardship of the renowned Roger Bigod. In the reign of Henry II. we find it held by Baron Fitz Osbert as lord thereof, from whom it descended to his sister Isabella, wife of Sir Walter Jernegan, and relict of Sir Henry de Walpole, ancestor to the Earl of Orford. Some generations later the estate was sold to John Wentworth, Esq., father of Sir John Wentworth, who resided here in the time of Cromwell. It then passed into the hands of the Garneys family, one of whom in 1672 conveyed it to Sir Thomas Allin, Bart., and after the death of his descendant, the Rev. G. Anguish, the estate came to his nephew, Lord Sydney Godolphin Osborne. In 1844 the estate was purchased by Sir S. M. Peto, and was afterwards sold by him to the late Sir Francis Crossley, of Halifax.

The old hall is said to have been originally built in the reign of Edward II. by Sir John Jernegan, whose ancestors and descendants were lords of Somerleyton for three centuries. From the Jernegans of Somerleyton are descended the now ennobled family of Jerningham of Cossey, the head of which is the Right Hon. Lord Stafford. The present magnificent mansion was designed and constructed upon the foundations and walls of the old hall; the two towers, conservatory, and the whole of the exterior are new, the walls of red brick, the dressings and finishings being of Caen stone. Mr. John Thomas, of London, was the architect, his design for the edifice being in the Italian style.

FRITTON (ST. EDMUND),

A parish in the Hundred of Lothingland, six miles (south-west by south) from Great Yarmouth. The parish comprises 1478 acres. The living is a discharged rectory; the tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £266, and the glebe comprises fourteen acres, valued at £20 per annum.

The Church is an ancient small structure in the Norman style, with a circular tower; the roof is of stone, neatly groined. Fritton Rectory is almost surrounded by magnificent trees and shrubs, and commands a view of an extensive lake, which is three miles in length, well stocked with fish. Great numbers of wild ducks and widgeons are decoyed here and killed in winter. To the south of the lake there is a large rookery and heronry.

In this neighbourhood are the remains of St. Olave's Priory, whence the name of the suspension bridge over the river; and also of the railway station. About 600 yards to the north-west of the station are the ruins of an old monastery, with farm house and outbuildings, founded by Roger Fitz Herbert in the reign of Henry III. The building was almost entirely removed in 1784, all that is left being a low arched vault.

When yonder broken arch was whole,  
It was there was dealt the weekly dole.  
So fleets the world's uncertain span;  
Nor zeal for God nor love to man  
Gives mortal monuments a date  
Beyond the powers of time or fate.

#### BURGH CASTLE (ST. PETER),

A parish in the Hundred of Lothingland, four miles (west-south-west) from Great Yarmouth. It comprises 1478 acres; the river Waveney flows on the western side, and opposite the village joins the Yare, forming Breydon water, which flows on the northern side. The living is a discharged rectory in the patronage of the Crown; net income, £400. The Church was an ancient structure, but it has been rebuilt in the later English style, with the exception of the tower, which is circular, like many other towers near this part of the eastern coast.

The Roman camp still standing here is one of the finest of the Roman remains in our island, and was in 1846 sold by auction and bought by the late Sir J. Boileau, Bart., of Ketteringham, in order to be preserved. This camp, consisting of three sides of a quadrangle, stands on the edge of a table land overlooking the marshy level through which the river Waveney flows, and which was in the time of the Romans covered with the waters of the Gariensis Ostium; hence the name of Garianonum, which may have been applied to the whole area of Lothingland. The history of this camp is very obscure, there being no mention of it in the ancient Itineraries, but antiquaries seem now to be agreed that it is the station mentioned in the *Notitia Imperii* under the name of Garianonum, as occupied by *prepositors* of the Stablesian horse, under the command of the Count of the Saxon shore. It is probable that this camp was built at an early period of the Roman dominion in this island,

for one of the chief garrisons to secure this part of the coast against the piratical incursions of the Northern tribes. The walls of the camp are more extensive than those of Richborough, though not so lofty. Like that station also, its form is a parallelogram, having walls on three sides, the fourth side lying open to the shore and defended only by a steep cliff. The eastern wall is parallel to the cliff, and in the middle of which is the Decuman gate; it is about 650 feet in length, and the lateral walls are about half that length. They are fourteen feet high and nine feet thick, enclosing an area of four acres and two roods. The walls are faced with cut flints between horizontal layers of bricks of a fine red color. On the east side the wall is supported by four round towers, or rather round masses of masonry, for they are solid excepting a hole in the centre of the upper surface two feet deep and as many wide. There is a similar tower in the middle of the north wall, and there was one to the south wall, but the latter was undermined by the continual floods of rain nearly a century ago. These towers are quite detached from the wall to about one-half of their elevation, but the diameter of the upper part being enlarged, they are made to join the wall of the fortress, which is rounded off at its junction with the corner towers. Therefore, it has been supposed that the towers were subsequent additions to the original structure.

Within the area of the camp, great numbers of Roman coins have been found, chiefly of the Lower Empire, and almost entirely of copper. At the south-west corner of the area near the cliff are the remains of a circular mound of earth, the date and purpose of which appear to be equally doubtful. But when in the last century some labourers were employed in clearing part of it away, they discovered, besides considerable quantities of ashes and broken pottery, a stratum of pure wheat, black, as if it had been burnt. A vast number of urns having been found in the field to the east of the camp, it has been supposed that it was a burial-ground.

When the British Archæological Society visited this camp some years since we were present, and heard the papers read and the discussions respecting it, and we accompanied many of the visitors round the walls. Thrice we walked round their whole extent, surveying the ruins within and without. Then passing through the Prætorian gate, which still exists on the eastern side, we sat for awhile under the shadow of the ivy contemplating the scene. Where could we find a more interesting spectacle than this relic of imperial Rome? Here we sat amid the ruins of a mighty empire, symbolised by Daniel's vision of the terrible beast that desolated the whole earth, and trampled the nations under his feet. What a world of thought rushed on the mind, as we surveyed the mouldering walls, that seemed as if they would stand for centuries to come.

## THE RIVER WAVENEY.

The north side of Lothingland, and indeed of all the county, is watered by the river Waveney, which rises far west at Lopham, and flows eastward, dividing Norfolk from Suffolk. The river derives its name from the Anglo-Saxon *Wa-fiend-ee*, or the waving water, a name that is very descriptive of the stream, for it winds continuously between the two counties, now through broad meadows, where the banks are firm, now passing rushy flats and draining mills, low knolls, slopes, and heath, and patches of fir. The river is a narrow stream for the greater part of its course.

The first town that we find near the banks of this river is that of Diss, which is beautifully situated on rising ground. Scole, lower down the stream, is an ancient village, and for its size having many elegant gardens. At Hoxne, more eastward, the Waveney is joined by the small river Dove which passes the town of Eye, and in its progress to join the Waveney flows with much beauty through Hoxne Park. A few miles below Hoxne the Waveney passes near the town of Harleston and then near Redenhall, remarkable for its fine church tower. Homersfield Church is next passed, being very picturesquely situated on a bold knoll of land, encompassed on the west and north by the meanders of the river. Flixton Hall succeeds, with its deep glades and sportive deer in the park; and the stream flows on to the town of Bungay. At this place it makes a great bend, sweeping northward and returning southward, so as almost to meet the spot from which it diverged on reaching the town. Quitting Bungay the waving river flows past Mettingham, where the Castle is a monument of the families of Norwich and Ufford. Below this place the stream flows by the rustic scenes of Shipmeadow, and then to the parish of Barsham, which is identified with some historical associations. Flowing through a pastoral district, to the north of the ancient house of Roos Hall, the river reaches the town of Beccles.

From the bold promontory on which the town of Beccles stands the spectator beholds the wide and fertile valley of the Waveney, smiling under the industry of man, having churches, villages, and mansions thickly studded along its woody banks. The silvery stream pursues a winding course, and adds a charm to the landscape. In former ages the valley of the Waveney at the north end of the county was covered by a broad arm of the sea, whose tides bore along the hostile barques of the northern pirates intent on plunder. Near the site of Beccles stood a lofty watch tower, which, commanding a seaward view of the estuary, blazed forth the fearful notice of invasion to a beacon placed on the peninsula at Bungay, which soon communicated with a third at Homers-

field, and thus the intelligence was speedily passed along the valley of the Waveney into the heart of East Anglia. Then the whole district was in motion; women, children, and goods were placed in the round towers of churches for safety, while the men collected in arms to repel the invaders.

BECCLES (ST. MICHAEL),

An incorporated market town in the parish and in the Union and Hundred of Wangford, Eastern Division of the County of Suffolk, 109 miles (north-east-by-north) from London. This town, which suffered greatly from fire in 1586, and again in 1662, is pleasantly situated on the river Waveney, by which it is bounded on the north and west. It consists of several spacious streets, diverging from the Market Place, well paved and lighted with gas. The houses in general are handsome and well built, and the inhabitants are amply supplied with water. The environs, which abound with pleasing scenery, afford agreeable walks; and the theatre and assembly-rooms form two handsome ornamental buildings.

The trade is principally in corn, malt, and coals, and is carried on to a considerable extent. The river Waveney is navigable from Yarmouth for wherries and other small craft; and an Act was passed in 1831 "to make the river navigable for ships and other sea-borne vessels from Rosehall Fleet to the mouth of Oulton Dyke, and for making and maintaining a navigable cut from the said river at Carlton Shares Mill into the said dyke leading to Oulton Broad and Lake Lothing to the sea." The market is on Saturday, and fairs are held on Whit-Monday for cattle, and October 2nd for horses and pedlery; there are also statute fairs. Adjoining the town is a tract of fen lands, originally about 1400 acres in extent, which was granted by Henry VIII. in 1540 (after the dissolution of the Abbey of Bury St. Edmund's, to which the manor formerly belonged) to William Rede and his heirs, in trust for the benefit of himself and other inhabitants of the town. There are now remaining about 940 acres. There are also upwards of 200 held for charitable purposes. In 1543, the inhabitants were incorporated by letters patent of Henry VIII.; but in consequence of protracted disputes between them and the family of Rede concerning the grant of the fen lands, the charter was surrendered to Queen Elizabeth, and a new one granted in 1584, which was confirmed in 1588, and by James I. in 1605. The government is now vested in four Aldermen and twelve Councillors, from whom a Mayor is chosen. The borough is co-extensive with the parish, and a court of quarter sessions is held for the county: Petty sessions are held for the district every Saturday, and manor courts occasionally. Beccles is a polling-place for the election of Parliamentary representatives for the eastern division of

the county. There is a new Sessions Hall. The House of Correction has recently been enlarged, and a Station House was built in 1840. The parish contains by measurement 1893A. 2R. 14P., of which 950 acres are common. The soil on the high grounds is wet and clayey, and in the lower parts sandy.

The living is a rectory consolidated with the vicarage of St. Mary Ingate; the rectory is valued in the King's books at £21 12s. 3½, and the vicarage at £7 6s. 8d.; patron, Earl of Gosford. The tithes have been commuted for a rent charge of £350. The Church is a spacious and elegant structure in the later style of English architecture, and consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles; the porch is of beautiful design and elaborate execution, and the interior is appropriately ornamented. The tower, which is detached from the main building, and stands near the east end of the Church, is highly enriched with sculpture; it was built by subscription, and upon it are sculptured the arms of the donors, among which are those of Leman, Garneys, Yallop, and Rede (Thomas Rede having been at that time rector of the parish, and a principal contributor towards its erection). The churchyard commands an interesting and extensive view. A collection of books, formerly kept in a room over the porch, has been removed to the subscription library established in 1836. A chapel for reading the burial service, and a burial ground, were consecrated in 1823, and a new cemetery with a chapel for all denominations was established in 1840. There are places of worship for Baptists, Independents, and Methodists.

A Grammar School was founded and endowed under the will, dated in 1714, of the Rev. Dr. Fauconberge, a native of the town, with an estate of 132 acres in the parish of Corton, producing about £183 per annum; it is under the control of the Bishop of Norwich, the Archdeacon of Suffolk, and the Rector of Beccles, who appoint the master. Dr. Routh, the learned President of Magdalene College, Oxford, received the rudiments of his education at this place. The Free School, in Ballygate Street, which is under the management of thirteen governors (of whom the Rector of the parish for the time being must always be one), was founded and endowed in 1631 by Sir John Leman, Knt., alderman of London, who devised several parcels of land and messuages, in the parishes of Gillingham St. Andrew, Ilketshall, and Barsham, for its support, containing altogether 112 acres, and yielding a rent of £196. Here are also a National, a British and Foreign, and an Infants' School, supported by subscription. Eight almshouses are occupied by poor widows; and there is a fund for apprenticing a poor boy every year. An ancient Hospital for Lepers, of uncertain foundation, with a chapel dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, was granted in 1676 to the Corporation

of Beccles for the benefit of the poor. Here were also several guilds ; and an ancient church, dedicated to St. Peter, distinct from the present church.

At the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, in the middle of the sixteenth century, 939 acres of marsh land which belonged to the Abbey were granted to the town. This has been the chief cause of its prosperity. The income derived from this source, nearly £2000 yearly, is applied to the maintenance of a police force, the cost of paving, lighting, sewerage, &c., so that no borough rate is required, and a surplus is generally left for the charities.

Beccles is renowned for its grand old Church, with its massive tower. We went up the tower, and from the top we had a pleasing view. The town, interspersed with many pretty gardens, presents a bowery slope to the river Waveney, and all around spreads a level green landscape, chequered in places with light brown and yellow, striped with long rows of poplars, and the river curving hither and thither until its bright gleam disappears under a distant range of low hills. Nowhere in the county do the hills rise above 300 feet in height.

#### BUNGAY,

A market town in the Union and Hundred of Wangford, Eastern Division of the County of Suffolk, forty miles (north north-east) from Ipswich, 109 (north-east by north) from London, on the road to Yarmouth, and near the Waveney Valley line of railway. This place is said to have derived its name from the term *Le bon eye*, signifying the "good island," in consequence of its being nearly surrounded by the river Waveney, which was then a broad stream. Soon after the Norman conquest a Castle was built, which from its situation and the strength of its fortifications was deemed impregnable by its possessor, Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk in the reign of Stephen ; but that monarch in the sixth year of his reign, in the year 1140, came with his army and took it. In 1154 also, the first year of Henry II., it was yielded by the same earl, but restored in 1163 ; and in the following year he again took up arms against the king, and fortified himself in the Castle, which he was compelled to yield up and permit to be demolished. On its site a mansion was erected, which in the twenty-second year of Edward I., 1293, Roger Bigod embattled by royal permission. The form of the Castle, of which the remains belong to the Duke of Norfolk, appears to have been octangular ; portions of the west and south-west angles are still standing, as are also three sides of the main keep, situated nearly at the back of these towers ; their walls are from seven to eleven feet thick, and from fifteen to seventeen feet high, in the midst of which is a well of strongly-impregnated mineral water, long since disused. The mounds of earth raised for its defence

retain their original form, though much reduced in height. Near St. Mary's Church are the ruins of a Benedictine nunnery, founded about the year 1160, in the reign of Henry II., by Roger de Glanville and the Countess de Gundreda, his lady, the revenue of which at the dissolution was estimated at £62 2s. 1½d., at which time there were a prioress and eleven nuns. In March, 1688, a fire broke out, and the flames spread with such rapidity that the whole town, with the exception of one small street, was reduced to ashes, and property to the amount of nearly £30,000, together with most of the ancient records of the Castle, were destroyed; one house, with curiously-carved window, is still standing which escaped the conflagration, situated near the nunnery, to which it is supposed to have been attached as the hospital for travellers and strangers. The town is pleasantly situated on the river Waveney, over which are two neat bridges; the streets, diverging from the Market-place in the centre of the town, towards the principal roads, are spacious, well paved, and lighted with gas; the houses are in general modern, having been rebuilt since the fire; and the town is amply supplied with water from springs. On the northern side of the town is an extensive common, nearly surrounded by the Waveney, along the edge of which, on the Norfolk side, is a pleasant promenade, one mile and a-half in length, leading to a cold bath, where a bath-house has been built and requisite accommodation provided. The trade is principally in corn, malt, flour, and coal; there are several flour mills and malting houses on a large scale; also a paper mill, and a large silk manufactory, and an extensive printing office. The manufacture of hempen cloth for the Norwich and London markets has been wholly discontinued. The Waveney is navigable from Yarmouth, whence the town is supplied with coal, timber, and other articles of consumption. The market is on Thursday; fairs are held on May 14th and September 25th. The town is within the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, who hold petty sessions every Thursday; a Town Reeve is appointed annually, who with the feoffees is trustee of the estates and rent charges devised for the benefit of the town. Courts leet and baron for the three manors of Bungay Loke, Priory, and Burgh are usually held twice a year. Bungay comprises the parish of St. Mary and the Holy Trinity. The living of St. Mary's is a perpetual curacy, net income, £115; patron, Duke of Norfolk. The Church is a handsome and spacious structure, with a fine tower; and was chiefly rebuilt between 1689 and 1701, with flint and freestone; the original steeple was struck by lightning on the 4th of August, 1577, and much injured, at which time two men were killed in the belfry. The interior contains some interesting monuments, and is remarkable for the elegance and lightness of the pillars supporting the roof; it was re-pewed a few

years since, when 245 additional sittings were provided. A commodious parsonage house was erected in the precincts of the nunnery about eight years since. The living of the parish of the Holy Trinity is a vicarage, valued in the King's books at £8 0s. 5d., and endowed with the rectorial tithes; present net income, £256; patron, Bishop of Ely; there is a good glebe house, with ten acres of land. The Church is a small ancient edifice, with a fine round tower. There was formerly a church dedicated to St. Thomas, which was used since 1500, but it has been destroyed. There are places of worship for Wesleyans, Independents, and Roman Catholics. The Free Grammar School was founded by the Rev. Thomas Popison in 1592, who also founded ten scholarships in Emmanuel College, Cambridge, but they have been reduced to four; and in 1728 it was endowed by Henry Williams with the vicarage of St. Andrew Ilketshall; also with thirty-three acres of land by Mr. Scales, of Earsham. The income of the master, who is appointed by Emmanuel College, is from £180 to £200 per annum. There are ten boys upon the foundation by Mr. Scales. Henry Webster in 1712 bequeathed land for the instruction of poor children of the parish of St. Mary. A National School, with an infant school for 300 children, has been erected, at an estimated expense of £367.

The churchwardens of St. Mary and Holy Trinity have incomes derived from property left in trust for the maintenance of the fabric of the Church. In the parish of Holy Trinity there has not been a Church-rate for several years.

There is also a British and Foreign School for about 200 children, supported chiefly by subscriptions. Thomas Wingfield, in 1593, bequeathed property, since vested in land, producing about £25 per annum, for the relief of indigent persons and for the apprenticing of poor children. The town lands comprise 155 acres, and produce an income of from £300 to £400 per annum. A dispensary was established in 1828, which is liberally supported. There are also a lying-in institution and two clothing societies, and almshouses in each parish for the residence of aged persons. The remains of a Roman encampment are still to be seen upon the Common. Numerous antiquities have been found on its eastern side, among which are several hundreds of very small brass Roman coins called *minimi*; a tournament spur, a leaden bulla of Celestine III., and a fine silver Saxon penny of Offa, King of Mercia, have been found during the present century near the Castle.

There is only a fragment left of the once famous Castle, and it may be seen in the garden behind the King's Head, where we go up a few steps, and find remains of the keep, with a part of the old flint walls. Seven hundred years ago it had a proud owner, when Hugh Bigod, by taking

part with the rebels against Henry II., incurred the royal displeasure. According to the old ballad :—

The King has sent for Bigod bold,  
 In Essex whereat he lay,  
 But Lord Bigod laughed at his poursuivant,  
 And stoutly thus did say :  
 “ Were I in my Castle of Bungay,  
 “ Upon the river of Waveney,  
 “ I would ne care for the King of Cokenay.”

The town property, which consists of houses and lands, and yields an annual revenue of £500, is invested in trustees, who elect the Town Reeve annually. The greater portion of the annual income is expended in defraying the charges of the public lamps and the foot pavements. The town is well paved and lighted, and has a considerable trade in corn, malt, &c. Mr. Childs has a large printing establishment here, and he employs several hundred hands.

A station on the Waveney Valley line of railway connects the place with the Great Eastern railway system.

#### HALESWORTH (ST. MARY),

A market town and parish in the Union and Hundred of Blything, Eastern Division of the County of Suffolk, thirty and a-half miles (north-east by north) from Ipswich, and 101 (north-east) from London. The town, which is situated in a valley on the banks of the river Blyth, is ancient and indifferently built, nearly in the form of the letter S, but contains a few good houses; the streets are spacious and well-lighted with gas; and the inhabitants plentifully supplied with water. The river is navigable hence to Southwold for small craft of about twenty-five tons, which are usually laden with malt, grain, timber, and general merchandise. There are some very large malt-houses, the trade in malting being extensive. The market is held on Tuesday, for corn and provisions; a fair is held on October 29th, chiefly for cattle; and pleasure fairs take place on Easter Tuesday and Whit Tuesday. The magistrates of the Hundred hold petty sessions monthly, and courts leet and baron for the manor are held occasionally. The town is a polling-place for the Eastern Division of the county. The parish comprises 1445A. 3R. 25P. The living is a discharged rectory, with the vicarage of Chediston united, valued in the King's books at £20; the tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £387 3s.; a rent-charge of £10 is also paid to the Dean and Chapter of Norwich, and another of £2 to the Vicar of Westhill; the glebe contains twenty acres, valued at £40 per annum. The Church is a fine edifice of flint, chiefly in the later English style, with a low but handsome tower, ornamented with a splendid clock; it was enlarged in 1823, and more

recently a gallery was erected. There are places of worship for Independents, Baptists, and Wesleyans. Richard Porter, in 1701, bequeathed £17 6s. 8d. for teaching children, now paid towards the support of a National School. There are eight almshouses, in which are fourteen widows; and other benefactions have been made for different purposes. John Keable, by will, in 1652, bequeathed lands worth about £98 per annum, half of which is appropriated to poor widows, and the other half to the apprenticing of boys.

The Rifle Hall, a building now used by the 7th Suffolk Volunteers, was formerly a theatre, and was presented by the family of the late Mr. A. Johnston, of Holton Hall. This place is under the management of five trustees, and is used for lectures and concerts.

SAXMUNDHAM (ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST),

A market town and parish in the Union and Hundred of Plomesgate, Eastern Division of the County of Suffolk, twenty miles (north-east by north) from Ipswich, and eighty-nine (north-east) from London. This town, supposed to be of Saxon origin, is situated in a valley on the road to London, and near a small stream which runs on the eastern side into the Ore; it consists chiefly of one street, running north and south, comprising modern and newly-fronted houses, of neat and respectable appearance. The inhabitants are well supplied with water from springs. There is an Assembly Room, in which balls and concerts are occasionally held. The living is a discharged rectory, valued in the King's books at £8 15s. 10d.; patron, W. Long, Esq. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £275, and the glebe comprises twenty-nine acres. The Church is a neat edifice, embosomed in trees, standing a little southward of the town; a gallery has been erected, and the building contains several monuments to the family of Long, who have their seat at Hurt's Hall, in the parish. There is a place of worship for Independents; also a National School. A charity was founded here by Robert Swan, about 1308.

The market is held on Wednesdays, and as Saxmundham is the centre of an extensive agricultural district, there is a good trade in corn. The market is held in a handsome building, which was built by Mr. William Long, of Hurt's Hall, who is Lord of the Manor and owner of most of the land. There is a branch line from this town to Leiston and Aldborough.

LEISTON (ST. MARGARET),

A parish four miles (east by south) from Saxmundham. The parish is bounded on the east by the North Sea, and comprises 4893 acres; the surface is varied, and the scenery of pleasing character.

Leiston is a place of antiquity. Bishop Tanner, in speaking of it, says: "Here was an Abbey of Premonstratensian Canons, built and endowed by the founder of Butter Priory, Ranulph de Glanville, 1182, to the honour of the Virgin Mary." This abbey being inconveniently placed, Robert de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, about 1363, built a new one upon a better situation, and about a mile further inland. This was burnt down in 1389, but was at once rebuilt, and was, with the old Abbey, in a flourishing condition at the time of the Dissolution. The Gothic windows, a few walls, and some subterranean passages, are all that remain. The Church is of flint, in the early Norman style. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the alternate patronage of Christ Hospital and the Haberdashers' Company, London; net income, £376. The appropriate tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £435; and the glebe comprises thirty acres, valued at £27 per annum. Two schools are supported by private charity.

Leiston is now noted for the extensive works of Messrs. R. Garrett and Sons, the well-known manufacturers of all kinds of steam engines, agricultural machines and implements. The works were established in 1778 on a small scale, but now cover ten acres of ground. About 800 men are employed here, and steam-power equal to 130 horses. Here engines may be seen in all the stages of manufacture, and implements of every sort. The boiler house is a wonderful compartment, there being generally 100 boilers in stock. The manufacture of road locomotive engines has become an important branch of the business carried on by this firm. Improvements recently introduced have rendered these engines most valuable in drawing heavy loads on common roads. Messrs. Garrett and Sons are also makers of steam ploughing and cultivating apparatus, adapted for hilly as well as flat land. They have for many years directed their attention to the improvement of the thrashing machine in its various forms. They have obtained many prizes, amounting to £1200 in cash; besides twenty gold and sixty-eight silver medals at various exhibitions. In addition to these prizes, they have received the highest awards at each of the great International Exhibitions; but of late years they have not competed for any prizes. They have depôts for their machinery all over the civilised world, and agents in all our principal towns.

#### WICKHAM MARKET (ALL SAINTS),

A parish in the Union of Plomesgate, Hundred of Wilford, Eastern Division of the County of Suffolk, twelve and a-half miles (north-east) from Ipswich. The village occupies an elevated site, rising from the river Deben, and, as its name implies, was formerly a market town; it has also a Shirehall, where sessions were usually held, but the building has

been taken down by the Lord of the Manor. The road from London to Yarmouth passes through the town. The living is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at £6 16s. 8d.; net income, £208; it is in the patronage of the Crown, and the impropriation belongs to Pember-ton's Charity at Ipswich; there is a glebe of thirty-two acres. The Church, situated on an eminence commanding a most extensive prospect, is partly in the decorated, and partly in the later English style, with an octagonal tower surmounted by a lofty spire, which forms a conspicuous landmark. There is a place of worship for Independents; also a National School. The old town lands consist of seventeen acres, the bequests of several individuals, and the new lands of twenty-three acres, purchased with a bequest of £300 by Ann Roberts, in 1720, for teaching children; these lands produce £107 per annum; of which two-tenths are appropriated to the school, one-tenth to the apprenticing of children, two-tenths to the repairs of the Church, and the residue to the poor. A Union Workhouse for Plomesgate Hundred has lately been erected here; the Union comprises forty parishes or places. The extensive engineering and iron works of Messrs. Whitmore and Binyon give employment to a considerable number of the inhabitants.

## FRAMLINGHAM (ST. MICHAEL).

This is an ancient market-town in the Hundred of Loes, Eastern Division of Suffolk, eighty-seven miles (north-east) from London. The town may have taken its name from the river Fromus, now called the Ore, which had its rise at Tannington, and flowed through Saxted to this place. It is pleasantly situated on a gentle eminence in the very centre of the parish, the soil of which is of first-rate quality. Within the limits of the parish there are forty-three titheable farms, exclusive of minor occupations, where the occupiers as tenants do not acquire a qualification to serve on juries by assessment of a certain amount to the poor-rate.

The town rose round an ancient fortress in the Anglo-Saxon period, for it is recorded that Redwald, the third King of the East Angles, resided in a Castle here; but that structure was long since demolished. At what time the present Castle was built is uncertain, but it was probably rebuilt in the Norman period; and the Norman Kings kept sole possession of it. Henry I. having usurped the throne in 1100, found that Roger Bigod, who had survived the two former monarchs, was devoted to his cause, and rewarded him with the Castle and lordship of Framlingham. He died in 1107, and was buried in the Priory of Black Canons at Thetford.

In 1248, Henry III. made this place his residence for some time; and Henry, Prince of Wales, son of Henry IV., to whom the Castle was granted by his father, held his court in 1404 and 1405. Edward VI. held

his first Court in this Castle ; and after his decease, Mary retired to it in 1553, where she was joined by the inhabitants of Suffolk and the adjacent counties, who, to the number of 13,000, accompanied her to London to take possession of the Crown. The Castle was a spacious and noble structure, the surrounding walls including an irregular quadrilateral area of nearly an acre and a-half ; they were forty-four feet in height, and eight feet in thickness, defended by thirteen square towers of considerably greater elevation, of which one eastward and another westward were watch towers. The whole was surrounded by a double moat, the inner moat being crossed by a drawbridge. The outer walls are in a tolerably perfect state, and in front of the gateway-tower are the arms of Howard Moubray Brotherton, etc., quartered in one shield. The site was purchased from the Howard family by Sir Robert Hitcham, who gave it to Pembroke College, Cambridge, with the advowson of the Church. The building has been fitted up for public meetings, assemblies, and other uses ; it contains a spacious room seventy-two feet in length. The town is pleasantly situated on a hill, near the source of the river Ore, which rises to the north of the Castle, and falls into the sea at Orford. It contains many well-built houses, and is amply supplied with water. The parish comprises 4657 acres ; the soil is generally fertile, producing good crops of corn ; and the inhabitants are mostly engaged in farming pursuits. The living is a rectory, with that of Saxted annexed ; patrons, Master and Fellows of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge. The Church is a stately structure, partly in the decorated and partly in the later English style, with a lofty, square embattled tower strengthened with buttresses ; the chancel is superior in style to the rest of the edifice. The nave is lighted by a range of clerestory windows, and the roof is supported by octangular pillars ; that of the chancel by clustered columns of graceful proportions.

## FRAMLINGHAM CASTLE.

*(By Bernard Barton.)*

Fallen as thou art, dismantled pile !  
 From thy once palmy state,  
 Thy ruins may outlast a while  
 Splendours of later date.  
 Still stand thy battlemented towers,  
 Firm as in bygone years ;  
 As if, within, yet ruled the powers  
 Of England's haughtiest peers.

Since thou by kings and nobles proud  
 Wert first upreared and swayed,  
 Piles grand as thou their heads have bowed  
 In dark oblivion's shade ;

And glittering structures richly dight  
 Have long since thy decline  
 Crumbled away and left no site  
 Their memory to enshrine.

But thou, at least to distant view,  
 Still bear'st a gallant form,  
 Thy canopy—heavens vault of blue ;  
 Or crest—the lowering storm.  
 Still upon moat and mere below  
 Thine ivied towers look down,  
 And far their giant shadows throw  
 With feudal grandeur's frown."

And though thy star for aye be set,  
 Thy glory past and gone ;  
 Fancy might deem thine inmate yet  
 BIGOD—OR BROTHERTON !  
 Or HOWARD brave, who fought and died  
 On Bosworth's bloody field ;  
 Or Bigot MARY—who the tide  
 Of martyr blood unseal'd !

Such were thy inmates !—Who are left,  
 As dwellers in thy hold ?  
 The abject, and the hope-bereft,  
 The helpless, poor, and old !  
 Yet, haply, amongst these may be  
 Some of the world unknown,  
 Who hold a higher hope in fear,  
 Than Mary on her throne !

## ALBERT MEMORIAL SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

In 1862, the country was full of the idea of memorials of the late Prince Albert, and the people of every county were eager to perpetuate the memory of so great and good a man. In Suffolk a county meeting was called, and £6000 subscribed on the spot. Soon after, the subscriptions amounted to more than £13,000, for the erection of a Middle-class School and College. The Lord Lieutenant, who was identified with every movement for the good of the county, lent the weight of his influence, and the nobility and gentry rallied round him, and the list of contributions soon swelled to large proportions. An Act of Parliament was obtained for a grant of land near Framlingham as a site for the Middle-class School. The building was erected and opened in 1865. It is a red-brick structure in the Gothic style, of a collegiate character, and is of considerable extent, covering an area of 240 feet by 230 feet, containing accommodation for head master, four under masters, and three hundred boys. The general elevation presents a central block of buildings,

with a clock tower; and there is a statue of Prince Albert in a canopied niche over the entrance. The statue is by Durham, presented by Mr. Thomas Lucas, at a cost of £1000. On each side of the central building the college extends 120 feet, being three stories in height, containing the apartments of the undergraduates and the boys.

Helmingham Hall is but a short distance from Framlingham, and may be classed among the most interesting in the county. The park contains about 500 acres, and is largely stocked with deer. An avenue arched by magnificent trees conducts to the house, approached by a bridge thrown across a moat which surrounds the building. The hall and several of the apartments are adorned with portraits of the ancient family of the Tollemaches. Among them are some fine paintings by Lily, Kneller, and Reynolds. Helmingham Church stands on the south side of the park. The tower was built in 1487, as appears by the copy of an agreement now in the Church chest.

Easton Park, not far distant, is the residence of the Duke of Hamilton.

Earl Soham Lodge, four miles west of the town, belongs to Mrs. Trevanion.

Parham New Hall, within two miles of the town, belongs to F. Corrance, Esq., the Old Hall to Mr. Gray.

#### WOODBIDGE (ST. MARY),

A market town and parish, and the head of a Union in the Hundred of Loes, Eastern Division of the County of Suffolk, seven and a-half miles (east-north-east) from Ipswich, and seventy-six and a-half' (north-east by east) from London.

This town is of considerable antiquity, for in the time of Edward the Confessor the Prior and Convent of Ely had possessions here, and their successors still hold the Manor of Kingston. The name is thought to be a corruption of Wodenbrigge, from the Saxon god Woden. Towards the close of the twelfth century, a Priory of Augustine Canons was founded here by Emaldus Rufus and others, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, the revenue of which at the dissolution was valued at £50 3s. 5d.; a house built on the site by one of the Seckfords, now in the possession of the Carthew family, still retains the name of the Abbey. Upwards of 327 persons died of the plague here in 1666, and were buried, according to tradition, at Bearman's Hill, in the vicinity. The town is pleasantly situated on the north side of the river Deben, on the direct road from London to Yarmouth, and occupies the slope of a hill, surrounded by beautiful walks. It consists of two principal streets, a spacious square called Market Hill, and several narrow streets and lanes; and is paved, lighted, and amply supplied with water. The atmosphere is highly salu-

brious, and the general appearance of the place neat and respectable. From the summit of the hill is a commanding view of the river to its influx into the sea. In 1813, a small theatre was built, and concerts are held occasionally. There were formerly barracks to the north-west of the town, with accommodation for 750 cavalry and 4,165 infantry, but they have been pulled down. The trade principally consists in the exportation of corn, flour, and malt; and in the importation of coal, timber, foreign wine, spirits, porter, grocery, drapery, and ironmongery. The shipping of late years has greatly increased; the number of vessels of above fifty tons registered at the port is twenty-seven, and their aggregate burden 4,030 tons. Vessels sail weekly to London, and many others are employed in trading with Newcastle, Hull, and the Continent; one or two sail direct to Liverpool, from which place they bring back salt; and there is a small trade to the Baltic for timber. A manufactory of salt, of peculiarly fine quality, was formerly carried on; and there was a brisk business in ship-building; but both have declined. The Deben, near its mouth, forms the haven of Woodbridge, from which it is navigable for vessels of 120 tons burden to the town; and on its banks are two excellent quays. The market is on Wednesday, for corn, cattle, and provisions; and fairs occur on April 5th and October 23rd. The Sessions Hall, under which is the corn market, in the centre of the Market Hill, erected in 1587 by Thomas Seckford, Esq., has recently undergone some extensive repairs, and is a handsome and lofty edifice of brick. On an adjacent eminence is the Bridewell, re-built in 1804.

The parish comprises upwards of 1,200 acres. The living is a perpetual curacy, to which the impropriate rectory was annexed in 1667 by Mrs. Dorothy Seckford; patron and incumbent, Rev. T. W. Salmon, whose tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £329. The Church was built by John Lord Seagrave, in the reign of Edward III., and the tower and north portico in that of Henry VI.; on the north side of the chancel is an elegant private chapel, erected in the time of Elizabeth by Thomas Seckford, Esq., in which, over the family vault, is a tomb, probably to his memory; the north portico is adorned with sculpture in relief, representing the conflict of St. Michael and the Dragon. The tower is stately and magnificent, and, like the Church, is constructed of dark flint intermixed with freestone, and towards the upper part formed into elegant devices; the summit is crowned with battlements, having finials at the angles, which are surmounted by vanes, and decorated in the intervals with badges of the four Evangelists. There are places of worship for Baptists, the Society of Friends, Independents, and Wesleyans. The Free Grammar School in Webb-street was founded in 1662 by Mrs. Dorothy Seckford, and was incorporated in 1861 with a new Grammar

School, called the Seckford Grammar School, and is endowed with property producing about £37 per annum; and a National and Lancasterian School are partly supported by subscription. Almshouses were erected in 1587, by Thomas Seckford, Esq., Master of the Court of Requests, for the residence of thirteen unmarried men, with another house for three women to attend them as nurses, and endowed with an estate in the parish of Clerkenwell, London, which in 1767 produced an income of £568 per annum; but more than £20,000 having been expended on it, such is the improving state of the property, that the rental is expected eventually to yield between £5000 and £6000; new and handsome houses have been erected. There are besides, different benefactions, amounting to about £150 a year, for the benefit of the poor. The Poor Law Union of Woodbridge comprises forty-six parishes or places.

Various relics of antiquity, especially fragments of warlike instruments, have been occasionally found in the vicinity. Christopher Saxton, the publisher of the first county maps, was a native of this place, and servant to Thomas Seckford, Esq., mentioned above, who resided in a mansion at Great Bealings, about a mile and a-half distant, and under whose patronage the plans were published in 1779, and dedicated to Queen Elizabeth.

From the Church tower at Woodbridge we can see a landscape in which grain and greenwood abound; and the Deben flowing, like all the streams of this eastern coast, between flat marshy banks to the sea, which rounds off the horizon with a stripe of blue. And immediately below lies the small quiet town, which has that pleasing rural look imparted by numerous trees and gardens among the houses. Hereabouts was the country of the Quaker poet Bernard Barton, who often expressed good thoughts in pleasing rhymes. He described many scenes in Suffolk in his various poems. He never wrote a line "which dying, he could wish to blot." On the adjacent heaths of Foxhall and Martlesham, said to be the scenes of battles between the Danes and East Anglians, there are immense mounds of earth, marking the burial grounds of the slain.

Even as they fell in files they lay,  
Like the mower's grass at the close of the day,  
When his work is done on the levelled plain,  
Such was the fall of the foremost slain.

Seckford Hall is about midway between Bealings and Woodbridge; it is an ancient Elizabethan structure and the residence of the Seckford family, who so largely endowed the town of Woodbridge. Orwell Park is the property of George Tomlin, Esq., M.P.

Having described the towns on the coast and along the railway near the

coast, we shall return to Ipswich, and thence proceed along the Midland line, with stations at Bramford, Claydon, Needham Market, Stowmarket, Haughley Junction, Finningham, Mellis for Eye, and Diss.

#### BRAMFORD (ST. MARY),

A parish in the Eastern Division of Suffolk, three and a-quarter miles from Ipswich. The canal from Ipswich to Stowmarket crosses this parish. The living is a vicarage with Burstall united, net income £79; patron and appropriators, Dean and Chapter of Canterbury. The Church is dedicated to St. Mary. Proceeding along the Eastern Union line, the first object of interest on the left is the Chantry, the seat of Sir Fitzroy Kelly; and on the right, Boss Hall, the residence of Colonel Capel; further on to the left is Manor House, the seat of Colonel Phillips, all the above in the parish of Sproughton. Again on the right is Hill House, the residence of W. H. Mills, Esq.; and Bramford Lodge, in the occupation of J. Wainwright, Esq.

Near to these are the Red House, the residence of J. Leggatt, Esq., and Mill Bank Cottage, that of E. Hitchcock, Esq. Further on, White House is the residence of Mr. Leveritt, Lovetoft's Hall, that of R. R. Wood, Esq.; Bramford Hall, lately unoccupied; the Grove, the residence of R. W. Mumford, Esq.

#### NEEDHAM MARKET,

A chapelry (formerly a market town) in the parish of Barking Union and Hundred of Basmere and Claydon, Eastern Division of the County of Suffolk, eight and a-half miles (north-west by north) from Ipswich, and seventy-four (north-east) from London. The town is situated on low ground near the navigable river Gipping and on the road to Ipswich and Bury St. Edmund's; it is tolerably well built, and the inhabitants are supplied with water from springs; the surrounding country is pleasant and abounds with agreeable walks; and near the town is a lake, about nine acres in extent, called Bosmere, which gives name to the Hundred. The manufacture of glue is carried on, and there are several flock mills. The Stowmarket and Ipswich navigation passes along the north-east boundary of the chapelry, and is crossed by a bridge leading from the town to Stonham, and the Stour is navigable to Ipswich. The market formerly held here was removed to Stowmarket, in consequence of the plague having raged here for three years. The living is a perpetual curacy, in the Archdeaconry of Suffolk and Diocese of Norwich; endowed with £600 royal bounty and £800 Parliamentary grant, and in the patronage of the rector of Barking. The inhabitants from time immemorial have had the right of electing a lecturer. The Church, dedicated to St.

John the Baptist, is an ancient edifice, built about 1450, in the later English style, with a belfry of wood. There are places of worship for the Society of Friends and Independents. The Free Grammar School was founded pursuant to the will of Francis Theobald, Esq., dated January 10th, 1632, who endowed it with property now producing £65 per annum. Poor children from Needham Market, Barking, and Damsden are instructed. An almshouse, comprising two tenements, was founded by some person unknown, for the benefit of poor widows and widowers, and endowed with land; eight poor women reside in it. A house of recovery was erected in 1744, by Ambrose Crowley, Esq., for persons attacked with small-pox; and there is land producing about £50 per annum for distribution among the poor.

Malting is carried on here to a large extent, and there is a manufactory of crown glue, which is sent to all parts of the world.

Needham Market is on the Eastern Union section of the Great Eastern Railway Company's lines, and a handsome and convenient station in the Elizabethan style of architecture stands at a short distance from the principal street. A handsome Town Hall and Police Station were built here in 1865, and a Public Library and Reading-room, which was established in 1850, has its room in this building.

From the railway may be seen Shrubland Park, the seat of Sir G. N. Brooke Middleton, Bart. The mansion is a prominent object to travellers.

Bosmere Hall is in the occupation of the Rev. H. D. Curry; near it is a large mere stocked with fish.

Barking Hall, near the station, is in the occupation of the Right Hon. the Earl of Ashburnham.

#### STOWMARKET (ST. PETER AND ST. MARY),

A market town and parish in the Hundred of Stow, twelve miles (north-north-west) from Ipswich, and, by way of that town, eighty-one (north-east) from London, but only seventy-five through Sudbury.

This town is very ancient, and at the time of the Norman survey was called Thorna, or Thorne-market, the former term being derived from the Saxon divinity Thor, and ea, water, alluding to the adjoining river. It was afterwards called Stowmarket, from its being the market for the Hundred of Stow. Two churches are mentioned in Domesday book as existing here. The place, which is the most central in the county, is situated at the confluence of three rivulets, which form the river Gipping, on the road from Ipswich to Bury and Cambridge, and consists of several streets, which are for the most part regularly built, and lighted with gas. Many of the houses are handsome, and the inhabitants are well supplied with water.

The commercial interests of the town are essentially promoted by its locality, and have been much improved by making the Gipping navigable to Ipswich, which was effected under an Act obtained in 1790. The railway, too, has also been a great benefit to the town. From the basin extends a pleasant walk, about a mile in length, passing through the extensive hop plantations in the neighbourhood. The trade consists chiefly in the making of malt, for which there are more than twenty houses, and which is rapidly increasing; and corn, malt, and flour to a great extent are exported to Hull, London, Liverpool, and other places. A brewery is established, and there are small manufactories for rope, twine, and sacking; a patent saw mill, and three ironfoundries, one of which is also used for making agricultural implements. By means of the navigation to Ipswich, grain and malt are conveyed thither, and the returns consist of timber, deals, coal, iron, salt, oil-cake, and slate, for the supply of the central parts of the county.

The market is on Thursday, for corn, cattle, and provisions. A building for a Corn Exchange and Reading-room, which is also used on public occasions, has of late years been erected at an expense of £3000, raised by shares of £25 each. A fair is held on August 12th, chiefly for lambs, and on July 10th is a pleasure fair. The county meetings are held in the town; and the magistrates hold a Petty Session every alternate Monday. The living is a discharged vicarage, with that of Stow-Upland annexed, valued in the King's books at £16 15s.; patron, incumbent, and improPRIATOR, the Rev. A. G. Harper, Hollingsworth. The great tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £89, and the vicarial for one of £185. There is a glebe-horse, and the glebe contains six acres, valued at £20 per annum. In the grounds is a fine mulberry tree, planted by the poet Milton while on a visit to Dr. Young, the vicar. The Church was rebuilt about the year 1300 by the Abbey of St. Osyth, Essex, which then held the advowson. It is a spacious and handsome structure in the centre of the town, partly in the decorated and partly in the later English style, and consists of a nave, chancel, and side aisles, with a square embattled tower, surmounted by a slender wooden spire of tasteful appearance, 120 feet in height, which was erected from the proceeds of a legacy left in the reign of Anne. At the east end of the south aisle is the Tyrell Chapel, separated by a handsome screen, and containing several interesting monuments to that family. The edifice was enlarged and repaired in 1838, and contains 1400 sittings, of which 800 are free. There are places of worship for Baptists and Independents; and a National School is supported by subscription. There are several benevolent institutions for the relief of the poor, who also receive about £260 per annum from bequests made at different periods. The Poor Law Union of Stow com-

prises thirty-four parishes or places. Abbot's Hall, the seat of J. Rust, Esq., was so called from having formerly belonged to the Abbey of St. Osyth, in the County of Essex.

Stowmarket is a thriving busy town, and the amount of business transacted here is very considerable, far beyond what any visitor passing through the place might expect. The railway, by facilitating the transit of goods, has rendered great service to the town. There are maltstries so extensive, that the quantity of malt made in the town is third on the list of malting places in England. Messrs. Prentice have established artificial manure works of great extent. There are several large steam flour mills, also paper mills for producing paper from straw. Messrs. Woods, Cocksedge, and Warner carry on extensive works for the manufacture of agricultural implements, which are sent to all parts of the world.

#### GIPPING,

A chapelry in the parish of Stowmarket, four miles (north-north-east) from the town, takes its name from the river Gipping. It was the property of the late Charles Tyrell, Esq., whose ancestor, Sir Walter Tyrell, Knight, held the Lordship at the time of the Domesday survey. The living is a donative in the patronage of Mr. Tyrell. The Chapel, situated near the Hall, is a handsome structure in the later English style, with a square embattled tower, and was built by Sir James Tyrell in the fifteenth century. There is a school partly supported by Mrs. Tyrell. The late owner of the estate having been a public man, a politician and representative of the county, a sketch of his life may be interesting to the reader.

Charles Tyrell, Esq., of Splashwood and Gipping, was born in 1776. He was the son of the Rev. Charles Tyrell, and cousin of Edmund Tyrell, Esq., of Gipping Hall, who was High Sheriff of Suffolk in 1774. He entered the University of Cambridge at an early age, and took the degree of Bachelor of Arts three years before the beginning of the present century. In the famous year 1815, he served the office of High Sheriff of the county, and indeed he had at this time become a man of mark by the prominent share he took in county matters. The most memorable epoch in his life, however, was connected with the dawn of reform in Parliamentary and Municipal representation. During the last illness of George IV. in May and June, 1830, determined efforts were set on foot to oust the Duke of Wellington from the supreme place in the council of the nation, and the death of "the King's Most Excellent Majesty," on the 26th of the latter month, precipitated the action of those who were not yet known as "Reformers," by necessitating a general election. At

this time the undivided county of Suffolk was represented by Sir William Rowley, Whig, and Sir Thomas Sherlock Gooch, Tory, the former of whom announced the resignation of his seat on account of his inability to give to his Parliamentary duties that attention which was required by the times, whilst Sir Thomas it appears had dissatisfied many of his constituents by his abstention from voting on various questions of retrenchment. Sir Henry Bunbury having offered himself for the vacant seat as an entirely independent candidate—an advocate for the constitutional reform of abuses in general, a strong and most determined effort was made to induce Mr. Tyrell to come forward for the second seat. At first that gentleman, who had indeed promised to support Sir Thomas Gooch, although not approving altogether of his political conduct, declined the proposal; but as great pressure was brought to bear upon him, backed by a requisition signed by a thousand freeholders of the county, he in a very frank and manly way represented to Sir Thomas the position in which he found himself, and ultimately felt himself free to place his services at the disposal of the constituency. Just at this time public action in England was stimulated by the news from France, then, as now, in a state of revolution. On the 29th of July, the tricolour hoisted on the Tuilleries, where the white flag of the Bourbons had floated for fifteen years, proclaimed that the sovereignty of France had passed away from the grasp of the elder branch of that house; on the 1st of August, the Duke of Orleans assumed the functions of Lieutenant-General of the kingdom; on the 2nd, Charles X., too late in his concessions, formally abdicated in favour of his grandson, the Duke of Bordeaux; and a week later the Duke of Orleans accepted the Crown as Louis Philippe, King of the French, under circumstances which should have warned him against that dogged opposition to salutary changes which within twenty years proved as fatal to his own *régime* as it had to that of his predecessor. While these momentous events were happening across the Channel, Suffolk was all excitement, and men were at work in earnest. On the 6th of August, the nomination took place at Stowmarket, and the prominent actors on that day were—Sir Thomas Gooch, Sir Henry Bunbury, and Mr. Tyrell, with their respective proposers and seconders, Colonel Rushbrooke, Sir Charles Brook Vere, the Earl of Euston, Sir Hyde Parker, Richard Dalton, Esq., and J. H. Heigham, Esq.—Mr. Tyrell has long been the only survivor. On Tuesday, the 10th of August, a second nomination took place at Ipswich, and we learn from the *Bury Post* of that date that Sir Henry Bunbury made his entry in an open carriage, accompanied by his three sons, and preceded by the Earl of Euston, Sir R. Hardland, J. Moseley, Esq., H. Blake, Esq., J. H. Powell, Esq., &c., and followed by Lord Huntingfield, Sir Hyde Parker, &c. Mr. Tyrell's cavalcade followed,

the horsemen being more than 150 in number; and Sir Thomas Gooch's procession wisely arrived from an opposite point of the compass. The show of hands was most decidedly in favour of the two baronets from West Suffolk; and at the close of the poll on that day, Sir Henry Bunbury had received the suffrages of 1,055 electors, and Mr. Tyrell's requisitionists had justified their appeal by polling exactly 1,000 votes, whilst Sir Thomas Gooch had only received 624. Shortly after the voting had recommenced on the following morning, it was announced that Sir Thomas had struck his flag, and the Sheriff closed the poll, subsequently declaring the numbers as follows:—Bunbury, 1,097; Tyrell, 1,044; Gooch, 627. At the "chaining" of the successful candidates—without which in those days no Parliamentary election could be considered complete—we find Sir Henry Bunbury in a full Court dress, wearing his orders on his breast, and a handsome crimson-and-white sash, upon a platform borne on the shoulders of thirty men. Behind him was placed an elegant chair of crimson silk, and above his head a splendid canopy, supported by framework tastefully entwined with evergreens and flowers. Mr. Tyrell followed, in a full suit of Court mourning, on a platform tastefully decorated with festoons of white satin, supported by branches of oak, interspersed with flowers, and borne on the shoulders of thirty men.

In addition to the pageantry of the past, we read of flags, banners, and favours, of bands of music, of ringing of bells, and discharge of fireworks, now no longer lawful. The importance of this memorable contest is thus dilated on in the *Bury Post* for the 18th of August, 1830:—

"It is but little to say of the Suffolk election that it is the only contest which has taken place in the county within forty years. There were circumstances of a peculiar nature to give it importance. It was not a contest between two great families, or two parties, such as parties used to be—it was a struggle for independence; and the novelty and boldness of the attempt to bring in two gentlemen by the voice of the great body of the freeholders had turned the attention of all parties to the event. The success of the experiment was regarded as doubtful; the preparations in all parts of the county evinced an admirable zeal in the cause, but there was a want of that concert and methodical arrangement which are found among more practised electioneers. This very fact adds to the greatness of the triumph, since it proves that principle, and not management, won the day. Neither is it possible to ascribe the victory to length of purse; so far from it, both the candidates selected by the county came forward on the express condition that they were not to be put to any expense; and it is a fact that all the freeholders who voted for Sir Henry Bunbury and Mr. Tyrell went to the poll at their own charge, or by the voluntary assistance of their neighbours. Their choice was the free and constitutional

expression of the public will, and never did this county—never until this period did any county in England—assume an attitude so dignified as that which produced the return of Sir Henry Bunbury and Mr. Tyrell.” At the dissolution consequent on the defeat of Earl Grey’s ministry in the following year, on going into committee on the Reform Bill, Sir Henry Bunbury and Mr. Tyrell (both of whom had voted with the ministry) were re-elected without opposition. By the Parliament then elected, the Reform Bill became law, Suffolk was divided into two constituencies, and at the general election of 1832, Sir Henry Bunbury having retired from the representation, Mr. Tyrell was returned at the head of the poll to the first Reformed Parliament, the numbers being: Mr. Tyrell, 1828; Sir Hyde Parker, 1664; Mr. H. S. Waddington, 1272. At the dissolution in 1835, Mr. Tyrell did not offer himself for re-election, and he lived in comparative retirement till his death, which occurred on Tuesday, the 9th of January, 1872, aged 96.

## HAUGHLEY (ST. MARY),

A parish three miles from Stowmarket, containing 900 inhabitants. The area is 2497A. 3R. 9P. The living is a discharged vicarage; net income, £158. The Church is an ancient structure in the decorated English style, with a square embattled tower on the south side. The nave is lighted by a range of clerestory windows, and at the west end there is a noble window of seven lights, enriched with flowing tracery. At an early period, this was a place of some importance, and had a market, which is now discontinued. The parish was formerly the head of an honour or barony, under the appellation of Hagenet, and there are still traces of a very strong Castle supposed to have been of Anglo-Saxon origin. It is now reduced to a few strong walls. The date of its demolition is 1173, in the reign of Henry II. It was afterwards rebuilt and fortified by Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, and did good service to the family. Kirby, in his “Suffolk Traveller” (1744), says that in his time the remains of Haughley Castle, in figure, inclined to a square, having a moat, and fortified with rampart walls on all sides except the north, where stood the keep, which from its peculiar situation and great means of defence, was capable of defending itself. A portion of the foundation of this tower yet exists, and shows that the keep was erected in a circular form, and most probably rose to a considerable height. The extent of ground occupied by the Castle and its fortifications is estimated at seven acres.

## MELLIS (ST. MARY),

A parish in the Hundred of Hartismere, Western Division of Suffolk, near the railway station,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles (west by north) from Eye. The parish com-

prises 1344A. 2R. The living is a rectory, and in the patronage of the Crown; the tithes have been commuted for a rent charge of £345, and the glebe comprises eight acres, valued at £10 per annum. The Church is a handsome structure in the later English style; the tower fell down about 1720. There is a place of worship for Wesleyans. There is a branch line from this place to Eye.

EYE (ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL),

A borough, market town, and parish, in the Union and Hundred of Hartismere, Western Division of Suffolk, eighty-nine miles (north-east) from London. The name of the place, formerly Eay, is derived from its situation on a tract of land surrounded with water. Soon after the Conquest, Robert Malet, who accompanied William I. to England, having obtained the honour of Eye, erected a Castle here, of which there are some slight remains near the Mill Hill. The same Robert Malet also founded a Benedictine monastery, dedicated to St. Peter, at first a cell to Bernay Abbey in Normandy, but made denizen by Richard III. In this monastery was preserved St. Felix's Book of the Gospels, written in large Lombardic characters, and called the Red Book, on which the people used to be sworn; it was removed from the abbey at Dunwich, when that place was destroyed by the sea.

The town is pleasantly situated in a valley surrounded on all sides by streams of water. The market is on Tuesday, for corn, and there is also a market on Saturday for butter and vegetables. King John granted the earliest charter; later charters were afterwards bestowed, under the last of which, that of William III., the Corporation consisted of two bailiffs, ten principal burgesses, twenty-four councillors, a recorder, town clerk, treasurer, two chamberlains, and other officers. By the Act of William IV., the government is now vested in a Mayor, three other aldermen, and twelve councillors. The franchise was conferred in the thirteenth of Elizabeth, and the borough returned two members till the Reform Act of 1832, which deprived the town of one; and the Reform Act of 1867 altogether disfranchised the place.

The parish comprises 4340 acres; the surface is finely undulated, and the lower lands are watered by numerous streams. The living is a vicarage, and Sir E. Kerrison is the patron. The Church is a handsome structure in the later English style, with a square embattled tower, crowned with pinnacles; the nave is lighted by a handsome range of clerestory windows, and it is separated from the chancel by a richly carved screen. In 1840 the Church was repaired by subscription, Sir E. Kerrison contributing £300. There is a new Town Hall, where the market is held, and where the magistrates sit in petty sessions.

Sir Edward Clarence Kerrison is the Lord of the several Manors in the vicinity of Eye, and the owner of a great part of the soil. He re-built the National School Houses a few years since at his own expense. The Workhouse for the Hartismere Hundred is situated near the Church. The Methodists and Baptists have places of worship here. Messrs. Robert Chase and Brothers have a large flax factory, which gives employment to 300 people. Mr. B. C. Etheridge carries on a large brewery.

MENDLESHAM (ST. MARY),

A parish, formerly a market town, in the Hundred of Hartismere, fifteen and a-half miles (north-north-west) from Ipswich, five and a-half miles (north-east) from Haughley Station. The area of the parish is about 3944 acres, and the population 1316. The soil is fertile, and fine crops of wheat are grown. This place, like many others in Suffolk, was formerly of more importance than at present, and had a market which has fallen into disuse. The town consists chiefly of two long streets, parallel with each other, and is approached in all directions by excellent roads; the environs are pleasant, and the air salubrious. The living is a vicarage, endowed with one-third of the rectorial tithes; appropriators of the remainder, the Dean and Chapter of Chichester. The appropriate tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £540, and the vicarial for £580, and the glebe comprises twenty-five acres with a house. The Church is a handsome structure in the later English style, with a lofty square embattled tower, and a north and south porch embellished with grotesque sculptures. The chancel was restored in 1864, and the whole Church was re-seated in 1865. There is an endowed school, free for twenty-one children, and a National School was established in 1863. The Baptists, Independents, Wesleyans, and the Society of Friends have Chapels here.

HOXNE (ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL),

A parish three and a-quarter miles (north-east) from Eye. This place in ancient times was memorable for the barbarous murder of Edmund, King of the East Angles, who, after an unsuccessful battle with the Danes at Thetford, had taken shelter in a wood in this parish. A chapel erected over his remains was converted into a priory for Benedictine monks, and became a cell to the abbey of Norwich.

The parish, which is bounded on the north by the river Waveney, comprises by measurement 4224 acres. The surface is varied, and the scenery of pleasing character; and the village, which is neatly built, is pleasantly situated. Petty Sessions for the Division are held here monthly. The living is a vicarage, with that of Denham annexed, valued in the King's books at £12 3s. 9d.; net income, £450; appropriator of Hoxne,

the Bishop of Norwich. A school, now in union with the National Society, was founded and endowed by Lord Maynard in 1761. The Poor-Law Union of Hoxne comprises twenty-four parishes or places.

#### YOXFORD (ST. PETER),

A parish twenty-three and a-half miles (north-east) from Ipswich, comprising 2681 acres. The village is situated in a remarkably-pleasant and genteel neighbourhood, on the road from Ipswich to Yarmouth, and consists principally of one well-built street of modern houses, with two commodious inns. The living is a vicarage, valued in the King's books at £5 14s. 2d. ; the great tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £284, and the vicarial for £194, and the glebe contains five acres, valued at £10 per annum. The Church has been lately enlarged by subscription, aided by a grant of £140 from the Incorporated Society, for which 280 free sittings have been provided. It contains some ancient brasses and handsome monuments. A National School has been lately built. James Bird, the poet, resided here for some years.

#### TOWNS OF WEST SUFFOLK.

These are all of small size, and each situated near some river for the convenience of water conveyance. Stowmarket, Mendlesham, and Eye are midland, near the Eastern Union railway. Hadleigh, Nayland, Clare, Haverhill, Melford, and Sudbury are in the southern rural district. Lavenham, Bury St. Edmund's, Brandon, and Mildenhall, are in the northern district, containing many large villages, and seats of the gentry amid parks, preserves, and plantations full of game.

#### HADLEIGH (ST. MARY)

Is an ancient market town in the Union and Hundred of Cosford, West Division of Suffolk, sixty-four miles (north-east) from London. This town was probably founded during the Octarchy, in which period a monastery is said to have been established by one of the Kings, and was called by the East Angles Headlege, whence it derived its modern name. The town is situated in a valley, the air of which is remarkably salubrious, and the inhabitants are plentifully supplied with water from springs. This was formerly a corporate town, governed by a Mayor, alderman, and common councilmen, but having surrendered its charter upon a *quo warranto* to James II., these supposed privileges were lost, and the town is now within the jurisdiction of the county magistrates. The parish comprises 4169 acres; the soil is generally fertile, and well adapted for the production of grain, of which great quantities are sold in the market held every Monday. The living is a rectory, and the tithes

have been commuted for a rent-charge of £1325. The Church, a handsome spacious structure, is chiefly in the later English style. Dr. William Alabaster, a learned divine of the seventeenth century, was a native of this place; and Dr. Taylor, who suffered martyrdom in the reign of Mary, was rector. He was burned on Aldham Common; the spot is surrounded by a palisade, inclosing a monument erected to his memory in 1818, and an old stone bearing an inscription recording his martyrdom. A large trade in malt is carried on, and the duty for 1869, on malt made in the town only, amounted to £34,116 18s. 11¼d. A cocoa-fibre matting manufactory has been established by Messrs. Cook, Sons, and Co.

#### NAYLAND (ST. PETER),

A parish, formerly a market town, in the Hundred of Babergh, West Division of the county, sixteen miles (west) from Ipswich. The town is situated on the river Stour, in a fertile valley, surrounded by hills commanding fine views. It consists of several streets which contain some good houses, and has three large flour mills in the centre. A considerable trade is carried on here in corn, flour, malt, and coals. The living is a perpetual curacy; net income, £139; patron, Sir J. R. Rowley, Bart.; the impropriate tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £220. The Church is an ancient stone structure with a tower and six bells.

#### CLARE (ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL),

A market town and parish in the Union and Hundred of Risbridge, in the Western Division of Suffolk, fifty-five and a-half miles (north-east-by-north) from London, on the borders of the county, which is here divided from Essex by the river Stour. This place is of great antiquity, and derived considerable importance during the Anglo-Saxon Octarchy from being on the frontier of the kingdom of East Anglia. After the Norman conquest, it was distinguished for having given the title of earl to the family of De Clare, and that of duke to Lionel, third son of Edward III., who was created Duke of Clarence. George III. revived the title in the person of his third son, Prince William Henry, who in 1789 was created a peer of the realm as Duke of Clarence. To the south of the town are the ruins of a Castle formerly the baronial residence of the Earls of Clare, and equal to any of those structures in feudal grandeur and magnificence. The site of the fortifications, which may be distinctly traced, comprehended an area of thirty acres. On the summit of a high mount, evidently of artificial construction, are the remains of an ancient keep, a circular building of flints, strongly cemented with mortar and strengthened with buttresses, which from its situation near the frontier, is supposed to have

been erected either prior to or during the Octarchy. The honour of Clare is now annexed to the Duchy of Lancaster. The town is situated on the river Stour, which is navigable. The houses are in general old, but many new ones have been built. The ancient market-place has been enlarged by pulling down unsightly buildings, and a new Corn Hall was erected in 1838. The parish comprises 2,178 acres; the living is a discharged vicarage, in the patronage of the Queen in right of the Duchy of Lancaster; net income, about £200. The Church is a large, handsome, and ancient structure, chiefly in the decorated English style, with a square tower, strengthened by buttresses, and of an earlier date than the body. The interior, which has been improved by heightening the nave and the addition of side aisles, is richly ornamented, and contains an elegantly designed font in the later English style, and a brass eagle on a pedestal with wings displayed, forming the reading desk. The edifice has been lately repaired, restored, and internally beautified. A gallery has been erected, containing 640 additional sittings, 590 of which are free by aid of a grant of £300 from the Incorporated Society.

To the south-west of the town are the remains of Clare Priory, founded by Eluric or Alfric, Earl of Clare, for secular canons, which Gilbert de Clare in 1090 gave to the Benedictine abbey of Bec in Normandy, to which it was a cell till 1124, when his son Richard removed the monks to the village of Stoke. Joan d'Acre, daughter of Edward I. and wife of Gilbert de Clare, was a great benefactress to this establishment, and is traditionally said to have been interred in the chapel, which is now used as a barn. The priory is now a private residence, and though it has been altered and repaired, it still retains much of its original character. A monastery for Augustine monks is said to have been founded here in 1248, but by whom is not known. Some persons of distinction were buried there. Several large parishes in the neighbourhood require some notice.

There are three parishes named Belchamp, Belchamp St. Pauls, Belchamp Otton, and Belchamp Walter, which it is supposed received their appellations from their Norman description of Bel Champ, that is, beautiful meadows or fields; and this name is with strict propriety applicable to much of the grass land in this district. Belchamp St. Paul, the parish that we have now to do with, is a long straggling village, situate on an eminence, from which there is an extensive prospect, taking in the fine tower of Lavenham Church in one direction, and the Norman keep and turrets of Hedingham Castle in another. The parish adjoins that of Clare, from which town it is distant about two miles. The secondary name applied to the parish is not derived from the Church, which is dedicated to St. Andrew, but from its appropriation to the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, in London, to which it was given by the

Saxon King Athelstan, grandson of Alfred the Great. In Athelstan's grant (which was in Saxon and Latin), the Latin is "Et decem mansas ad Byleham cum Wichham;" by mansas being understood dwelling-houses, one of which was the capital mansion, or chief manor house, where the Lord's courts were held. The neighbouring parish of Wickham (allied with Belchamp in the above grant) has also the name of St. Paul's for a similar reason, belonging as it does to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. (The other Wickham in the same county belongs to the Bishop, and is called Wickham Bishop's). The Dean and Chapter have always held the parish of Belchamp, except during the Commonwealth, when it was sold to Thomas Cook, Esq., of Pebmarsh, and three other gentlemen; but at the Restoration the Cathedral recovered its possessions. The Golding family held nearly all the estate under the Dean and Chapter. John Golding, Esq., of the Hall and of Halstead, was one of the auditors of the Exchequer about 1527, and, with other laymen and priests in the county, was very active in the apprehension and examination of "heretics," who (as Strype tells us) were numerous in the diocese of London, and especially about Colchester and other parts of Essex, and whose principal heresy consisted in their being diligent readers of Tindal's New Testament, and who held secret meetings, "wherein they instructed one another out of the same." Sir Thomas Golding was one of the commissioners for taking account of the charity lands in Essex, and it is alleged that he did not fail to improve the opportunity this commission offered of securing a considerable fortune. A Margaret Golding was married to John de Vere, the sixteenth Earl of Oxford, and there is an ancient slab in the chancel with well preserved brasses, a central knight in armour, surrounded by effigies and groups of children, &c., and an inscription in black letters to the memory of the wife of William Golding, who died May 20th, 1591. There was formerly a chapel dedicated to the Holy Trinity, with a field of two acres, on Cole Green, in the parish, where a large cattle fair is now held in December (the natives call it "Cold Green," on account of the weather at the time of the fair). The Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's are, as stated, appropriators of the rectory, and patrons of the vicarage, valued in the King's books at £14, and in 1831 at £247. The glebe is eighty acres, and the tithes were commuted in 1840—the vicarial for £200, and the rectorial for £288; the latter are held by lessees. The acreage of the parish is 2557, and the population 832.

The Church consists of tower, nave, chancel, north and chancel aisles (the latter recently built), and south porch. There is a well-kept large churchyard, and a spacious green in front. A large and handsome farmhouse adjoins the churchyard, and is the residence of Mr. Eagle, one of the churchwardens. The sacred edifice, like many others all over the

country, had been much neglected and injured by ill-advised alterations—the floors were uneven, roofs dilapidated, and partly ceiled, the area blocked up by irregular pews and many other enormities. All these have now been removed, and the entire building has received the most careful attention. The only portion of the building that on some future occasion will require attention is the south wall of the nave, which declines outward considerably from the perpendicular, although it is quite safe, as there are strong buttresses outside. These are of brick, and very ugly, and spoil the appearance of the south elevation of the building.

The following comprise the principal works of restoration that have been thoroughly carried out during the last twelve months. All the walls, both internal and external, have been stripped of plaster and cleaned of whitewash; the rubble has been cleaned, and the flint was fresh pointed. The stonework of the arcades, windows, &c., has been restored and cleaned down. The earth was excavated under the old floors to the depth of eighteen inches, the floors paved with tiles—Peak's being used in the nave and aisles, and Minton's in the chancel and sacristy. The old roofs have been opened out and cleaned, and the timbers oiled, and new roofs have been erected in the chancel, chancel aisle, and part of the north aisle. The chancel aisle is entirely new; it is seated for the school children, who assist in the singing, and a small portion at the upper end is screened off by a curtain as a sacristy. Altogether the alterations reflect great credit on the architect, A. W. Blomfield, Esq., of London, and the contractors, Mr. D. Theobald, of Long Melford, and Mr. Runnacles, builder, of Halstead, who have so well carried out his designs. The expenses incurred up to the beginning of June, 1872, amounted to £1180, towards which £1071 15s. 8d. had been contributed—a large sum for a thinly-populated parish. There are schools in all the three parishes of Belchamp, proving that in this district at least the farmers are not averse to the education of the poor.

#### MELFORD (HOLY TRINITY),

A parish, formerly a market town, in the Hundred of Babergh, Western Division of Suffolk, twenty-two miles (west) from Ipswich. The parish comprises 5185A. 0R. 4P., and is pleasantly situated on a branch of the river Stour in one of the most fertile parts of the country, and is surrounded by beautiful and richly-diversified scenery. Melford Hall, formerly a country house of the Abbots of Bury, the seat of Sir William Parker, is a noble mansion in the Elizabethan style. The Hall was built by Sir William Cordell, and contains some curious portraits of that family.

Kentwell Hall, the seat of Capt. E. R. S. Bence, built by the Cloptons,

is approached by an avenue of lime trees nearly a mile in length. At Melford Place, the residence of H. Westropp, Esq., are some remains of the old chapel of the mansion of the Martins. The two first seats are situated in beautifully-timbered parks, which greatly enhance the picturesque-ness of the village and neighbourhood. The living is a rectory, valued in the King's books at £28 2s. 6d.; patron, J. Cobbold, Esq. The Church is a spacious and interesting structure, chiefly in the later English style, with a lofty embattled tower, and at the east end there is a Lady Chapel of a very beautiful character.

#### SUDBURY,

A borough and market town and the head of a Union, locally in the Hundred of Babergh, Western Division of the County of Suffolk, twenty-two miles (west by south) from Ipswich, and fifty-six (north-east by north) from London.

This place, which was originally called South Burgh, is of great antiquity, and at the period of the Norman survey was of considerable importance, having a market and a mint. A colony of the Flemings, who were introduced into this country by Edward III., for the purpose of establishing the manufacture of woollen cloth, settled here, and that branch of trade continued to flourish for some time, but at length fell to decay. The town is situated on the river Stour, which is crossed by a bridge leading into Essex. For some time after the loss of the woollen trade it possessed few attractions, and the houses belonged principally to decayed manufacturers; but of late years it has greatly improved, being paved and lighted in 1825, and some good houses have been built. The Town Hall, erected by the Corporation in the Grecian style, is a great ornament to the town, in which is also a neat theatre. The trade principally consists in the manufacture of silk, crape, and bunting for ships' flags, of which that of silk was introduced by manufacturers from Spital-fields, in consequence of disputes with their workmen; and about 1500 persons are now engaged in the silk and 400 in the crape and bunting business. The river Stour, navigable hence to Manningtree, affords a facility for the transmission of coal, chalk, lime, and agricultural produce. The statute market is on Saturday and the corn market on Thursday. Fairs are held on March 12th and July 10th, principally for earthenware, glass, and toys. The first charter of incorporation was granted by Queen Mary in 1554, and confirmed by Elizabeth in 1559; another was given by Oliver Cromwell; but that under which the Corporation derived its power was bestowed by Charles II. The government is now vested in a Mayor, four aldermen, and twelve councillors, under the Act of the 5th and 6th of William IV., cap. 76; and the number of magistrates is five. The

freedom is obtained by birth or apprenticeship. The borough, which comprises 1685 acres, first sent members to Parliament in the commencement of the reign of Elizabeth, and continued to exercise that privilege till the year 1842, when the inhabitants were disfranchised by a special Act of Parliament. The recorder holds courts of quarter session, and a court of record occurs every Monday for the recovery of debts to the amount of £20.

Sudbury comprises the parish of All Saints, St. Gregory, and St. Peter. The living of All Saints is a discharged vicarage, valued in the King's books at £4 11s. 5½d.; net income, £160; patrons and improvers, Simeon's trustees. The churches are of considerable antiquity, and are spacious and handsome structures, mostly in the later English style, of which they present some fine specimens, though generally much defaced. In that of All Saints is a curious monument to the Eden family, whose pedigree is painted on the walls. St. Gregory's, which is the most ancient, was formerly collegiate, until Henry VIII. granted its site and other possessions, for the sum of £1280, to Sir T. Paston, Knight. The font is very magnificent, and in a niche of the wall of the vestry room, enclosed with an iron grating, is a head supposed to be that of Symon de Theobald, or de Sudbury, Archbishop of Canterbury in the time of Richard II., a native of this town, who was beheaded by the mob in Wat Tyler's rebellion. The Free Grammar School was instituted in 1491, under the will of William Wood, warden of Sudbury College, who endowed it with a farm worth about £100 per annum; and there is also a National School with a small endowment. The hospital of St. Leonard, for lepers, was founded by John Colneys, and endowed by Simon Theobald de Sudbury with about five acres of land, a chapel, and a dwelling-house. It is now in the possession of the corporation of the poor, and is applied towards their maintenance. From a bequest by Thomas Carter in 1706, fifty men receive coats, and fifty women gowns, on St. Thomas's day, and there are several smaller charities for the benefit of the indigent. The Poor-Law Union of Sudbury comprises forty-two parishes or places, twenty-four of which are in the County of Suffolk, and eighteen in that of Essex.

The College of St. Gregory, for secular priests, established by Simon de Theobald, was richly endowed, and was valued at the period of the dissolution at £122 18s. 3d. per annum. Its only remains are the gateway, and portions of a wall now forming a part of the Workhouse. A gateway which is a portion of a monastery of Augustine Friars, standing in Friars' Street, yet exists; an hospital was founded here in the reign of King John, by Amicia, Countess of Clare, which was afterwards given to the monks of Stoke; and there was also a Benedictine cell to the Abbey of

Westminster, instituted in the reign of Henry II. About half a mile from the town is a spring of pure water, which, from its supposed efficacy in curing many diseases, is called by the inhabitants "Holy Water." Sudbury is the birthplace of Gainsborough, the celebrated painter, who depicted so many bright sunny landscapes. No doubt he saw many all around his native place. He used to amuse himself by rambling in the woods and sketching the scenery around, but attracting some attention, he was sent to London, where he married a woman with some little property, and removed to settle at Ipswich, where he resided some years. He soon rose into high reputation as a portrait painter. He died in 1788, and is buried at Kew.

## LAVENHAM (ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL),

A market town and parish in the Union of Cosford, Hundred of Babergh, Western Division of the County of Suffolk, eighteen and a-half miles (west-by-north) from Ipswich, and sixty-one (north-east) from London. The town is remarkably healthy, and occupies the declivities of two hills rising gradually from the river Brett, and consists of several small streets; the houses are in general of mean appearance; the inhabitants are well supplied with water. The manufacture of blue cloth formerly flourished here, under the direction of several guilds, each of which had its separate hall; at present wool combing and spinning, but only on a small scale, are carried on; and the women and children are employed in plaiting straw for bonnets. The market, now almost disused, is on Tuesday; the Market-place is a spacious area, containing a stone cross. Fairs are held for horses and cattle, on Shrove Tuesday, and October 11th, 12th, and 13th; the former is well attended, and a good business is done in cattle and horses; but the October fair, which was formerly for the sale of butter and cheese and the hiring of servants, is no longer held. Lavenham was formerly governed by six capital burgesses, styled headboroughs, elected for the last time in 1775. Courts leet and baron are held at the will of the lord of the manor; and the town is a polling-place for the western division of the county.

The living is a rectory, valued in the King's books at £20 2s. 11d.; net income, £658; patrons, Masters and Fellows of Caius College, Cambridge. The Church was rebuilt in the reign of Henry VI., partly by the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, who formerly resided here, and partly by the family of Spring, wealthy clothiers. It is an eminently beautiful structure, in the later English style; the body of the Church is of rich workmanship, having a most beautiful and elaborate open-worked parapet, and the tower is of massive construction. The entrance is by a porch, supposed to have been erected by John, fourteenth Earl of Oxford,

and enriched with the most elaborate embellishments ; over the arch is a richly-sculptured double niche, and on each side of the niche three escutcheons, each bearing quartered coats of the arms of the De Vere family. In the Church, there is a curious mural monument to Allaine Lister, a wealthy clothier of the town, and another of alabaster and marble to the Rev. Mr. Copinger. There are places of worship for Independents and Wesleyans. The Free School was founded in 1647 by Richard Peacock, Esq., with an endowment of £5 per annum, augmented in 1699 by Edward Colman, Esq., with £16 per annum. A National School is supported by the proceeds of a bequest of £2000 Three per Cent. Consols, by Henry Steward in 1806 ; and some almshouses, rebuilt in 1836, are inhabited by forty aged persons. The Rev. George Ruggle, author of a Latin comedy entitled "Ignoramus," and other dramatic pieces, was born here in 1575 ; and Sir Thomas Cooke, Lord Mayor of London in 1462, was also a native.

A considerable trade is done here in wool, corn, malt, and seeds. Horse-hair seating and cocoa-fibre matting are produced here, and large quantities of straw plait are made by the women and children. Mr. Duncan, sugar refiner, has recently established a factory for making sugar from beetroot, which gives work to large numbers of people during the season.

#### BRADFIELD COMBUST (ALL SAINTS),

A parish in the Hundred of Thedwastry, six miles (south-south-east) from Bury, in the Western Divison of the county. The parish comprises 836 acres. The living is a discharged rectory, in the patronage of the Rev. H. J. Halstead. The tithes have been commuted for a rent-charge of £230. This was the birthplace and residence of Arthur Young, the celebrated writer on agriculture in the last century. It is a place which should be interesting to farmers, for its quiet churchyard contains the remains of the farmer's friend, who by his works originated such improvements in agriculture as entitle him to rank as a public benefactor.

The ancient farm-houses have not yet disappeared. Some of them stand amid gardens inclosed on two or three sides by a moat, a remnant of the feudal times. The houses look picturesque, with gray thatch and frequent gables ; and the walls, as clean as whitewash can make them, testify to the prevalence of a wholesome virtue. Brettenham, one of the villages on the route, is supposed by some antiquaries to occupy the site of ancient Combretonium—a supposition favoured by the identity of the second syllable with the name of the little river Bret. Bradfield St. Clair, Bradfield St. George, and Hitcham are adjoining parishes.

Hitcham was one of the most benighted parishes in Suffolk forty years

ago. The population then numbered 1000, and the poor-rate amounted to 27s. a year for each person. The fact alone implies little morality. The ignorance of the rustic population was a disgrace to the inhabitants, and an opprobrium to Christianity. They had no recreations, and in their relations with the farmers they were little better than serfs. The laborers had to content themselves with the public-house, and the farmers with the annual tithing dinner, with its drunken bout of twenty-four hours duration. In 1839 the Rev. Professor Henslow entered into residence at Hitcham, and adopted measures for raising his flock from their brutal degradation.

## ICKWORTH,

A parish in the Hundred of Thingoe, West Division of Suffolk, two and a-half miles (south-west) from Bury. The place is the property of the Marquess of Bristol, whose seat is situated within the parish. The mansion is one of the most remarkable of modern edifices. It was planned by Frederick, Earl of Bristol and Bishop of Derry, assisted by Sandys, the architect, on a design of great magnificence, with the intention of making the building both a mansion and a temple of the fine arts. It was commenced in 1792, but the western wing was not completed. It is 625 feet in length, and the centre, crowned with a dome, rises 140 feet, the diameter being 120 feet by 106. The park comprises 2000 acres of rich land, and is eleven miles in circumference. The surface is varied, and the lower grounds are watered by a rivulet which expands into a broad lake, the whole forming one of the most splendid seats in the country. Within the park, there is a column 200 feet high in memory of the present founder of the house, erected by inhabitants of all religious denominations in the diocese.

## BURY ST. EDMUND'S.

This is a parliamentary and municipal borough and market town, in the Hundred of Thingoe, in the Western Division of Suffolk, pleasantly situated on the river Larke, twenty-three miles north-west of Ipswich, and seventy-one miles (north-east) from London, near a railway station. It is supposed to be the *Villa Fæstina* of the Romans, and numerous Roman remains have been dug up here. Soon after the settlement of the East Angles it was made a royal borough and called Beodricsworth, signifying the dwelling-place of Beodric; but that name was changed to St. Edmund's Bury after St. Edmund was buried here.

Edmund having succeeded to the kingdom of East Anglia, was crowned here in the fifteenth year of his age, but being afterwards taken prisoner by the Danes, who in 870 made an irruption into this part of the country,

he was cruelly put to death at Hoxne and buried there. Forty days after his death, his remains, which had been interred in a small chapel, were, from the report of miracles wrought at his tomb being believed, removed to this place in 903, where he had founded a monastery. A new Church was built in his honour by some secular priests, who were incorporated by King Athelstan about the year 925, and the establishment was made collegiate. The town and Church having been nearly destroyed by Sweyn, King of Denmark, in 1010, were restored by Canute, who raised the town to more than its ancient splendour, re-built the Church and monastery, which he endowed with great possessions, and, expelling the secular canons, placed in their stead monks of the Benedictine order. In process of time, the monastery became one of the most extensive in the kingdom; and in magnificent buildings, costly decorations, valuable immunities, and rich endowments, was inferior only to that of Glastonbury. It had the royalties or franchises of many separate hundreds, and the right of coinage; its abbot sat in Parliament, and had the power of deciding all suits within the franchise or liberty of Bury, and of inflicting capital punishment. These high privileges were frequently the cause of strife and bloodshed in the town; indeed, the feuds were endless between the drones and the working bees—between the gownsmen and the townsmen. The brief story of this borough and of its monastery reveals more of the real life of the people for some centuries, than any general history of the middle ages. It is just as if one looked at a good picture painted by a great artist, presenting some historical scene. We can never think of it afterwards without remembering the colouring of the back-ground, the costumes, and all the accessories which in our minds make up the picture. In the reign of Edward III. in the year 1327 there was a fierce conflict between the monks and the people of Bury St. Edmund's. The causes of that revolt of the inhabitants against constituted authority are not very apparent, but they would seem to have been personal as much as municipal, judging from the subsequent demands of the unruly burgesses. The gates of the town were still in the hands of the abbot, and the people could never feel themselves safe so long as mysterious charters from Pope and King, still more mysteriously interpreted by the new lawyer class, existed in the abbey. Besides this, the religious houses had profited by the increase of wealth in the country, and became money lenders even more extortionate than the Jews, whom they had banished, and many of the townsmen had some bond laid up in the abbey registry. Some of them had joined Isabella in her march on London, and the deposition of Edward II. appears to have given them some hopes of release. However this might be, they resolved to demolish and plunder the abbey. On January 25th, 1327, headed by their

alderman, Richard Drayton, they made a violent attack on the monastery, demolished the gates, doors, and windows, and reduced a considerable part of the buildings to ashes. In the absence of the abbot, they seized the prior, Peter Clopton, and threw him, with his brethren, into the town prison. A systematic attack followed, and books, furniture, vestments, deeds, charters, and money all disappeared, including plate to the value of £5000, and 3000 florins of gold.

But neither chattels, chasubles, nor florins were the real aim of the assailants. The prior and his twenty monks were brought back from their prison in the town to their own chapter house, and the spoil of their registry, the Papal bulls, and the royal charters, the deeds, bonds, and mortgages of the townsmen were laid before them. Amidst the wild threats of the mob they were forced to execute a grant of perfect freedom, and of a guild to the town, and a full release for their debtors. This was the triumph of mob law. All control over the town was gone. All through spring and summer no rents or fines were paid. The bailiffs and other officers of the abbey dared not show their faces in the streets. Then news came that the abbot was in London appealing for aid to the King and Court, and the whole county of Suffolk was on fire. A crowd of rustics, maddened at the thought of revived claims of serfage, of interminable suits of law which had become a tyranny, poured into the streets of the town. From thirty-two of the neighbouring villages the priests marched at the head of their flocks to this new crusade. Twenty thousand men, women, and children rushed again on the abbey. For four November days the work went on unhindered. Gates, stables, granaries, infirmary, hostelry, went up in flames. Then the great multitude swept away to the granges and barns of the abbey farms. The monks had become vast agricultural proprietors. 1000 horses, 120 oxen, 200 cows, 300 bullocks, 300 hogs, and 10,000 sheep were driven off for spoil. Their granges and barns, valued at £10,000, were burnt to the ground.

Dearly the people paid for these outrages. Weak as the Government of Mortimer was, the appeal of the abbot could no longer be neglected. A Royal force quelled the riot, and exacted vengeance. Thirty carts full of prisoners were sent to Norwich. Twenty-four of the chief townsmen, and thirty-two of the village priests, were soon convicted of aiding and abetting riot, and twenty were hung. But the danger had not then rolled away. Two hundred people remained under sentence of outlawry, and for five weary years the case dragged on in the King's Court, till at length the patience of the townsmen was exhausted. Irritated by repeated breaches of promise on the part of the abbot, they seized him at his manor of Chevington, robbed, bound, and shaved him, sent him to London, and hurried him from place to place, from fear of detection, till opportunity

offered of shipping him off to Brabant. The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Pope himself excommunicated the perpetrators of this daring outrage, in vain; but at last the abbot was released and brought home. The lesson, however, seemed to have done good. In 1332, the damages, assessed by the justiciaries at £140,000—an enormous sum then—were remitted, the outlawry annulled, and the prisoners released. On the other hand the deeds were again restored, and the charters extracted from the trembling monks were formally cancelled. In other words, the old course of legal monkish oppression was to go on, and did continue for some time.

Fifty years afterwards the abbacy became vacant. Prior John of Cambridge had charge of the house. He was described as an admirable musician and still more admirable lawyer, skilled in all the arts of the time, and his monastic eulogist says he employed his abilities “faithfully in striving for the rights of his house.” His subtlety and industry found scope in suit after suit with the farmers and burgesses around. The townsmen he knew were his foes, and the rustics proved how intense was their hatred. It was a perilous time in which to win men’s hate. England was racked with despair, and suffering, and wrong; with the collapse of the French war, with the ruinous taxation, with the frightful pestilence that swept away half the population, with the iniquitous labour laws that in the face of such a reduction kept down the rate of wages in the interests of the landlords, with the frightful law of settlement, that, to enforce this wrong, again reduced the free labourer at a stroke to a state of serfage, from which he was yet to emerge. That terrible revolution of social sentiment had begun which was to turn law into the basest interests of a class, viz., the statute of labourers and the successive labour regulations which followed to create pauperism, and with it that hatred of class to class, which still hangs over society. Round Prior John the first manifestation of such a hatred was gathering. While at his manor of Mildenhall he touched his lute and played soft Lydian airs, suddenly armed bands rose around him. The howl of the great multitude broke roughly in on the delicate chaunting of Prior John. He turned to fly, but his own serfs betrayed him, judged him in rude mockery of the law that had wronged them, condemned him, and killed him. Five days the body lay in the open field, while the mob thronged into Bury bearing the prior’s head before them on a stick. Another victim was John Lackenheath, warden of the abbey, whose head was knocked from his shoulders at the foot of the gallows. Then the crowd retired from the abbey, and summoned the monks before them, and ordered them to surrender their bonds and charters. Some the monks brought forth, but others they swore they could not find, and the iron had entered too deeply into the townsmen, for not even in this hour of triumph could they shake

off their fear of their black-robed masters who stood trembling before them; and so a compromise was patched up that the charters should be surrendered till confirmed by the popular claimant to the abbey. A hundred years after, the town again sought freedom in the law courts, and sought it in vain. The abbey charters told fatally against mere traditional customs. The royal council of Edward IV. decided that the "abbot was lord of the whole town of Bury, the sole head and captain within the town." All municipal appointments were at his pleasure, all justice in his hands. The townsmen had no communal union, no corporate existence. Their leaders, Walter Thurston and William Sygo, paid for riot and insult by long imprisonment and fine. The dim, dull lawsuit was almost the last incident in the long struggle, the last and darkest in the town.

But it was the darkness that precedes the day. Fifty years more, and abbot and abbey were swept away. The burghers were building their houses afresh with the carved ashlar and the stately pillars of their lords' house. Whatever other aspects the Reformation may present, it gave, at any rate, emancipation to that class of English towns where freedom had been denied, the towns that lay in "the dead hand of the Church." None more heartily echoed the jest of the Protector, "we must pull down the rooks' nests, lest the rooks should come back again." The completeness of the demolitions at Bury hangs on the long serfdom of the people and the shapeless masses of rubble, that alone recall the peaceful cloister and the long-drawn aisle, find their explanation in the terrible struggles of the town.

The monastery was 505 feet long and 212 wide, and contained twelve chapels. The privilege of coining was granted to the abbey by Edward the Confessor, and both Edward I. and Edward II. had mints here. The "Church gate," one of the finest specimens of Gothic architecture in the kingdom, and the western gate, erected about the middle of the fourteenth century, with a small portion of the walls, are all that now remain of that magnificent structure, which continued in the possession of abbots and monks for 519 years till they were all expelled at the dissolution.

The Norman tower was erected during the time of Abbot Baldwin, about 1090, as the principal entrance to the cemetery of St. Edmund, and fronted the west entrance of the Abbey Church. Monastic writers mention it by the names of the "great gate of the Church of St. Edmund," or "the great gate of the churchyard." At the dissolution of the monastery, if not before, it became a parcel of the parish Church of St. James. In a rental of Thomas Gnatsall, sacrist, in the eighteenth of Henry VII., it is called the Church gate of St. James, and in the deed of feoffment of the Guildhall feoffees, it is mentioned as the gate and bell

tower, called St. James's Steeple. It is eighty-six feet in height and thirty-six feet square. The walls, which are nearly six feet in thickness, are faced with an ashlar of Barnack stone. The general design of each front is the same, except that a few of the mouldings are different, and that the eastern archway is plain. The elegant porch on the western side is a unique specimen of Norman architecture. The great arch was formerly filled up with a sculpture representing our Saviour, in an elliptic aureole. It was removed in 1789 to provide a freer access for "loads of hay and straw." The square-headed doorway in the centre of the south wall was the postern or porter's gate. The old iron hooks on which the door was hung are still in the eastward jamb; a mortice for the bolt of a lock is in the opposite jamb; the door opened outwards in the thickness of the wall. The small doorways on the north and south sides in the western buttresses communicated with the wall that was connected with it on each side, and surrounded the entire grounds of the abbey.

Various other ruins connected with the abbey and its early history are visible; many minor institutions were dependent on it, of which there are not now any remains. Among these may be noticed a college of priests, dedicated to the holy name of Jesus, founded in the reign of Edward IV., and suppressed in that of Edward VI.; a hospital, dedicated to St. John, founded by one of the abbots in the reign of Edward I.; a hospital, dedicated to St. Nicholas, founded also by an abbot of St. Edmund's; and St. Peter's Hospital, founded in the reign of Henry I., the revenue of which at the dissolution was £10 18s. 11d., or about £100 of our present money.

About the year 1256, a fraternity of the Franciscan order came to Bury, but they were compelled to remove beyond the precincts of the town, where the establishment continued till the dissolution. Henry I., on his return from Chartres, repaired to the shrine of St. Edmund, where he presented a rich offering in gratitude for his safe return to his dominions. In 1173 Henry II., having assembled a large army at this place to oppose his rebellious sons, caused the sacred standard of St. Edmund to be borne in front of his troops, and to its great influence was ascribed the victory that he obtained over them in the battle in October in the same year.

In 1215 the rebellious barons met at Bury St. Edmund's, and when they had assembled in the Abbey Church they joined in an oath to obtain the ratification of Magna Charta from King John. The ruins of the old Church are carefully preserved, and are well worth preserving, for as we read on a stone tablet fixed below the tall climbing ivy: "*Near this spot, on the 20th November, A.D. 1215, Cardinal Langton and the Barons swore at St. Edmund's altar that they would obtain from King John the ratification*

of *Magna Charta*." Another tablet enumerates the twenty-five Barons who took part in the oath, in three columns, one giving the name, the second the title, the third that of the present representatives.

Henry III. held a Parliament here in 1272, which may be regarded as the outline of the British House of Commons, which has now existed 600 years. In 1296, Edward I. visited this town, where he also held a Parliament, when Norwich, Yarmouth, and Lynn returned representatives. The next Parliament was held here in 1446 in the reign of Henry VI. The last time Parliament was held here was in 1448. Afterwards the Parliament met regularly at Westminster. This town has returned representatives since the first Parliament.

In 1526, the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk assembled their forces in this town to quell a dangerous insurrection that had broken out at Lavenham in Suffolk. Subsequent local events are not of general interest.

The Grammar School, founded by King Edward IV., is open to the sons of inhabitants upon the payment of two guineas entrance, and two guineas per annum. It has four exhibitions of the value of £18 15s. each per annum to either of the universities, a scholarship at Corpus Christi College, and another at Jesus College, Cambridge. There are 110 scholars on the foundation. A new schoolhouse was built by public contributions; over the entrance is a bust of the founder, with an appropriate inscription, and adjoining the school there is a good house for the master. The institution has long occupied a high position among the schools in the county, and several distinguished individuals have received instruction in it.

There are several benevolent institutions in the town. The almshouses, ninety-eight in number, were founded by Mr. Edmund King, Mrs. M. Drury, and others, and are under the superintendence of trustees, in whom funds have been invested to the amount of £2000. Clopton's Hospital was founded for the support of six aged widowers, and the same number of widows, being decayed housekeepers, by Boley Clopton, M.D., who endowed it with property producing £300 per annum. The General Hospital, established in 1825, and supported by subscription, contains accommodation for forty patients. An additional Infirmary was founded in 1836.

The government by charter of incorporation granted in the 4th of James I., and extended in the 6th and 12th of the same reign, and in the 20th of Charles II., was vested in an alderman, six assistants, twelve capital burgesses, twenty-four common councillors, a recorder, town clerk, four sergeants-at-mace, and subordinate officers; but by the Act of the 5th and 6th William IV., c 70, the Corporation now consists of a Mayor, six aldermen, and eighteen councillors. The borough first re-

ceived a precept to return representatives to Parliament in the 30th of Edward I., but made no subsequent return till the 4th of James I., since which it has continued to send two members. By the Reform Act of 1832, the right of voting was granted to £10 householders, and by the Act of 1867, to all householders.

Bury comprises the parishes of St. Mary and St. James; the living of each is a donative, the former in the patronage of the Corporation, the latter was in dispute between them and the Bishop of Ely. The Church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious and elegant structure, completed about the year 1433, and is in the later English style, with a low massive tower; the north door is in the decorated style, and the porch, the roof of which is very beautiful, is of later date. The Church of St. James is a large and handsome edifice, in the later style of English architecture, of which the western end is a rich specimen. The Church gate, leading to the precinct of the abbey, is surmounted by a fine Norman tower.

The town is delightfully situated on a gentle eminence, on the western bank of the river Larke, also called the Bourne, in the centre of an open and richly-cultivated tract of country; the streets are spacious, well-paved and lighted with gas. The houses are in general uniform and handsomely built, and the inhabitants are amply supplied with water. The air is salubrious, the environs present interesting scenery, and the peculiar cleanliness of the town, besides the number and variety of its public institutions, render it desirable as a place of residence. Near the North-gate, on the high road to Thetford, are the remains of St. Saviour's Hospital, founded in the reign of King John with an income of 153 marks, where the "good" Duke of Gloucester is supposed to have been murdered. Little beyond it stood St. Thomas' Hospital and Chapel, now a private dwelling, and at half a-mile distant may be traced the site of the old Priory. The Methodists, Baptists, Independents, Roman Catholics, Society of Friends, and Unitarians have Chapels in this town. The Athenæum is a literary institution, the house of which is situated on the Angel Hill, containing library, reading-rooms, concert-rooms, &c.

The Abbey grounds have been converted into Botanic Gardens, to which the Abbey gate forms the principal entrance. No better use could have been made of these grounds, which are an agreeable promenade, supported by annual subscriptions of two guineas each member. There agricultural and horticultural exhibitions have been frequently held, attracting thousands of visitors, who have been highly delighted by the magnificent displays of floral beauty, more especially when the Royal Society visited the town in 1867. The Abbey grounds then presented the appearance of a great industrial camp, for a whole week. Contemporaneously with the show of the Royal Agricultural Society, the Royal

Horticultural Society held an exhibition of great merit and beauty on grounds adjoining the Botanic Gardens. The display was magnificent, far surpassing any ever held before. In 1872, the local society held a grand show on the archery ground in the Botanic Gardens, affording a great treat to the visitors, especially to the ladies.

If the tourist takes a stroll through the town, he will find many things worthy of note. St. John's Street has not yet lost its old name. Long Brackland, the Brakeland whence Jocelin the chronicler takes his surname. Moyse's Hall, or the Jews' House, is an example of an old Norman dwelling-house, with massive walls and vaulted ground floor. It is now used as a police-station. In Abbeygate Street, Daniel Defoe, author of "Robinson Crusoe," while a resident here, used to attend the preaching of Samuel Bury, the Nonconformist. And near the Angel Hotel is a house in which the boy Louis Philippe lodged while under the care of Madame de Genlis.

The Lark, or Burn, is a tributary of the Greater Ouse, flowing through an open part of the county. This small river has its sources in the district south of Bury, and the stream, as it flows towards that town, is skirted on the right by the park of Rushbrooke, and on the left by that of Hardwicke. The river Linnet, from the great park of Ickworth, here joins the Lark, which about a mile below Bury becomes a navigable stream, and then flows near the little village of Fornham St. Genevieve, celebrated in history as the spot where in 1173 the peaceable retention of the English Crown in the person of Henry II. was decided by a bloody battle, in which 10,000 Flemings were slain.

The environs of Bury offer some pleasant drives to the visitor, and many objects of interest to the lover of nature, the artist, the architect, and the antiquary. The numerous noble and elegant seats are delightfully situated; the Churches are large, and exhibit many beauties of ecclesiastical architecture, particularly of the fifteenth century; and perhaps no district can boast of so many striking examples of the manorial halls of the reign of Elizabeth. The most prominent places of interest and the most delightful are the drives through the two parks of Ampton and Livermere, about five miles north of Bury, which are separated by a fine serpentine piece of water. The gardens at Ampton are kept up with much taste, and the grounds afford many charming views.

The grounds around Barton House, two miles from Bury, were laid out agreeably to the refined taste and excellent judgment of the late Sir Henry E. Bunbury, Bart. The house contains some of the choicest productions of the best painters, and an unequalled collection of the humour and abilities of the pencil of Mr. Bunbury, the celebrated caricaturist. A visit to Barton was a happy incident in the life of Oliver

Goldsmith. The "Jessamy Bride" celebrated by him was the beautiful Mary Horneck, sister of Mrs. Bunbury. Sir Thomas Charles Bunbury, Bart., was descended from Thomas Bunbury, Esq., who was created a baronet in 1681. He married Sarah, daughter of Charles, second Duke of Richmond, for whom George III. formed an early attachment. She was distinguished for beauty; the marriage was dissolved by Act of Parliament in 1776. Sir Charles, as he was usually called, was for many years representative for the County of Suffolk, and was devoted to the turf. He died without issue, and was succeeded by his brother's son, Sir Henry Edward, who inherited his title and estates, and was father of the present owner, Sir Charles Bunbury.

HONINGTON (ALL SAINTS),

A parish in the Hundred of Blackbourn, near Thetford, comprising 1222 acres with about 300 inhabitants. The living is a discharged rectory in the patronage of the Crown; the tithes were commuted for a rent-charge of £336, and the glebe consists of thirty acres, valued at £45 per annum. The Church is an ancient structure with some details of the Norman style. Robert Bloomfield the poet, author of the "Farmer's Boy," and other poems, was born here in 1788. His parents were very poor, like all of their class, and he was literally the farmer's boy delineated in his poem. He describes in the order of the seasons the work of a young farm labourer in this part of the county near 100 years ago, when rural life appears to have retained some of its primitive simplicity. He celebrates some of the scenes with which he was familiar in his youth in strains of sweet pastoral poetry.

EUSTON (ST. GENEVIEVE),

A parish in the Hundred of Blackbourn, near Thetford, comprises 3780A. 3R. 15P. The surface is varied, and the surrounding scenery is of a pleasing character. Euston Hall, the magnificent seat of the Duke of Grafton, was built by the first Earl of Arlington, one of the famous Cabal, whose daughter carried it by marriage to Henry Fitzroy, first Duke of Grafton. The park comprises 1500 acres, and affords many delightful views, celebrated by Robert Bloomfield, the Suffolk poet, who lived for some time in this neighbourhood. The Church is a handsome edifice, and is the place of sepulture of the Grafton family; it contains several monuments of members of that family, also slabs with ancient brasses.

BRANDON (ST. PETER),

A market town and parish, forty miles (north-west) from Ipswich, and seventy-eight (north-north-east) from London. The parish comprises

6759A. OR. 10P., of which the soil is generally a sandy loam, and the substratum chalk; the meadow land is flat and subject to floods. The town consists of two portions designated "Town Street," and "Ferry Street," a mile distant from each other; the latter, which is the chief portion, and through which is the road from London to Lynn, lies on the southern bank of the little Ouse, or Brandon river, which forms the northern boundary of the county, and is here crossed by a neat stone bridge; this river is navigable to Thetford and Lynn. There is a considerable traffic in corn, seeds, malt, coal, timber, iron, bricks, tiles, &c.; there are some extensive rabbit warrens in the neighbourhood, from which 150,000 rabbits are sent annually to the London markets. About 160 females are employed in preparing and cutting rabbit and hare skins for making hats, and felts for the clothiers in Yorkshire. A brewery has also been established. The market is held on Thursday for corn and seeds; and there are fairs on February 14th, June 11th, and November 11th, and a fair is held at Broomhall, about half a-mile distant, on July 7th, for stock. The living is a rectory, with that of Wangford annexed, valued in the King's books at £20 18s. 1½d.; the tithes have been commuted for a gross rent-charge of £560, and there are 102 acres of glebe, valued at £55 per annum. The Church, which is situated midway between the two towns, is in the later style, and consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle, with a lofty embattled tower at the west end. There are places of worship for Primitive and Wesleyan Methodists. A free school was founded in 1646, by Robert Wright, who endowed it with a rent-charge of £40, it was further endowed with eight acres of land, under the Bedford Level Act, and with three under the Brandon Inclosure Act, producing £11 18s. per annum. Various bequests have been made for the benefit of the poor, amounting in the aggregate to about £100 per annum.

Brandon Camp, a square earthwork guarded by a single trench and a rampart, is supposed to have been the Bravinium of the Romans, and to have been occupied by Ostorius Scapula previously to his decisive victory over the brave Caractacus. Several ancient celts and spear heads were dug up about forty years since on the Brandon Hall estate near the fen, which were in the possession of J. Angerstein, Esq., on whose property they were found. The Duke of Hamilton and Brandon takes his English title from this place.

About a mile west from the town, imbedded in the chalk, lie a continuous strata of the finest flint. On the rising ground, within 100 feet from the surface, there are seven different strata of flint, separated by as many layers of chalk. In the neighbourhood there are extensive flint quarries called "Grime's Graves," long supposed to be a British cemetery.

In 1868 Canon Greenwell, with some scientific friends, paid a visit to

the graves, and determined to solve the problem of their origin. To accomplish this, however, proved to be a far more formidable and expensive undertaking than was at first contemplated, but after three years' exploration, he had the gratification of proving, on April 4th, 1870, that they were flint quarries. A circular shaft, some thirty feet over one, was sunk to the depth of forty-two feet, when the workmen came upon the solid floor of the pit, amid the cheers of the spectators. Hardly had they cleared away the *débris* than a gallery was exposed to view, and on entering the passage to the distance of eighteen feet, an exclamation of joy burst from the pioneers. On the floor of the gallery, at the extreme end, lay two primitive picks *in situ*, with a splendid ground stone axe, the skeleton of a bird, a chalk bowl or lamp, and other curious relics. The tools had evidently been left in the cave at night, when the natives of old left their work, and when they returned next day, the gallery had caved in and exposed a shaft in the rock, which made it extremely dangerous to work there again. On the following day, another gallery was discovered by the workmen, running at right angles to the former, the entrance to which was so small that those who dared to enter had to lie quite flat and crawl like a snail after the man who carried the light. The second gallery was found to be twenty-seven feet in length, and to communicate with another grave, unopened. At the end of it a broken pick was found, and a quantity of charcoal, but no other remains. From certain appearances, it was expected that other galleries would be discovered leading into other graves as soon as the *débris* could be cleared away. There could be no longer any doubt as to the original purpose of these pits or graves. Clearly they were made for the purpose of quarrying flint, which is here of superior quality, and the implements used were the antlers of the red and the roe deer and stone hatchets.

As there are upwards of 200 of these pits, flint quarrying must have been carried on to a very great extent at a very early period, no doubt for the supply of weapons used in hunting or war. The flints were so used for the manufacture of implements at a time when metals were unknown; and therefore before the appearance of the Romans on the scene, before the town of Brandon became famous for the production of gun flints, the old parish of Weeting-cum-Broomhill must have been no less so for the manufacture of flint weapons used by the Iceni and other ancient Britons.

#### MILDENHALL (ST. MARY),

A market town and parish, and the head of a Union, in the Hundred of Lackford, West Division of the County of Suffolk, thirty-eight and a-half miles (north-west) from Ipswich, and seventy (north-north-east) from London. The town is situated on a tributary of the river Ouse, called

the Lark, which is navigable along the south and west borders of the parish; and the road from Norwich to London through Newmarket, bounds a very small part of the east. It includes, besides one principal and several smaller streets, others of considerable extent, forming detached portions, reaching towards the fens on the north-west. The inhabitants are well supplied with water. A small spinning mill for raw silk affords employment chiefly for children, but the principal branch of commerce is the exportation of grain and other commodities. A market is held on Friday, and is well supplied with fish, wild fowl, and provisions in general, and there is a fair on October 10th for toys, pedlery, &c. The parish comprises by computation about 16,000 acres. The living is a vicarage, valued in the King's books at £22 8s. 2½d; net income £369; patron and impropiator Sir H. E. Bunbury, Bart.; the tithes were commuted for land and money payments, under an Act of Inclosure in 1807. The Church is a large handsome structure, with a lofty tower; the ceiling is of woodwork, richly carved, and the entrance is through a highly-finished old English porch; in the interior are several ancient monuments, particularly of the family of North. There are places of worship for Baptists, the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, and Wesleyans. A National School for girls is supported by subscription and a small endowment; and an almshouse for four widows was founded in 1722 by Sir Thomas Hanmer. In 1567 a great part of the town was consumed by fire, but then the houses were nearly all timber structures covered with thatch.

There are only now a very few places so slightly affected by the "improvements of the age," and so little visited by the eager throng of sightseers, as to be interesting to the student of the curious, the antiquary, or the traveller. Somehow or other, railways and electric telegraphs, while they have brought most places nearer to the great throbbing centres of commerce and civilization, have so destroyed the individuality of others as to render objects that were at one time both interesting and instructive mere common-place attractions and every-day sights. Not so, however, in the case of this town. Thanks to the lack of enterprise of a certain well-known railway company, this town, containing over 2000 inhabitants, and the centre of a district with a population of 6000, is without railway accommodation nearer than seven miles, and rejoices in the primitive simplicity represented by carrier's carts and other similar modes of conveyance. Long may it so remain, for a more beautiful and picturesque spot does not exist in the whole of the east of England. It is the capital, so to speak, of quite a cluster of villages and hamlets, all of which rejoice in comparative seclusion from the outer world. It is true that there are railway stations that bear the name of some of them, but by

the oddest and happiest arrangement possible, it so happens that they are all several miles distant, while in the case of Mildenhall, there is the exceptionally curious circumstance that the station bearing its name is not the nearest to it by a couple of miles or more. Mildenhall Road, on the Great Eastern Railway, is the station so situated, and like many other stations on the same route, all that can be said of it is that it is on the road to Mildenhall. It is a cruel jest on the part of the booking-clerk at Bishopgate to hand you a ticket for "Mildenhall Road" when you want to go to Mildenhall; but you have the consolation, when you get to the end of your first stage, of finding out what it is to "Wait for the waggon," and of getting a "cast" in any stray vehicle that may be going towards the town. For you must know that Mildenhall so prides itself at being cut off from the outer world, that it does not encourage visitors by means of the vulgar expedient of the hotel omnibus that "meets every train," and of the night porter who is "always in attendance." Laughable stories are told with immense gusto of commercial travellers who, set down in the middle of a desert, as it were, with quite a ton of samples and luggage, have been constrained to risk the dangerous expedient of "hiring" to the town, only to return the next day with the cruel answer of the indignant tradesman ringing in their ears, "Nothing wanted to-day, thank you." It is said that a branch line was once surveyed for; but the surveyor, either being a man of "Mildenhall" himself, or sympathising deeply with the exclusiveness of the people, bungled the survey, and the Bill was thrown out. But who would have a railway to Mildenhall so long as he is free to enjoy the bracing drive from Newmarket across the "Bury hills," and through the delightful avenue of elms that encloses the road for the best part of a couple of miles. Passing the "Half-way House," which is half a road-side inn and half a farm-house, and prides itself upon supplying the best tankard of "home-brewed" in the county, you diverge from the Norwich Road to the left, and glide through the pretty little hamlet of Warlington, with its "village smithy," and the quaint old house of its "oldest residenter." The district is purely agricultural, and the trim farmyards, with their large, well-built, and gaily decorated stacks, speak of a season of plenty, as well as of peace. Nothing of Mildenhall is visible till you have quite entered its sacred precincts, except its square Church tower, which is seen distinctly quite a couple of miles away. Rising out of the midst of what appears at a distance a clump of trees, and with that peculiar glint of sunshine upon it which is only experienced now and then in the quiet winter afternoon, it is at once a striking and beautiful object. The town itself, nestled among the trees, and partly surrounded by what must have been intended for a moat, only that there is a

stone bridge instead of a drawbridge across it, seems to have been destined by nature to remain the secluded spot it really is. Its old Church, said to be of the 13th or 14th century, and its ancient churchyard, filled with the tombstones of many a "village Hampden," speaks of a time when it must have been the great centre of interest, if not of civilization itself, to the surrounding country. Here are buried the remains of several generations of the great North family; while of the lords of the manor and squires of the county, a goodly number have found a last resting place within the sacred edifice. The tower, we find on closer inspection, has been restored within the last eight or ten years, and the striking effect of the sunlight upon it is accounted for by the glistening and shiny surface of the flints of which it is built, and on which, indeed, the greater part of the Church itself is encased. Probably on account of its inaccessibility Mildenhall has a now resident vicar—albeit the living is worth some £700 or £800 a year. This is a circumstance which has evidently not been lost upon the Nonconformists, of whom we find no fewer than three different sects represented in the little town, viz., the Wesleyans, the Calvinists, and the Baptists. True to the general features of ancient simplicity which characterise this unique little town, Mildenhall has allowed no display of architecture, as we understand the term, at least in connection with its more modern religious edifice. The Calvinists we find in a severely plain, flint-built structure, with the impressive words "Jehovah Jirah" over the entrance; while the Wesleyans and Baptists have located themselves in barn-like erections, as is their wont.

To the lover of antiquities in architecture, Mildenhall is a perfect store-house of interest, for nowhere in the same space will he find such a number of quaint old-fashioned houses as adorn its little market-place, and constitute what may be called its High Street. Picturesque old gable ends, projecting almost into the middle of the street, and ornamented with a sort of scroll-cut boarding; and thatched roofs, with the largest looking chimneys imaginable, are the leading features of the place. Here and there is a house standing in its own grounds, and delightfully enveloped in the clinging embrace of the Virginia creeper, which lends additional natural beauty to the already pleasing picture. Nor must we omit to mention the "Manor House," the ancestral residence of the Bunbury's—one of the most peculiar conglomerations of buildings of all sizes and shapes that can be well imagined. But not outwardly alone is there much to admire in the buildings of Mildenhall houses, most of them have descended through many generations, and been in the family from time immemorial. Within their latticed windows the evening fire burns brightly, revealing to the passer-by just such snug, cosy, welcome corners as are alone to be found in the good old-fashioned country houses

of a hundred years ago. The outward appearance of Mildenhall is suggestive more of comfort than of wealth, and yet of that comfort—steady, solid, enduring—that can hardly be attained without more or less of wealth. The shops are of a character with the houses; and if it may be taken as an indication of the wealth of the place, it may be mentioned that there are two jeweller's shops. In one of these there is an attempt at attraction, which might do credit to the resources of a much more ambitious establishment. Some of the more showy articles are fixed on a revolving frame under a glass case—the power being communicated by a miniature steam engine, also shown in the window; and the effect on a stranger, who may not even expect to find a jeweller, much less a steam engine, in Mildenhall, is somewhat curious.

We finish our description of the towns of Suffolk at this western extremity of the county. We have now surveyed each county and every town in Eastern England, showing the rise and progress of every place. How and where the towns arose is a necessary part of a provincial history. We have followed the footsteps of the Romans from Essex through Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, and Suffolk. They built camps, forts, and towns, and established colonies and introduced useful arts.

If we consider the rise and progress of our towns in East Anglia, we shall find that the process of their growth was very simple. They grew up around castles and abbeys for the sake of protection, round ports for the sake of trade, or near rivers for the sake of water transit. In former ages people were compelled to live together as close as possible in order to work together, and by their union they discovered their power. The history of any one town is very similar to the history of any other town in the Eastern Counties, at least during the middle ages.

All the towns of East Anglia were originally of small size, mere clusters of huts, built of timber, but they increased in size as population slowly increased. Most of the houses, even of the rich, had thatched roofs till the last century. Fires have done more towards beautifying many of the towns in Norfolk and Suffolk than any other cause. But for this calamitous element, neither Norwich, Dereham, Watton, Hingham, Wymondham, Southwold, and other places would have been noted for their handsome buildings. As a sudden inundation of water sometimes carries away bridges that were perilous to travellers, so an accidental conflagration levels old buildings which would otherwise long remain obstacles to improvement.

## NAMES OF PLACES IN EASTERN ENGLAND.

In any inquiry respecting the early colonization of the Eastern Counties, the names of places should be carefully considered; but hitherto the subject has been imperfectly investigated. The Rev. F. Blomefield and the Rev. C. Parkin, in their History of Norfolk, give many fanciful derivations of the names of towns and villages. The late Mr. Mundford was more successful in his treatment of the subject, which he fully elucidated as far as regards places in Norfolk.

We must keep in mind the fact that England has been overrun by Romans, Angles, Saxons, Jutes, Danes, and Normans, to say nothing of occasional visits from other people. Hence the original language has been almost expelled, except in the extreme solitudes of Wales, or in the far Northern Highlands of Scotland. When we carefully study the names of places, we are first of all met by the fact that only some of those of rivers, mountains, or other natural objects are ancient British or Celtic; all other names of places, towns, or villages are either Anglo-Saxon, Danish, or Norman.

There is a remarkable distinction between the remains left in this country by the Romans and those left by their Teutonic successors, the Angles and kindred tribes. The altars, inscriptions, coins, and buried ruins of cities and towns of the former people are scattered in all directions, but these are almost the only witnesses, independent of history, that the Roman standard ever waved over our soil; and our local nomenclature bears but slight traces of the fact that the Romans were masters of our island for 400 years. We might almost suppose that they named few of the towns which they built. Very few places indeed retain either the original or the Roman names. In Essex, Camulodunum was changed into Colchester from the Latin *Colonia* and *Castrum* or Chester, a fort or camp. Cæsaromagus was changed into Chelmsford; Camboricum into Cambridge. There are two Caistors in Norfolk, from the Latin *Castrum*; Caistor near Yarmouth and Caistor near Norwich, the sites of Roman camps; also two Strattons and Stradset, from the Latin *Stratum* or Street.

After the departure of the Romans from this island, the Angles, Saxons, and other Northern tribes took possession of the country, and gave their own names to places.

The Angles in this eastern district seemed to have expelled, or almost exterminated, the male descendants of the native Icenic race, but to have kept the women, so that a Celtic element was preserved in the nation.

Some genuine Celtic words still remain in our language, and these words apply to feminine occupations and articles of feminine use, such as *basket*, *barrow*, *button*, *bran*, *clout*, *crook*, *crook*, *gusset*, *kiln*, *dainty*, *darn*, *tenter* (in *tenter hook*), *fleam*, *flan*, *flannel*, *gyre*, *griddle* (*gridiron*), *gruel*, *welt*, *wicket*, *gown*, *wire*, *mesh*, *mattock*, *imp*, *rail*, *rasher*, *rug*, *solder*, *tackle*, &c.

The physical aspect of the country during the Anglo-Saxon period is indicated by the names of places. The rank and reedy marsh was spread over a vast extent of its surface. Miles and miles of jungle then existed where teeming populations now live, and where all the appliances of civilisation are at work. Small portions of land were almost always insulated, and immense marshes and fens and broad outspread heaths in all parts of the island occupied the greater portion of its surface. This was not the state of districts only, but of the whole country. In twenty counties we still find places whose names tell that they were the sites of ancient marshes, suggesting that the wild sea mew cried and the wild fowl shrieked where trade now thrives amid happy British homes. Rushall, Rushbury, Rushbrooke, Rushford, and many other names tell that those places were once overspread by rushes. No written record is required to tell the condition of Fen Ditton, Fen Stanton, &c.; while even in the heart of the great metropolis, the state of the place is still preserved in the names of Fensbury or Finsbury. The situation of a place near meadows also served to originate its name, as in the case of Meadhampstead, now Peterborough, and Castle Meadow in Norwich.

The vicinity of places to meres or small lakes is indicated by the names Hazelmere, Livermere, Mereston, &c., and Westmoreland (West-mereland) was the land to the west of the meres or lakes. Many other names prove that the country was nearly all covered by water meres, lakes, bogs, marshes, and streams. Many places derived their names from being the sources of rivers, and great numbers from the places where they were forded, as Deptford (Deepford), Chelmsford, Thetford, and Larlingford. The names of trees gave rise to much of the nomenclature of places. "Ac" was Saxon for oak, and from the number of names in which this name occurs oaks appear to have been abundant, and the principal trees of the forest. Forty names of places indicate the prevalence of the beech tree formerly, and from the number of names in which "sel" or seal is found, it is clear that the sallow or willow was abundant, and lovers might often sing, "meet me in the willow glen," but now a willow glen is rare indeed. The prevalence of the ash gave rise to the names of 120 places, and the tangled and shaggy appearance of the country is attested by fifty places that preserve the name of "thorn."

The situation of places in reference to each other suggested an obvious mode of naming them. Thus a large tract of land, north of the river

Humber was North Humber land, now Northumberland; then Westmoreland was Westmere land, or the land west of the meres or lakes. The same rule applies to Northfolk and Southfolk, now Norfolk and Suffolk, also Sudburgh or Sudbury, the most southern borough in Suffolk. About 230 towns and villages were thus named from their geographical position.

The names of nearly all places in Essex are of Anglo-Saxon origin, denoting either names of the early settlers or the nature of the place, or both. Thus Mælo, Stœna, Boca, gave their names to Malling, Steyning, Bocking; and other settlers to Barking, Tendring, Messing, Manning, Halling, Epping, all in Essex, the termination "ing" signifying a meadow. The termination "ham" in hundreds of instances denotes a village; "ley" denotes a pasture, as in Bromley, Oakley, Weeley, Takely, all in Essex; "field" and "ford" plainly intimate places near a field or ford, in all counties.

Blackmore is named from the colour of the soil or moor; Broomfield, from the fields of broom; Harmingfield, from "harm" and "ing," rich pasture field; Leighs or Leys, from pasture or untilled land; Roxwell, from the rocky soil and its wells; Runwell, from a running well; Springfield, from field of springs; Waltham, from villages in a wood; Wedford, the river Wed and its ford; Hallingbury, from "hal," healthy, "ing," a meadow, and "bury," a dwelling; Neatswell, from the Saxon "neat," for cattle, and "well," cattle well; Sheering, the shire or county meadow; South Weald means south wood; Fairstead, a fair place.

Layer Marney, Layer Breton, and Layer-de-la-Hay, so named from the brook running through them, anciently called *Lare*, and the names of their respective owners. Fingringhoe and Langenhoe, each name composed of three Saxon words—*Lang* and hoe—Long hill. East Mersea and West Mersea, a marsh and island; "ea" expressed water. Ashen, named from the ashes growing there. Brundon, the brown hill. Birdbrook, a brook frequented by birds. Felstead, from "fell," a hill, and "stede," a place. Gosfield, gorse or heath and field. Halstead, from "hal," high, and "stede," a place. Maple Stede, a place full of maples. Many other places in Essex are named in like manner from their nature or situation.

In Cambridgeshire there are many names of places ending with ford, as Duxford, Witchford, Shelford, Stapleford, and others, names of places near a ford; also many names ending with ton, denoting a town, as Abington, Royston, Wood Ditton, Linton, Cherry Hinton, Fen Ditton. Kingston, Doddington, Stanton, Weston, Sutton, Foxton, all these being small towns to which the early settlers gave their names. Hoc means a hill, holt a wood, and stede a place, as in Carrhoe, Bergholt, Boxted, Hempsted, Stansted; burg of course means a burgh or borough, as in Tilbury, Sudbury, Littlebury, St. Edmund's Bury.

Thus in the terminations of these village names we can glean no slight information as to the state of the district, the geographical relations or forgotten changes of nearly a thousand years. Each name is a fossil, preserving the outward shape which it had when it was spoken by living men just as the fossil is all that remains of a creature which once enjoyed life. We know less about the prefixes of our village names than of their terminations, but, as before observed, the prefixes were generally taken from the name of the first founder of the settlement.

The initial syllable of a very large proportion of the local names in East Anglia has reference to the personal appellation of the original settler, or that of the family of which he was the founder. This element enters far more largely into the composition of local names in England than is generally supposed. The terminal member, or part of the name, generally designates the settlement or neighbourhood to be described, as *ham, ton, ford, field*.

The names of places sufficiently indicate who were the early settlers in East Anglia, that they were not the Saxons proper, as in Sussex, but the Angles first and then the Danes. Palgrave says:—"As the Anglian settlements in England were afterwards so completely conquered and occupied by the Danes that Danish names of many important towns superseded the English, and as the south of England was chiefly occupied by Jutes and Saxons, it would seem that the Teutonic inhabitants of Scotland are now the purest English."

Nearly all our earliest compositions in prose or verse are full of the phrase, "that is, *en Englisc*." Nearly all our earliest laws refer to the Engel kin. Nearly all our earliest coins bear the inscription "Rex Anglorum." Hence it is evident that the term Anglo-Saxon is inappropriate as applied to any remains in East Anglia. The Saxons proper never lived in this Eastern district, and therefore left no remains, and it has been proved that no buildings can be referred to the Saxon period. The Saxon was a distinct dialect, spoken by a distinct tribe located in the south of England.

There are about 1,400 places named from families in English counties, generally with some termination denoting settled habitations, as *holt, wood, hurst, fold, ham, tun, worth, stede, hall, ton*. Thus the Ebingers gave their name to Abinger, Abinghall, Abington; the Buslingers to Buslingthorpe, the Fealdingers to Faldingworth, the Hemings to Hemingsby. A similar mode of naming has been applied to roads in the Eastern Counties, and some towns retain the names of strongholds or fortifications. Kenninghall, in Norfolk, was no doubt originally named from a family of the name of Kenning. Arminghall was so named from the Armings.

Mr. Kemble supposes that as 190 names end with *ton*, *ham*, *thorpe*, *worth*, in the eastern and southern counties, and twenty-two more in counties easily accessible through streams, they were probably the original seats of the early marks; and that the settlements distinguished by the addition of *ham*, *wic*, to these original names were filial settlements or small colonies from them. Hence the names of Rudham, Walsham, Aylsham, Dereham, Fakenham, Reepham, Swaffham, Downham in Norfolk, also Finningham, Needham, Framlingham, Saxmundham in Suffolk. This good old Anglo-Saxon word *ham* is that which has given us our still dearer word "home!" The Angles generally settled in a clannish form, under a leader, and his "ham" or "home" had his name given to it. For instance, "Walsham" means the home of Waelse, an East-Anglian chief. There are more villages in Norfolk and Suffolk whose names end in *ham* than in any other counties in England. There are many others named from their situation near some river.

*Tedford*, *Tetford*, and *Tefford*, the Saxon names of Thetford, are evidently but variations in spelling, meaning alike the ford, or most frequented passages over the waters before the use of bridges was generally known. The modern name, Thetford, is but another small variation from the Saxon, has the same meaning, and no reference to the town being situated on the THET, there being no river of that name.

Yarmouth of course derived its name from being at the mouth of the river Yar or Yare. Norwich was called Nordwic, or Northwic, from its situation. Camden says, so far is the City of Norwich from having been built either by Cæsar or Guiteline the Briton, as some fabulous authors assert, that the word Norwich is not anywhere to be found before the Danish wars. Camden says that Lynn derives its name from the British word Llyn, which means a lake, pool, or spreading waters; and that it is not a place of any antiquity. Spelman derives the name from Len, in Saxon a farm or tenure in fee; and Len Episcopi, as it was called, meant the bishop's farm. It is not difficult to discover from many other village names that another people beside the Angles invaded East Anglia and even remained long enough to give the names in their own language to the places they occupied. We can trace the spots along the eastern coast where the Danes were in the habit of landing, by the great number of villages which still retain Danish names.

Most of the parishes in the hundreds of East and West Flegg have names terminating in *by*; a proof of their Danish origin—"by" in Danish signifying a village. Thus we have Ormesby, Rollesby, Filby, Mautby, Scratby, Ashby, Thrigby, Billockby, and others. The name Flegg is probably from the Dutch "vluk," or "flukke," flat. Of twenty-four parishes in Flegg, fourteen have this "by" termination. Martham

and Runham should probably be Martholm and Runholm, "mart" being the Icelandic "mörd," or rain, and "run" the Icelandic "runn," or "hrunn," a bush, "holm" signifying a low flat ground surrounded by water, like St. Bennets-at-Holm, near Dilham.

A part of Martham is still called "the holms." Runhall and Runtou, in Norfolk, may take their names from "runn." And perhaps Runnymede, where Magna Charta was granted, may signify "the bushy meadow." We cannot always account for the initial syllables of the names ending in "by." Ashby probably took its name from some large ash tree, perhaps a remarkable object, swept by the sea breezes, as Thurn might from a thorn. Thus we have at Norwich St. Michael's-at-Thorn. Billockby may come from the Danish "bilay," an enclosure, or from the Anglo-Saxon form "bœlg," a bulyinger belly. Rollesby may be from "Hrolf," or Rollo, the celebrated Norse king.

Thrigby may be from "Triggve," the father or son of King Olave, the saint whose name is given to St. Olave's Bridge over the Wavcney. Ormesby may be from "Gorm," the Danish King, the Guthrum of our English histories; or from "Orm," a worm or serpent, a common name of a Viking's ship. Acle may signify an oak by "Ac" and "lea," a field or plain. Old-fashioned people till recently called it Oakley, and its woods, with some very fine oaks, have been much reduced within a few years. Humbleyard from an old word humble or humle (*Humerlus*) the hop, a hop garden. There are places called Humble-toft in East Dereham and South Burlingham.

Smithdown Hundred, formerly Smithdun, is from the word *smeeth*, still retained in the Norfolk dialect to signify a place or a table land, from the same root as *smooth*. It comprises some elevated plains of great extent. Weyland, is perhaps from the Dutch "*weiland*," pasture, but more probably from *Weland* or *Weyland*, the Vulcan of Northern mythology. Aylsham, formerly Eglesham, perhaps from *Ægel* or *Eigil*, the brother of *Wieland*. Palgrave is derived from *Phal*, who was the same as *Baldin*, the favourite son of *Odin*, who also may have given his name to *Palling* (*ing* signifying a meadow in Danish). *Horning*, *Snoring*, *Blickling*, *Seething*, *Hickling*, *Honing*, *Scarning*, also denote places near meadows. *Clavering* Hundred may be clover meadow. *Happing* Hundred may take its first syllable from the Swedish "*hap*," an isolated piece of land, from whence *Happisburg* and *Hapton*. *Carbrooke* and *Carrow* are from the ancient word "*car*," an osier and alder car or bog where osiers grow. *Car* means a small wood, and *hoe* a hill, hence *Carrhoe* or *Carrow*. *Grimshoe* is also a place on a hill, so called from a Danish chieftain; literally *Grimes* hill. The syllable "*Sco*" in *Sco Ruston* and *Haddiscoe* is the Danish "*Skow*, or *Skogr*," a straw or coppice. In

Runham and some other villages, there are fields called scow fields, beyond doubt the sites of former thickets. Haveringland and Havergate are from "Haver," the old name for oats. The Rocklands may have taken their names from boulders, as between Merton and Threxton a very large one is still to be seen, or from roke vapour which prevails in those wet lands. The name is spelt Rokeland in the "Rotuli Hundredorum." Fincham may have taken its name from Fin, the Frisian King commemorated in the ancient poem of Beowulf; while Hildeburg his wife gave her name to Hilborough.

Thorpe is a Danish village name, meaning an aggregation of houses, and it is the termination of many names of villages—as Bowthorpe, Ashwelthorpe. Kirk, as in Kirby Kirstead, meant a temple, and afterwards a church. Kirstead is equally Danish, and means a swine pasture. Holt simply means a wood, and has been retained as the name of a town long after the forest has been cleared. The name Stoke has been a subject of much discussion; some think it meant a stockade, while Ihre, the great Swedish lexicographer, says it signifies a ferry, as Stoke Ferry, in Norfolk.

There is another name of historical interest, illustrating the political condition of the East Angles. In certain charters mention is made of the Dinghowe at Bury in connection with certain dues which King Edward granted to St. Edmund. This at once brings before us the Ding, an ancient Scandinavian Court, of which we heard so much during the Danish wars. The Storthing, the Volkthing is preserved in the name of Dingwall. Worthing enables us to imagine the ancient inhabitants of Suffolk, who met at stated times at the Thinghill or Thinghoe to pay into court the dues of sac or soc to the appointed officer. This Dinghowe or Thinghoe may be a memorial of the Danish occupation of East Anglia. Hence the name of the Hundred of Thinghoe.

Woodbrigge, anciently Wodenbrigge, may have been named from the Anglo-Saxon god, Woden. Stowmarket was formerly called Thorna or Thorne Market, from the Saxon god Thor, and ea water, alluding to the river near the place.

The names of towns ending in wic or wich seem to have indicated a fort or stronghold, as Northwic (Norwich), Ipswich, Dunwich, Greenwich, Sandwich, Nantwich, all of which were fortified places. Stow indicated some place of burial, as Felixstow, the burial place of St. Felix, the first bishop of East Anglia, Stowmarket, &c. The meaning of the termination worth is not so clearly ascertained, as in Ickworth, Horningworth, Halesworth, Hepworth, Panxworth, but probably meant the place or land of some family.

There is another interesting field of historical inquiry opened before us

by the numerous moats round mansions in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. These moats seem to indicate that, after the Danish invasions, the Angles entrenched themselves within moats, some of which are great works. There is scarcely a parish in all Suffolk without a moat, and some of these are stupendous works, as at Chevington, Burrow, Rushbrooke, and some of these moats are of great antiquity. In some places there are moats so extensive that they seem to have been designed for whole tribes, as at Kenninghall in Norfolk. There are several houses inclosed within a moat in the immediate neighbourhood of an old Saxon palace where it is supposed the Kings of East Anglia once resided. There are few if any remains of any other kind of work of the Angles in the Eastern Counties. For many centuries there was a constant contest between the Angles and the Danes in this district, and the incessant warfare prevented any progress in the arts of peace. The Danes came over the sea in such large numbers, and so frequently, that they ultimately obtained possession of all the land in Norfolk and Suffolk, and became the parent stock of the people. The Danes, in black armour, spread themselves in battle array over the entire district, killed all the men, and burnt all the towns and villages and most of the churches. Hence there are no remains of Anglo-Saxon buildings. Norfolk and Suffolk appear to have been colonised by the Danes who kept possession of East Anglia till the Norman conquest.

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The following Peers, Barons, Baronets, and Knights have seats in Suffolk:—The Duke of Grafton, Euston Hall; the Duke of Hamilton, Easton Park; the Duke of Rutland, Cheveley Park; the Marquis of Bristol, Ickworth Park; the Earl of Guildford, Glemham Hall; the Earl of Stradbroke, Henham Hall; Baron Gwydyr, Stoke Park; Baron Henniker, Thornham Hall; Baron Huntingfield, Heveningham Hall; Baron Rendlesham, Rendlesham Hall; Baron Thurlow, Ashfield House; Lord A. W. Beauclerk, Leiston; Sir R. A. Shafto Adair, Bart., Flixton Hall; Sir Robert Affleck, Bart., Dalham Hall; Sir H. E. Blake, Bart., Ashfield Lodge; Sir G. N. B. Middleton, Shrubland Park; Sir Charles J. F. Bunbury, Bart., Barton Hall; Sir Charles Clarke, Bart., Worlingham Hall; Sir E. C. Kerrison, Bart., Oakley Park; Sir William Parker, Bart., Melford Hall; Sir E. R. Gage, Hengrave Hall; Sir Robert Pigot, Bart., Branches Park; Sir Charles Robert Rowley, Tendring Hall; Sir Baldwin Wake Walker, Bart., Oakley House; Sir Thomas B. Western, Bart., Tattingston Place, Ipswich; Sir William Rose, K.C.B., Leiston Old Abbey; Sir John Ralph Blois, Cockfield Hall, Yoxford.

## CHAPTER VII.

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### THE BRITISH AND ROMAN PERIOD.

**N**O connected narrative of events in the Eastern Counties has ever been published before the present work. The so-called county histories contain only topographical descriptions of places and genealogies of families. We might almost suppose that no annals of East Anglia ever existed, and, indeed, the sources of information respecting the early period are very scanty as regards the whole island, and more so in reference to this Eastern part of the country. Still there are materials for a brief summary of the general course of events.

The origin of the earliest inhabitants of this island is open to many doubts, but we have good evidence that at a very remote period the descendants of the ancient Cimmerici or Cymry dwelt in this country, and that from the same great family sprang the Celtic tribes, a portion of which at least inhabited the opposite coast of France. At what time the Cymry and Celts first peopled England we have no record, though there is no lack of proof that they were well known to the early Phœnician voyagers, and that the ancient Greeks were acquainted with the British islands by the name of Cassiterides or the Islands of Tin.

By the aid of the few hints which are scattered over the works of the Greek and Roman writers, the existence of a few remaining monuments, and the discoveries which have been made through numberless excavations all over the land, we can just make out enough of the dim forms of the ancient Britons to see their mode of life, and their habits in peace and war. We have the authority of the Roman authors to prove that the Britons were a tall, large-limbed, and muscular race, that they wore their hair long and thrown back over their shoulders, which must have given them a wild appearance in battle.

The Roman authors all assert that the ancient Britons were a tribe of Gauls or Celts, who came over the sea from the Continent, and it is evident that the district on the Essex side of the Thames was one of their

earliest settlements, the inhabitants there being called Trinobantes or Trinovantes, names which etymologists have traced to mean "the country beyond the stream." That this tribe was numerous and powerful is proved by the fact that its chief or king Cassibellanus was selected as the commander-in-Chief of the united British forces assembled to repel the invasion of Julius Cæsar.

Before that event the natives were free and independent. They were divided into states and principalities, and had a military form of government; but they enjoyed a large share of liberty. Indeed that stubborn character of independence which has manifested itself through ages appears to be indigenous to the soil. "They were at times fond of liberty almost to a degree of madness, and were then so tenacious of it, as to yield up their lives a voluntary sacrifice, rather than submit to what had to them only the appearance of slavery, which they so abhorred and detested."

About 350 years before our era, the Belgic, a tribe of the Celtic, race landed on the north side of the Thames with hostile views and intentions of conquest. They occupied a part of the Eastern district, and are said to have laid the original foundation of *Camulodunum* (Colchester). They had a senate and council; factions and parties prevailed in their villages, the effect even then as now of freedom. Industry and commerce were to some extent developed, and foreign merchants had stations in several parts of the coast.

If any ancient Briton ever took his stand on Laindon or Danbury hills in Essex, a woodland scene would have appeared extended before him of which he could see no limit and through which he could scarcely force his way. The district was, however, well peopled. Their dwellings were mere huts, formed of poles cut from the forest, and covered with skins, thick boughs or turf which might be seen in the thickets. Clustered together as the shelter or surface of the ground suited, without order or arrangement, these collections of hovels formed villages.

According to the Roman authors, the Trinobantes were the aborigines of the county now called Essex when it was all one vast forest; but we have few remains of their roads, buildings, or productions. The native names of some places have been traced to their ancient British origin, which names generally designated some natural features, as in the name *Camulodunum*, where the Romans established their first colony, and where Colchester now stands surrounded by the ruins of a Roman fortress.

The ancient British name is said to have been *Cam-a-lann-indam*, signifying a town on a hill, at the winding of a river, afterwards Latinized into *Camulodunum* which Dion Cassius expressly mentions as the residence of the King Cunobeline and the capital of the Trinobantes. This is confirmed by the number of gold and silver coins found at Colchester, show-

ing the letters C. V. N. O., or C. N. O. B., on one side for Cunobeline, and Cam on the other side for the name of the town.

THE ABORIGINES OF EAST ANGLIA.

A district nearly corresponding with the Counties of Norfolk and Suffolk was occupied by the Icenii, a war-like tribe, whose ancestors emigrated from Gaul. The exact limits of their country is very difficult to settle, and as the point is of some importance, it has caused a great deal of controversy. The only way of escaping from the difficulty is to suppose that the Icenii or kindred tribes occupied a considerably larger surface of country than is usually assigned to them, and extended their frontiers to the borders of Essex, Hertfordshire, and Cambridgeshire.

What was the state of the Eastern district before the Christian era, what sort of people lived in it, and how they lived, has not yet been well ascertained. There is extant a legendary account of a long succession of chiefs or kings, who reigned during a thousand years after the siege of Troy. This account was probably the invention of the ancient chroniclers, who draw a good deal on their imaginations for facts. The Roman historians gave only brief notices of the natives of this island at the time of the Roman invasions, but it appears that the Icenii in this district made desperate struggles for their independence.

Traces of the history of the aborigines have been found in the names of roads and places. Some Icenic names are supposed to remain in several towns of Norfolk and Suffolk. The Icknield street, said to be a Celtic road, passes through those counties. Remains have been discovered of ancient British trackways, of fortresses in the woods, of towns in the forests, of the foundations of huts or houses, of pottery, coins, implements, and weapons of war, dug out of many burial-places of the dead.

The researches of late years with regard to pre-historic races of men inhabiting this Eastern district, have led to the conclusion that East Anglia was inhabited by tribes even before the invasion of the Celts, who are the earliest people mentioned in history. Thetford is surrounded by ancient burial mounds of a very early period; and remains of human productions have been found associated with extinct mammalia. These burial mounds are of two kinds, and belong to two distinct periods of human history. They consist of elongated and circular burrows, but the circular burrows or tumuli are by far the most common, for while Thetford is surrounded by the latter, the former are only known to exist on Burnham Cross Common.

Among the early Celtic or Icenic remains in Thetford and its vicinity, in addition to the earthworks on the east side of the town, should be mentioned the elongated tumuli on the south side, the site of Redhill,

in the valley of the Ouse, Santon Downham, Broomhill, and Weeting. Of the former of these no sufficient examination has yet been made. Redhill has produced evidence of the existence of man at a very early period. Weeting is remarkable for "Grimes Graves," which are the remains of ancient British flint quarries.

The ancient Britons seem to have been remarkable for the construction of military earthworks raised for security against the assaults of enemies. There are remains of such earthworks on a large scale at Norwich, Thetford, Castle Acre, and Castle Rising. The original mound or hill at Norwich was probably partly the work of nature, and partly of human labour, gradually improved in the course of ages to its present form.

The northern part of Norfolk appears to have been densely peopled by the Iceni, as indicated by the burrows, pits, and remains of dwellings or villages near Cromer. There is the site of a large British village, consisting of remains of several thousand inhabitants. It begins at Felbrigg and runs up to Beeston. It is divided across the middle by a bank, the base of which is from twelve to twenty feet in width. At each end of this encampment are two large burial grounds where have been found quantities of pottery. At Weybourne there are above a thousand pits, supposed to have been Icenic dwellings or hiding places.

There are many other remains of the Iceni in the Eastern district, some hundreds of mounds, which seem to have been the burial places of the dead, and of thousands who fell fighting on many a field, on many a hill, in many a vale, when all Norfolk was a vast common like Roudham Heath. Numerous specimens of pottery have been found in the tumuli in Norfolk, and as in every respect they present a great contrast to the pottery of the Roman colonists, we need have no hesitation in assigning them to the native manufacturer.

There are many memorials of the Celtic period in Norfolk and Suffolk, as at Grimes Graves, on the border near Brandon. There may be seen vestiges of ancient villages, which throw a very melancholy light upon the social state of the earliest-known people of this island, who took shelter in pits and lived by hunting or fishing, when all East Anglia was a howling wilderness, covered with bogs and swamps, meres, and heaths; when the wolf lurked in thickets and caves, when the bison and wild boar roamed through the wastes, when the valleys of the Yare and the Waveney and all the low lands were covered with sea water.

There are no remains in the Eastern Counties of caverns, cromlechs, and Druidical circles, as in other districts, nature having interposed an absolute veto from the absence of materials for such erections. But there are remains of earthworks and tumuli, burrows or artificial mounds, in which were deposited the remains or ashes of the dead. There are thou-

sands of pits in many places, and these are supposed to have been the foundations of Icenian huts, but more probably they were hiding-places from the enemy, or places of shelter in bad weather. Remarkable excavations are thickly clustered all over Weybourne heath, varying from eight to twenty feet in diameter, and from two to six feet in depth. On Mousehold heath, near Norwich, and at various places in Norfolk, there are hollows supposed to have been made by the Iceni for the foundation of huts, or of houses of wicker work, or some other perishable material, with a conical thatching at the top. Externally they must have looked like very low bastions having doorways, but apparently neither chimneys nor windows. In this district there are many huts no better constructed at the present time.

At Santon Downham, near Thetford, discoveries have been made of beds of flint implements, and flint abounds in the neighbourhood. These flint implements were believed to be of great age by some of the advanced geologists of the day, who are always going back long before Adam was created. But they were probably the primitive implements of the Iceni, for urns of the same period have been found in the same locality, near the implements. Ancient British coins of silver and copper have been found in the same places. About 1844 or 1845 some very interesting discoveries were made of gold torques and coins of the Iceni in Norfolk. Ten years after, at Weston in Norfolk, 300 coins of the Iceni were found. The most ordinary type is the rude figure of a horse on each side, and on some there is a rude profile of a human head, while on a few others there is a figure of a wild boar. Cæsar expressly says the Britons in his time used metal rings instead of money, the value being determined by their weight.

We find, therefore, that the Iceni of this district built huts or houses in which they lived, that they wore clothes and woven garments, that they made arms or implements, that they fought in chariots, that they were brave warriors and defied the Romans in arms. The remains of the aborigines prove that they were not savages, but that they made some advances in the useful arts. Generally speaking these remains are articles of the most urgent necessity and of the rudest possible form; but a long interval of tranquility under the Roman sway brought even luxuries in its train; and very little change has been made in some useful articles in the course of 1800 years.

Among the objects which have been found at different places in Norfolk may be mentioned sepulchral vases, varying of course in style and taste, but in some instances most beautifully formed; also funeral lamps, lachrymatories (or phials supposed to have contained the tears of sorrowing relations), *fibula* (or brooches), gold rings, gold seals, steelyards,

weights, tweezers, a curiously-formed brass lamp for three lights, a patera of Samian ware, and many other articles which may be seen in the Norwich Museum.

What few traces we have of the religious rites of the early inhabitants of this island vary but little from those brought to light by our travellers who have visited newly-discovered lands in our own age. The natives have all been idolaters, and except in those countries where the Hebrew patriarchs lived, the same Egyptian darkness settled over the whole world. We have yet to learn by what hands the round towers of Ireland were reared, and by what race the ancient British monuments that yet remain were piled together, ere we can enter those mysterious gates which open up the history of the past.

Modern historians have invented a system of religion for the ancient Britons. In times of peace the civil government was no doubt in the hands of the Druids, who, being also priests, exercised enormous power; for no species of superstition we are told, was ever more terrible. In Eastern England, however, there are no traces of it; there are no monuments to mark the spots where the tribes assembled, or where the Druid with his flowing vestments, his hoary beard and golden torque, performed his mysterious rites. There is no proof that Druidical altars were ever raised within any dark groves in this eastern part of the island.

#### THE ROMANS IN EAST ANGLIA.

Julius Cæsar, having established the Roman supremacy over the Gauls and Belgians, cast his eye upon Britain, and resolved to carry his victorious arms among the kindred tribes who inhabited that almost unknown island. Accordingly in the year 55 B.C. he crossed the British Channel in the first instance, merely as he states to obtain information respecting the people, and to survey the coasts and harbours of the island, the season being too far advanced for military operations. The British chiefs having received notice of his design, endeavoured to avert hostilities by sending over ambassadors with an offer of hostages and submission to the Roman authority. But though he received these overtures kindly, Cæsar persevered in his design, and set sail at night from Portus Ictius, or Witsand, between Calais and Boulogne, about the end of August, with a force of 12000 infantry, and landed at 5 p.m. on August 26th, B.C. 55, on an open flat shore, probably between Walmer Castle and Sandwich. The natives who saw the approach of the armed vessels, made a bold attempt to prevent the landing of the invaders, but after a short though fierce contest on the beach, they yielded to supreme skill and discipline, and withdrew in disorder from the coast.

Thus defeated in battle, they made a hollow peace with the Roman

general, who soon after returned to Gaul. The British chiefs, relieved from the presence of the invader, failed to perform the stipulations of peace, and by this breach of treaty afforded the Roman general a plausible pretext for renewing his invasion of their country. In the spring of the following year (B.C. 54) he again embarked for Britain from the same place with a force which must have amounted to 32,000 men. He states that the distance was thirty miles to cross, the shortest distance between the continent and Britain, and that he landed in Kent (Cantium).

Daunted by this formidable armament, the natives retired from the coast of Kent, and allowed the invaders to disembark without opposition. Cæsar lost no time in following the retreating enemy through Kent, and by a rapid march overtook and defeated them on the bank of a river, probably the Medway. They retired into a position in the midst of a forest, strongly fortified both by nature and art, but the entrenchments were carried by the seventh legion after a fierce struggle, and the Britons were driven from the cover of the wood, but they were not pursued by the Romans through an unknown country.

The news of a great disaster which had meanwhile befallen the Roman fleet, not less than forty vessels having been driven ashore or destroyed by a tempest, compelled Cæsar to retrace his steps to the coast, and restored the drooping spirits of the islanders, who availed themselves of this opportunity to increase their army, to combine their forces, and to appoint Cassivelaunus, one of their petty princes, to the supreme command of the confederate armies. The Roman general soon returned with his legions, routed the native warriors, proved victorious in every battle, passed the river Thames in face of the enemy, took and burned the capital of the British commander (Camulodunum), and compelled that prince to sue for peace. Having thus reduced the maritime southern states of Britain to a nominal submission to the Roman authority, Cæsar again withdrew his forces and retired into Gaul, having, as Tacitus remarks, been a discoverer rather than a conqueror. The civil wars which broke out in Italy saved Britain for a time from the Roman yoke, and for nearly a century the natives enjoyed their rude independence.

When Julius Cæsar quitted this island after his second expedition, Mandubratius was sovereign of the Trinobantes in Essex, and most probably had his seat at (Colchester) Camulodunum. On his death he was succeeded by Tinnant, whose son, Cunobiline, being anxious to obtain a knowledge of Roman manners, went over to Rome. After the decease of the latter, his son, Guiderius, or Togodumnus, succeeded to the government of the Trinobantes, and ambassadors were sent to Rome to demand the arrest of some fugitive Britons, to whom the Emperor Claudius had given protection.

This demand being evaded, the payment of the tribute which Cæsar had imposed was withheld. The Romans eagerly seizing the opportunity, commenced war, and under the command of Plautius, a skilful general, defeated Guiderius, who retreated across the river, but was followed so quickly by the Romans that he was again forced to engage with his wearied warriors, and after valiantly defending himself was slain. His brother, Caractacus, by a successful stratagem, saved the remnant of the British Army, and nearly effected the discomfiture of Plautius, who, in the eagerness of pursuit, lost many of his soldiers in the bogs and marshes.

New forces from all the British provinces with which the Trinobantes were in league, came to the aid of Caractacus, and Plautius, apprehensive of the danger that darkened around him, sent to Rome for assistance, and waited the arrival of Claudius, who landed in Britain with a large army A.D. 44. The united forces of Plautius, Claudius, and Vespasian passed the Thames, and the Britons posted on the opposite bank resolutely sustained the onset of the Romans, but were ultimately obliged to fly into the adjacent woods.

Claudius pursuing his victory, proceeded to Camulodunum (Colchester), of which he took possession and established in it a colony of Roman veterans, consisting of the second, ninth, and fourteenth legions. After establishing his colony he marched northwards, and reduced the surrounding country of the Iceni to a Roman province. He behaved so well in the way of conciliation to the natives, that he became endeared to them, and they erected an altar to him at Camulodunum, and honored him as a god. Having appointed Plautius propriator, he returned to Rome, where a magnificent triumph was decreed to him, and the surname of Britannicus was entailed in his family. All the events in which he was concerned in Britain occurred in the eastern part of the island.

After the invasions of the Romans in the reign of Claudius, A.D. 45, they soon fought their way into Norfolk, and built military stations or camps at different places. A question naturally arises, in what order of time were all these camps built by the Romans in the Eastern Counties. The camps were probably built in succession in Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, from south to north as the Roman legions advanced through the country. The principal stations were first at Camulodunum (Colchester); then Sitomagus (Dunwich); next at Gariannonum (Burgh), near Howestoft; Venta Icenorum, near Norwich; Ad Taum (Tasburgh); Brannodunum (Brancaster).

About the year A.D. 48, Plautius was succeeded in the government of Britain by Ostorius Scapula, who finding that inroads had been made on the territories of the Roman allies, killed many of the natives, and

dispersed the remainder. The desire of independence was not, however, destroyed; the neighbouring states again flew to arms, and having obtained the assistance of the Iceni, a powerful force was raised against the Romans; but their superior discipline again prevailed, and the Britons were defeated with great slaughter in many battles.

The British tribes were still animated by the spirit of freedom, and the Silures and other states, headed by the gallant Caractacus, steadily opposed the progress of the invaders; but were ultimately defeated, and the country of the Silures was subdued. Caractacus, with inferior forces, continued for about nine years to oppose and harass the Romans, till at length he was totally routed, and taken prisoner by Ostorius, who sent him in triumph to Rome. When he arrived there, he appeared to be in no way dejected at the concourse of spectators, to whom he was exhibited in chains. Beholding the splendour that surrounded him, "Alas!" he cried, "how is it possible that a people, possessed of such magnificence at home, could envy one a humble cottage in Britain." The emperor Claudius was affected by the misfortunes of the British hero, and, won by his address, ordered his chains to be struck off and the captive to be set free, with his wife and family.

Prastagus, A.D. 59, was King of the Iceni, and he dying, bequeathed one half of his dominions to the Romans, and the other half to his wife and daughters, hoping that his Queen Boadicea would be allowed to enjoy her moiety. But no sooner was Prastagus buried than all his domain was seized by the Roman Pro-curator. Boadicea loudly complained of the injustice, but it was only increased by insult and cruelty. She was publicly whipped, and her daughters ravished by the brutal soldiery. These outrages were sufficient to produce a revolt throughout the island. The Iceni, as being the most deeply interested in the quarrel, were the first to take up arms; all the other States followed the example. Boadicea, a woman of great beauty and masculine spirit, was appointed to head the common forces. These, exasperated by their wrongs, successfully attacked several of the Roman settlements, and destroyed them.

Camulodunum was the first sacrifice to British vengeance; and Tacitus says its destruction was foretold by fearful prodigies. "The image of Victory," says this historian, "without any visible cause fell down, and turned backward, as if yielding to the enemy. Enthusiastic women foretold the approaching desolation; strange noises were heard in the Court, and howlings resounded in the theatre, and an apparition of a colony destroyed was seen on the estuary of the Thames. The sea looked bloody; and in the ebb the effigies of human bodies were left upon the shore."

These fabled prodigies strongly marked the consternation that prevailed

among the Romans, when they were overwhelmed by the Britons under Boadicea. On the earliest intelligence of this formidable insurrection Suetonius Paulinus, the Roman General, hastened with his whole force from Anglesea to relieve London, but on his arrival found that it would be necessary for the general safety to abandon that flourishing town to the merciless fury of the enemy.

As he retreated the Britons entered, and out of the vast multitude, which a few hours before those walls had enclosed, scarcely a soul remained alive. The Roman soldiers, overpowered, rushed into their temples to avoid the assailants, the figure of the goddess of Victory, which they worshipped, fell to the ground; the females ran wailing and shrieking into the streets, into the council chambers, into the theatres, with their children in their arms. Before the desolating forces of the stern Boadicea ran Fear and Terror with trembling steps and pale looks, by her side grim Destruction, and blood-dyed Carnage stalked, while Death marched behind, taking no note of sorrow and grief and silence, whom he left together to mourn amid the solitude of these unpeopled ruins. London was soon reduced to a heap of ashes; such of the inhabitants as remained in it were massacred, and the Romans with all other foreigners put to the sword. Meantime Suetonius, having strengthened his army to a force which now amounted to 10,000 men, chose the most favourable position for his troops, where he awaited the arrival of the Britons to begin the battle. Nor had he to wait long; for, flushed with victory and reeking fresh from the carnage, the assailants came up with Boadicea, thundering in her war chariot, at their head, and soon drew them together in the order of battle. With her long yellow hair, unbound and falling in clusters far below the golden chain which encircled her waist, her dark eyes flashing vengeance as she looked around on the Roman legions drawn up in the distance, she rose, tall and Queen-like, from her war chariot, and turning to her warriors, who hemmed her around with a forest of tall spears, she raised her hand to command silence; and when the hum of applause had subsided, she bade them remember the wrongs which they had to avenge, the weight of oppression which had so long bowed them to the dust, the sword and fire and famine which had desolated their fair land, their sons and daughters carried off to slavery, their priests butchered at the foot of the altar, their ancient groves consumed by fire, she pointed to her violated daughters, and showed the marks on her white arm from the scourge of the Roman ruffian Catus; then brandishing aloft her glittering spear, shook the loosened reins over her restive steed, and rushed into the thickest of the fight, followed by her brave warriors.

Dire was the slaughter deep the groans; despair  
And agonies in every form were there.

But all the battles which the Britons had fought had not enabled them to stand before the shock of the Roman legions, who came like an avalanche in one dense mass of steel, and bore down the Britons who were routed with tremendous slaughter, and the Queen, who had behaved nobly, only escaped the carnage to perish by her own hand, rather than fall into the hands of the victors.

According to Morant, the old historian of Essex, "the famous battle between Suetonius and Boadicea was fought somewhere between Epping and Waltham, near which a fine camp remains." How little does the quiet traveller from Epping, or Waltham, or Loughton, think that such a scene of slaughter has passed upon the very spot he is crossing, how little does he reflect on the fact that the bones of 80,000 men lie beneath the surface, and with them are buried the wreck of that people who first possessed the land.

This appears to have been the very last struggle of the Iceni for liberty, and as in the case of all unsuccessful revolts, served only to rivet the chains of the natives more firmly than before; and the Romans smarting under the recollections of the past, paid them a very great but not a very agreeable compliment, by establishing several important military stations among them, the camps at Walton, Dunwich, and other places along the coast.

But neither the death of Boadicea, nor the destruction of her immense army, nor the erection of forts and camps all over Norfolk and Suffolk, enabled the Romans to extend their possessions with safety in the island. They were ever upon the defensive, no colony, unless a legion of soldiers was encamped in the immediate neighbourhood was safe. Even after Suetonius had received great reinforcements of both infantry and cavalry he left the country unconquered, the war unfinished, and returned to Rome.

After the defeat of the Iceni, the Roman power was established all over East Anglia for several centuries, and during all that time the history of the district is almost a blank. There is every reason to believe, however, that the natives enjoyed both internal tranquillity and freedom from external invasion. The Iceni inhabiting their fertile territory seem to have made some progress in civilization and to have adopted the useful arts, the costumes, and the manners first introduced by the Romans. After a war of about forty years, commenced by the most stupid, maintained by the most dissolute, and terminated by the most timid, of all the emperors, the far greater part of the island submitted to the Roman yoke.

Marius, king of the Trinobantes (A.D. 75), succeeded his father Arviragus, who had reigned thirty-one years. Marius married a daughter of Boadicea, queen of the Iceni. Coill, King of the Trinobantes

(A.D. 126), succeeded his father Marius, who had reigned fifty-one years. Lucius, king of the Trinobantes (A.D. 180), succeeded his father Coill, who had reigned fifty-four years. He was made monarch over the other petty Kings by the command of the Emperor Aurelius, by whom he was much favoured; which honour, with the love of his subjects, he well deserved for his wise and just administration of his authority. Lucius having been made acquainted with the principles of the Christian religion, sent an embassy to Eleutherius, then Bishop of Rome, that he and his nation might be received into the Christian Church (A.D. 188). The Temples of the Pagans were used for the rites of the new religion. The Temple of Apollo, which stood in a place near London, called the Isle of Thorney, from the number of thorns that grew there, was destroyed, and a new Church erected called Westminster.

Grafton tells us that in those days Britain was divided into three religious jurisdictions, under the direction of Archflamens, according to the Pagan rites—viz., at London, York, and Gloucester. These Pagan divisions were converted into archbishoprics under the Christian dispensation, which continued until the time of the Saxons, when, in process of time, these Christian sees were reduced to two, York and Canterbury. It may be conjectured that from the reported greater antiquity of the see of York above that of Canterbury arose those disputes which lasted for centuries, from the claim of the Archbishop of York to take precedence of those of Canterbury, and which gave occasion by shameless intrigue to great scandal against Christianity. Lucius, who was the first Christian King in the world, having reigned twelve years, died without issue (A.D. 192). After him there was no British King worthy of mention for many years.

Coill was King of Colchester (A.D. 262), under the reigns of Diocletian and Maximilian. He died (A.D. 289), having reigned twenty-seven years and been constantly obedient to the regulations of the Roman government.

In 284 Diocletian became Emperor. He appointed Carausius an officer of valour and ability, to the command of a considerable fleet which was destined to ward off the attacks of the Saxon pirates from the eastern shores of Britain. The Admiral at first actively opposed them in the North Sea, but soon began to connive at their depredations, on condition of receiving a portion of the plunder. A well grounded fear that his perfidy would be punished by the Emperor, led him to seduce the fleet from their allegiance, and to seek the government of Britain which his wealth and reputation enabled him to obtain in 286, and he ably conducted its affairs till he was killed at York by his minister Allectus, who then assumed the purple in 294.

King Coel or Cœlius, A.D. 300, the last British Prince of that name, is said to have been invested by the Romans with the government of the district, of which Camulodunum was the chief station, about the time when the Roman Empire was distracted by the numerous usurpers of the Imperial purple whom historians have stigmatised by the name of the "Thirty Tyrants." This was near the middle of the third century, when Coel, taking advantage of the general confusion, assumed independence, and having repaired the buildings and public works, gave to his capital the appellation of Caer Coel. As a means of perpetuating this assumption of power, he is said to have become tributary to Curausius, and the other usurpers of imperial dignity, who renounced their allegiance in Britain. At length, Constantius Chlorus, great nephew to the Emperor Claudius, who had been invested with sovereign authority under Diocletian and Maximian, landed in Britain with a powerful army to chastise the revolters. He commenced the siege of Caer Coel, as being the focus wherein the flames of insurrection had been elicited. The resistance opposed to his arms was so determined that the siege was prolonged for three years, and even then seemed very distant from a successful termination. In this state of affairs, Constantius beheld Helena, Coel's daughter, who possessed the most fascinating personal charms, as well as uncommon mental endowments. Struck with her beauty, and interested by her acquirements, Constantius became violently enamoured of the British princess, and did not hesitate to make peace with Coel, on condition of receiving Helena as his bride. The issue of this intercourse is said to have been Constantine the Great, who, with his mother Helena, were avowed upholders of Christianity. During his reign, the Christian religion was tolerated throughout the Roman empire.

That Christianity made rapid progress under the Roman sway is attested by the fact that twenty-seven sees were established in cities in Britain, and in A.D. 314 we find that Adolphus, Bishop of Colan (or Colchester), attended a council at Arles. The names of many Britons are amongst the martyrs in the persecution of Diocletian; and in the Councilium to consider the deposition of Vortigern, the clergy were admitted as a body to vote.

Mr. Collier, in his "History of Essex," gives the following old legendary story of Helena, no doubt as true as many others of the like kind.

"The story of Helena and the birth of Constantine—the first Christian Emperor in the world—is so intimately connected with the county of Essex and so interesting to the Christian mind, that we must introduce it here. It would be heresy in Colchester to doubt this legend. It has been moulded into an article of the household faith of the inhabitants. It is emblazoned in their arms, and it is to be traced even in the form of their

principal street. It has been doubted, nevertheless; it has even been irreverently asserted that Helena was the daughter of an innkeeper in Nichomedia, and that Constantine was born in Dicea. We are rather, however, disposed to trust unvarying tradition than to the words of the doubting Gibbon, or any writer who would rob us of the proud belief that Constantine was an Essex man, and that the foot of Helena has trod the streets of Colchester. The story is that Coel the Second, the governor of this district, revolted against the Romans, seized Essex and the adjacent counties, and declared himself independent. Constantinus was sent against him, and laid siege to Colchester; but having caught a sight of Helena, the daughter of Coel, the most beautiful British woman of her time, skilled in music and adorned with every other female accomplishment, he became enamoured of her.

He could not stay the siege of loving terms,  
Nor bide the encounter of assailing eyes.

He therefore made peace with Coel, and entered into a treaty of love with the daughter. Constantine, the future Emperor, was born before the solemnization of the nuptials, but was adopted by Constantine immediately after the marriage. The "Colchester Chronicle," written at the back of the Oath Book of the town, apparently in the time of Edward the Third, thus records these events:

- 242 A.D. Helena, daughter of Coel, born at Colchester.
- 260. Constantinus, the Roman General in Spain, sails to Britain, and besieges Colchester, which continued to be held by Coel against the Romans.
- 264. The siege is raised, Constantinus betrothing Helena.
- 265. Constantine (afterwards Emperor, surnamed the Great), son of Constantinus by Helena, born before the solemnization of the nuptials.

Helena was divorced, and having become a Christian, undertook a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, where the legend says she discovered the cross of Christ, and hence the appearance of the cross on the arms of Colchester. She is said to have founded in the town the Church which bears her name. Certain it is that under Constantine Christianity was widely extended in Britain. Sees were established in twenty-seven towns; and in 314 we find Adolphius, Bishop of Colon (or Colchester) attending a Council at Arles. There are records of many Britons who suffered martyrdom in the persecution of Diocletian; and in 465, at a Council held to consider the deposition of Vortigern, it is stated "the clergy gave their votes in this Council." Thus Christianity had been widely adopted, and a regular ministry established at this time in Essex, perhaps from the events related, more generally than elsewhere; but its voice was hushed, its altars thrown down, and its lights extinguished by the flood of barbaric Paganism that soon after broke in and overwhelmed the land.

## ANTIQUITIES OF THE ROMAN PERIOD.

This Eastern district is more rich in Roman remains than any other part of the island. These remains consist chiefly of ancient trackways, roads, forts, camps, urns, utensils, weapons, ornaments, coins, and even sculptures. From these we may glean some particulars respecting the Roman occupation of East Anglia. The Romans were the great road makers of the world. Wherever they went they made roads and built camps for military purposes. Proceeding from the south to the north, they made roads as they advanced through Kent, Sussex, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Norfolk.

The Romans thoroughly explored the whole extent of the territory now called Essex. One great road traversed the whole length of it, another skirted its border, and many vicinal ways crossed it in different directions. The first Roman colony in Britain was established in it, and there were several other stations and towns in different parts; those mentioned in the Itinerary of Antoninus are Ad Ansam, of uncertain locality; Camulodunum, at Colchester; Canonium, at Coggeshall; Cæsar; omagus, at Chelmsford; and Durositum, below Brentwood; but there are few remains of any of these. The principal Roman relics have been found at Colchester.

When the Romans advanced out of Essex into Suffolk and Norfolk, their generals established a number of military stations or camps from the south to the north in their newly-acquired territory, in order to keep the natives in subjection in a hostile country. The stations appear to have been built near the coast, along which the Roman galleys sailed, to supply men, arms, or provisions, or to afford ready means of transport for the troops. The legions, as they proceeded from the south to the north, made roads between the stations near Dunwich, Yarmouth, Norwich, Brancaster and other places. The first roads were probably near the coast, and afterwards from the coast into the country. A great Roman road connected the south-eastern and the north-western parts of the country, and another road formed a similar communication between the north-eastern and south-western extremities. This road, commencing near Yarmouth, at the camp named Gariannonum, passed Caistor camp near Norwich, and is still conspicuous near Downham. Crossing the river Ouse, it passed through the fens into Cambridgeshire, and in the fens it was discovered to be sixty feet wide and three feet deep, and formed of compact gravel.

Caistor has been the subject of much disquisition among antiquaries, some contending that it was the *Venta Icenorum*. Among them may be mentioned Camden and Horsley, whose arguments are not very conclusive.

In favour of Norwich we have Colonel Leake, Sir Francis Palgrave, Sir Henry Spelman, and the late Hudson Gurney, Esq. The latter stated the arguments *pro* and *con.* in a letter addressed to the late Dawson Turner, Esq., and afterwards reprinted in the Norwich volume of the proceedings of the Archæological Institute in 1847.

The Rev. Charles Parkin, in his continuation of "Blomefield's Norfolk," says respecting the camp at Caistor, it was "The ancient Castrum, or one of the chief camps of defence, when the Romans possessed this country. I take it that after Claudius Cæsar entered this land, which was about the forty-sixth year after Christ, and Ostorius, his *proprietor* or lieutenant, had vanquished the Iceni, the old inhabitants of these parts, who openly opposed them and defended their country to the very utmost of their power; that then they first settled here, raised camps, appointed colonies, and fixed stations, in order to keep the newly-conquered country in subjection, and to fortify themselves against any future attempts of the natives, that in case of any turn of adverse fortune they might not be destitute of strong camps and large fortifications to retire to till they could either turn the scales themselves or gain time to send to their allies to come to their assistance; and that in case of necessity such help should not be hindered (like a wise and warlike people), they always took care so to fix their camps and stations in all places where the situation and course of rivers would permit, that they might have a free passage by them to the ocean, either to have assistance by men or provisions whenever they wanted them, or, if they could not keep their ground, a safe retreat at least for their persons or effects.

Thus landing at the Gariensis Ostium, or mouth of the Yare, where Yare-mouth now is, they fixed a strong castle on the south side, placed a garrison of the Stablesian horse there, named it Garianonum, from its situation on the Gariensis or Yare, and so made it a guard as well as an entry into that part of the country which is now called Suffolk, the remains of which still are very perfect, the town that belonged to it assuming the Saxon name Burgh from this fortification, at this day called Burgh Castle, where abundance of coins, fibulas, and other Roman antiquities are now found. Opposite to this, on the northern side of the water, is an inlet into and guard of that country which is now called Norfolk, they made another camp, and called it Castrum, and the village in which it was (situated) is now called Castor. And following the river up into the country, till the course of it divided into two streams, they turned with that on the southern side, and at the first straight where it was easy to command the passage over, fixed the camp, which for its dimensions and strength was named Castrum, or the Camp, by way of eminence, and it is still called Castor. It was certainly their most con-

siderable fortification in these parts, as appears from its dimensions, which remain very conspicuous to this day."

While the Roman armies marched over the land from south to north their marines appear to have followed in the same direction in their ships. The Romans appear to have sailed at different times to different points along the Norfolk coast where they landed. They may have easily landed at Cromer, or at Sherringham, or Weybourne. The water is so deep at high tide, and the shingle beach in some places so abrupt and shelving that the larger ships of the Romans could come close in shore, whilst the smaller galleys could be rowed up to the beach, where the soldiers could come to blows hand to hand with the enemy. We may suppose that the Romans after landing encamped near old Cromer, where the beach is all level and smooth up to the edge of the cliffs. If we followed the coast line from Cromer to Gore point we shall be convinced that we stand on the ground where the Romans stood, and where the natives fought and fell. All round the neighbourhood there are traces of Roman camps and Roman remains; coins, urns, and pottery.

The Roman camp at Brancaster, with the fosse clearly marked, enclosed a space of eight acres. There was another Roman camp at Holme, now almost surrounded by the sea. Then there was another at Holkham, enclosing twelve acres in its area. The different gates are yet to be traced on the ramparts. There is a raised causeway, both towards land through the marshes and seaward through the "sand dunes," or hills, which would afford protection to Roman galleys. All these camps prove that the Romans occupied a great part of north Norfolk for a long time.

There is a mound called "Green Barrow Hill," situated between Weybourne and Salthouse, and opposite there is an old Roman causeway running down to it from Kelling, with a track direct through the marshes to the hill. Here Roman culinary and drinking utensils have been found in great abundance, and many of them were in the possession of Mr. Bolding, a gentleman resident at Weybourne, who collected and preserved in his studio many treasures indicative of Roman occupation. He had in his collection Roman pottery in great quantities, chiefly for culinary use; mortars and drinking cups, Samian ware, and many other articles.

A Roman burial place was found at Elmham in a close called Broom Close, about half a-mile from the town, lying on the west side of the road from Elmham to Beetley, of a dry sandy soil on a rising ground, a river running in the valley. In the same place were found many urns of a coarse earth, the work rough and uneven, but generally well burnt; some of them indented and some plain, some of a blue and some of a yellow colour, without any covers; the size various, some holding a quart, some two or three quarts or a gallon.

## CHAPTER VIII.

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### THE ANGLO-SAXON PERIOD.

**O**UR information is largely increased when we come to the period which interests us more closely, the settlement of our own Anglo-Saxon race into the occupation and ultimate possession of these Eastern Counties. We cannot imagine a more interesting field of inquiry than the history of the original colonisation of East Anglia. The tribes of the Angles and Saxons almost deserted their own bleak country, came over the sea in great bodies and spread themselves all over the country between the Stour and the Wash of Lincoln.

During this long period the whole of the Eastern district was covered by forests, heaths, commons, bogs, and swamps. All Essex was one vast forest very thinly inhabited. Broad arms of the sea flowed up the valleys of the Stour, the Orwell, the Waveney, and the Yare, and covered all the present marshes. There was no town of any size in the whole Eastern district, only deserted military stations at Thetford, Caistor, near Norwich, and Burgh Castle, near Yarmouth.

The northern tribes, who during the 150 years subsequent to the departure of the Romans, overran and subdued nearly all Britain south of the Firth, consisted principally of four tribes, the Angles, the Saxons proper, the Jutes and Frisians. Their native seat was the sea coast, from the delta of the Rhine to the river Weser, including the peninsula of Jutland.

In consequence of the long residence of the ancient Britons and Romans in this island for 400 years, they had so far assimilated or amalgamated as to become like one people, the Britons having adopted the costume as well as the manners and customs of the Romans. When, therefore, the Roman forces were recalled from this remote province, many of the natives accompanied them to Italy and never returned. This island then presented an inviting field of plunder to those northern tribes

who were roving about various parts of Europe in search of military employment.

These invaders, though indiscriminately called Saxons, were then composed of three kindred tribes of Germanic origin, called Angles, Jutes, and Saxons. The Angles got possession of this Eastern district, which was called East Anglia, and they had the singular honour of giving their name to all England, at first called Angle land, or in French "Angle terre." The Angles became the predominating tribe, and got possession of the eastern, the midland, and the northern districts of England. Subsequently they obtained a footing in some adjacent parts of Scotland.

The author of "The Celt, the Roman, and the Saxon" (p. 394), says: "The great extent of ground which the Angles occupied in Britain is quite sufficient to explain the statement of the old historians, that they had completely evacuated their native land, and left it almost uninhabited. From them, as the earliest settlers and the most numerous, the island became known among foreign nations by the names of Anglia and Anglorum Terra, and among the Saxons themselves it was usually called Engleland, and the language of its inhabitants English."

Whether the Angles, Saxons, or Jutes preponderated most in some parts of this island, it is certain that in the seventh century the Angles occupied the whole of this Eastern district. At the end of the sixth century, there was a general migration hither from the opposite shores. The Angles, in two great divisions, called the Northfolk and the Southfolk, rushed in between the rivers Stour and Great Ouse, and gave a permanent denomination to the two counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. The territory thus seized by the Angles was almost insulated on its western side by bogs, meres, and broad lakes, more or less connected by numerous streams. Where these natural defences ended, the East Angles dug a deep ditch, and cast up a lofty rampart of earth. In the middle ages, this was called the Giant's Dyke; a name afterwards changed to the Devil's Dyke. The marshes upon which it leaned have been drained, but the mound is still very perfect.

Successive hordes of the northern tribes, in the lapse of years, invaded different parts of the coast, and ultimately eight kingdoms were formed, called the Anglo-Saxon Octarchy:—1, Kent, founded by Hengist, A.D. 457; 2, Sussex, by Ella, 490; 3, Wessex, by Cerdic, 519; 4, Essex, by Erkenwin, 527; 5, Bernicia, on the north-eastern side of the island, from the river Tyne to the Forth, by Ella, 560; 6, Deira, on the eastern side of England from the river Humber to Tees, called Northumbria, by Ella, 616; 7, East Anglia, by Uffa in 571; 8, Mercia or Central England, by Crida, 586.

Some historians following Bede in his "Ecclesiastical History," state

that seven of the Anglo-Saxon Kings had a superiority over the others, and held the title of Bretwalda. Ethelbert of Kent was one of them, and his reign stands conspicuous for the introduction of Christianity. This sovereign had married Bertha (daughter of Caribert, King of Paris) who had been educated in the Christian faith; and when Pope Gregory sent Augustine with forty monks to spread Christianity among the Saxons (597) by her influence, the missionaries were favourably received and the King himself became a convert.

This history includes only the kingdoms of Essex and East Anglia, comprising the Eastern Counties. Rapin observes that of all the records of the Octarchy he found none so imperfect as that of Essex. About 527, the kingdom of Essex was founded by Erkenwin, who seems to have been a governor of it under the King of Kent, of whose dominions it had formed a part. London was selected as the capital of the new kingdom, and thus Colchester was deprived of much of the importance it had retained for nearly four centuries under the Roman dominion.

Erkenwin died in 587, and was succeeded by his son Sledda, of whom there is nothing recorded, and he was succeeded by Sæbyrht or Sabaret in whose time the light of Christianity began to shine through the Pagan gloom. Augustine, who had landed in Kent and made much progress in his mission to convert the idolaters, sent Mellitus as a missionary into Essex. This King Sæbyrht first built the church or abbey of Thorney or Westminster, and brought the county of Essex into the diocese of London. He was famed for his piety and zeal in the cause of religion till his death.

Saxred, Siward, and Sigebert I., who ruled the kingdom in succession, fell back into Paganism and banished the new religion from their territory. They were slain, however, and a whole Essex army was destroyed in an unequal contest with the powerful Kings of Wessex who ultimately prevailed. Sigebert II. the Little came next and passed away leaving nothing but his name. He was followed by Sigebert the Good, who restored the Christian religion in his realm and procured from his relative the King of Northumberland two priests to teach its tenets to the people. These men laboured successively in the county under kingly patronage. Large congregations were gathered together; and Cedd having become bishop of the East Saxons, or Essex, churches were built, priests were ordained, and Christianity was restored and extended in the county, from which its holy and healing light never afterwards departed. Sigebert fell by the hand of assassins for having supported the bishop against some relatives who had been excommunicated. The other Kings of Essex were Swithelm, Sibbi, and Sighere; Sigehard and Senfred; Offa, Selred, and Swithred. Their history is a blank. All we know is that Sibbi and

Offa resigned their crowns and turned monks. It might almost be suspected from the circumstances that the latter was beguiled by the skilful tact which belonged to womanhood in olden times as now.

“What is it woman cannot do!

She'll make a statesman quite forget his cunning.”

Offa had been smitten by the charms of Ciniswintha, a princess of Mercia. He breathed his love into her ear in pure old Saxon, but it seems to have moved her not; she had no ambition to become Queen of Essex. Now it was rather a serious matter for a maiden to refuse a King in those days. If the royal lover failed to kindle a flame in the lady's heart, he usually did so in her father's castle, slaughtering besides a few hundred of her kinsmen as proofs of the strength of his attachment. Ciniswintha therefore replied to his proposal of marriage by persuasions to turn monk. She succeeded. Offa proceeded to Rome; and any danger that might have lurked in the refusal was effectually extinguished under the cowl.

#### KINGS OF EAST ANGLIA.

Grecca, according to some chroniclers, was the first king of East Anglia, and in his reign his dominion was bounded by the German Ocean on the east and north; the river Stour, on the south, divided it from Essex; it bordered on Mercia on the west; and was defended by several entrenchments, one of which was the Devil's Ditch, running seven miles in a direct line from Ely to Newmarket.

Grecca must have ruled East Anglia for some time, but there is no account of his reign. In his time the Angles came over the sea in such large numbers that they quite depopulated their own country, overspread Norfolk and Suffolk, settled themselves along the coast, then penetrated into the interior, giving names to the localities which they occupied. The Roman Sitomagus, afterwards named Dunwich, appears to have been the first seat of government in East Anglia, but when it was founded is uncertain. It is said to have been a Roman station, from the circumstance of some of their coins being found in that place. It was called *Domoc* in the Saxon annals or *Dynwyc*, from *Don* a hilly down, and *Wyc* a fort. Its Anglo-Norman name appears to have been *Donewyc*, and it is so mentioned in old evidences. Gardner, to whom we are indebted for some interesting memorials of the once important city, observes that “we cannot from any record justly determine when or by whom it was founded.” In the course of time it was swept away by the sea.

Uffa, one of the chiefs of the Angles, first united Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire into one kingdom, and took the government thereof and settled at Sitomagus, the prosperity of which city is allowed by all

authors to be owing to the Anglo-Saxon Kings making it the metropolis of their kingdom of the East Angles, and residing there. From this time the royal city increased in greatness continually, though still under the dark clouds of Paganism. Uffa reigned seven years, and his people were called Uffings for many ages after him. He died in 1581.

Uffa was succeeded by his son Titul or Tytilus, who reigned eleven years, and died about 599. Of him there is nothing on record. He was succeeded by his son Redwald, who was the fourth of the Bretwaldas or commanders-in-chief of the allied Anglo-Saxon forces in 593. Redwald, being persuaded by Ethelbert, embraced the Christian religion, but meeting with great opposition from his wife and people, he compromised the difficulty by setting up the statue of Woden and the altar to the Christian God side by side in the same temple. Redwald generally resided at Rendlesham in Suffolk, and he is said to have built the first castle at Framlingham in that county. A town arose round that castle, and it soon became an important place. We need scarcely add that the original structure was demolished long ago, and a Norman stronghold was erected on its site after the Norman conquest.

Redwald was celebrated for the generous aid which he afforded to Edwin, Prince of Northumbria, when he was a fugitive in the land, driven from his inheritance. At this time Ethelfrith, the grandson of Ida, was the most powerful of the northern Kings, and marrying the daughter of Ella, the founder of Deira, united that kingdom to his own on the death of his father-in-law. Edwin, the infant son of Ella, found protection in North Wales. The hospitality of the British prince brought the King of Northumbria against him. Chester was taken and the monastery of Bangor destroyed in 607. Edwin fled, and after long wandering found an asylum in the court of Redwald, who then resided at Rendlesham in Suffolk. Ethelfrith demanded that Edwin should be given up to him, but the East Anglian King refused to commit such an act of base treachery, marched an army towards the territory of Bernicia, met his enemy on the banks of the river Idel, defeated him, and the Northumbrian King was slain. Redwald restored his young friend to the throne of Deira, and enabled him to annex Bernicia. Then the East Anglian King returned in triumph to his own dominions. He died in 864.

Erpenwald, the younger son of Redwald, succeeded in the kingdom of the East Angles, and was the first King of this Eastern province who openly professed the Christian faith, which he did on the friendly exhortation of Edwin, King of Northumberland. This so enraged the East Anglians that they employed a Pagan ruffian named Richibert or Rochbert, to murder him. Thus he fell a martyr to the Christian faith, after he had reigned twelve years. Leaving no issue, he was succeeded

by Sigebert, the son of Redwald's second wife, and half-brother to the deceased king.

Sigebert, finding that the popularity which he had acquired by his amiable qualities and accomplishments had excited the jealousy of his step-father, retired to France, where he applied himself to study, and became a proficient in the literature of his age, and a zealous professor of the Christian faith. From this voluntary exile he was recalled on the death of his half-brother, for the purpose of being placed on the vacant throne. He brought over with him Felix, a learned and pious Burgundian priest, whom he appointed Bishop of Dunwich, then an important town on the coast of Suffolk.

By the exertions of this learned prelate, the inhabitants of East Anglia were converted to the Christian faith and then a new era dawned on this benighted part of the island. Churches and monasteries were soon built at Dunwich, Thetford, and all the towns in the diocese. Sigebert founded a monastery in a place afterwards called Bury St. Edmund's, which he dedicated to the blessed Virgin. He also established a school at Thetford according to some authorities, no doubt in imitation of the schools he had seen in France. After a reign of seven years, motives of mistaken piety impelled this prince to become a monk in his own convent, and to resign his crown to his kinsman Egrick.

After a short reign of four years, Egrick became a monk in Cumberburgh Abbey, which he had founded, and there he lived till Penda the wicked King of Mercia invaded East Anglia. Then the inhabitants besought Sigebert to encourage the soldiers by his appearing to his army and forcing him from his convent to the field of battle; he was slain, refusing to use any weapon but a white rod. Egrick was also slain. The crown now devolved on Anna, a nephew of Redwald, a prince distinguished by wisdom, and the father of an excellent family of children.

Norwich then became one of the chief seats of Anna, King of the East Angles, who gave the Castle, with the lands belonging to it, to his daughter Ethelfreda, on her marriage with Tombert, a prince of the Gyrvii or Fenmen, who inhabited the fens of Lincolnshire and the adjacent parts of Norfolk. At the same time, Tombert granted to Ethelfreda, as a marriage settlement, the Isle of Ely, which for greater security was to be held by castle-guard service to the Castle of Norwich.

Notwithstanding the good qualities and abilities of Anna, he was unable to cope with the superior power of Penda, King of Mercia. After an unequal contest of ten years he bravely fell with his son Formosius in an obstinate battle fought in 654, near Blythburgh, not far from Halesworth in Suffolk. Anna was succeeded by his brother Ethelhere, who was soon after killed in a battle with the Mercians fought near the river Winwed-

field not far from Leeds. Snidhelm then ascended the throne of East Anglia. He was the son of Sexbult, who was baptized by the name of Cedd, in the province of the East Angles, at the King's country seat called Rendlesham, in Suffolk.

Ethelwald, King of the East Angles, brother to Anna, King of the same people, was his godfather. These kings, were all slain in various battles with the Mercians and Northumbrians. This is all we know about them, and they were succeeded by three Kings, Ethelwald, Adulph, and Edwald, who all reigned together, or soon after each other. Then followed Borna and Ethelred, of whom we have no record. Next came the son of Ethelred, named Ethelbert, a brave young prince, who like his predecessors seems to have had his royal seat in Suffolk.

Ethelbert, before named, aspired to the hand of Etheldretha, a daughter of Offa, King of Mercia, a powerful prince. Attended by a numerous retinue, Ethelbert a young handsome prince of virtuous disposition and excelling in all the accomplishments of the age, arrived on the Mercian frontiers to solicit Etheldretha for his bride. The announcement of the purpose of his journey was met by Offa with a warm invitation to proceed, and by solemn assurances of a safe and respectful reception. Thus encouraged on his arrival at the court, he was welcomed with the honours claimed by his rank, and the affectionate attentions due to a favoured suitor. But on retiring to his chamber after the festivity of a banquet he was basely assassinated. The ancient chroniclers differ in the share of this foul murder which they attribute to Offa. But the subsequent conduct of the Mercian King betrays the purpose of the crime. He immediately seized the East Anglian dominions and annexed them to his own in 792. (Saxon Chron., p. 65.)

The ancient chroniclers, with the pious desire of marking the retributive justice of heaven, felt some satisfaction in tracing the punishment of Offa's crimes, by the calamities of his house. Of his three daughters, Elfreda was widowed by the murder of her husband, Eadburga expelled from the throne of Wessex for her atrocities, died wretchedly in exile; and Edeldretha, the destined bride of the young Ethelbert, horror stricken at his assassination, fled from her father's court to the Abbey of Croyland, and there ended her days in mournful seclusion.

Cynedreda the evil counsellor of her husband's insatiable ambition, perished miserably, and Offa himself survived to possess his ill-gotten crown of East Anglia only two years, and then sunk into the grave the victim of remorse and disease in 794. His son Ecyfrid, who succeeded him, only possessed the throne of Mercia 141 days, and died childless. Thus in a few years the race of Offa, whose elevation had been purchased at the price of so much bloodshed and guilt, disappeared for ever.

## ST. EDMUND THE MARTYR.

John Brame, a monk of Thetford, was the author of a history of Attleburgh still extant in Bennet College Library at Cambridge, and according to his account that town was a very important place and the ancient capital of the East Anglian kings. He states "that in the year 841, Edmund son of Alkmund, King of Saxony, was born at Nuremberg in Saxony of King Siward, and soon after it happened that Offa, King of the East Angles, who had no heir, passed through Saxony on his journey to the Holy Land, where he went on a pilgrimage to beseech God to give him an heir, and calling on his cousin Alkmund, he adopted Edmund his son as heir, and then hastened to Jerusalem, where, having performed his vows, he returned; but on his return, at a place called St. George's Arm, he was taken violently ill, upon which he immediately sent for his council, appointed Edmund his successor, and sent him his ring, which he received from the bishop when he was made King of the East Angles. After he was dead, the Angles went to the King of Saxony and demanded Edmund his son and received him as Offa's successor, and hastening home they landed at Hunstanton, from whence they carried him to the ancient city of Attleburgh."

Edmund the martyr succeeded his Uncle Offa in the 15th year of his age. The events of his life as recorded by monkish writers are either a tissue of fictions or are so distorted by them that it is not easy to distinguish truth from falsehood. His biographers having seated him on the throne, proceed to record his virtues as a sovereign in a strain of the most pompous eulogy. No facts, however, are adduced to justify these lavish encomiums. The truth seems to be that Edmund's tender years and his natural disposition were such as to enable the monks to govern him with ease. Piety, candour, gentleness, and humility, formed the distinguishing features of his character, and the possession of these insured to him the reputation of all other good qualities. However they might have befitted a cowl, they were certainly not calculated to support the dignity of a crown in the disastrous times in which Edmund lived. The commencement of his misfortunes is enveloped in the same obscurity as the other events of his life. Most of our ancient annalists and general historians ascribe the invasion of the Danes to the following circumstances:—

Chief among the sea-kings who invaded England about this time was Ragnar Lodbrog, whose celebrated death-song has been frequently translated, and is considered one of the oldest of the northern poems which we possess. It was this famous sea-king who led on that terrible expedition

which overran France and destroyed Paris. After this, he returned to Norway, and built two of the largest ships which had ever sailed upon the northern seas. These he filled with armed men, and boldly steered for the English shore. The art of navigation was then in its infancy, the mighty vessels which Ragnar had built could not be managed, and they were thrown on the coast of Northumberland and wrecked. A Saxon King named Ella at this time ruled the northern kingdom, and he with an overwhelming force encountered the sea-king, and after routing his army made him prisoner and put him to death in the most cruel manner, by shutting him up in a deep dungeon full of poisonous adders. The news of the terrible death of Ragnar were not long in travelling to the rocky coast of Norway, and all his countrymen rose as one man to revenge his death.

Eight Kings and twenty jarls or petty chieftains joined in the enterprise at the head of which Hinguar and Hubba, the two sons of Ragnar, were placed; all the friends and relations of Ragnar, no matter how remote, swelled the force that had congregated to avenge his death. Although the mighty fleet was directed towards Northumbria, by some chance it passed the coast and came to anchor on the shores of Norfolk, near Yarmouth. No one in England was apprised of its approach. The Danes landed near the old Roman encampment, from whence a broad arm of the sea flowed up the valley of the Yare to Norwich, but they did not immediately commence hostilities. They moved their vessels along the shore and took up their winter quarters within their entrenchments. They only demanded a supply of horses, which the King of East Anglia soon sent them. The rest of the Saxon states looked calmly on while many of the Danes located themselves in the neighbourhood and gave names to Ormesby, Rollesby, Scratby, Filby, Mautby.

With the first warm days of spring, the whole Danish host was in motion; such an army had never before overrun this island. The sons of Ragnar strode sullenly onward at its head and halted not till they reached York the metropolis of the Deira; they swept through the city in their devastating march, destroying all before them as they passed till they reached the banks of the Tyne. They fell back upon York, and were attacked by Ella at the head of the Northumbrians. The assault was so sudden that the Pagans were compelled to fly into the city for shelter, followed by the Saxons. A terrible fight ensued, but the Danes were victorious and the Saxon army perished. Ella fell into their hands, and the sons of Ragnar horribly avenged their father's death. Having taken possession of Deira, the Danes began to fortify York and to strengthen the principal towns in the neighbourhood. They established themselves in the north, and next year made a tour southward laying

waste all the country in their march. They destroyed the Abbey of Peterborough, then one of the finest ecclesiastical edifices in England. After murdering the monks, the merciless Pagans crossed the fen country and marched onwards to Norfolk in East Anglia, then a kingdom whose inland barrier was marked by vast sheets of water that set in from the Wash of Lincoln, and went winding away into the low marshes of Cambridge far away beyond Ely, over a country above 100 miles in extent.

Along this boggy and perilous course the Pagans advanced with their plunder, their cars, and their cavalry, razing the monastery at Ely to the ground as they passed, nor pausing until they came to the residence of the King of East Anglia at Thetford, near the river which divides Norfolk from Suffolk.

The Danes being unable to gain admission into the town on this occasion, encamped for the winter in the eastern outskirts of it, and strengthened their position by a deep ditch and ramparts, some remains of which may be seen on the Shadwell and Rushford heath. In the following spring, Inguar laid siege to the town, and was met on the plains outside by Edmund and his army. A fearful engagement took place, the two armies fighting bravely for a whole day with no decisive result. This memorable battle was fought on the plains between Thetford and the villages of Barnham and Easton, where many vestiges of it may still be seen in the remains of several *tumuli*, or burial places. At the close of the day, Edmund retired within the fortifications of the town, and on the morrow, being extremely affected by the loss of so many of his noble followers, he refused to renew the combat, resolving, says the old chronicler of Bury Abbey never more to fight against the Pagans, but, if it were necessary, to yield himself up a sacrifice for the people. Inguar thereupon sent a message to the King, offering to secure to him half of his dominions if he would capitulate and become his vassal. Edmund, though strongly advised by Bishop Humbert to accept the offer, refused it with disdain, saying that he would never submit to a Pagan. Inguar having been reinforced with 10,000 fresh troops brought over by his brother Hubba, commenced an assault upon the town, and took it. Edmund fled to Eglesdune, now called Hoxne and Hubba, with all his forces, followed Edmund to Hoxne, where another battle took place, and Edmund was defeated, and he hid himself under a bridge at night. He was discovered by the glittering of his golden spurs in the moonlight to a newly-married couple who were returning to their home. They betrayed their monarch to the Danes, who gave him little time for flight before they dragged him forth and tied him to a tree at Hoxne in Suffolk. They had no words to waste; slaughter was their work, and they commenced it at once. They began by shooting arrows at his limbs, without

injuring the body; but finding that they could not get him to confess their superiority, nor show any symptom of fear, Inguar at last uplifted his heavy battle axe and severed his head at one blow. Thus East Anglia, like a portion of Northumbria, became a Danish province, and Gorm or Gothrum, a celebrated sea king, was placed upon the throne.

When Inguar and Hubba had quite reduced Thetford, they withdrew with their army on their marauding expedition to other towns in the neighbourhood, which they laid waste, and in some instances utterly destroyed.

Gloated with pillage and murder, they then broke into Essex, and, pleased with its fertility and the taste of the rich plunder it afforded, they seized upon some of its best towns and most productive districts, and began to found homes and secure military stations. Thenceforth the county of Essex became one of their chief haunts and constant battle-fields. South Bembfleet, lying adjacent to Canway Island, in Hadleigh Bay, was seized and fortified. A castle was there erected and garrisoned, and to this point the treasure of the Essex town, and the captives taken from the surrounding districts, were carried for security till either ransomed or disposed of otherwise.

The now quiet homesteads of Rochford Hundred were often alarmed by the tramp of bands of those merciless marauders, who, passing with their narrow war vessels up the Crouch and the Blackwater, also made themselves masters of the Dengie Hundred. Their footprints are still to be seen there in the remains of military works. Maldon, certainly one of the ancient towns of Essex, was no doubt the point where they fixed their chief station, on a point well adapted for military defence. Danbury, too, as its name implies—Daneburgh—was one of their ports before they secured a firm footing in the kingdom.

On the death of Alfred in 901, fresh troubles came to Essex. Ethelwald, a son of Alfred's elder brother, resolved to dispute the crown with Edward the Elder; and landing on the Essex coast in 904, with an army of Danes and Normans, took possession of it, but was slain the following year. The Danes again submitted, as was their wont in case of defeat; the power of the King was restored, "and about this time," says the Saxon Chronicle, "he became again master of the best part of Essex, which had been many years in subjection to the Danes." To make his hold secure, the King resolved on building a fortified town at Witham, the first mention in history of this place; and while the work was in progress he came with an army, and encamped at Maldon. This was in 913, and seven years after he came again to Maldon, whose ancient works and wealth had probably suffered greatly from the fierce struggle and the plundering spirit of its unwelcome guests, rebuilt and fortified, and of course garrisoned it. During this time, Colchester from its strength had

defied the royal power—it had become a regular Danish town; but the year after Maldon had been made secure, a force, gathered from this and the neighbouring counties, marched against it. It was taken after a siege, the place plundered, and the Danish defenders and inhabitants slaughtered, a few only escaping over the walls. To revenge the defeat, the Danes collected an army from Suffolk and Norfolk, and, entering Essex, laid siege to Maldon; but the place gallantly held out, and, alarmed at the forces marching to its relief, the assailants fled, hundreds being overtaken by the avenging pursuers and slain. In November of the same year, King Edward occupied Colchester with an army of West Saxons, and having repaired and partly built the walls, so effectually curbed the turbulent spirit of the intruders that the land remained at rest for seventy years.

In 993, fresh hordes swept along the Eastern coast. Ipswich was pillaged; Colchester was this time unassailed; and the enemy advanced upon Maldon, to which they laid siege, with a hankering, inspired by old tradition, to possess again that stronghold of their fathers. Brythnoth, the Earl of Essex, hurried to the defence of the town, and made dispositions to raise the siege and save it from pillages. The Danes, who warred for plunder alone, were willing to obtain it without fighting, and sent a messenger to the advancing Saxon to say they would retire on receiving a sum of money by way of ransom. The following was the bold response of Brythnoth to this overture:—"Hearest thou, mariner, what this people saith? They will give you spears for tribute, the venomous edge and old swords; these weapons that serve you not in battle. Messenger of the sea forces, take an answer back—tell thy people much unpleasant news—that here stands undaunted, an Earl with his army, who will defend this country, the land of Etheldred, mine elder (*i.e.*, chieftan) the people and the earth. There shall fall heathens in battle. Too shameful it seemeth to me that you, with your treasures, go to the ships without being fought with, now ye have come so far hither, to our land; nor shall ye so easily obtain treasure; of us shall point, and edge grim war play—first take care before we give ransome." The spirit of the Earl, however, was greater than his power. He was killed, his army defeated with great slaughter, and the place fell. Etheldred was forced to make peace with the victors, but the faith thus pledged was frailly kept, for in the following year they were ravaging the coasts of Essex and committing horrible barbarities.

During the eighth, ninth, and tenth centuries, the sea was covered with Danish fleets, and the coasts of Europe were a prey to their depredations. For two hundred years, they almost incessantly ravaged England, and at length subdued it. The first predatory incursions of the Danes into the

island were in 789 ; but their invasion of the kingdom of the East Angles, of which Norfolk and Suffolk formed part, did not take place till 886, when the natives being more anxious for their present interest than for the common safety, entered into a separate treaty with the enemy, and furnished them with horses, which enabled them to invade Northumberland.

Several reasons are assigned for the Danish invasion to revenge themselves for some pretended injuries, or national affronts ; though the true motive probably was, England, divided against itself, situated in a happier climate, much richer, and in every respect preferable to their own dreary inhospitable country, presented an inviting prospect to the lawless desires of uncivilized plunderers. When a rich nation loses the power of protecting itself against both internal and external enemies, it will not be long before the former promotes its downfall by intestine divisions, and the latter profit by their ingratitude.

The war was carried on so fiercely by the Danes, that at length they got possession of all the Eastern and a dozen other counties. The struggle was at length decided on the soil of Essex. The English, under Edmund Ironside, and the Danish Army under Canute, in 1016 met at "Assundune," or Ashingdon, in Rochford Hundred, where traces of the fierce struggle are still to be found. Standing upon the hill Canewdon, where Canute pitched his camp, and looking down upon the peaceful vale of the river Crouch we behold the battlefield of the contending nations for the realm of England. There the fierce warriors of Denmark in black array encountered the Saxon strength, and shattered it ; there the nobles of England rushing forward to restore the fortunes of the day, were slaughtered in hundreds. Edric, who had so often acted the traitor's part, fled at the beginning of the day, and the English force was utterly routed. This scene, now so calm and quiet, was strewed with the dead and disturbed by the groans of the dying ; and in yonder barrows at Hull Bridge, and along the borders of the Crouch many of those who fought in that fierce conflict have slumbered for nearly a thousand years.

### THE ANGLO-SAXON MONARCHY.

All the petty kingdoms of the Octarchy were gradually incorporated or amalgamated into one grand confederation, which was necessary for the defence of the whole country. A monarchy was established that lasted about 250 years, but not without continual assaults of the Danes. As the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes, had got possession of the country by conquest, the Danes had an equal right to get possession of it by force. As the Angles and kindred tribes drove out the natives by force, they were in turn liable to be expelled by the same means. Hence the con-

tinual conflicts between the Angles in the eastern district and the Danes. At the close of the eighth century, only three independent states existed in England; these were Northumbria, Wessex, and Mercia. Kent, Essex, and East Anglia, though nominally distinct states, were in vassalage to Mercia; while Sussex was incorporated with Wessex. Mercia and Wessex were so equal in strength, that it was evident ere long a contest would arise between them for the mastery, but while Cenwulf occupied the throne of Mercia, peace was maintained. Two years after his death, Beornwulf received the crown, and a war soon broke out between him and Egbert, the King of Wessex, since A.D. 800. The cause of this contest was the protection which Egbert afforded to the East Anglians who had renounced the supremacy of Mercia. Egbert defeated Beornwulf at Ellandune (Wilton) in 823, and the annexation of Kent and Essex to the victorious state followed as a matter of course. The Mercian King and his successor Ludecan were slain in battles fought against the East Anglians, whom they sought to punish for submitting to Wessex. Wiglaf, whom the Mercian chiefs next raised to the throne, was expelled by Egbert in 827, but was afterwards restored on condition that he should hold his kingdom in tributary subjection.

Egbert is generally placed as the first King of England. This, however, is not strictly correct, though it is stated that this monarch, abolishing the distinction of Angles and Saxons and all provincial appellations, commanded the island to be called England, and got himself crowned King of England. To this statement Sharon Turner objects that if such an event took place, Egbert and his successors ought to have been entitled *Rex Anglorum*, whereas it is found that they sign themselves Kings of the West Saxons till after the reign of Alfred.

Egbert was the son of Alemund, the great grandson of Inigels, the brother of Ina. He was the sole surviving descendant of Cerdic the founder of Wessex. He was brought up in France under the great Charlemagne, and after his return in 800 he was proclaimed King of Wessex, and he subdued the natives in Cornwall and Wales. He had then to contend with a new foe, the Northmen who began about this time to harass the eastern and northern coasts, but after some success they were routed with great slaughter at Hengstown Hill (Cornwall). The conquered Northmen betook themselves to their ships and the Britons renewed their allegiance. After a long and prosperous reign, Egbert died in 836.

Ethelwulf succeeded to the crown of *thorns*, for the Danes now appeared in different parts of the coast and proved a powerful enemy and defeated his troops in many engagements. He died January 13th, 857. Ethelbald his eldest son and successor, died in 860, and Ethelbert his brother

reigned. At his decease in 866, Ethelred I., his next brother, was crowned. In his reign the Danes spread their conquests over his dominions, but received a severe check from his younger brother, Prince Alfred, who assisted him on the field. In 871, the Danes abandoned East Anglia and advanced into Wessex, where they fought several battles with Ethelred who was killed.

Alfred ascended the throne in 872. 'This great and virtuous Prince, after many perils and escapes, totally routed the Danes under Guthrum at Eddington, in Somerset, A.D. 879, and compelled them to locate themselves in East Anglia, which Guthrum held as feudatory' Prince. Here the Danes built houses and villages and churches, improved lands, were made denizens, and had a short code of laws given them by King Alfred. The Danes were again rebellious, but were subdued, and the East Angles were taken into the King's government A.D. 896.

Alfred the Great divided the whole kingdom into counties, hundreds and tythings, and he instituted great and petty officers for the regulation and good government of his people, as well as for carrying into execution that excellent body of laws formed by him which, though now lost, is generally esteemed the origin of the *common law*. The hundreds in each county were divided into tythings, or dwellings of ten householders. Every householder was answerable to the King for the good behaviour of his family, his servants, or even his guests, provided they continued with him above three days.

A tything man, headborough, or householder, presided over each tything, and all the ten householders were mutually pledges for each other. If any person in the tything was suspected of an offence, he was imprisoned unless the headborough gave security for him. If he made his escape either before or after finding sureties, the headborough become liable to inquiry; and if the escape was made in consequence of any neglect, he was exposed to the penalties of the law. Any person who refused to enter himself in these tythings was deemed an outlaw and put to death. Nor could any one be received into a different tything without producing a certificate from that to which he before belonged. By this institution, every man was obliged by his own interest to keep a watchful eye over the conduct of his neighbours, and was in some measure, surety for the good behaviour of those who were placed under the division to which he belonged. King Alfred began in 886 and in 889 finished his division of England into counties, hundreds, wapentakes, wards, rapes, &c., and caused a general survey to be made, the rolls whereof were lodged at Westminster, from whence "Domesday Book" derives its origin.

King Alfred, a true King of men, died October 26th, 900, aged 51; justly named the Great for he made England a great country under a free

government. His son, Edward the Elder, succeeded when England was pretty well divided between the Danes in the east and the Anglo-Saxons in the west; but after various conflicts he subdued the Danes, in which he was much assisted by his heroic sister Elfrida. In 921 he compelled the Danes in East Anglia to take the oath of allegiance to him, and he died in 925. Athelstan succeeded, and gained many victories over the rebellious Danes. He died, aged 46, in 941.

Athelstan was the first who, by blending the whole of the Saxon and Danish provinces of which the Octarchy was originally composed into one kingdom, became in reality, as in title, the first King of England. His amiable qualities as well as talents are celebrated by all the chronicles of his time. The latter part of his reign was tranquil and glorious, and the high reputation which his personal virtues, even more than his successes and power, had obtained for him not only in his own kingdom, but throughout Europe is remarkably expressed in public transactions.

Edmund I., surnamed the Pious, was crowned, and he reigned from 941 to 948, when he was basely murdered at the age of 25 years while he was feasting with his nobles at his manor of Puckle Kirk, in Gloucestershire, where he was celebrating the memory of the conversion of the Saxons. He had two sons by Elgiva, his Queen—Edwin or Edwy and Edgar—who being too young to govern the kingdom, did not immediately succeed their father. Edred his brother was crowned, and he reigned till November 23rd, 955, leaving two sons, but his nephew ascended the throne.

Edwy resented the insolence of the clergy with more zeal than prudence, and they fomented an insurrection against him, when Edgar his brother was placed on the throne of East Anglia and Mercia. Edwy died of grief in 959, and Edgar surnamed the Peaceable succeeded him. He reigned from 959 till 975, when he died aged 32. Edward the Martyr, his natural son, had the crown; but the succession was disputed between him and Etheldred son of Elfrida, who at length caused him to be barbarously murdered. Etheldred II. succeeded, and being much troubled by the Danes, in East Anglia, ordered a land-tax to be levied to satisfy the invaders.

In 1003, Etheldred married a daughter of Richard II., Duke of Normandy, and on November 13th he issued a secret order for the general massacre of all the Danes who had settled in England during the preceding reigns. Thus a large number of them in East Anglia were slaughtered. This inhuman cruelty did not long remain unpunished. Soon after, Sweyn, King of Denmark, landed in Norfolk with a large army, sailed up with his fleet to Norwich, burnt the city, and Thetford, devastated the whole country and proceeded to plunder and destroy in every part. In Kent, 43,000 people were butchered.

Etheldred, by the advice of his nobles, gave Sweyn £48,000 to leave the country and thereupon Sweyn sailed away with all his booty. As might have been expected, he returned soon after with a greater army than before, conquered England, and compelled Etheldred to fly for refuge to the Court of Richard, Duke of Normandy, whose sister Emma he had married. In 1013, Sweyn was proclaimed King of England, but he died suddenly next year. Then Etheldred returned back to England and Sweyn's son Canute took the field against him but was forced to fly to his ships.

Etheldred II. was restored to his kingdom, but died in 1016, aged 58, when his son Edmund II., surnamed Ironside, assumed the crown; but in the same year Canute returned and was proclaimed. These competitors agreed to divide the kingdom, and the Danes held Northumberland, Mercia, and East Anglia, by conquest. In 1017, Edmund was assassinated by Edric his brother-in-law, and Canute reigned alone. He divided England into four governments. East Anglia with the title of Duke, he gave to Turketel, whom he afterwards banished, and he levied a land-tax of £82,000 to reward his Danish followers.

In 1034, he founded the Abbey of St. Bennet in the Holme, and died November 12th, 1036. He was succeeded by his son Harold Harefoot, who met with some opposition to his coming to the crown. Most of the great men of the kingdom would have preferred Hardy Canute to him, but he was crowned, the last will of his father being in his favour. He reigned a few years in inglorious ease and died in 1039, during one of the sharpest winters that had been known in England. Hardy Canute next mounted the throne, but died suddenly in 1041 when Edward the Confessor was proclaimed King.

He married Editha, daughter of Earl Godwin, whose son Harold was Earl of East Anglia. Edward abolished the Dane gelt or land-tax and expelled the Danes, but they had increased prodigiously in Norwich and Norfolk during the fifty years from 1010 to 1060. Edward the Confessor caused a survey to be made of all England, and then Norwich was found to contain 1320 burgesses, of whom one was so much the King's vassal that he might not depart or do homage to any other without his licence. He frequently resided in the County of Essex.

Havering-atte-Bower, which had been a favourite seat of some former Saxon Kings, possessed walks and wooded solitudes peculiarly attractive to Edward's retired habits and religious feelings, and thither he often came to escape from the cares of government to prayer. A curious legend is related of this sovereign in connexion with one of his sojourns here. In "*Legenda Aurea*," the story is given as follows:—"As the church of Clavering (Havering), in this county, was consecrating, and was to be

dedicated to Christ and St. John the Evangelist, King Edward the Confessor, riding that way, alighted out of devotion to be present at the consecration. During the procession, a fair old man came to the King and begged alms of him in the name of God and St. John the Evangelist. The King having nothing else to give, as his almoner was not at hand, took the ring from his finger and gave it to the poor man. Some years after two English pilgrims, having lost their way as they were travelling to the Holy Land, saw a company clothed in white, with two lights carried before them, and behind them came a fair old man. The pilgrims joining them, the old man enquired who they were and from whence they came. After hearing their story, he brought them into a fine city, where there was a room furnished with all manner of dainties. When they had well refreshed themselves, and rested there all night, the old man set them again in the right way; and, at parting, he told them he was John Evangelist; adding as the legend goes on, 'Say ye unto Edwarde your Kyng that I grete hym well by the token that he gaaf to me this rynge wyth his own hands at the halowyng of my chirche, which rynge ye shall deliver hym agayn. And say ye to hym, that he dyspose his goodes, for wythin sixe monethes he shall be in the joye of heven wyth me, where he shall have his rewarde for his chastite and for his good livinge.' At their return home the two pilgrims waited upon the King, who was then at this bower, and delivered to him that message and the ring, from which circumstance this place is said to have received the name of Havering." This whole story is wrought in basso-relievo in the chapel at Westminster, where Edward the Confessor lies buried, on the back of the screen that divides it from the altar.

Harold II., the eldest son of Earl Godwin, Earl of East Anglia, claimed the crown of England by virtue of a verbal gift which he said King Edward had made of it before he died. The late King had recalled his nephew, Edward the Outlaw, from Hungary, and intended to make him his heir; but the prince died shortly after his arrival, leaving a child of about ten years old, named Edgar Atheling. No one appeared to pay much regard to his pretensions, and the competition for the throne lay between two formidable aspirants, Harold and William of Normandy, neither of whom had any hereditary right.

Harold was not of royal blood, and William was a bastard; but the Witanagement crowned Harold, and he was the last of the Saxon Kings. William asserted that Edward had made a bargain with him that he should ascend the throne of England, but the late King was not competent to do such an act, as the crown could only be disposed of by the Witanagemote, the great council of the nation. William, however, made vast preparations for an invasion, and Harold had to take active measure

for the preservation of his unstable throne. He had another enemy in the person of his own brother Tostig, who had been expelled from his earldom of Northumbria in the late reign, and who entertained great hatred to his brother because he refused to reinstate him. Tostig soon made an inroad into the country, but through the activity of Edwin and Morcar he failed in his endeavours. He had, however, formed an alliance with Harold Hardrada, King of Norway, who in the course of the autumn entered the Humber with 500 ships, defeated Edwin and Morcar near York, and proceeded to invest the city. When Harold was apprised of the danger, he left the south coast, where he expected the Norman invasion, marched northwards, and encountered his opponents, whom he defeated near Stamford Bridge on September the 25th, 1066. Three days after, William landed with his forces at Pevensey, in Sussex, and fortified himself there. Harold hastily returned southward, and, flushed with victory, took no steps to collect additional forces to supply the place of the brave warriors who had fallen at Stamford Bridge. Nearly all the Thanes in Norfolk and Suffolk, as well as other counties, were in favour of Harold, and hastened to his standard. The opposing armies met on October the 13th, 1066, near Hastings at a place afterwards called Battle. The contest was fierce; and for some time, notwithstanding all the efforts of the Normans, the English, with obstinate valour, kept their ground, and the former began to give way. William impetuously addressed his troops, and led another charge, but still the main body of the English army, unmoved and impenetrable, resisted the Norman attack. The Norman soldiers were ordered to feign a retreat, and the English, rushing forward were slain in great numbers. The manœuvre was successfully repeated, but still large bodies of the English remained in firm array. At last Harold was killed by an arrow, and his army broke up and retired from the field. The body of the King was removed to Waltham Abbey and entombed within the choir.

The whole of the Anglo-Saxon period was one of perpetual war in Eastern England. Each county was a battle-field, and what a scene must many a battle-field have presented, where thousands were left without assistance and without pity, with their wounds exposed to the piercing air, while, the blood freezing as it flowed, bound them to the earth, amidst the trampling of horses and the insults of an enraged foe! If they were spared by the humanity of the enemy and carried from the field, it was but a prolongation of torment. Conveyed in uneasy vehicles, often to a remote distance, through roads almost impassable, they were lodged in ill-prepared receptacles, for the wounded and the sick where the varied scenes of distress baffled all the efforts of skill and humanity, and rendered it almost impossible to give to each sufferer the attention he demanded.

During the whole of the Anglo-Saxon period, incessant petty wars on the incursions of the Danes converted the whole eastern district into a scene of desolation, overspread by heaths, moors, marshes, swamps, and bogs. The serfs in Norfolk and in all other counties were classed with cattle. The labourers were bought and sold like oxen, a man being worth as much as a horse. Men were disposed of in wills, and in one of the laws it is written, "Let every man know his teams of men, horses, and oxen."

### EARLS AND DUKES OF NORFOLK.

Under the Saxon monarchy, this county as well as others was committed to the government of certain nobles called Athelings and Eorls, now Earls. These were titles of honour and office, and implied that the persons who bore them had the charge and custody of the county, and administered justice in it. They were allowed the third penny, or third part of the pleas of the county, the other two parts being received by the Vicecomes, or Earls, deputy (answering to the present High Sheriff) for the King's use, and by him accounted for in the Exchequer.

We have a list of these Earls from the time of Edgar to the Conquest, by the name of Earls of the East Angles.

1. Athelstan, surnamed Half King, whose wife Alfvēn was nurse to King Edgar and she had four sons, Ethelwold, Alfwold, Ethelson, and Aylwin. He ended his days in Glastonbury Abbey, and his wife founded Chatteris Nunnery in Cambridgeshire, where she was buried.

2. Ethelwold, son of the former, being employed by King Edgar to solicit the affections of Elfrida, daughter of Orgar, Earl of Devon, he deceived the King and took her for his own wife. Edgar had heard of her beauty and sent his favourite Ethelwold to see whether her claims corresponded to report, and if so, to demand her in marriage.

When he was introduced to the lady, he was so struck with her beauty, that he himself sued for her and succeeded. On his return to the King, he gave a false account of her charms, and afterwards desired the King's leave to marry her for the sake of her fortune, which was great, insinuating to Edgar, that as her little beauty made her unworthy of a monarch, her great wealth would be a prize to a private person. The King loved Ethelwold too well to oppose his desires. Accordingly he married the Princess, and confined her in a castle whence he would never suffer her to come out, to hide her deformity, as he pretended, from the eyes of the Court. But it was not possible for him to conceal her long in a castle. The King being dissatisfied was resolved to see her, and Ethelwold implored her to lessen the effect of her charms as much as possible by mean attire whenever the King might visit her. She promised compliance

with this request, but either from vanity or revenge, or both, took a directly opposite course and arrayed herself in her richest apparel, adorned with jewels, in order to captivate the King, whose visit she expected. She cared little for her living husband now exposed to the wrath of a powerful King.

Edgar appointed a day for hunting in Hare Wood (this being only a stratagem), he went to the Castle, saw Elfrida, decked out in all her beauty, and was so enchanted with her charms that he resolved to have her, and to revenge himself on Ethelwold. Some time after, the body of the latter was found dead in the middle of a wood, and it was not doubted that he had been murdered by order of the King, who married the widow. Over the place where his blood was spilt, she erected a monastery for nuns, to sing over him, to expiate her guilt. A poor atonement indeed. King Edgar died July 8th, 975, in his 32nd year, having reigned sixteen years.

3. Aylwin succeeded his eldest brother, Ethelwold, in this earldom. He was Alderman of all England, and in 969 founded Ramsey Abbey in Huntingdonshire, where his statute, inscribed *Totius Anglea Aldermanus*, is still to be seen. He died in 993, having had three wives. Ethelfleda, who died in 977. Ethelgiva, who died in 985, and Ulgiva, who died in 991.

4. Ulfkital succeeded, and in 1004, when Sweyn invaded Norfolk and burned Norwich, found himself obliged to make peace with the Danes. But when Sweyn burned Thetford, he attacked him, and gave him a severe check. This earl was killed at the battle of Ashdown in 1010.

5. The next earl was a Dane, Turketel or Turkel, who fought with his predecessor in 1010, and went over from Sweyn to Ethedred, for whom he defended London against the Danes in 1013. Canute on his accession advanced him to the earldom and created him a duke. The date of his death is uncertain.

6. The sixth earl was Harold, afterwards King of England, and slain at the battle of Hastings, October 14th, 1066.

7. On Harold's succeeding to the government of Wessex, Kent, &c., Algar, son of Leofric, Duke of Mercia, was created Earl of East Anglia.

#### THE CHURCH IN EAST ANGLIA.

The Angles, Saxons, Jutes, and Danes were kindred Teutonic tribes, and all idolaters for some time after their settlement in this island. The names of their deities are still preserved in the names of the days of the week. Of these Odin or Woden was the object of the greatest veneration. The Edda of the Scandinavians gives us an account of their worship in the ninth and tenth centuries, and it is supposed that the

superstition of the Anglo-Saxon tribes when they came hither did not materially differ from it, but what sort of idolatry it was is now of little importance.

Christianity appears to have been introduced into this Eastern district in the seventh century. We know that East Anglia formed but one diocese for several centuries, that St. Felix, from Burgundy in France, was the first bishop, that his seat was at Dunwich in Suffolk, and that he was buried in Felixstow. Sigebert, who had been banished, was recalled to the throne of East Anglia, and he having been converted, brought over with him St. Felix, a priest, and made him Bishop of the East Angles, who then inhabited Norfolk and Suffolk. He was consecrated by Honorius, Archbishop of Canterbury, and he governed this extensive see for seventeen years. He was so successful as a preacher that he lived to see the Church of Rome established in every part of East Anglia. He is said to have been a prelate of great learning and astonishing eloquence, and what he taught he carefully practised. He died on March, 8th, 647, and was buried in his Cathedral Church at Dunwich. He was afterwards canonised, and the 8th of March was consecrated to his memory. The King and the bishop co-operated in the erection of schools, and some historians attribute the foundation of the University of Cambridge to the munificence of Sigebert. If that King founded the University, it appears to have been of little use for many centuries.

The national mind then in its infancy could not entirely rid itself of Pagan ideas, and society long remained in that early stage in which superstition is inevitable, and in which if men do not have the mental disease in one form they will have it in another. What followed is well known to students of history. The superstition of the people, instead of being diminished, was only turned into a new channel. The new religion was soon corrupted by the old follies; the worship of idols was succeeded by the adoration of saints; the worship of Cybele gave place to the worship of the Virgin Mary.

The Venerable Bede in his "Ecclesiastical History," under date A.D. 627, gives the following account of the reception of Christianity by the East Angles: "Edwin was so zealous for the worship of the truth that he likewise persuaded Earpwald, King of the East Saxons in Essex and son of Redwald, to abandon his idolatrous superstitions, and with his whole province to receive the faith and sacraments of Christ. And, indeed, his father Redwald had long before been admitted to the sacrament of the Christian faith, but in vain, for on his return home he was seduced by his wife and certain perverse teachers, and turned back from the sincerity of the faith." \* \* \* \*

"Earpwald was not long after he had embraced the Christian faith,

slain by one Richbert, a Pagan, and from that time the province of East Anglia was under error for three years, till the crown came into possession of Sigebert, brother to the same Earpwald, a most Christian and learned man, who was banished, and went to live in France during his brother's life, and was there admitted to the sacraments of the faith, whereof he made it his business to make all his province partake as soon as he came to the throne. His exertions were much promoted by the Bishop Felix, who coming to Honorius the Archbishop, from Burgundy, where he had been born and ordained, and having told him what he desired, he sent him to preach the Word of Life to the aforesaid nation of the Angles. Nor were his pious wishes in vain; for the pious husbandman reaped therein a large harvest of believers, delivering all that province (according to the signification of his name Felix) from long iniquity and misery, and bringing it to the faith and works of righteousness, and the gifts of everlasting happiness. He had the see of his bishopric appointed him in the City of Donmoe, and having presided over the same province seventeen years, he ended his days in peace."

Donmoe was afterwards called Dunwich, in Suffolk, but having been swallowed up by the sea, it is no longer in existence. The name of the bishop appears to be still preserved by the pretty village of Felixstow, the dwelling of Felix on the Suffolk coast. He was a very pious man and an eloquent preacher, and so successful that he converted the whole of the East Angles to the Christian religion before it was corrupted. He was a prelate of great learning and astonishing eloquence, and what he taught he carefully practised. He died on March 8th, 647, and was buried in his Church at Dunwich now under the sea.

Bergisil, or Bregilsas, also called Boniface by historians, succeeded Thomas the Deacon, and held the see seventeen years.

Bisa, or Bosa, was consecrated to the see in 669 by Theodore, Archbishop of Canterbury. He was a very grave and reverend person, but being old and infirm, he was unable to attend to his episcopal duties; he therefore divided his province into two sees, one remaining at North Elmham in Norfolk. He was present at the council at Hertford in 673, and died in the same year.

In 673, Bisus, the third bishop of the East Angles, divided the diocese into two parts, one he continued at Dunwich, and the other he established at North Elmham. There was only one bishop of Norfolk and Suffolk till the reign of Etheldred in 993. After the death of Humbert, the tenth and last bishop of Elmham, both sees laid vacant more than 100 years, owing to the devastations of the Danes. In the year 995, the sees were united, as they have ever since remained. The episcopal chair was fixed at Elmham till 1075, when Harfast removed the see to Thetford, where it

continued till 1088 in the reign of William Rufus. The Venerable Bede, in his "Ecclesiastical History," says: "Sigebert, the King of the Angles, with the advice of Felix, the bishop, instituted within his kingdom, a school for the advancement of learning, in imitation of what he had seen in France. This school is presumed to have been fixed in Cambridge. It is certain that, from an early period, it was the abode of numerous students, who at first resided in apartments, and afterwards in inns or hostels, where they lived in community, under a principal, at their own charge." A list of these hostels, with a description of their sites, is published in "Fuller's History of the University of Cambridge," annexed to his "Church History." In the third year of his reign, Theodore assembled a synod of hishops (at Hertford) and many other teachers of the Church, who were acquainted with the canonical statutes of the fathers. Bisi, the bishop of the East Angles, who is said to have been in this synod, was successor to Boniface, before spoken of, a man of much sancity and religion, for when Boniface died, after having been bishop seventeen years, he was appointed by Theodore bishop in his place. Whilst he was still alive, but hindered by much sickness from administering his episcopal functions, two bishops, Ecci and Badwin, were elected and consecrated in his place."

### MONASTERIES OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

After the introduction of Christianity by monks of the Church of Rome, the clergy soon exercised their influence for the erection of monasteries, and many were built in the Eastern Counties during the Anglo-Saxon period. Most of them were very common-place buildings, intended more for use than ornament, and owed little to the art of architecture. But for the stone cross over their gates, many of them might have been mistaken for ordinary houses. We must not suppose, however, that this poverty of art was symbolic of the condition of their inmates, most of whom lived on the fat of the land, their convents being richly endowed.

There was nothing at all good in European or English life in the middle ages if monasteries were not beneficial at first to some extent. Agriculture owes its importance and dignity to the monks, who became great landholders and diffused a taste for the cultivation of the soil. Until the monks arose the land was tilled by slaves; they removed the chain, granted the formerly useless land on lease, and the serf became a husbandman. The site of every monastery was determined with a view to this end. The monks themselves taught the serfs to use the plough, till the time came when the monks need not do manual work at all.

The monks were at first the most advanced agriculturists, and the first landlords in the best meaning of the word. Connected by the ties of ecclesiastical dependence and intercourse with Rome, they kept alive the embers of past learning and civilisation, which were threatened with utter extinction, and though the practical knowledge of agriculture, supplied by classic literature might be scanty, yet its mental influence would be more or less perceptible over the lands of proprietors and of a tenantry exempt from military service, and encouraged by the permanent tenure and security of these estates of the religious orders.

A new activity was opened before the monasteries—untamed nature first, next untamed humanity. They became the schools of England and all Europe. Suspected at their origin by the Church, they rose into such importance that Popes, and Archbishops, and Cardinals, and Chancellors of kingdoms, were sought amongst those who had received their training within the walls of convents, and they existed for no particular class. Self-supported by their lands, they could afford to receive whoever had an aptitude for instruction. Monasteries were also the houses of refuge for travellers and for the destitute poor.

As a suitable introduction to a brief account of monastic institutions in Eastern England, it will be necessary to glance at the monastic system in its origin, and as it was subsequently exercised, a subject so fertile in inquiry, that the difficulty is how to condense the innumerable points for discussion, to which a detailed examination of it must give rise. As to the origin of monachism, it should be borne in mind that the love of religious retirement and seclusion from the world prevailed long before the Church of Rome attained its predominant ascendancy. Monachism, then, *per se*, is not identified with Popery, and in its origin must be considered apart from the Church of Rome. But to the lamentable perversions of the Roman Church may be referred that nascent departure from primitive simplicity and comparative purity, which in after ages issued in gross abuse, blind superstition, and imperious bearing, and obtained for the monasteries the scorn and indignation of every reflecting mind.

Whatever may be thought of the matter now, it is certain that for many centuries monastic institutions obtained considerable favour from devout people, both lay and clerical. Not only were religious houses amongst the first works of the wealthy and powerful who hoped to atone for their sins by their good deeds, but new orders were multiplied with a marvellous rapidity. Nearly a hundred orders arose in the middle ages, and had converts all over Europe and in every county and town in England, being most numerous in Eastern England.

The fighting men who obtained possession of lands by force of arms

had no more right to those than the monks and clergy who in the course of time received so many grants from Kings and nobles ; and it is certain that the monks were the best cultivators of the soil, most of which was originally a barren waste. For many centuries after the Christian era, the whole Eastern district was a vast howling wilderness, very little of the land being under tillage, and, but for the monks, would not have been cultivated at all, and they were the first promoters of agriculture.

They were also the chief promoters of architecture in their buildings as well as of other useful arts. It should be remembered that if monachism was not necessary to a due attainment of the Christian life, it had other claims to our respect. To the monasteries we owe, in a great degree, much that is valuable in literature, science, and art, during a long night of mental darkness. But for them, we should have lost the literary treasures of ancient times, to which the scholar turns with ever new delight.

Nor is it in reference to such results alone that monasteries had a claim to the regard of those who cared for the poor. The charity which formed a part of the monastic profession was not an empty vaunt, but practical, liberal, and extensive. Hard would have been the fate of thousands of the indigent at a period when no public provision was made for them in seasons of need and suffering, but for the monasteries. Degraded to the lowest point of social existence, the poor might have perished unnoticed and unknown but for the abbeys and priories, whose gates were open to the destitute poor who found shelter, food and raiment, or medicine, as the case might be. The same liberal spirit pervaded all the intercourse of the monastic inmates with the world around them, the poor, however humble, reaped the full advantage of their charity; the rich wayfarer was received with hospitality. No wonder then that on this plea alone, strong feeling should prevail among the poorer classes in favour of religious houses, at the time of their suppression.

Enormous as were the revenues generally accruing to such establishments, it would be untrue to say that they were wholly devoted to purposes of luxurious enjoyment, of selfish ease, or mere superstition, and it is a question whether a tithe of the wealth acquired by a tyrannous and wholesale spoliation was ever again directed into a more beneficial channel. Thus far then monastic institutions are entitled to respectful consideration, a sentiment which cannot be so freely extended to their internal economy.

The general duties which applied to the monastic profession may be stated in a few words—prayer, humiliation, bodily mortification, and active charity, but to attain pre-eminence in the fraternity, other things were indispensable; namely, a rigid observance of appointed duties, silence, implicit obedience, poverty, mutual love, no repinings, and strict

adherence to the cloister. Whoever succeeded in a punctilious conformity to the standard was regarded as a character of no common order.

During the whole of the middle ages monasteries were built all over the Eastern counties. Of these religious houses, Essex contained no less than forty-seven, of which two were mitred abbeys, six common abbeys, twenty-two priories, three nunneries, three colleges, two preceptories of templar knights, and nine hospitals for lepers. The two mitred abbeys were Waltham Holy Cross and St. John's, Colchester. The six other abbeys were at Beleigh, Coggeshall, St. Osyth, Stratford, Tilty, and Saffron Waldon. The priories were at Burden, Blackmore, Colchester, Bicknacre, Maldon, Chelmsford, Dunmow, Earls Colne, Hatfield Broad Oak, Sutton, Hatfield Peverell, Little Horkesley, Little Leigh, West Mersea, Panfield, Prittlewell, Stunsgale, Takeley, Tiptree, Thoby, and Thremwell. The nunneries were at Barking, Hedingham, and Wix. The colleges were at Halsted, Pleshy, and Layer Marney. The preceptories of templars were at Cressing and Little Maplestead, and the hospitals of lepers were at Colchester, Bocking, Brook Street, Southweald, Castle Hedingham, Hornchurch, Ilford, Newport, and Maldon. The number of religious houses showed the influence of the Church of Rome in the middle ages.

The parish of St. Osyth is in the Hundred of Tendring, North Division of Essex, eleven miles (south-east) from Colchester. This place, remarkable for the remains of its noble monastery, derives its name from St. Osyth, daughter of Redwald, King of East Anglia, who having made a vow of virginity, retired hither, where she founded a church and a nunnery, which were afterwards plundered by the Danes who beheaded the foundress near an adjacent fountain. Canute, the Danish King, gave St. Osyth to the celebrated Godwin, Earl of Kent, who granted it to Christ's Church, Canterbury. At the time of the Domesday survey (1068) it belonged to the see of London, the bishop of which, Richard de Beliners, about 1118 established a priory for Augustine canons on the supposed site of the nunnery which he dedicated to St. Osyth. At the dissolution a prior, an abbot, and eighteen canons were on the foundation, the revenues of which were £758 5s. 8d. per annum, or £7580 of our present money.

Beside the monasteries in Essex, hundreds existed in Norfolk and Suffolk, at Norwich, Ipswich, Bury St. Edmund's, Thetford, and in all parts of the two counties. Some of these were richly endowed, and luxury kept pace with their increasing wealth. In the course of time, they became possessed of a third part of all the land in England, when pride, magnificence, and licentiousness, with all their train, entered their sacred walls, and hastened their dissolution. Norwich alone contained

nineteen of these institutions, whose inhabitants enjoyed a cheerful if not a merry life.

In the middle ages the monk enjoyed a good social position. In those happiest days of his history, he was the adviser of men, the confidant of women, the friend in every house, the welcome guest at every feast. The sight of his gabardine, so far from inspiring sad ideas, was the immediate cause of mirth. His religion was no hindrance to his enjoyment of the social board, or of whatever else served to make life pleasant. Like a man of the world, he came and went at pleasure, and enjoyed only too much liberty of action.

Sigebert, fifth King of the East Angles in 636, is said to have founded a monastery at Burgh Castle in Suffolk, under the direction of Felix, his bishop, who had been consecrated by Honorius, primate of Canterbury, at the request of the King. Felix zealously employed himself in spreading Christianity, which was beginning to dawn through the darkness of Paganism that then obscured the whole kingdom of the East Angles. To assist him in his spiritual task of instructing the barbarous Anglians, he invited over to his assistance from France, Furseus, an Irish monk, who, assembling a community of religious persons under the monastic vow, placed them in the monastery at Burgh, then named Cnobherstow or Cnobersburgh, from one Cunoberi Urbs, an East Anglian chief, who formerly resided there. The monastery is said to have been placed within the walls of Gariannonum, although some writers have supposed that a fragment of masonry, still remaining near the church, formed a part of this foundation. The latter opinion is, perhaps, incorrect, as regular buildings for religious purposes were then unknown among the Saxons. It was probably nothing more than a hut of clay, covered with sods of straw, and supported by stakes. The churches at this early period, like the idol temples of the Druids, were composed of wicker work or hurdles, and were thought to be sufficiently durable for men, who as a provincial historian has well observed, might perhaps in compliment to the next prince return to Paganism. Furseus, upon the death of his patron Sigebert, who was slain in a battle with Penda, the Mercian King, retired from his monastery at Burgh to France, leaving behind him the monks, who endued with more constancy than himself, maintained their situation for several years but at last abandoned it, at a period that is now uncertain.

In 650, Anna, King of the East Angles, founded at East Dereham a nunnery of Benedictines for Withburga, his youngest daughter, whom he made prioress. This house is said to have been so very poor at its institution that by the prayers of their prioress, the nuns are said to have been miraculously supported by two does, which came constantly to be milked at a certain time and place. This supply was soon stopped,

for the bailiff of the town, maliciously hunted the does away with his hounds, and as a judgment upon him, he soon after broke his neck as he was hunting. Withburga died and was buried in the churchyard at East Dereham, after which the Danes coming into England, the nunnery was destroyed and the church made parochial, about fifty-five years after her death.

About 789, her body being found uncorrupted as alleged, was taken up and put into the church, where it remained near 200 years, when to complete her story, we are told, that Brithunt, Abbot of Ely, and his monks, concocted a wicked scheme for conveying her body from thence to Ely, which robbery they effected by having men and carriages stationed upon the road ready to receive it from those appointed to steal it away. Their scheme succeeded, and they brought the body to Brandon ferry, where it was put on board a wherry and from thence conveyed to Ely and there enshrined, before the men from Dereham could take any step to recover it. This is styled by the "*Historia Eliensis*" "*Sanctum Sacrilgium—Fidele furtum—Salutaris rapina.*" That is a sanctified sacrilege, a pious fraud, a soul-saving robbery. It was indeed robbing Peter to pay Paul.

Ethelreda, daughter of Anna, King of the East Angles, founded a monastery at Ely in 673 for monks and nuns, which she dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and though married to Egfrid, King of Northumberland, devoted herself to a monastic life and became its first abbess. This monastery was destroyed by the Danes in 870; for at that period they were enabled to sail their ships close up to the walls of the town, the river being much deeper; in fact it is supposed to have been an arm of the sea.

In the reign of Edgar the Anglo-Saxon King, Ethelwald, Bishop of Winchester, granted the whole hundred of Mitford in Norfolk, with the manor of East Dereham, to the monastery of St. Etheldreda or St. Andrey, at Ely. The abbot and convent were lords of it in the reign of Edward the Confessor, and it was valued at sixty shillings per annum. Edgar granted to it very great privileges, which were confirmed by King Edward and other Kings, and on the erection of the bishopric of Ely in 1109, it was settled on that see as part of its revenues.

In the reign of Richard I., the following royalties belonged to it:—soc, sac, thot, theam, infang theof and outfang theof, frishurti, serdwite, grithbrith, and all forfeitures which he confirmed as his father Henry II. had done. The bishop's men were free from toll passage, gelt and Dane gelt, and acquitted from all fines for murder in the said Hundred, as due to the bishop except they who held of a different see and except treasure trove. The Hundred of Mitford remained in the see of Ely till granted to the crown by Act of Parliament in the first year of Elizabeth.

In 963 in the reign of Edgar the Anglo-Saxon King, the manor of East Dereham in Norfolk was granted to the monastery of Ely, by Ethelwold, Bishop of Winchester. This lordship continued to be a part of the possessions of the monastery of Ely till the foundation of the bishop's see there in 1109, when it was assigned to the bishop and made part of his barony. In Domesday Book it is said to have belonged to the church or monastery of Ely, and to consist of five caracutes of land, and there were three mills, &c. It was valued then at £10 and was one and a-half leuca or mile broad.

The monastery of Bury St. Edmund's had its origin from the supposed martyrdom of King Edmund, who was crowned at Bury, and killed by the Danes at Hoxne in Suffolk. The remains of the King which had been interred at Hoxne were removed to Bury in 903. A new church was built in honour of St. Edmund, by some secular priests who were incorporated into a college by King Athelstan, about the year 925. Sweyn, King of Denmark, having nearly destroyed the town and the church in 1010, they were restored by Canute who re-built the church and monastery, endowed them with great possessions and expelling the secular canons, placed in their stead monks of the Benedictine Order.

In process of time, the monastery became one of the most splendid establishments in the kingdom, and was only inferior to that at Glastonbury, in grand buildings, costly decorations, valuable immunities, and rich endowments. It had the royalties or franchises of many separate Hundreds, and the right of coinage. The abbot had the power of determining all suits within the franchise or liberty of Bury; and of inflicting capital punishment.

These high privileges were frequently the cause of strife and bloodshed, and in 1327, the townsmen and people of the neighbouring villages, assembled to the number of 20,000 headed by their chief men, made a violent attack on the monastery, they demolished the gates, doors, and windows, and burnt a considerable part of the building; pillaged the coffers from which they took the charters, deeds, and other property. The King having been informed of these outrages, sent a military force to quell the tumult, when the alderman and twenty-four of the burgesses were imprisoned, and thirty carts loaded with rioters were sent to Norwich. Of these, nineteen were executed, and one was pressed to death for refusing to plead, according to the barbarous custom of the times.

Waltham Abbey was founded by Harold in 1062 before he was King, and it was at its altar he knelt to offer up his last prayer, before he went forth to fight with William the Norman. He was buried here when his body was brought from the field of battle. Edward the Confessor gave Waltham to Earl Harold, on condition that he should "build a monastery

in the place where was a little convent, subject to the canons and their rulers, and furnish it with all necessary relics, dresses, and ornaments, in memory of Edward and his wife Edith." In 1177, Henry II. for the secular canons, substituted monks of the Order of St. Augustine, and dedicated it to the Holy Cross.

At the dissolution the revenue was valued at £1079 12s. 1d. The bodies of Harold, the last Saxon King, and of his brothers Gurth and Leofurn, slain at the battle of Hastings, were entombed within the choir or eastern chapel.

In 1171 the foundation of Butley Priory was laid by Ralph de Glanville, Chief Justice of England. He was born at Stratford St. Andrew, and married Bertha, daughter of Theobald de Valoins, lord of Parham. In 1174, when High Sheriff of Yorkshire, during the time Henry was much pressed in his continental dominions by the alliance of his sons, with Louis VII. of France, the Scots invaded England, and De Glanville raised a small but heavily armed force, with which he marched seventy miles, and coming up with the Scots force attacked and defeated them, who under King William the Lion, were beleaguering the Castle of Alnwick, taking the King prisoner. Ralph de Glanville built Butley Priory on the lands called Brockhouse, which he held by his wife, and the Order of monks was that of canons regular of St. Augustine. He gave to it, as of fee, the advowsons of Farnham, Butley, Bawdsey, Wantisden, Capel, and Benhall, and Henry II. added the rectories of Burston and Winfarthing. In 1425, Reginald de Grey recovered the latter advowson and presented a rector, the priory producing no grant from the King and no appropriation confirmed by the Pope. It is stated that there were many other gifts of lands to the priory, in Wingfield, Sidebrooke, Isted, and other places, and that in 1508 Henry VII. endowed it with the cell of St. Mary-at-Snape (till then belonging to St. John of Colchester) with the manors of Snape, Scotts, Tastard, Bedingfield, Aldborough, and Friston. The prior, finding the monks troublesome, resigned the cell in 1509, and it was suppressed in 1524 by Wolsey, who gave it to the great work of his at Oxford and Ipswich. Fifty-one other manors belonged to the priory, spreading over East Suffolk, from Ipswich to Debenham, Parham, Yoxford, and stretching as far as Shelley, and thirty-one advowsons and moieties of advowsons, most of which were in Suffolk. The whole rental of the priory in 1291, was £99 17s. 0d., and in 1534, £318 17s. 2½d. per annum, representing £3188 12s. 3½d. of our present money. The buildings of the monastery covered twenty acres and were encircled by a stone wall; the church was large, consisting of three aisles, with chapels dedicated to St. Anne, St. Peter and St. Paul, St. Sigismund, and All Saints. The only remaining portions now standing, are the gate

and an arch. The former was a noble structure of decorated architecture built of freestone, ornamented with chequer and lozenge work in flint. On one side over the gateway, arranged in five rows, seven in each row, were the arms of many of the benefactors of the priory. The circle of flint work on the other side represented the size of the by-bell of the abbey, which at the dissolution was sold at Hadleigh and made into two. From 1195 to 1518, there were twenty-four priors, two of whom were consecrated suffragan bishops of the diocese. In the year 1539, the commendator and eight canons regular signed the surrender, and thus Butley and its fair lands passed from religious into secular hands. It was granted in 1540 to Thomas Duke of Norfolk, and in 1544 was purchased by William Forthe. Since then it has passed through many families, and at present it is in the possession of Lord Rendlesham.

At Leiston, was an abbey of Premonstratensian canons, built and endowed by the founder of Butley Priory, Ranulph de Glanville, 1182, to the honour of the Virgin Mary. This abbey being inconveniently placed, Robert de Ufford, Earl of Suffolk, about A.D. 1363, built a new one upon a better situation and about a mile further inland. This was burnt down in 1389, but was at once rebuilt, and was, with the old abbey, in a flourishing condition at the dissolution. The gothic windows, a few walls, and some subterranean passages are all that remain.

In the reign of Edward the Confessor, the prior and convent of Ely had possessions in Woodbridge, and their successors still hold the manor of Kingston. Towards the end of the twelfth century, a priory of Augustine canons was founded here by Ernardus Rufus and others and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, the revenue of which at the dissolution was valued at £50 3s. 5d. A house built on the site by one of the Seckford's still retains the name of the abbey.

Norfolk contained no less than 122 monasteries, including the various distinctions of abbeys, priories, nunneries, colleges, preceptories, commanderies, hospitals for lepers, besides a much larger number of chantries, guilds, and free chapels. Some of the monasteries were possessed of exclusive jurisdiction, with peculiar exemptions and privileges; others were dependent, and some were still more subordinate.

The Abbey of St. Benedict's-at-Holme was a famous place on the marshes near the river Bure, in the north of Norfolk. According to traditions of the monks, it was given by Horu, a little prince, to a society of hermits under the rule of one Sunneman in 800. The Danes destroyed the monastery in 870. Wolftric rebuilt the chapel and houses in the next century, and he with his companions lived there many years. Canute the Dane, founded the abbey in 1034. It was so well fortified by the monks that it resembled a castle more than a cloister. Its revenues were very

great, derived from many manors in this part of Norfolk. Holme was a mitred abbey, and its abbot always sat in the House of Lords. The Bishop of Norwich is still Abbot of Holme. Some remains of the abbey are yet visible on a piece of land surrounded by marshes. There is no part of the ancient structure standing except the gatehouse or entrance on the north by a causeway from Ludham, the rest having been barbarously destroyed by the Goths of the neighbourhood, or taken away to build barns or to mend roads. In the last century, vast piles of buildings were standing, but now they are all gone, and only a few silent trees are left sad witnesses of the brutal violence of ignorant rustics.

Walsingham Priory is indebted for its origin to the widow lady of Ricoldie de Faverches, who founded there a chapel in honour of the Virgin Mary, in all respects like to the *Sancta Casa* at Nazareth, where the Virgin was saluted by the angel Gabriel, in a vision of the Virgin enjoining her thereto, a pretence generally made use of in like foundations. Sir Jeffrey de Faverches, her son, soon after the Conquest, endowed it, granting to Edwin, his clerk or chaplain, this chapel to St. Mary, with the church of All Saints in the said town, with its appurtenances in lands, &c., which the said Edwin possessed on the day when he went to Jerusalem. This knight seems to have been the first founder of the priory, built the priory church, and gave the chapel of Our Lady, all the ground within the site of the church, eight acres of land, with 20s. rent per annum out of his manor, if the yearly value of the offerings of Our Lady did not exceed five marks, which grant was confirmed by Robert de Bruccourt, and Roger, Earl of Clare, in Suffolk. Numerous grants and benefactions rapidly succeeded the original endowment, conferring stability and opulence on the infant institution.

A minute detail of the several grants made to this once famous priory would be very tedious and uninteresting to most readers, but would show the zeal, credulity, and superstition of the age, the people believing that their welfare here and hereafter in a future state depended on their liberality to religious institutions. At their dissolution, this fell with the rest in the thirtieth of Henry VIII., and was then valued, according to Dugdale, at £391 11s. 7d., and according to Speed, at £446 14s. 4d. per annum.

The priory church was a grand edifice. The length of the nave from the west door to the great tower or belfry in the church was seventy paces, the breadth of the same, excepting the two aisles, was sixteen paces; the great tower or bell tower was a square of sixteen paces, and the breadth seventeen; besides this, there was a building, probably at the east end of the choir, of sixteen yards long and ten broad.

But the chief beauty and glory of Walsingham Priory was the chapel dedicated to the annunciation of the Virgin. This chapel was a separate

building from the church, and distinct also from the chapel dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, with which it is confounded by the continuator of Blomefield's work. As this chapel was being rebuilt when William of Worcester saw it, he calls it the new work of Walsingham, and states its measurement within the walls to have been sixteen paces in length and ten in breadth. Erasmus, who was here shortly after William, notices its disjunction from the priory church. He then proceeds to observe that "The church is splendid and beautiful, but the Virgin dwells not in it:—that, out of veneration and respect is granted to her son. She has her church so contrived as to be on the right hand of her son; but neither in that doth she live, the building being not yet finished. In this church there is a small chapel of wood, into which the pilgrims are admitted on each side at a narrow door. There is but little or no light in it but what proceeds from wax tapers, yielding a most pleasant and odoriferous smell; but if you look in, you will say it is a seat of the gods, so bright and shining it is all over with jewels, gold, and silver." So great was the fame of the idol or image of the Lady of Walsingham, that foreigners of all nations came on a pilgrimage to her, insomuch that the number of her devotees and worshippers seemed to equal those of the Lady of Loretto in Italy, and the town of Little Walsingham owed its chief support and maintenance thereto.

Of the Royal visitors Henry III. appears to have paid his devotion to her March 24th, in his 26th year; his precept being dated here enjoining all who held lands *in capite* to meet him on the Octaves of Easter at Winchester in our expedition into Gascoign. Edward I. was here on January 8th, in his ninth year, as appears by a patent dated here for the repair of London Bridge, and again in his twenty-fifth year in the Purification of the Virgin. Edward II. was also here on October 6th in his ninth year. In the thirty-fifth of Edward II., John de Montfort, Duke of Bretagne in France, came and had the King's liberate to the treasurer and chamberlain of the Exchequer to deliver £9 for the expenses of his journey here and back to London. In the same year the Duke of Anjou had a license to visit here and the shrine of St. Thomas à Becket at Canterbury.

David Bruce, King of Scotland, had in the thirty-eighth of the said King, a protection to come here with thirty horse in his retinue, and his Queen Margaret made a vow to visit also St. Thomas of Canterbury.

Henry VII. mentions, in his will, that he had ordered an image of silver and gilt to be made and offered up, and set before the Lady of Walsingham, and also a like image for St. Thomas of Canterbury.

Henry VIII., in his second year, soon after Christmas, rode here, and in the same year, May 14th, 6s. 8d. was then paid to Mr. Garneys for

the King's offering to her, and a MS. proving payment was signed by the King's hand at Walsingham.

Queen Catherine his wife, during the King's absence in France in his fifth year, came here and returned thanks to the Lady for the great victory over the Scots at Flodden-field, September 9th, 1513.

Queen Catherine, in her will, desired that 500 masses should be said for her soul, and that a person should make a pilgrimage to our Lady at Walsingham, and distribute 200 nobles in charity upon the road. The people were so superstitious, that they believed the galaxy in the sky called the milky way, shone to point out the particular place and residence of the Virgin to show them the way to Walsingham.

Walsingham was famous throughout England for pilgrimages to the shrine of the Virgin Mary; for whoever had not made a visit and a present to the Lady of this place was looked upon as impious. Here the priests carried on a lucrative trade by deceiving the ignorant people. Thousands of all ranks of people went annually to the "Shrine of Our Lady," as it was called, and they had indulgences granted to them in proportion to the sums given to the priest. It was not from motives of piety that so many went thither. On the contrary, says an English traveller, "we have seen processions of those pilgrims in different parts of Europe, and without the least exaggeration they may be reduced to the following classes: Supposing the whole body to consist of fifty of each sex, twenty couples are generally in *love intrigues*; the second twenty are idle, lazy, vagabonds and harlots; whilst the last ten couples may be partly devotees and partly philosophers, who go to laugh at the depravity of human nature and the barefaced wickedness of the priests."

The College of Walsingham had scarce any revenues but the presents made to the Virgin. The most valuable gifts only were preserved, the smaller being appropriated to the maintenance of the poor and convent. In the church was a little narrow timber chapel, into which the pilgrims were admitted on each side by a small door. There was only the light of wax tapers, which had a grateful smell; but the light displayed a place shining all over with jewels, silver, and gold. Yet, woe to tell! the very prince who walked barefoot to present a rich necklace to Our Lady of Walsingham soon after reduced her and her train to their original value in bullion!

Castleacre Priory was founded in 1078 by William de Warren a great warrior, who placed in it twelve monks of the Cluniac order, and endowed it for their support, but subject to the abbey of Lewes in Sussex. It was enclosed by a strong outer wall, encompassing an area of 29A. 2R. 10P. Herbert, first Bishop of Norwich, confirmed the grant of this founder, and certified that the monks of Hacra had entered the church with his

consent. In the twenty-fourth of Edward I., the revenues of this religious house, which had been augmented by numerous benefactions, were seized under the pretence of its being an alien priory, but they were subsequently restored. The remains of the priory, with its conventual church, form perhaps the finest and most venerable ruin in Norfolk. The church comprised nave, choir, and transepts, of which the west front, the south-west tower, and the north and south transepts present the most extensive remains. The choir is almost entirely destroyed, and little more than the foundations are visible. The west front, sixty-four feet high, presents a beautiful Norman façade, filled with tiers of arches, and columns enriched with beautiful chevron, billet cable and other mouldings and tracery, and formerly terminated on each side by elegant towers.

Waborne or Wayborne Priory, in the Hundred of Holt (north) is said to have been founded by Sir Ralph Maynwaryn, of Cheshire, in the reign of Henry I.; but it is more probable that Sir Ralph Maynwaryn, who lived in the reign of King John, was the founder. This Sir Ralph was justice of Cheshire and lord of Holt, and married Amicia, a daughter of Hugh Kivehoc, Earl of Chester, who gave two knights' fees with her in frank marriage. This priory was subordinate to Westacre Priory at first.

In the reign of Henry I., Peter de Valoins or Valeniis, founded the priory of Binham in Norfolk. This was an extensive pile of buildings, now in ruins. The possessions of the priory were much increased in the subsequent reigns of King Stephen, Henry II., Richard I., John, Henry III., and Edward I. by numerous grants and gifts of land, as appears from the register of the priory. After these grants, rents, &c., there follows in the register an account of the prior's rental in Edgefield, containing the names of the tenants, the rents, parcels of lands, &c. At the dissolution, Henry VIII., in the thirty-sixth year of his reign, on March 3rd, 1545, granted the manor of Binham, with all its appurtenances, rights, and privileges to Sir William Butts and his heirs for ever, with manors and estates in other counties, upon his paying into the treasury, £762 12s. 6d.

A priory of Benedictine monks was founded at Horsham St. Faith's, near Norwich, in 1105, by Robert de Cadomo (or Caen), son of Walter de Cadomo, lord of Horsford, and Sibella his wife, daughter and heiress of Ralph de Cheyney. Historians relate that they, returning from a pilgrimage to Rome through France, were attacked by robbers, and imprisoned, till by their prayers to God and St. Faith the virgin, they were miraculously delivered. After this, they visited the shrine of St. Faith's at the Abbey of Couches in France, and being there kindly entertained, they vowed on their return into England to give their manors of Horsford and Horsham to build a monastery there in honour of God

and St. Faith, which they accordingly performed, placing therein two monks of the Abbey of Couches, to which abbey they gave this house as a cell in the reign of Henry I. and Herbert, being then Bishop of Norwich. In 1163, the foundation was confirmed by Pope Alexander III.

In 1113, William de Glanville founded a priory at Broomholme, near Bacton, for Cluniac monks, as a cell to Castleacre, dedicated to St. Andrew, and endowed it with lands at Broomholme and other places. The priory became very rich by continual offerings in ages of superstition. On its dissolution, it was granted to Sir T. Woodhouse, of Waxham. The remains of this priory are still more entire than most others. Within the walls which surrounded it, there is now a farm-house, and the buildings have been converted into offices.

About the year 1188, the Priory of Shouldham was founded by Jeffrey Fitzpress, Earl of Essex, and dedicated to the Holy Cross and the Blessed Virgin for a prior, canons, and nuns of the Order of St. Gilbert, of Sempringham, who endowed the said house with the manors of Shouldham, in Caneham, Wryham, Wrotton, Boketon, Stokesferry, Carboysthorp, Foston, Stradset, Bekeswell, Fordham, Well, Wygenhale, Seche, Sadlebow, Clenchwarton, Low, and Wrangle. The founder had these estates in descent by his wife, whose grandfather married Beatrix, sister to Jeffrey Mandeville, Earl of Essex. This Jeffrey Fitzpress was a person of great power and authority, and Chief Justiciary of England, and, dying on October 2nd, 1212, was buried in Shouldham Priory. He gave to this priory in pure alms, to find lights in the church of the priory, &c., twelve shops, with rooms over them, in the parish of St. Mary of Cole Church in London.

Langley Abbey was founded by Sir Robert Fitz Roger, Helke or De Clavering, who was lord of Horsford by the marriage of Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of William de Cheney, relict of Sir Hugh de Cressy. On his founding the monastery for canons of the Premonstratensian Order at Langley, in 1198, he gave the greatest part of the manor to it, to be held by one fee and three-quarters, the other quarter of a fee being in his own family, also the advowson of the church with the marsh of Raveness, &c. The founder was Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk in the third and fourth year of King Richard I., and in that reign the abbey was founded. His descendents assumed the name of De Clavering from their lordship of that name, in Essex, and had the patronage of this abbey. The anniversary of the founder was kept on the 18th of the calends of May. Here was an abbot and fifteen canons of the Premonstratensian Order, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and valued as Dugdale, at £104 16s. 5d. ob. as Speed at £128 19s. 0d. ob. King John in his first year confirmed the grant of the founder, and granted the abbot a fair and

a weekly market in the manor of Langley, with soc, sac, and many other liberties.

It appears from a rent roll that they had considerable possessions, the manors of Langley, Thurton, Burgh cum Apton, Mundham, Raveningham, Sisland, Ashby, Winston, Rockland, Poringland, Framlingham, Shottesham, Kirby, Trowse, Bowthorpe, Wheatacre, Rushall, Heckingham cum Rochchage, and Hales; also lands in many towns in Norfolk and Suffolk.

Mr. Parkin gives us a tedious detail of benefactions devoutly given to this religious house, which we think would fully employ the clergy of that day to remember in their prayers.

On January 27th, 1249, the Abbey or Nunnery of Marham in the Hundred of Clackclose, Norfolk, was founded by Isabel, widow of Hugh de Albany, Earl of Arundel, for Cistercian or White Nuns, was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, St. Barbara, and St. Edmund, by Richard de Wiche, Bishop of Chichester, for the health of the souls of William, late Earl Warren and Surrey, her father, and Maud her mother, daughter of William Marshal the elder, Earl of Pembroke, Hugh, Earl of Arundel, her husband, and all her ancestors deceased, &c.

Many of the Kings of England confirmed the grants and privileges of this house, as did Richard II. in his ninth year, and in the twentieth year of that reign they had a patent for founding a chantry in the hermitage of St. Guthlake in Marham. The abbess had the privilege of proving the wills of those that died within the precinct or jurisdiction of this house granted to this order by the popes. This order of nuns had many large privileges from the popes, probate of wills within their own precincts, exemptions from paying tithes and procurations, &c.

The monastic institutions existing in Norwich before the Reformation were nineteen in number, the principal being the Benedictine Priory at the Cathedral founded by Bishop Herbert. He placed sixty Benedictine monks in the priory on the south side, endowing it with sufficient lands to maintain it. The same founder established a Benedictine cell on Mousehold Heath, and dedicated it to St. Leonard. It was much resorted to on account of a miraculous image of Henry VI. St. Michael's Chapel was near this priory cell, and it was served by the monks. The Benedictine Nunnery at Carrow was founded in 1146 by two sisters and endowed by King Stephen. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and had a prioress and nine nuns.

St. Mary-in-the-Fields was founded about 1250 by John Le Brun, as a monastic hospital, was transmuted into a college for a dean, ten prebendaries, and six charity priests, was given at the dissolution to Dr. Miles Spencer, the last dean, and is now represented by a hall, with arms of

the Hobarts, the Cornwallises, and others. The Augustinian Friary was founded in the time of Edward I., by R. Mincot; acquired much wealth from a peculiarly privileged chapel called *Scala Cœli*, akin in character to two others in England, and was given at the dissolution to Sir Thomas Heneage.

The Black Friars Monastery was founded in 1228, and originally built in St. George's Colegate, but afterwards removed to St. Andrew's, where the building was begun about the year 1415, in the reign of Henry V., by that celebrated knight, Sir Thomas Erpingham, who died in 1428, before it was finished. Sir Robert Erpingham, his son, continued the work till it was completed. He was a friar of the Order of St. Dominic, and a member of this convent. The Black Friars were so called from their habit; they were also called friars preachers, from their office; and Dominicans from St. Dominic their founder who died in 1221, and was canonized in the year 1233.

The first friars of this Order came to Norwich about the year 1226; they then occupied the church of St. John the Baptist (which was afterwards united to St. George of Colegate), and the site of the convent was between the churches of St. George of Colegate and St. Clement. In 1307 they were licensed to settle there by King Edward I. Between that period and the year 1331 they were at different times presented with sundry messuages in the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Peter of Hungate; but in 1413, their house, church and all their buildings in those parishes were burnt down. This obliged them to return to their original situation, where they continued till they were burnt out there in 1449; they then returned to the parish of St. Andrew's before the convent was entirely finished. Their new site extended from St. Andrew's Broad Street to the river from south to north, and from Elm Hill to the Black Friars Bridge Street from east to west. The cloister was on the north side of the church now called St. Andrew's Hall, with a burial place in the middle of it. The Convent-kitchen was at the north-west corner (converted into a work-room for the poor in 1625), the dormitory or sleeping-room was one great room over the east side of the cloister; the west side was the freytor; part of the south side was the infirmary; the chapter-house joined to the midst of the east side of the cloister; beyond it and the library was a long building from east to west, near the north side of the chancel; between the nave and choir of the church, there was a neat sexangular steeple, which had three large bells in it and a clock, and was a great ornament to the city. It was built about the year 1462, and fell down on November 6th, 1712. At the dissolution in 1538 Henry VIII. granted the convent to the city. All that now remains of it is the church called St. Andrew's Hall, and one side of the cloister, now a passage to the Commercial School.

The Grey Friars' Monastery was founded in 1226 by John de Hastingford, and given at the dissolution to the Duke of Norfolk. The White Friars Monastery was founded in 1256 by Philip Fitzwarren; was given at the dissolution to Richard Andrews and Leonard Chamberlayne; it is now represented by some remains which give a name to a tavern. The Monastery of the Friars De Domina was founded before 1290; the Monastery of the Friars of St. Mary was of similar date, and has been confounded with the preceding; the Monastery of the Friars De Sacco was founded in 1250; and all these four were small institutions, and either became extinct, or were united to the larger ones long before the Reformation. God's House, Hildebrand de Mercer's Hospital, and four lazar houses were founded in the time of Edward I. and Edward III. respectively; and they all were poor, having little or no endowed property, and they disappeared soon after the Reformation. The Hospital of St. Mary Magdalene was founded by Bishop Herbert as a lazar house. It survived the Reformation, and was transmuted into an infirmary. St. Giles' Hospital was founded in 1249 by Bishop Suffield; was given at the dissolution to the Corporation and it survives as a public charity.

There are some remains of monastic buildings of the Anglo-Saxon period, as in Norwich, Yarmouth, Lynn, Walsingham, and other places, but many more in the Norman period, when Norfolk contained 123 monastic institutions: abbeys, priories, nunneries, colleges, and hospitals. Some interesting ruins still remain, and present curious specimens of ecclesiastical architecture, especially at Castleacre. Norwich Cathedral as a Norman edifice has no rival in England. Walsingham Abbey and Binham Priory are fine specimens of early English architecture, while noble examples of the decorated and perpendicular period abound in every direction.

#### AGRICULTURE.

The history of the Eastern district is identified with agriculture, which is the foundation of its industrial prosperity. The authorities on this subject are Mr. Copland, the Norfolk farmer, who gave an account of agriculture in every period; Mr. Kent, who produced his report on Norfolk farming last century, before improvements were generally effected; Mr. Arthur Young, eight years after Kent's survey, prepared a report on the farming of Norfolk for the Board of Agriculture. Mr. R. N. Bacon, editor of the *Norwich Mercury* in 1844, published his elaborate report on the agriculture of Norfolk, and obtained the prize offered by the Royal Agricultural Society. About fifteen years later, Mr. C. S. Read, M.P., compiled a paper at the request of the same society on the improvements that have been made in Norfolk since 1844, and after-

wards he gave a full account of Norfolk farming in "White's Norfolk," published in 1864. Ample information may be found in these useful publications.

Mr. Copland, "the old Norfolk farmer," in his work on agriculture, says: "The nature of the claim or right by which landed property was held in England previous to the Roman conquest of the island is involved in great obscurity. Agriculture had been introduced by the Gauls, who had crossed over from Calais and other points of their coast nearest to that of Albion, and taking quiet possession of unoccupied lands, cultivated them successfully, and thus instructed the native Britons in the art. This, according to Cæsar, was about 100 years before he arrived in the country. The Romans, who were well-skilled in husbandry, introduced their system, and effected great improvements, so that large quantities of both corn and wool were exported annually to the Continent. It is evident from this circumstance that they did not dispossess the natives of their lands, but rather by taking possession of unoccupied tracts, and cultivating them according to their own methods, conferred a benefit upon them. The smallness of the population, compared with the extent of the country, rendered land of little value; and it is probable that the cultivation of a portion for a certain time gave the occupiers a title to it. Nor did the Romans annul the laws by which, under the Druidical system, the Britons were governed; these were the code of *Dunwallo Molmutius*, which was enacted about 400 years before the birth of Christ; and the Romans, instead of cancelling, engrafted many of their own upon it, according to their usual custom. The Britons, therefore, were governed by that code until the year 408 of the Christian era, when Constantinus the reigning Emperor, finding that the troubles of the empire at home rendered it impossible for him any longer to govern so distant a province, drew together a vast mixed army of Romans and Britons, and with them abandoned the island." ("Agriculture Ancient and Modern," p. 7).

About eighteen centuries ago, this island was a wilderness of woods, water and waste, swamps and bogs. There was scarcely a trace of the culturing hand of man over the whole country. The London of the present day was then a cluster of reed-roofed cabins by the river side; and whilst men shared with the wolf and the wild boar and the stag the primæval desolation, they were worshipping at their Druidical altars, falling down to the stock of a tree, and offering up hecatombs of human beings to the flames in wicker images.

With such a picture before us, may we not ask in wonder whether this is indeed a true representation of the commencement of British civilisation? and if such was ever the condition of people who now hold half the world as their own, and who have so long held a prominent position

in the councils of nations? Yes, so it appears, and there would have been no progress but for the advent of a civilising power. The occupation of this island by the Romans for the first four centuries, introduced the arts of peace and the systematic cultivation of the soil.

Agriculture made considerable progress on the southern coast, and as a proof corn was even exported annually. A.D. 359, the Romans sent over a large fleet of ships, and took away much corn, but we do not read of any supplies from the eastern or other counties. The Romans opened up portions of the country by constructing roads, and there is one instance on the old Roman road, traces of which are still visible from Bury to Dunwich. There are traces of other Roman roads in the eastern counties, and indeed all the great lines of roads were originally of Roman formation.

After the departure of the Romans, the progress of agriculture was retarded by perpetual wars, and the invasions of the northern tribes, who spread desolation over the country. The Angles, Saxons, Jutes, and Danes, after long struggles, settled themselves in the island, but introduced no improvements. They lived in a semi-barbarous state, socially and mentally; but as time rolled on, we observe the habits and usages of the people gradually improved, and we come step by step, with each successive period nearer to our own standard, but at the same time, with a progress so imperceptible that the sturdy oak seems to be a fit emblem of our civilization.

“The old Norfolk farmer,” Mr. Copland, says of the Saxons, “The invaders having exterminated the Britons, and taken possession of and divided their lands, found themselves on the point of starvation. Hating agriculture and the other arts of peace, they were nevertheless compelled to have recourse to it, but they enacted laws to prevent its being followed by any except women and slaves. The princes and great men amongst them who had received the largest shares, are said to have divided their estates into two parts, which were called inlands and outlands; the former, being those which lay contiguous to the mansion house of the owner, he kept in his own occupation and cultivated them by his slaves, under the direction of a bailiff, for the purpose of raising provisions for his family and numerous vassals.”

The most remarkable arrangement of the land of England was made under the reign of Alfred the Great, towards the close of the ninth century. Upon the expulsion of the Danes by that King, he divided the whole of the country into small sections, called tithings. The towns constituted several jurisdictions, and were distinguished by the name of town tithings, whilst the others were called rural tithings. The management of each tithing was vested in all the inhabitants paying “scot and

lot," and these also annually elected the magistrates and other officers. The chief officer of a tithing was charged with the executive authority, but the legislative power was committed to a local council. So excellent, and complete, and efficient was the system of internal policy established by this wise and great prince, that it is said, "if a gold bracelet were hung up in a place where four ways met, no man dared to touch it."

"The next arrangement was the union of a number of tithings for military defence; this was called a wapentake, or weapontake. This body in the ruder period of the feudal system, under the Anglo-Saxon government, was voluntary service; but under the Norman Conqueror, William, when the system of feudalism assumed its full development, it was exchanged for the tenure of knight service."

"The third and final division of the land consisted of a certain number of weapontakes; and was called a shire (or scyre), or one complete shire, which united all the tithings in each shire into one compact body, subject to the laws and regulations made by the scyre-gemot, or shire-parliament. This was composed of the chief magistrates of the tithings, who represented the respective districts in all matters in which they were concerned. Towards the close of the sixth century, when the Anglo-Saxons had fully established themselves in the kingdom, there arose another power, an *imperium in imperio*, which profited and strengthened itself by every change, civil or political, that took place from time to time, to the prejudice of every other class of society. Under the ancient order of things, the Druids held unbounded influence over the people. When the Romans came, the Druidical system yielded partially to that of the less gloomy influence of the thousand deities of that enterprising but superstitious people. But neither of these, although they claimed a large share in the management of state affairs, appear to have attempted to appropriate to themselves, as a sacerdotal order, the lands of their devotees. It was otherwise when the monk Augustine, at the command of Pope Gregory I., at the close of the sixth century, came into Britain to establish the Papal system. Received courteously by Ethelred, King of Kings, his mission was successful, and from that period the Church of Rome never relaxed its encroachment upon the landed property of the kingdom. Strengthening their power and influence by usurping a right, in virtue of their office, to a share in the legislature, they passed laws which forbade the alienation of the smallest portion of their property, under pain of the ban of the church here, and eternal damnation hereafter."

"It is not denied that the immense landed property formerly held by the Church of Rome was in general let to the people on easy terms, or that the monks were better landlords than many barons, who cruelly oppressed their dependents. The lands, too, held by the monks in their

own occupation were more productive than those held by the laity. But that the system was injurious to the material interests of the kingdom at the same time that it was made instrumental in fettering both body and mind, and thus placing barriers to the progress of enlightenment and knowledge, will not admit of a question."

"The conquest of England by the Danes in 1013 made but little change in the laws of the country. A part of their own laws, which were engrafted, like those of the Romans, upon the existing code, was submitted to, and adopted by, the national council. The difference, however, between the Anglo-Saxon and Danish codes consisted rather in the scales of mulcts and penalties for infraction of the laws themselves; nor was any great change in the form of government attempted. In fact, the Danes had but little time allowed them for establishing extensive alterations; for in 1066, upon the death of Edward the Confessor, the Norman William prevailed upon the Pope to confirm a supposed promise of the deceased King Edward to make him heir to the crown. Armed with this then formidable sanction, he fitted out a large fleet, and putting on board a numerous and well appointed army, he crossed the channel and landed at Hastings, where he defeated and slew Harold, who had been elected to the sovereignty by the wittenagemotte, or great national council."

"Whatever forbearance the Danes might have shown in not forcing their laws upon the British, no such weakness was shown by William. The lands of the Barons who opposed him were wrested from them, and given to his Norman followers; and this was carried to a still greater extent when, shortly after his accession, they revolted against him. Having overcome them, he put all the leaders to death, and confiscated their estates, which were also bestowed upon his warriors. Earl Morton thus became possessed of 793 manors; Hugh d'Albrinsis obtained the whole palatinate of Chester; Allen, Earl of Brittany, 442 manors; Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, 493; William, Earl Warren, 228, besides twenty-eight towns or hamlets in Yorkshire; and the large county of Norfolk was divided among only sixty-six proprietors. The owners of these large properties resided almost entirely upon them, except when engaged in war, and usually held the land in their own occupation. The elder Spencer, in a petition to Parliament about the year 1580, complaining of outrage upon his property, states his moveable effects to be 28,000 sheep, 1,000 oxen, 1,000 cows, 500 cart horses, 2,000 hogs, 600 bacons, 80 carcasses of beef, and 600 sheep in the larder, 10 tons of cider, and arms for 200 men. This will afford a good idea of the households kept up in the baronial halls, and the large tracts of land necessary to support them."

The practice of sub-ifeudation was greatly extended, and gave rise to

the manorial system. The term *manerius*, or *manerium*, is derived from the Latin word *manire* and the French *manoir*, and denotes a large mansion or dwelling. In the Exchequer Domesday Book it is called *manerium*, and in that of Exeter a *maniso*, both being equivalent to the Anglo-Saxon or French term used by the officers who made the survey. It is, however, to be observed that the characteristics of the English manor were never prevalent enough in France to demand a specific designation. A manor is commonly composed of *demenses* and *services*. The *demenses* are those lands within the manor, of which the lord is seized or possessed, *i.e.*, of which he has the freehold, whether they are in his own occupation, or that of his tenants at will or tenants at year; the *services* of a manor are the quit rents and other services due from freehold tenants holding of the manor. These services are annexed with or appendent to, the seigniorship over the lands holden by such freehold tenants. These lands, however, although thus far holden of the manor, are not within or parcel of it, though within the lord's fee or manorial seigniorship. At the present time, a manor rather signifies a jurisdiction or royalty incorporeal, than the land and suit; for a man may now have a manor in gross, that is, the right and interior of such a court baron, with its perquisites, whilst others possess and enjoy every foot of the land belonging to it.

At the commencement of the eleventh century, the towns in the eastern counties appear to have been of very small size. The larger towns were Norwich, Ipswich, Dunwich, Yarmouth, Colchester, Bury St. Edmund's, Lynn, Thetford, Attleborough, Wymondham, Dereham, Fakenham, Swaffham, Downham, Diss, Harleston, not one of them having 10,000 inhabitants. In all the eastern counties the rural villages were only clusters of huts containing few residents, whose chief employment was the rearing of cattle and sheep, and who lived on the coarsest fare. Most of the land consisted of open heaths and moors, swamps and bogs.

Enormous quantities of swine roamed in the woods and fed on the oak and beech mast. The various cereals, oats, rye, barley, and wheat, were grown in small crops, and some of the barley was malted and brewed into ale. The lands belonging to the monasteries were the best cultivated, and the monks themselves worked on the land for their own subsistence. They grew apples, pears, grapes, and other fruits in their gardens. In the seventh and eighth centuries and probably later, the ordinary price of an acre of the best land in Cambridgeshire was sixteen Saxon pennies or about four shillings of our money.

For centuries after the Anglo-Saxon settlement, the houses in East Anglia were built of wood or mud, with a thatched roof, and rarely comprised more than one room, in the middle of which the fire was kindled; nor does it appear that any improvements were made during the whole

period, though stone structures were occasionally built. The furniture was of rude manufacture, though the materials were sometimes costly. In various documents we read of benches, seats, beds, silver cups, horns, and other articles; but the use of the more expensive was very limited.

The people partook of different kinds of animal food, such as the flesh of oxen, sheep, and especially of swine. They also liked the flesh of deer, goats, hares and fowls. Fish was eaten and eels were used as much as swine. But animal diet was confined chiefly to the richer classes, and the same remark applies to wheaten bread. Barley and oat bread formed the staple diet of the peasantry. The chief beverages were ale and mead, the latter of which was made of honey. Drunkenness was one of the characteristic vices of the people, and it has always been so to the present day.

Mr. Thomas Wright, in his "History of the Manners and Customs in England in Early Periods," says, in reference to Saxon feasts:—

When the repast was concluded, and the hands of the guests were washed, the tables appear to have been withdrawn from the hall, and the party commenced drinking. From the earliest times, this was the occupation of the afterpart of the day, when no warlike expedition or pressing business hindered it. Thelod and his chief guests sat at the high seat, while the others sat round on benches. An old chronicler, speaking of a Saxon dinner party, says, "after dinner they went to their cups, to which the English were very much 'accustomed.' This was the case even with the clergy, as we learn from many of the ecclesiastical laws. In the Ramsey History, printed by Gale, we are told of a Saxon Bishop who invited a Dane to his house in order to obtain some land from him, and to drive a better bargain, he determined to make him drunk. He therefore pressed him to stay to dinner, and 'when they had all eaten enough, the tables were taken away, and they passed the rest of the day, till evening, drinking. He who held the office of cup-bearer, managed that the Dane's turn at the cup came round oftener than the other, as the Bishop had directed him.' We know by the story of Dunstan and King Edwy, that it was considered a great mark of disrespect to the guests, even in a King, to leave the drinking early after dinner."

If the clergy were given to wine, the women seem to have been only cupbearers. Mr. Wright gives a very pleasing picture of the Saxon dame, and represents her as looking well to the ways of her household.

She was the attentive housewife, the tender companion, the comforter and counselor of her husband and family, the virtuous and noble matron. Home was her especial place; for we are told in a poem in the Exeter Book that "it beseems a damsel to be at her board (table); a rambling woman scatters words, she is often charged with faults, a man thinks of her with contempt, oft her cheek smites." In all ranks, from the Queen to the peasant, we find the lady of the household attending to her domestic duties. In 686, John of Beverley performed a supposed miraculous cure on the lady of a Yorkshire Earl; and the man who narrated the

miracle to Bede the historian, and who dined with John of Beverley at the Earl's house after the cure, said, "She presented the cup to the Bishop (John) and to me, and continued serving us with drink as she had begun, till dinner was over." Domestic duties of this kind were never considered as degrading, and they were performed with a simplicity peculiarly characteristic of the age. Bede relates another story of a miraculous cure performed on an earl's wife by St. Cuthbert, in the sequel of which we find the lady going forth from her house to meet her husband's visitor, holding the reins while he dismounts, and conducting him. The wicked and ambitious Queen Elfthrida, when her step-son King Edward approached her residence, went out in person to attend upon him, and invite him to enter, and on his refusal, she served him with the cup herself, and it was while stooping to take it that he was treacherously stabbed by one of her attendants. In their chamber, besides spinning and weaving, the ladies were employed in needlework and embroidery, and the Saxon ladies were so skilled in this art, that their work, under the name of English work (*opus Anglicum*) was celebrated on the continent.....Editha, the Queen of Edward the Confessor, was well known as a skilful needle-woman, and as extensively versed in literature. Ingulf's story of his school-boy days, if it be true (for there is considerable doubt of the authenticity of "Ingulf's History,") and of his interviews with Queen Edith, gives us a curious picture of the simplicity of an Anglo-Saxon Court, even at the latest period of their monarchy. "I often met her," he says, "as I came from school, and then she questioned me about my studies and my verses; and willingly passing from grammar to logic, she would catch me in the subtleties of argument. She always gave me two or three pieces of money, which were counted to me by her handmaiden, and then sent me to the royal larder to refresh myself."

Far different were women after the Norman Conquest, and down to Reformation times. They neglected their household duties, frequented taverns, loved bear-baitings, and hated their husbands, whom they defied or cajoled according to their several gifts. In the "Stories of the Middle Ages," says Mr. Wright,

Not only are the manners of the ladies dissolute, but their language and conversation are loose beyond anything that those who have not read these interesting records of mediæval life can easily conceive, which has a common failing with both sexes. The author of "Ménagier de Paris," in recommending to his daughters some degree of modesty on this point, makes use of words which his modern editor, although printing a text in obsolete language, thought it advisable to suppress. It might be argued that the use of such language is evidence rather of the coarseness than of the immorality of the age, but unfortunately the latter interpretation is supported by the whole tenour of contemporary literature and anecdote, which leave no doubt that mediæval society was profoundly immoral and licentious. On the other hand, the gallantry and refinement of feeling which the gentleman is made to show towards the other sex, is but a conventional politeness; for the ladies are too often treated with great brutality. Men beating their wives, and even women with whom they quarrel who are not their wives—a common incident in the tales and romances. The Chevalier de la Tour—Laudry—tells his daughters the story of a woman who was in the habit of contradicting her husband in public, and

replying to him ungraciously, for which, after the husband had expostulated in vain, he one day raised his fist and knocked her down, kicked her in the face while she was down, and broke her nose, "And so," says the knightly instructor, "she was disfigured for life, and thus, through her ill behaviour and bad temper, she had her nose spoiled, which was a great misfortune to her. It would have been better for her to be silent and submissive, for it is only right that words of authority should belong to the lord and the wife's honour requires that she should listen in peace and obedience." The good "chevalier" makes no remark on the husband's brutality as though it were by no means an unusual occurrence.

The tavern was the resort of women chiefly of the middle and lower orders, who assembled there to drink and to gossip.

These meetings form the subject of many of the popular songs of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, both in England and France. It appears that these meetings were the first examples of what we now call a pic-nic, for each woman took with her some provisions, and with these the whole party made a feast in common. A song of perhaps the middle of the fifteenth century, printed in my collection of "Songs and Carols," edited for the Percy Society, gives us rather a picturesque description of one of these gossip-meetings. The women having met accidentally, the question is put where the best wine was to be had, and one of them replies that she knows where could be procured the best drink in the town, but that she did not wish her husband to be acquainted with it:—

"I know a drawght of merry-go-downe,  
The best it is in all thys towne ;  
But yet wold I not, for my gowne,  
My husband it wyst, ye may me trust.

The place of meeting having thus been fixed, they are represented as proceeding thither, two and two, not to attract observation, lest their husbands might hear of their meeting. "God might send me a stripe of two," said one, "if my husband should see me here." "Nay," said Alice, another, "she that is afraid had better go home ; I dread no man." Each was to carry with her some goose, or pork, or the wing of a capon, or pigeon pie, or some similar article—

"And ich (each) of them wyll sunwhat bryng,  
Goose, pygge, or capon's wing,  
Pastes of pigeons, or sum other thyng."

Accordingly, on arriving at the tavern, they call for wine "of the best," and then

"Ech of them brought forth their dysch ;  
Sum brought flesh, and sume fish."

Their conversation runs first on the goodness of the wines, and next on the behaviour of their husbands, with whom they are all dissatisfied. In one copy of the song a harper makes his appearance, whom they hire, and dance to his music.

## CHAPTER IX.

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### THE ANGLO-NORMAN PERIOD.

**T**HE Norman Conquest of England and the reigns of William I. and William II. are included in this period, the most momentous in our history. William I. who was born at Falaise in 1027, was the illegitimate son of Robert, sixth Duke of Normandy. William claimed the crown on the ground that Edward the Confessor had named him as his heir, but this could not be proved. They were cousins, but William had no Saxon blood in his veins. The battle of Hastings was the first step towards the Conquest of England, but that conquest did not extend to the eastern or northern counties till six or seven years after. William returned from the field of triumph to Hastings, where he remained a few days, hoping that the English would come and offer him the crown, but he was doomed to disappointment for the Londoners put their city in a state of defence.

In a short time, the English nobles despaired of restoring the old monarchy and sent a deputation of influential persons to William, then at Berkhamstead, offering him the crown. He accepted it, and they swore allegiance to him, while he on his part pledged himself to maintain the rights and possessions of those who submitted to him. After he was crowned on Christmas Day, 1066, he would not reside in London till a new fortress was erected, but retired to Barking in Essex, where Edwin and Morcar, Copsi or Coxo, and other English nobles, rendered him homage. The King's early proceedings were on the whole conciliatory, but his grants to his followers, prepared the way for arrogance on the one side and disaffection on the other, more especially in the eastern counties, where nearly all the English nobles who had been adherents of Harold were driven out of their lands.

A period now opens in the history of the eastern counties that is full of interest and the most momentous events, a period in which the East Angles were driven out of their possessions. Numerous churches, monasteries, and other religious houses, sprung up as it were out of the dust of castle and palace, and covered thousands of acres of land.

Mansions, churches, and castles were no longer to be plundered by Danish marauders, or by internecine wars, but after one great conquest, civil and ecclesiastical government were to hold sway over all England.

Whilst the Isle of Ely was held by the English nobility against the Conqueror, that monarch built a castle at Cambridge, on the site as is supposed of a Danish fortress ; but if so, it appears that it was on a more extended scale, for it is stated in the survey of Domesday that twenty-seven houses were destroyed for that purpose. In 1088, Cambridge was again destined to feel the effects of civil war, being laid waste with fire and sword by Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, in support of the cause of Robert Curthose. The Normans had now been seven years in the land, engaged in almost constant hostilities, and at length England, with the exception of the eastern counties might be said to be conquered. In most abridgements of history, the events of this period are so faintly indicated, as to leave an impression that the resistance of the English was trifling and brief. Nothing can be more fallacious than this impression, or more unfair to our English ancestors. This will appear in the sequel.

We must now direct the attention of the reader to the Saxon Camp of Refuge near Ely, to which many of the dispossessed men of Norfolk, Suffolk, and Cambridge, fled for safety. In 1070 these three counties were like a vast common, covered with bogs and marshes. A wide extent of lowland spread out from Norfolk and Cambridgeshire, interspersed by rivers in every direction. Most of the rivers in the centre of England flowed into these marshes, and thence into the Wash of Lincoln. A portion of this great swamp was called the Isle of Ely, another part the Isle of Thorney, and a third the Isle of Croyland. There were no mountains or defiles, but the district was in good part a swamp, on which no cavalry could tread. It was watered in all directions by rivers and streams and broad meres, and the few roads that led through this dangerous labyrinth, were little known to the Normans. The country, too, where the banner of independence floated was a sort of holy land to the English, as it included the abbeys of Ely, Peterborough, Thorney, and Croyland.

This district had more than once formed a place of refuge for the Saxons during the Danish invasions, and it was again the rendezvous of bands of East Anglian and other patriots, who constructed an extensive armed station and defied their enemies.

Archbishop Stigand and Bishop Eghelwin quitted Scotland for this place. Morcar, after having wandered for some time in the forests also came hither, with other chiefs. The King, who had just succeeded by his craft alone in dissolving the conspiracy of the patriot priests, essayed craft once more, and Morcar having surrendered himself was put in prison.

About 1071, a Saxon hero named Hereward kept his father's house at Bourn, near Ely, and settled in Flanders. Some English emigrants who had fled from their native land, informed him of his father's death, and that a Norman had possession of his paternal inheritance. He returned to England, reached Bourn, drove out the Normans, and took possession of his estate. Afterwards he was compelled to join his countrymen in the camp at Ely, and he waged warfare with the Normans all around.

To remove these enemies Turol purchased the services of Ivo Tailbois, to whom the Conqueror had given the district of Croyland. Confident of success, the abbot and the Norman commenced the expedition with a numerous body of cavalry. But nothing could elude the vigilance of Hereward. As Tailbois entered one side of a thick wood, the chieftain issued from the other; darted unexpectedly upon Turol, and carried him off with several other Normans, whom he put in prison and kept there till ransomed.

For awhile the pride of William disdained to notice the efforts of Hereward, but when Morcar and most of the exiles from Scotland had joined that chieftain, prudence compelled him to crush the hydra before it could grow to maturity. He stationed his fleet in the Wash, with orders to observe every outlet from the fens to the ocean; by land he distributed his forces in such a manner as to render escape almost impossible. Still the great difficulty remained to reach the enemy who had retired to their fortress, situated in an expanse of water which in the narrowest part was more than two miles in breadth. The King undertook to construct a solid road across the marshes and to throw several bridges over the channels of the rivers, a work of great labour and of equal danger in the face of a vigilant and enterprising enemy. Hereward frequently dispersed the workmen; and his attacks were so sudden, so incessant and so destructive, that the Normans attributed his success to the assistance of Satan.

At the instigation of Tailbois, the King had the weakness to employ a sorceress, who was expected by the superior efficacy of her spells to defeat those of the English magicians. She was placed in a wooden turret at the head of the work, but Hereward who had watched his opportunity, set fire to the dry reeds in the vicinity, the wind rapidly spread the conflagration, and the enchantress with her guards, the turret with the workmen, were enveloped and consumed in the flames.

When the Isle of Ely had been blockaded three months, provisions became scarce there. Those whose professions and vowed duties included frequent fasting, were the first to become very impatient under privation. The monks of Ely sent to the camp of the enemy, a message offering to show a safe passage across the fens, if the King would promise to leave

them in undisturbed possession of their houses and lands. The King agreed to the condition, and two of his barons pledged their faith for the execution of the treaty. Under proper guides the Normans then found their way into the Isle of Ely, and took possession of the strong monastery which formed part of Hereward's line of defence. They killed 1,000 Englishmen who either occupied an advanced position or had made a sortie, and then closing round the Camp of Refuge, they finally obliged the rest to lay down their arms. The greater number of them voluntarily submitted to the royal mercy. Their fate was different. Some of these brave men were liberated on paying heavy fines or ransoms, some were put to death, some deprived of their sight, some rendered unfit for war, by having a right hand or foot cut off; some were condemned to perpetual imprisonment. Hereward, the soul of the confederacy, would not submit, but making an effort which appeared desperate to all, rushed from the camp and escaped over the marshes, where the Normans dare not follow him. Passing from fen to fen he gained the low swampy lands in Lincolnshire, near his own estate, where he was joined by some friends, and renewed a guerilla warfare, which lasted four or five years, and cost the Normans many lives, but which could not under existing circumstances produce any great political result. At last, seeing the hopelessness of the struggle, he listened to terms from the King, who was anxious to pacify an enemy his armies could never reach, and who probably admired in a soldier his wonderful courage and address. Hereward made his peace with the King, took the oath of allegiance and was permitted by the Conqueror to preserve and enjoy the estates of his ancestors. The exploits of the last hero of English independence formed a favourite theme of poetry and tradition, and long after his death, the inhabitants of the Isle of Ely, showed with pride the ruins of a timber tower, which they called the Castle of Hereward. If the rest of the English had then been as brave as this hero, the Normans would never have got possession of the eastern counties.

William I. being firmly seated on the throne of England, thought it high time to fleece his Norman subjects as he had pillaged the Saxons before. In the year 1080, therefore, he appointed commissioners to repair to the different counties and make a general survey of the country, resolving to procure the minutest information respecting the value of the lands, goods, and chattels possessed by every individual, that he might know exactly what impositions every one could bear. This register was called Domesday Book, and although calculated for unbounded oppression and once the dread of all England, yet it is now resorted to with pleasure, and consulted by the lovers of antiquity as the grand oracle of English chorography.

England presented the singular spectacle of a native population with a foreign sovereign, a foreign nobility, and a foreign hierarchy. The King was a Norman despot; the bishops and principal abbots were Normans, intent only on their own aggrandisement, and after the death of Waltheof, every earl and every powerful vassal of the crown was a Norman. Each of them to guard against the disaffection of the natives surrounded himself with foreigners who alone were the objects of his patronage, while the despised native English were treated like beasts of burden. It should, however, be observed that the Norman nobles were as prodigal as they were rapacious. Their vanity was flattered by the number and wealth of their retainers, whose services they purchased and requited with the most liberal donations. Hence the estates which they received from the King, they doled out to their followers in such proportions as were reciprocally stipulated.

By Domesday Book it appears that ninety landowners of Essex were deprived of their lands by the Conqueror, during whose reign the government of the country and of every county underwent considerable changes. Norman barons tyrannized over Essex, and they built castles on their estates for personal security and to overawe their dependent vassals. Formerly twelve castles stood in Essex, and four of them were called royal castles, being built for national security. These were at Colchester, Hadleigh, Langard Fort, and Tilbury Fort. There is no especial record of the changes in Essex after the conquest, but we may form some idea of the extent of the confiscation by imagining all the noble families in the county whose names are so familiar to us, and all the long roll of the county squires turned from their homes into the highways, exposed to the contempt of invading French soldiers, whose officers took forcible possession of the ancient castles and halls and all the estates. This was the character of the revolution effected in Essex and in all the eastern counties. Suspicion of any feeling hostile to the Conqueror was taken as a positive proof of guilt by the commissioners, whose friends and relatives were waiting for the property confiscated. "Ancient and honourable families were reduced to beggary," says the historian before referred to, and in Domesday Book, made a few years after, we do not find in the roll of the landowners of Essex, a single name that carries with it a Saxon sound. The burgesses of the towns escaped more easily. They were felt to be necessary, because the military Norman could not stoop to trade. The common people, too, "were not massacred but protected;" but then as they had nothing to lose, and were looked upon as part of the stock of the manor, necessary to cultivate the estate for the new owner, there was no magnanimity in this sort of mercy. The conquest did not materially alter the state of slavery in the county; the land was transferred

to Norman masters and the slaves went with them. Amongst those who shared the landed spoils of the county were the King's brother, Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, "the mitred plunderer," as he has been called, who was presented with thirty-nine of the Essex lordships; Eustace, the Earl of Boulogne, received amongst other possessions the manor of Bundish Hall, Radwinter, parts of the lands at Ashdon, with the manor of Newnham; the greater part of the parish of Elmdon; the parish of Crishall; the lordship of Chipping Ongar; the parishes of Tryfield and Lambourn; Standford Rivers Hall; lands in Harlow and Latton; and the manor of Great Parndon. William de Warrenne took the parishes of Little Wenden and Leorden Roothing; two manors in High and Aythorp Roothing, which the Conqueror wrested from the monastery of Ely, because it sheltered some English who would not submit to him; a manor in Little Canfield, Househam Hale, in Matching; and other large possessions. Eudo Dupifer, a son of the King's steward, who became a great friend and patron of the town of Colchester, had for his portion lands and houses in that borough, with twenty-five lordships, spreading over the parishes of Henham, Takely, Quenden, Arkesdon, Norton Mandeville, Kelvedon, Hatch, Greenstead Hall, near Ongar; the manor of Folly, at Great Dunmore, &c. Geoffrey de Mandeville received the lordship of Walden, and was the first who gave life to that place; lands and a manor in Henham; the manors of Fernham and Walkers, in Farnham; Newton Hall and Bigods, Great Dunmow; the lands of Little Easton; the parish of Mashbury; Rookward Hall, in Abbess Roothing; Shelly Hall; Stock Hall, Matching; with other manors, spread over various parts of the county, amounting altogether to forty lordships. Robert Gernon had the whole of Stansted Mountfitchet, and built a castle there; to which were attached the lordships of Springfield, Margaretting, Easthorp, Birch, Wivenhoe, Leyton, East and West Ham, Chingford, Chigwell, &c.: he took the surname of Mountfitchet from his chief seat. Alberic de Vere, who founded the mighty earldom of Oxford, received lands and manors in Radwinter, Wimbish, Ugley, and Canfield; the manor of Garnish Hall; Margaret Roothing; Down Hall, Hatfield Broad Oak; with the castle and parish of Great Canfield, besides large possessions around Hedingham, where he settled and reared his baronial castle. Ralph Baynard obtained lands about Wimbish, Henham, and Wenden Tofts; Ralph Peverel, at Hatfield, Debden, Chickney, &c. Suene had the great barony of Rayleigh, where according to the custom of most of the new comers, he built a castle, and his other possessions included the half hundred of Clavering, the lordship of Hill Hall, Theydon, and Little Hallingbury Hall. Thus grim warriors, palace favourites, some of the meanest birth and lowest stations, one at least who took off the King's hands his concubine when

he was tired of her, became the lords of Essex, and occupied its castles and manors. Of all the ninety owners of the soil whose names are given in Domesday Book, not one of them is that of an old proprietor, save perhaps that of Suene, the Dane, who having adroitly trimmed his sails and tacked about when William landed, was permitted to retain his estates, and became the first sheriff after the conquest. A few of the names in that ancient roll have something of a Saxon sound, but we shall find, says Morant, "if we look into the places where they are mentioned, that they had the estates of Saxons dispossessed."

When the Normans under William I. extended their marches to Norfolk they found the citizens of Norwich, the descendants of the Angles and Danes, prepared to offer a formidable resistance. The city was besieged, and in the siege a large proportion of the houses were destroyed, and large numbers of the citizens were killed. Still, when twenty years after the return was made of the number of burgesses in the town, it was found to be 1565 who were paying public customs, while there were in addition 480 cottagers whose poverty obtained for them exemption from the payment of local taxes. The Crown dues were augmented, for the inhabitants now paid twenty pounds weight of silver to the King, 100 shillings as a free gift to the Queen, with an ambling palfrey and twenty shillings as a free gift to Godfric. The population having so much increased, a new borough was added to the old one, comprising the pleasantest part of the locality, where thirty-six French burgesses and six English burgesses had their abodes.

The government of Norwich and Norfolk was vested in Roger Bigod, the earl who, seated in the Castle, had supreme power over the inhabitants. Under him, the sheriff collected the royal dues, two-thirds of which were paid over to the King's treasury, and one to the earl. At this time, the Castle ruled the city in all things, and the local self-government in civil affairs was now suspended. The citizens were also compelled to serve as soldiers when occasion required, and were consequently involved in all the ill-fortune which attended the Norman baron who forced them to do military duty. This will appear from the following event:—

#### A TALE OF NORWICH CASTLE.

At Norwich a fatal marriage in high life was followed by dreadful consequences, sieges, battles, and violent deaths of all the parties concerned. William Fitz Osbern was the father of the two parties. He was the seneschal of Normandy, the chief promoter of the invasion of England, and actor in that enterprise, by which he obtained extensive domains and the earldom of Hereford. He was one of the greatest

oppressors of the English, many of whom he killed with the sword. After the conquest, he returned to his native country.

About 1074, William Fitz Osbern died a violent death in Flanders, where a love affair had involved him in political intrigues. The eldest of his sons, who bore the same name with himself, inherited his lands in Normandy, and Roger, the youngest, had the domains conquered in England, with the earldom of Hereford. He took upon himself the charge of providing for and portioning his youngest sister named Emma, and negotiated a marriage for her with Raulf de Gael, a Breton seigneur, who had been appointed Earl of Norfolk by right of the sword.

For some reason or other this alliance was displeasing to the King, who was then in Normandy, and he sent an express order not to conclude it, but the parties paid no heed to this prohibition, and on the day fixed for the ceremony the bride was conducted to Norwich, where the marriage was celebrated in grand style, and it was followed by a banquet in the castle. Bishops and Norman barons were there, also Saxons, friends of the Normans, and even several Welshmen, invited by the Earl of Hereford; Waltheof, the great Earl of Northumberland, the Earl of Northampton, and others.

After a sumptuous repast, whereat the wine flowed in abundance, the tongues of the guests became loosened. Roger de Hereford loudly censured the King for refusing to sanction this union between his sister and the Earl of Norfolk; he complained of this as an insult to his father, the man to whom the bastard, he said, owed his conquest and his kingdom. The Saxons, who had been ill-treated by William, vehemently applauded the invectives of the Norman Earl, and all present joined in a tumult of execration of the King. "He is a bastard, a man of low birth," said the Normans; "he may call himself a King, but it is clearly seen that he is not made for one, and that he is not agreeable in the sight of God." The Bretons cried, "He poisoned Conan, the brave Earl of Brittany, for whom our country still mourns." In their turn the Saxons exclaimed, "He invaded the noble land of England, he massacred the legitimate heirs, or obliged them to expatriate themselves." Then the foreigners cried, "And those who came in his train or to his assistance, those who raised him higher than any of his predecessors, have not been honoured by him as they ought to have been; he is ungrateful to the brave men who shed their blood in his service. What has he given to us the conquerors who are covered with wounds? Sterile tracts of land, all devastated; and when he sees our fiefs are improving he deprives us of them." All the guests exclaimed, "'Tis true, 'tis true; he is odious to us all, and his death would gladden the hearts of us all."

One of the Norman Earls then rose, and addressing Waltheof, said, "Brave man, this is the moment, this is for the hour of vengeance and fortune. Join us, and we will re-establish the kingdom of England, in every respect, as it was in the time of King Edward. One of us three shall be King, the other two shall command under him, and all the lordships of the kingdom shall be held of us. William is occupied beyond sea with interminable affairs, we are satisfied that he will not again cross the Channel. Now brave warriors adopt this plan; 'tis the best for thee, and thy family, and thy fallen nation." New acclamations arose at these words.

The Earl of Hereford and others, already committed by carrying the forbidden marriage into effect, became eloquent and bold in their language and designs until a chorus of excited voices joined them in oaths that sealed them as conspirators against their absent sovereign. Treachery revealed the plot, and the church lent its aid to the crown to crush the rebels. Waltheof, who had thought over the matter with his head on his pillow, perceiving the danger, began to be afraid, went the next day to Archbishop Lanfranc, who was guardian of the realm in the King's absence, and divulged the plot to him, by whose advice he went over to Normandy and showed the whole to the King. The Earls of Norfolk and Hereford finding that they were betrayed, betook themselves to arms as desperate men, and endeavoured to join their forces, to oppose the troops Lanfranc sent against them. The primate, who acted under the title of royal lieutenant, hurled a sentence of excommunication against Roger de Hereford, couched in the following terms:—"Since thou hast departed from the rules of conduct observed by thy father, hast renounced the faith that he all his life preserved towards his lord, and which gained him such great riches, in virtue of my canonical authority, I curse thee, excommunicate thee, and exclude thee from the threshold of the church and the society of the faithful."

Roger de Hereford hastened to his province to collect his friends, and engaged in his cause many of the Welsh of the borders, who joined him either for pay or out of hatred to the Conqueror, who menaced their independence. As soon as Earl Roger had assembled his forces, he marched towards the east, where the other conspirators awaited him. But when about to pass the Severn at the bridge of Worcester, he found that formidable preparations had been made to stop him, and before he could find another passage, the Norman Ours, Viscount of Worcester and Bishop Wulfstan, still faithful to the King, directed troops upon various points of the east bank of the river. Eghelwig, the courtier abbot, induced the population of Gloucester to rise against the conspirators. The people accordingly assembled under the banner of Count Gaultier de

Lacy against Roger de Hereford and his Welshmen, whose cause did not seem to them identical with the national cause. They adopted the side which appeared to involve the least danger, and served King William, whom they hated more than death.

At the same time, the army of the Earl of Norfolk, encamped near Cambridge, was attacked by Eudes, Bishop of Bayeaux, Geoffrey, Bishop of Contances, and Earl William de Warrenne, with superior forces. After an obstinate battle, the Norman and Saxon conspirators were completely defeated, and it is related that the conquerors cut off the right foot of every prisoner, of whatever rank or station. Raulf de Gael escaped, and after hastened to shut himself up in his citadel of Norwich, whence he soon fled to Brittany, leaving his castle in charge of his bride and his vassals. We may easily imagine the horrors of the siege when the King's forces closely surrounded the old castle walls and lived at free quarters in the city. The fortress was then defended by double entrenchments, the outer one extending eastward from the Hill, towards the river which was then a much broader stream. The brave countess held the castle for three months, and only capitulated under pressure of famine. She and her men-at-arms were allowed to depart on condition of their quitting England within forty days.

While the friends of Raulf de Gael were thus defeated and dispersed in the east, those of Roger de Hereford were conquered in the west, and their chief made prisoner. When the King returned to London, he presided over the great council of barons to try the conspirators. Raulf de Gael absent and contumacious was deprived of all his estates, Roger de Hereford appeared and was condemned to lose his lands and to pass his life in a fortress. In the depths of his prison his proud spirit made him brave with insults the King whom he had not been able to dethrone. The Saxons and the Welsh who were taken prisoners with arms in their hands on the banks of the Severn, had their eyes put out and their limbs mutilated, or were hung upon gibbets by order of the Norman earls, prelates, barons, and knights, assembled at the court of the King. The royal vengeance extended to all who had attended the wedding feast in Norwich, and nearly all came to an untimely end.

The citizens were very unfortunate in this siege. Having, under the command of the newly-married countess, resisted the King's troops, the royal vengeance fell upon them in the shape of multiplied vexations, which forced many of them to flee to Beccles and Halesworth in Suffolk. They were pursued to those places by Roger Bigod, Richard de St. Clair, and William Noyers, and their persons were seized and reduced to serfdom. The city was greatly damaged in every way by the conspiracy. When these events had terminated scarcely 560 burgesses remained in Norwich.

It is curious to read in the valuation of land that was taken soon after the siege, how many houses are recorded as "void," both in the burgh or that part of the city under the jurisdiction of the King and earl, as well in other portions subject to other lords, for it would seem that there were three landlords of the soil on which the old city stood; the King or Earl of the Castle, the Bishop and the Harold family, relatives of him who fell at Hastings. At that time clusters of huts stood round the base of the Hill, and constituted the feudal town; its inhabitants, consisting of burgesses or freemen, and villains of which there were two classes, the peasants annexed to the manor or land, and a lower rank described in English law as villains-in-gross, in plain terms, absolute slaves, transferable by deed from one owner to another, whose lives, save for the amelioration of individual indulgences, were in a continual helpless state of toil, degradation, and suffering. Such was the abject condition of most of the inhabitants of Norfolk and Suffolk in the olden times.

#### THE NORMANS IN EAST ANGLIA.

After the battle of Hastings in 1066, the Conqueror granted the following lordships and manors in Norfolk to his Norman barons. To Hugh de Albrincis, his sister's son, by Richard, surnamed Gaz, he gave the earldom of Chester, to hold by the sword and with it twelve manors in Norfolk.

To Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, in Normandy, by the mother's side, his brother whom he made a count palatine and allowed him power over all the earls of England and other great men, and to administer them as *justiciarias Angliæ* and more particularly made him Earl of Kent, besides other large possessions he enfeoffed him with twenty-two manors in Norfolk.

To Alan Rufus or Fergaunt, son of Eudo, Earl of Bretagne, whom he made Earl of Richmond, in Yorkshire, he gave eighty-one manors in Norfolk as the reward of his valour.

To Walter Giffard, son of Osborn de Bolbec and Avelin his wife, sister of Gunnora the Conqueror's grandmother, whom he made Earl of Bucks, twenty-eight manors in Norfolk.

To Ralph Waher or Guader, so called from his castle of Guader in France, whom he constituted Earl of Norfolk and Suffolk, he gave nine manors in Norfolk.

To William, Earl Warren in Normandy, nephew to the Countess Gunnora, before mentioned, whom he made Earl of Surrey and Arundel, he gave 139 lordships in Norfolk.

To Eudo de Rhye, fourth son of Hubert de Rhye, who for his fidelity to him, he made his deputy in Normandy, and whose elder son, Hubert,

he made Governor of the Castle of Norwich, he gave nine manors in Norfolk.

To William de Albini, *pinerna* son of Roger de Albini, whom he made his butler, he gave four manors in Norfolk, the possessions of one Edwin a Dane, besides the lands which he had in the county with Maud, the daughter of Roger Bigod, his wife, which were ten knights' fees. He held his manor of Buckenham by the service of being butler to the Kings of England at their coronation.

To Humphry de Bohun, or With the Beard, whom he made Earl of Hereford, being a kinsman of the King, and attending him in his expedition hither, he gave one lordship in Norfolk.

To Ralph de Limese one manor; to Peter de Valoines twenty lordships, and to Ralph de Tony, son of Roger de Tony, standard bearer of Normandy, nineteen lordships in Norfolk, for his eminent services.

William I. gave the lordship of Brooke, in the Hundred of Loddon, to the Abbey of Bury St. Edmund, when he first supplicated that saint's favour and protection, falling prostrate before him, and placing a small knife, wrapped up, on the altar, in the presence of many of the chief nobility.

William I. as before stated, conferred the earldom of Norfolk, on one Waher or Guader, probably a native of Bretagne. He conspired against his benefactor, and when some of the conspirators repented and disclosed the design, he persisted in it and raised forces which were defeated and himself obliged to flee to Denmark. There he persuaded the King's son to come over with a fleet; but finding William prepared for them they landed in Flanders. He afterwards took on him the cross, and died in Jerusalem in the crusade, under Robert Curthose, Duke of Normandy. He left two sons and one daughter, but his estates in this country were forfeited.

The title of Earl of Norfolk was next in the great family of Bigod or Bygod. The name comes from the German By and Gott, or the English By God! The first of this family that settled in England was Roger, who held several lordships in Norfolk at the survey and revolted against William Rufus, on behalf of his brother Robert, but adhered faithfully to Henry I. He founded Thetford Abbey, where he was buried in 1107. He was succeeded by his son William Bigod, appointed steward of the household to that King, and shipwrecked with the royal children in their passage to Normandy. His brother, Hugh Bigod, succeeded in his office, whom King Stephen for his services in advancing him to the crown of England, had before created Earl of the East Angles. He was afterwards advanced to the dignity and title of Earl of Norfolk by Henry II., A.D. 1166.

Roger Bigod, before mentioned, came over with the Conqueror from Normandy, and had the capital manor and lordship of Fornsett, with all its royalties, &c., granted to him for his eminent services at the battle of Hastings. That lordship has ever since passed with the Earls and Dukes of Norfolk, and it is situated in the Hundred of Depwade in Norfolk.

We shall now proceed to give a more detailed account of the grants to Norman warriors in Norfolk and Suffolk. The rust of time has invaded all accounts in writing of this period. The whole is clouded in obscurity, and proves the uncertainty of all pedigrees and possessions in years before the conquest, and previous to the general survey from which Domesday Book was compiled. That is the chief authority in all our inquiries of this nature, and fortunately it has been well preserved. Without it, all we can say is that one historian is more lucky in his guess than another, or more plausible in his reasoning. Fuller, in his "Worthies" states that Edwin the Dane, Lord of Sherbourne, traversed the title of the Earl Warrer. to this lordship, and being a Norfolk man durst go to law with the King and question the validity of his grants. Fuller does great honour on this account to the gentlemen of Norfolk, in supposing that only a native of that county dare to contest with a King; however, the King made pretty free with the county in his divisions to his Norman favourites.

To begin with the lordship of Sherbourne thus disputed. According to historians, Thoke was Lord of Sherbourne when Felix, the Bishop of the East Angles, came into West Norfolk, about 640, to convert the people to Christianity, and he built a church at that place. The heiress of this Thoke married Ingulfe, whose descendants enjoyed it till the time of Canute, with whom came Edwin the Dane into England. King Canute granted Sherbourne and Snettisham to this Edwin the Dane on his marriage with a descendant of the family of Thoke, or rather of Ingulfe. William I. had given the lands to Earl Warren, but on the appeal of Edwin ordered them to be restored to him. After this, Sir Ralph de Ibremijs, a Norman, imprisoned Edwin, who applying to Albini for relief, he sent for a daughter of his own out of Normandy and married her to the son of Edwin, which put an end to all the claims of Edwin, who by this match became satisfied, and retiring, died soon after in peace and quiet.\*

After the conquest, Alan, Earl of Richmond, surnamed Rufus from his red hair, had grants of no less than 166 lordships in Yorkshire, sixty-three in Cambridgeshire, eight in Essex, 101 in Lincolnshire, and eighty-one in Norfolk, of all which the manor of Cossey or Costessey was the largest in Norfolk, as appears from Domesday Book, folios 62 and 63. This Alan was the son of Eudo, Earl of Bretagne in France, and coming over the

\* MSS. of the family of the Sharnbourns.

seas with William, Duke of Normandy, into England, he commanded the rear of his army in the memorable battle of Hastings, where he behaved so bravely that he was immediately advanced to the earldom of Richmond, displacing Edwin, Earl of Mercia.

The Norman Earl of Richmond built a strong castle at his capital mansion of Gilling, in Yorkshire, and named it Richmount, for the better safeguard of himself and tenants against the dispossessed natives, whom he treated with humanity. He restored the great Abbey of St. Mary, at York, but did nothing that we read of in Norfolk. He married Constance, a daughter of the Conqueror, and dying without issue, he was buried in the Abbey of St. Edmund's Bury, at the south door, before the altar of St. Nicholas. His brother Alan Niger, or Alan the Black, succeeded him, and died also without issue, and was buried at Bury St. Edmund's.

William I. granted to one of his Norman warriors, William, Earl of Warrenne and afterwards Earl of Surrey, 140 lordships in Norfolk and Suffolk. As may be supposed he exercised great power in both counties and he became a very formidable nobleman. He built a great castle at Castleacre in West Norfolk, and it was long the baronial seat of his descendants. He also built a beautiful priory at Castlerecre and extensive ruins yet remain. On the death of John the last Earl Warrenne in 1347 the estate passed into the hands of the female branch of the family who intermarried with the Arundels, the ancestors of the Dukes of Norfolk.

William I. granted the town of Kenninghall in Norfolk to William de Albin or Albany and his heirs, together with the lordship of Bokenham, to be held by the service of being chief butler to the Kings of England on the days of their coronation, upon which account he was called afterwards *pincerna regis*. This manor always went with Bokenham or Buckenham till the division of the Albany's estate, between the four sisters and co-heirs of Hugh de Albin, who died without issue leaving this manor in dower to his wife Isabel, who, in 1243 had it assigned to her by the King's license. The aforesaid William de Albin founded Wymondham Abbey, where he was buried before the high altar by Maud his wife, daughter of Roger Bigod Earl of Norfolk, with whom he had ten knights' fees in Norfolk, the gift of Earl Roger. He was the son of Roger de Albin by Amy de Mowbray his wife, and brother to that famous Niger de Albin whose descendants assumed the name of Mowbray from that of his mother.

William de Albin before-mentioned had a grant of the fee of Old Buckenham, and he was succeeded by his son William with the strong hand, so called from his having killed a lion by thrusting his arm down its throat, according to the legends of chivalry.

Rainald was a Norman baron who attended William I. in his invasion of England, and on the conquest was rewarded for his services with nine lordships in the Hundred of Clackclose, three in Freebridge Hundred, one in Grimshoe, four in South Greenhoe, three in Wayland, one in Launditch, one in Mitford, one in Gallow, one in Brothecross, one in Holt, three in North Greenhoe, one in Loddon, four in Eynsford, one in Taverham, five in South Erpingham, one in Tunstead Hundred, all in Norfolk.

William I. made one of his warriors, William Gifford, Earl of Buckingham, and rewarded him for his services at the conquest, with the following lordships in Norfolk:—In the Hundred of Eynesford with Bintry, Guestwick, Norton, Dalling, Swannington, Helmingham, and Ringland; in Taverham Hundred with Attlebridge and Felthorpe; in South Erpingham with Stratton, Guincham, Reppetuna, Ermingland; in South Greehoe with Fuldon; in Grimshoe with Linford and Ickburgh; in Holt Hundred with Letheringsett, Bayfield, Glanford, Snitherby, Bodham, and Hanworth; in North Greenhoe with Warham; in North Erpingham with Barningham; in Henstead with Shottesham, Saxlingham, and Stoke. He had also grants of three lordships in Suffolk, nine in Bedfordshire, forty-eight in Buckinghamshire, three in Oxfordshire, five in Cambridgeshire, one in Huntingdonshire, one in Somersetshire, one in Wiltshire, and two in Berkshire. At the time of the survey he was sent with Remigius, Bishop of Lincolnshire, and some others to make that survey.

By Agnes his wife, daughter of Gerard Flutell, sister to William, Bishop of Eureux, in Normandy, he had Walter his son. When he (the father) died, on July 15th, 1102, in England, his body was carried into France, and buried at the Abbey Church of Longueville in Normandy, which he had founded in the chapel of the cloister. Walter, his son and heir, Earl of Bucks, in the twelfth year of Henry II., on an aid for marriage of that King's daughter, certified that he held ninety-four and a-half knights' fees, *de veteri feoffamento*, and one and a-half *de novo*. In the time of Richard I., Richard de Clere, Earl of Hertford, descended from Rohais, sister of this Sir Walter, was lord. Rohais was wife of Richard FitzGilbert, ancestor of the Earls of Clere.

William de Scohies, or Escois, received a large share of the Conqueror's favours in Norfolk, lordships in Islington, Clenchwarton, Middleton, Runcton, Gayton, and Massingham in Freebridge Hundred; Bircham in Docking Hundred and Ringstead in Smithdon Hundred; Banham, Kenninghall, and Harling in Gultecross Hundred; Letton in Mitford Hundred; Creake in Brothecross Hundred; Sherringham, Barningham, Repps, Beeston Regis, and Runton in North Erpingham Hundred;

Salthouse in Holt Hundred; Limpenhoe, Burlingham, Plumstead, and Southwood in Blofield Hundred; Winterton and Ashby in West Flegg, Witchingham and Weston in Eynsford Hundred; Attlebridge in Taverham Hundred; Corpusty in South Erpingham, Paston in Tunstead, Stokesby in East Flegg, Colney in Humbleyard, Tasburgh in Depwade, and Thirton in Clavering Hundred; Bircham Magna in Smithdon Hundred. He sold the lordship of Bircham Magna, with many others, in the reign of Henry I., to Walter Giffard, Earl of Buckingham, who was succeeded by a son of his own name, and he, dying without issue, his great inheritance was divided amongst his sisters and co-heirs.

William I. granted many lordships in Norfolk to Godric, his steward, and he held the following at the survey in 1086:—In South Greenhoe Hundred, Gooderstone, Oxburgh, and Southacre; in Forehoe Hundred, Wramplingham and Tokethorpe; in Walsham Hundred, Walsham and Opeton; in Henstead Hundred, Stoke, Poringland, Framlingham, Ulverstone, Holveston, Rockland, Bramerton, South Burlingham, Kirby, and Appleton; in Loddon Hundred, Hellington, Ashby, Claxton, Norton, Carleton, Weasingford, Sisland, and Alemunton; in Eynsford Hundred, Sparham and Bintry; in Taverham Hundred, Beeston; in Humbleyard Hundred, Melton Magna and Parva, Hethersett, Colney, Dunston, Swardeston, Flordon, Swainsthorpe, Keswick, and Kenningham; in Clavering Hundred, Heckingham, Hales, Southwood.

Jervis, Earl of Harcourt in France, who came into England with the Conqueror, was the ancestor of the Hare family in Clackclose, Norfolk. Sir John Hare, son of the earl, married Ann, daughter of Eustace Crew, baron of the Monte Alto. They had lands at Stow Bardolph, in Clackclose, and their descendants inherited those lands to the end of the eighteenth century. Some members of the family were highly distinguished. Sir Nicholas Hare was twice chosen Speaker of the House of Commons in the reign of Henry VIII., Master of the Rolls, and Chief Justice of Chester.

William, Lord Baynard, had from the Conqueror grants of many lordships in Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, including eleven manors in the Hundred of Clackclose, in Norfolk. The principal manors were at Barton Bendish, Bixwell, Fincham, West Dereham, Merton, &c. This Lord Baynard, by Juga, his wife, had Jeffrey, his son and heir, who lived in 1106, succeeded by William Baynard, who taking part with Elias, Earl of Mayne, in France, against Henry I., lost his barony of Baynard's Castle in London, which was given by the King to Robert, a younger son of Richard FitzGilbert, ancestor of the Earls of Clare.

William I. granted the manors of Bexwell, in the Hundred of Clackclose, and Merton, in Wayland Hundred, to Ralph Baynard, one of his principal Norman warriors, who came over with him to England. The

descendants of this Ralph Baynard continued to hold lands at Merton till Isabel, an heiress of a younger branch of the family, carried the lands to Sir Thomas de Grey, her husband, before 1306. There were many younger branches of this Baynard family, that had good estates in other parts of Norfolk, till a late period, but we need not mention them here.

Alan Rufus, the son of Flaad, and Guy L'Estrange, one of his officers, came over with the Conqueror into England. Alan married a daughter of the Conqueror, was made Earl of Richmond after the conquest, and was rewarded with 436 lordships, eighty-one of which were in Norfolk. Alan was the ancestor of the FitzAlans, Earls of Arundel.

William I. gave the Hundred of Launditch, in Norfolk, to Alan, the son of Flaad, ancestor to the Barons of Clun, in Shropshire (and Earls of Arundel after), and granted by the said Alan to Siward, with the Hundred of South Greenhoe, and confirmed (as some records say) by William FitzAlan to Durand, grandson of Siward, on his paying £6 per annum rent for the two Hundreds, and 8s. per annum for lands in Wellingham, Sutton, and Bittering.

Alan, son of Flaad, had also with this (by grant of William I.) the great lordship of Mileham, of which Stigand, Archbishop of Canterbury, was lord before the conquest. William FitzAlan was his son and heir, and married Isabel, daughter and heiress of Helias de Say.

William I., soon after the survey in 1086, granted to Alan, son of Flaad, the town and castle of Oswaldestre, in Shropshire, which belonged to Meredith ap Blethyn, a Briton, and had also a grant of the manor of Mileham in Norfolk, for his father's services in that King's expedition into England, and was ancestor of the noble family of FitzAlans, Earls of Arundel. Guy L'Estrange, an officer under this Alan, had a grant from him of the lordship of Knockyn, in Shropshire, and from this Guy descended the ancient family of the L'Estranges, lords and barons of Knockyn, the barons of Blackmere, and the L'Estranges of Hunstanton, in Norfolk. The first account of this family is by Sir William Dugdale, in his "Baronage of England."

Hermerus de Ferrars was a Norman nobleman who came over with the Conqueror, and who for his services was well rewarded with twenty-five lordships in Norfolk; but not content with these lands, he invaded and seized on other lands without any authority from the King. He seized on the lands of thirty-two freemen in West Dereham. He had sixteen manors in Clackclose, ten in Freebridge, one in Shropham, three in Launditch, eleven in Mitford, and one in Humbleyard, including what he seized on without any authority from the King.

William I. granted the manor of Wormegay, in Clackclose, to Hermerus de Ferrars, on the deprivation of Turchetel, a Saxon thane, who held

many lordships in the Hundred and county. According to the Norman custom, the descendants of Hermerus took the name of de Wormegay, from Wormegay, which was the chief manor of a barony.

William I. granted the manor of Sedgeford or Setesford to William de Beaufoe his chancellor, who was lord of it and Bishop of Norwich when Domesday Book was compiled; and it was held by him as a lay fee and his proper inheritance. Earl Gyrtle or Gurth, one of King Harold's brothers, had the manor before the conquest, but he was killed at the battle of Hastings, which was so fatal to many of the Anglo-Saxon thanes of Norfolk and Suffolk.

William I. granted to Godwin Halden the hamlet of Nettington, afterwards Gnatyngdon in Smithdon; also the manor of Hellesdon, near Norwich; also the manor of Oxnead in South Erpingham, Norfolk. Godwin Halden was a Dane, and how he came to be in such favour with the Conqueror is not known, but that King did not dispossess all those who did not oppose him.

Melton Constable was granted by William I. to William de Beaufoe, Bishop of Thetford; Roger de Lyons held it of the bishop, with Ansethel, the provost; from this Ansethel descended the family of De Meulton, according to the Norman custom assuming that name from their lordship, and sometimes wrote their names De Constable, from the office and place they held under the Bishops of Norwich. At Melton Constable are the manors of Astleys and Cockfields; of the former, Sir Thomas Estelle, Lord of Estelle, had a third part of the town and of the inheritance of Jeffery de Burnwell, by the marriage of Edith, his third sister and co-heir, descended from Phillip de Estelle, Lord of Astley, in the twelfth Henry II. (which gave name to the family), and other lordships in Warwick, of which his granddaughter had been enfeoffed in the reign of Henry I. Thomas, Lord Astley, who married the sister and co-heiress of Sir Robert Constable, was the great ancestor of this family, and was killed at the battle of Evesham in the forty-ninth of Henry III.

Ralph de Beaufoe, at the time of the survey, 1086, granted the manor of Shropham, in Norfolk, to Caurineus, whose descendants assumed the name of Hargham or Harpham. The family soon became very numerous, for in the reign of Henry I. three several branches of it flourished in good repute, but we can only notice the oldest. The head of the family was William de Herkeham, and his descendant in 1249 was lord of the manor and advowsons of Swanton and Hargham.

Ralph de Bellofago, or Beaufoe, was a near relation, if not son, of William de Beaufoe, Bishop of Thetford, chaplain and chancellor to the Conqueror, and held in 1086, at the survey, forty-one lordships in Norfolk. Ralph de Beaufoe left a daughter and heiress, Agnes, who was

married to Hubert de Rhye, castellan of Norwich Castle, who was son of Hubert de Rhye, according to Dugdale, a trusty servant to William, Duke of Normandy.

At the time of the grand survey in 1086 Beachamwell, in Clackclose, now regarded as one town, was two distinct and separate towns, Beacham and Well, the latter being the most southern part.

Rainald, son of Ivo, had the grant of the lordship of Well, on the deprivation of Toli, a Saxon thane. Here was a fishery or fishpond. The whole was valued at £6, but had paid £8. About seventeen freemen also belonged to it with land, &c., valued at 13s. 4d., which Wihenoc had invaded or seized on. Well was one leuca long and one broad, and paid 2s. to the King's gelt at 20s.

Rainald had also the lands of six freemen, valued at 26s. 8d., three of these freemen were under the protection of Hermerus and Wihenoc had these.

In Beacham, Rainald had twenty-four acres of land, which a freeman had been deprived of by the invasion of Wihenoc, and it paid 5s.

Rainald, son of Ivo, had also a lordship at Bexwell in Clackclose, which passed soon after to the Earls of Clare, and was part of the manor of Crimplesham, which also passed to the Earls of Clare.

In distributing the lands of the kingdom among his followers William I. gave 629 manors in Suffolk, as follows:—To Hugh de Albrineis, Earl of Chester, 32; Robert, Earl of Morton and Cornwall, 10; Odo of Champagne, Earl of Albemarle, 14; William Warren, Earl of Surrey, 18; Eudo de Rhye, steward of the household, 10; William Mallet, Lord of Eye, 221; Robert de Todenis, 4; Robert de Stafford, 2; Alberic de Vere, Earl of Oxford, 9; Jeffrey de Magnavil or Mandevill, 26; Richard de Tonebrugge, or de Clare, 95; Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, 117; Ralph de Limesi, 11; Hugh de Grantmesnil, 1; Peter de Valoines, 6; Robert Blund, 13; Ralph Baynard, 17; Swene de Essex, 9; Roger de Aubervil, 14; Hugo de Montford, Ralph Baynard, Robert Morton, Robert de Limesi, Hugh de Grantmesnil, Peter de Valoines, Robert de Blund and others acquired large estates.

Of those powerful chieftains who thus entered on possession of the lands of the despised English, the history is very remarkable, and in tracing the fortunes of themselves and their descendants, if we even question the immediate retributive justice of heaven, we must at least acknowledge the emptiness of sublunary honour and the mutability of earthly possessions. We may suppose a persecuted Saxon seer to have predicted to those proud barons on the day of their triumph, their speedy fall, and the annihilation of their race. He might have predicted that the vengeance of heaven should soon sweep those tyrants from the earth.

He might have exulted in the prospect of the despised English flourishing for ages in wealth and honour after the proud Norman lords were all forgotten.

Eudo de Rhye died without a male heir and left only his name. The sons of three barons were banished from the realm. The grandson of Swene de Essex, standard bearer to Henry II. was deprived and disgraced for cowardice. The lines of three barons became extinct in the persons of their sons. Three became extinct in the male line in the third generation and totally in the eighth; two became extinct in the fourth, one in the fifth, two in the sixth, and one in the ninth generation. The line of Alberic de Vere after various forfeitures, misfortunes, and violent deaths continued till the beginning of the eighteenth century, when it was extinguished in the person of Aubrey de Vere, who died without male issue in 1702. Robert de Stafford is represented through the female line by a descendant of a more ancient Dane, Robert de Toden merged in female heirs in the seventh descent, and is represented, like the great Earl de Warrenne, through female heirs by the house of Howard, but not one of them has left his name among the noble and the great.

William I. granted six manors in Suffolk to Peter de Valeins, and his descendants were early established at Dunwich. One of the family, Johan de Valcins, was mayor there in 1216, which shows the probability of the family having been residents in Dunwich long prior to that date. The name occurs frequently in the annals of the town. Andreas was mayor in 1230, Roger in 1242, and Walter de Valeins in 1260. William, Earl of Pembroke, was lord of a manor at Westleton, near Dunwich, called Valeins, where stood a castle belonging to that family, demolished during the wars of the barons.

According to an extract from the great survey of Edward the Confessor, at some time between 1041 and 1065, it appears that Ailmarin the thane, held Framlingham, and he had extensive possessions in Suffolk and Norfolk, and Edric of Laxfield, who held the fee farm of Dunwich, had also a portion of land as a berwite within its limits. At the conquest it appears that Hugh de Albrincis had the lands of Framlingham granted to him by William I., who retained the castle for himself on account of its strength. William II. also kept possession of the castle through his whole reign, but it was held by the Bigods in the following reigns.

Of the great proprietors who were established in Norfolk and Suffolk by the Norman Conqueror, but few of their descendants held their estates for any great length of time, and after the abolition of the feudal system there was as great a diffusion of real property in the Eastern district as in most other parts of the country. There are now in Suffolk 7000 freeholders and more than 2000 copyholders. The principal baronial castles

erected in Suffolk by its early Norman lords were at Framlingham, Bungay, Clare, Felixstow, Haughley, Ipswich, Mettingham, Offton, Ousden, Wingfield, Orford, and Burgh. Of these there are still interesting ruins.

William I. granted Bungay to Roger Bigod, with 116 other manors, and he is supposed to have built the castle there, which, from its commanding situation on a bold eminence overlooking the Waveney, and the great strength of its fortifications was boasted of by Hugh, the next earl, as being quite impregnable, but in 1140 it was taken and stormed by King Stephen, though the earl had said, "Were I in my Castle of Bungay upon the waters of the Waveney, I would not set a button by the King of Cockney."

If the reader, retracing in his own mind the facts before stated, would form a just idea of East Anglia after the conquest, he must picture to himself not a mere change of rulers, but a change of proprietors of the soil, not the mere triumphs of a few warriors, but the intrusion of a foreign people into the bosom of the nation, now quite broken up and reduced to slavery. The farmers were driven out of house and home and made serfs. We may imagine two nations, the Normans and the English, living on the same land, speaking different languages, the Normans rich, the English poor, dependent and oppressed with taxes, the Normans dwelling in vast mansions with battlemented castles, at Norwich, Bungay, Framlingham, Castleacre, Castle Rising; the English lodging in thatched cottages and ruined huts; the Normans happy, idle nobles and knights; the English men of toil and sorrow, farm labourers, and mechanics. On the one side luxury and insolence, on the other misery and despair.

On the accession of William Rufus to the crown in 1087, Roger Bigod, who held the castle of Norwich, retained it, which, as it happened, was unfortunate for the city, he being in the interest of Robert Curthose, Duke of Normandy, elder brother to the King, whom he assisted to the utmost of his power by garrisoning the castle, wasting the city and adjacent country, and spoiling such as would not join with him. These troubles were quieted or appeased by the King's promises to the English that he would restore such laws as they desired; but things were not settled till 1091, when the King made peace with his elder brother Robert.

William II. placed the government of Colchester under Eudo Dapifer, the Norman noble who held large possessions there in the former reign, and shared largely in the spoil of other parts of Essex. He was appointed at the request of the inhabitants, who hoped, beneath the shelter of his power, to escape the confiscation and outlawries by which many of them had suffered under the Conqueror. Under his rule the people enjoyed peace; the town was improved in its architecture, the castle was

strengthened, and the walls were repaired. The noble Abbey of St. John was erected with a splendour and liberality almost unknown in our day.

In 1087, a confederacy being formed against William Rufus by the barons, the Castle of Norwich was seized for awhile by Roger Bigod, who grievously ravaged the country round about. In 1136, Hugh Bigod did the like upon a rumour of King Stephen's death; but upon the King coming hither in person, the castle was surrendered to him. The King then gave this castle to his son William, Earl of Moreton, but he was dispossessed of it by King Henry II., A.D. 1155, contrary to his agreement.

William II. granted the lordship of Stanhoe, forfeited by Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, to William de Albini, the *pincerna regis*, or King's butler, and from him it descended to the Earl of Arundel and Sussex. William II. also granted the lordship of Snettisham, then the largest in Norfolk, to the same William de Albini. The manor had been forfeited by the same Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, who rebelled against the King.

In the reign of William Rufus, many Jews came from Normandy into England, and settled in London, Cambridge, Bury St. Edmund's, Lynn, and Norwich. Many of them were located in the new burgh of the city, situated between the Market Place and Chapel Field. Their object seems to have been to buy such goods of oppressed Englishmen as Christians would not purchase, or to lend money at exorbitant interest. Hence we may account for the hostility of the people to the Jews for many ages.

#### ANTIQUITIES OF THE ANGLO-NORMAN PERIOD.

Eastern England is richer in Norman remains than any other part of the country. These consist of castles, convents, abbeys, priories, and churches. The castles appear to have been built about the same period, as part of a general plan of defence. Four royal castles were built in Essex at Colchester, Languard Fort, and Tilbury Fort, and eight others belonging to Norman barons. Colchester Castle, perhaps the most perfect of them all, is only an object of interest to the antiquary. The other castles in Essex only excite wonder at the massiveness of their ruined walls. It is difficult to trace the sites of the strongholds at Pleshy, Campfield, and Ongar, the buildings having been razed to the ground.

The principal Norman castles in Suffolk were at Walton, Orford, Framlingham, Haughley, Bungay, and Mettingham. These castles were all massive structures, built on a similar plan and intended to last for ages. They were demolished long ago. Their founders are almost forgotten, and have shared the same fate. The voice of merriment or of wailing has ceased in the deserted courts, the weeds choke the entrances, and the long grass waves over the hearth-stones.

## HADLEIGH CASTLE,

A picturesque and venerable ruin, stands about three miles to the west of Rayleigh, in the Hundred of Rochford. The mouldering walls and broken towers, memorials of former ages, on the brow of a steep hill which rises boldly from the water, impart a peculiar interest to the surrounding scene. All historians agree that the castle was built in 1231 by Hubert de Burgh, who had a grant of the honour of Rayleigh, and of Hadleigh as part of it, from Henry III. After the fall of Hubert de Burgh, the government of the castle was for a time in the De Tony family, from whom it passed successively into many hands.

## FRAMLINGHAM CASTLE.

There is no record of the building of this castle, or any other preceding it here, so that any attempt to fix the date of its erection is unavailing; but there is evidence that a fortress stood here in the early ages of the East Anglian kingdom, and that it was held by Uffa and Redwald, and subsequently by Edmund the Martyr. The present structure appears to have been built during the Norman period, when many castles were erected by the Norman Kings, who held it for some time as a royal castle during the reigns of William I. and William II., but their successors granted it to the Bigods, Earls of Norfolk.

This pile of unknown antiquity is evidently a Norman structure, the present appearance of which, with its embattled towers, its ivy-mantled walls and venerable aspect excites the admiration of all classes of visitors; and now covers an area of 1A. 1R. 11P. of land; but according to the old MSS. it anciently covered a much larger space before the outer walls inclosing the same were demolished. This shows that there was an outer ballium inclosed with walls, which were no doubt built on the inner bank of the outer ditch.

Camden furnishes a brief description, and says: "This is a very beautiful castle, fortified with a rampire, a ditch, and a wall of great thickness, with thirteen towers; within it has very convenient lodgings." Dr. Henry Sampson's History contains a more minute description, written in 1663, and he being a local historian, his account is the best, he having been acquainted with the interior of the castle before it was demolished. He says: "This castle was very faire and beautifull, fortified with a double ditch, high banks, and rampiers; the walls, which are of great height and thicknesse, are strengthened by thirteen towers square built, all which are yet to be seene, as are likewise the remains of twoe watchtowers or barbicans on the west side. These barbicans are now corruptly called by the common people, 'the Burganys.' This castle was inwardly furnished

with buildings very commodious and necessary, able to receive and entertain many. In the first court was a very deepe well of excellent workmanship, compassed with carved pillars which supported a leaden rooffe, and though out of repair, was in being anno 1651. In the same court also was a neat chappell, now wholly demolished, anno 1657, and transported into the highways."

"This castle had a drawe bridge and a portecullis over the gate, which was the strongest tower, and beyond the bridge, without was a half moon of stone, about a man's height, standing anno 1657. There was on the east side a posterne, with an iron gate, leading over a private bridge into the park, wherein the castle standeth, which was not long since thick beset with trees, as the stumps yet show."

"On the west side of this castle spreadeth a great lake, which is reported to have been once navigable, and to have filled the double ditch about the castle."

Another local historian, Zaccheus Leverland, who, between 1653 and 1673, was the first master of the Free School in Framlingham, adds something more to the account of his contemporary by entering more minutely into details of the interior of the building. He states "that between the hall and the chapel, fronting the great gate of the castle, was a large chamber with several rooms and a cloister under it." And as to the exterior he says, "That out of the castle were three passages, one a postern with an iron gate, on the east side over a private bridge leading into the park, where were harbours, pleasant walks, and trees planted for profit and delight. Another passage was on the west side, leading to a dungeon and forth on to the merc; but the largest passage, and that the most used, was that towards the town, there being formerly a portecullis over that gate, which was made in one of the strongest towers, and a drawbridge without, defended by a half-moon of stone, but long since removed or gone to decay."

On the north side of the castle lies what was formerly the park, which is three miles in circumference, containing 650 acres of land, long since disparked and cultivated. Anciently it was enclosed with palings, and no way or passage was allowed for carts, carriages, or horsemen, except for the lords and their tenants. The lords also reserved a purlieu or breadth of sixteen feet without the palings for themselves or their park-keepers to walk or ride round, and claimed to have all trees growing within that distance, though the soil was vested in the tenants. The paling was kept up by such of the copyhold tenants as held their lands of certain tenements called Crane's, Verdon's, and Hayward's who were exempted from paying rent or performing other service to the lords for the same.

## ORFORD CASTLE.

Orford is a parish, formerly a market town, twenty miles (east by north) from Ipswich. At the west-end of the town are the remains of an ancient castle, supposed to have been built very soon after the Norman conquest, and evidently of Norman architecture. It may have been one of those castles which the Conqueror built as part of a comprehensive plan of defence for his newly-acquired dominions. Its Norman origin is evident from its being coigned and in some places cased with Caen stone. As Orford is not mentioned in Domesday book probably the castle had no existence at the time of the conquest.

There were few castles in England before the time of the conquest, but a large number were built in the times of William I. and his sons; and Orford being a convenient landing place from Flanders, was no doubt selected as a suitable situation for a castle. Around it dependent habitations soon began to cluster, and a chapel-of-ease to the church at Sudbourne was built for the convenience of residents in this hamlet. Grose said that Orford had a market as early as the reign of King Stephen, and the right to hold markets was often conferred upon the owners or wardens of castles.

According to Dugdale, the house of Valoins made Orford the capital seat of their barony and a separate manor of Orford must then have come into existence. In 1210, Hugh Bigod and John Fitz-Robert were appointed joint governors of this Orford Castle and Norwich Castle, and on their removal in 1215 the command was given to Hubert de Burgh. In 1261, the office of governor was conferred on Phillip Marmion, son of the elder Robert Marmion, who, during the troubles in the reign of John, attached himself to the side of Arthur and Constance, and had charge of the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, with the custody of the castles at Norwich and Orford. In 1264, the barons then in arms against the King, whom they had taken prisoner, entrusted Norwich Castle to Hugh Le Despencer, who was also governor of other strongholds. After his death this castle may have again come into the possession of De Valoins; but at any rate, in 1331, Robert de Ufford, who married Cecilia, daughter of Cohen of Robert de Valoins, had a grant for life of the town and castle. Possession of the castle has been traced from the De Uffords in the female line to Lord Robert Willoughby de Eresby in 1419, and it probably came with the estate at Sudbourne to Sir Michael Stanhope, and thence to Viscount Hereford, whose executors sold it in 1754 to the Earl of Hertford.

The Normans introduced a new style of architecture, and built most of the castles, monasteries, and many of the churches in East Anglia. In Norwich, the castle, cathedral, and some of the churches are Norman

structures built of flint; in Lynn several churches; in Yarmouth the fine old parish church; in Norfolk the castle at Rising, Bromholm Priory, Binham Priory, Walsingham Priory; in Suffolk the abbey at Bury, the castle at Framlingham, and the castle at Bungay.

## CASTLEACRE.

The early British warriors appear to have recognised the importance of the position of Castleacre, and formed there massive earthworks, which the Romans afterwards incorporated in their own more extensive entrenchments. The circular and horse-shoe works were perhaps constructed by the Britons, and the Romans, finding the situation advantageous for a summer camp, formed the remaining banks and ditches in such a way as to include the existing ramparts without deviating much from their established plan of castramentation.

After the departure of the Roman legionaries, the deserted fortress probably became alternately the property of the Saxons and Danes for several centuries. At the time of the Norman Conquest, Castleacre belonged to a wealthy Saxon thane named Toch or Thoke, and formed part of his fertile and richly-wooded estate of Acra, which comprised several neighbouring parishes, including those of Southacre and Westacre, both near the river Nar, which was considerably broader during the Anglo-Saxon period.

William I. granted Castleacre, with other lordships in Norfolk, to William, Earl of Warrenne, and afterwards Earl of Surrey, who founded here a great castle and a beautiful priory, the former of which was long the baronial seat of his descendants, who received in it several royal visits. On the death of John, the last Earl Warrenne, in 1347, this estate passed into the hands of the female branch of the family, who had intermarried with the Arundels, ancestors of the Dukes of Norfolk.

The earthworks, of which considerable portions still remain, cover an area of about twenty acres, and consist of a circular hill, 150 feet in diameter; an outer ballium on the south side, shaped like a horse-shoe and measuring 300 feet by 280; an irregular parallelogram to the west, 675 feet by 630, and a small earthwork at the north-east angle. These earthworks are supposed to have been of British formation, but that is mere conjecture.

William de Warrenne built a magnificent Norman castle, of which considerable ruins still exist. The principal entrances to the castle were from the north and south, and gave admittance to the bailiwick through double gateways, flanked by circular turrets of solid flintwork, formerly machicolated and provided with a portcullis. The northern gate still remains, and is a poor rude specimen of early English work of later

date than the original castle. It stands at the top of Bailey Street, the chief street of the village, which crosses the middle of the Roman camp, and was the place of residence of the numerous dependents, traders, and armourers, whose business was almost exclusively connected with the castle. A similar double gateway, of which scarcely anything remains, gave entrance to the outer ballium, or horse shoe work, in which the habitable portions of the castle were situated, but only a few traces of their existence can now be discerned, and the curtain wall which surrounded and protected them is entirely gone.

From this enclosure, the inner ballium or circular work, which is more elevated than the other, seems to have been gained by a stone stair, of which some steps are still visible on the steep slope of the bank. Here stood the keep or dungeon, a lofty and massive tower of oblong form, of which only the foundations remain, though the ruins of the buttressed curtain wall which encircled it are still extensive. The ditches were always dry and had walls built across them in various places to prevent an enemy from making the circuit of the defences in case of attack.

#### CASTLE RISING.

William I. gave Castle Rising and other property to his half-brother, Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, and on his rebellion against William Rufus, that King granted the same to William de Albini, *pincerna* whose son and namesake married Adeliza, widow of Henry I., and assumed in her right the title of Earl of Arundel. He was shortly afterwards created Earl of Sussex, and to whom is usually attributed the erection of the Norman castle at Rising about the middle of the twelfth century.

It stands on a hill on the south side of the town from whence there is a fine prospect over the land and an arm of the sea. Great part of the walls of the keep are still standing, being a Norman pile, much resembling that at Norwich, and little inferior, the walls being about three yards thick, consisting chiefly of free stone, with iron and carr stone.

On the south side of the village of Rising are the stupendous earthworks which encompassed the remains of the once splendid castle, consisting of an extensive circular space surrounded by a bank and ditch, with square additions to the east and west protected in a similar manner, that to the east being the larger and more perfect of the two. The early Norman owners of the lordship, finding such formidable defences already in existence, extended them and built upon them a spacious and almost impregnable castle, which was altered and enlarged by the succeeding owners. It appears to have only occupied the central earthwork, but of the numerous buildings which once filled that large area, nothing now remains but the keep, the chapel, the gatehouse, and a few foundations

and walls of the constable's lodgings. The wall and towers, which formerly crowned the bank are gone, except a fragment or two of a brick wall. The keep is very similar in outward appearance to the keep of Norwich Castle, and both seem to be of the same date. The road to the castle crosses the ditch by a bridge of the perpendicular period, nearly in the centre of the eastern side of the enclosure, and passes through a Norman gate-house, opposite to which is the great tower or keep, a massive square structure of the Norman period. The only means of gaining access to the ground floor of this tower was by newel staircases at the north-east and south-west angles, descending from the upper story, which is reached by a covered staircase on the eastern side, at the top of which an arch of fine proportions opens to a room on the first floor of the entrance tower. This room is lighted on three sides by Norman windows, and the fourth contains a beautiful recessed Norman doorway, originally forming the main entrance to the hall of the great tower, but now blocked up. In the decorated period, this room received a heavy vaulting, which rests on corbels and supports a third floor, above which is a shingle roof with ancient brick gables. The roof and floors of the great tower have long since disappeared, and the building is now a mere shell; but most of the interior walls and some portions of vaulting remain.

All these Norman castles in the eastern counties are now in ruins, proving the instability of the strongest works of man; the ivy clings to the mouldering towers, the wallflower springs from the disjointed stones of the thickest walls; the halls, which were once crowded with all that taste and labour could procure, which resounded with revelry, which were adorned with beauty, are now scenes of desolation.

East Anglia contains many old castellated mansions, some of which were built by Norman barons, or their descendants. Those in Suffolk are generally surrounded by moats meant for defence. Norfolk, however, contains more ancient halls than any other county, especially in the western division. Some of these old halls have been already noticed. At Middleton near Lynn, there is a fine gatehouse or tower which formed the entrance to a castellated mansion, and it has been admirably restored by the present owner. Caistor Hall near Yarmouth, Oxburgh Hall, Winwall House near Wareham, Hunstanton Hall, Scarles' Hall, Fincham Hall, and Baconsthorpe Hall are ancient mansions, all of which exhibit some features of a castellated character, though they do not appear to have been regularly or completely fortified. The walls of these buildings and other ancient edifices in Norfolk are composed chiefly of flint, embedded in strong mortar, the county producing scarcely any stone except an iron-coloured carr stone. The flints abound in great abundance in nearly every part of the county, and with the carr stone are much used in

modern erections, but the coigns and the windows and door-cases are generally constructed of free stone.

### THE CHURCHES OF EAST ANGLIA.

The first age of ecclesiastical architecture is called the Anglo-Saxon, from the earliest erection of Christian churches to the Norman Conquest. The characteristics of this age were plainness and solidity, with low columns and semi-circular arches. The capitals sometimes exhibited a rude imitation of some of the Grecian ornaments, but sparingly introduced. The windows had generally one light, with semi-circular heads, some of them so narrow as to be little more than loop-holes or embrasures expanding through the thick walls, which were plain, without external buttresses, seldom rising higher than one tier of arches. The form of these churches was generally a parallelogram, consisting of a nave and two side aisles, with a chancel of smaller dimensions, the east end turned into a semi-circle. Some churches of this period had no distinct chancel; the towers were very low, and were placed between the chancel and the body of the church, and were chiefly intended to give light to the interior of the edifice. We have very few remains of the churches of this period, and those are of doubtful date.

The second, or Norman age, was from 1066 to 1200. In this period most of the cathedrals in this country were built, and the style is sufficiently distinguished by the semi-circular arches, rising to three tiers of windows, the walls very thick, with very few external buttresses, these projecting but little, and entirely plain, as seen on the outside of Norwich Cathedral. The windows have round arches, but higher than in the former age, as is observable in the transepts. Norwich Cathedral is perhaps one of the best specimens of this style of architecture.

The general style of our cathedrals is like that of Norwich—a long cross—though the transept aisle in most of them appears to have been added some years after the original foundation of the church, which explains the difference in the style of architecture, the appearance being more modern as in Ely and Peterborough, superior in point of building to the naves, as the eastern end or chancel generally exceeds both in these particulars. At the junction of the four roofs, the towers rise in all the cathedrals except that at Bangor. Some of the transepts are built like the naves, with a body and side aisles.

From the plan we pass on to notice the style which prevails in these national monuments of antiquity, which are the best specimens of Gothic architecture. Most of our cathedrals are a compound of Norman and what is termed early English architecture, each prevailing in different

parts of the same building ; and corresponding with the succeeding periods in which they were severally erected.

Ely Cathedral, begun in 1081, and not completed till 1534, is a splendid cruciform structure, displaying through almost imperceptible gradations, the various changes which have characterised the progress of ecclesiastical architecture, from the earliest times of the Norman to the latest period of the English style. The plan differs from that of other cathedrals in the length of the nave, which is continued through an extended range of twelve arches, and in the shortness of the transepts, which have only a projection of three arches. The west front, though incomplete from the want of the south wing of the façade, is very magnificent ; in the lower part it is in the Norman style.

Norman architecture is of very frequent occurrence in the churches of Suffolk. In many examples a low ponderous square tower rises between the nave and the chancel, sometimes accompanied with transepts and very frequently terminating at the east end with a semi-circular apse. The most curious of these is the chancel at Fritton, near Yarmouth. It is very remarkable that the Domesday Book only mentions one church in Cambridgeshire, and 364 are enumerated in Suffolk ; most of them were probably small structures. Fuller says that the churches in Suffolk are all humble fabrics, but such an assertion proves ignorance of the subject. What is to be said of those glorious structures at Lavenham, Melford, Bury St. Edmund's, Framlingham, Southwold, Lowestoft, Blythborough, and Beccles ? These and others are all so many examples of grandeur of design and consummate skill in execution. Several of them display unparalleled specimens of open timber roofs which borne aloft by figures in busto or occasionally by effigies in full proportion exhibit a very singular combination of boldness and picturesque effect and geometrical skill. Despite the wear and tear of centuries and the yet more hurtful botching of unskilful restoration they put to shame the paltry imitations of modern design. Of late years, however, there have been careful restorations of many Suffolk churches in accordance with the original design.

The third or early English age was from 1200 to 1300. The sharp-pointed arch and lancet-shaped windows properly mark this period. High-pitched roofs, with many intersections, springing from columns much more slender, the intersections decorated with flowers, faces, legendary stories and sacred histories, convey the idea of a grove overshadowed by the intersecting branches of a double row of lofty trees. In this period we find lofty towers, cupolas, lanterns, and spires, of which Norwich Cathedral presents the first and most perfect specimen in existence.

The fourth age, or ornamental English style, is from 1300 to 1460.

Progressive improvement is observable in the churches of this age. The form of the arches was changed, and gradually assumed a less and less acute head in the windows. Many in Norwich Cathedral are nearly square. The larger arches now reached the perfection of what is called Gothic, as in the three beautiful gates of the precincts in Norwich. The spires are decorated with crockets, erected at every angle of the city cathedral.

The fifth age was that of the florid English style, from 1460 to 1540. In this period, works of the more ornamental kind were carried to the highest degree of perfection, more especially roofs of fret-work, in exuberance of decoration, in every part of the building, figures of saints and angels *in relievo*, niches, shrines, canopies, mouldings, fasciæ, pendants, and finials, of the richest design and elaborate workmanship, both of stone and wood. Stained glass windows were brought to the highest perfection in this age, and effigies of angels, saints, kings, and bishops, reflected a dim, religious light in the interior of these grand structures.

The churches of Norfolk and Suffolk present admirable examples of every variety of style, from the early Norman to the latest perpendicular. Norwich Cathedral and many Norfolk churches retain much of their original massive Norman architecture; but some have been more or less spoiled by subsequent alterations, carried out in styles totally dissimilar, though no doubt an improvement was effected in some instances, as in the erection of the clerestory over the choir of the cathedral. The early English period is exemplified at Yarmouth, Walsingham, &c.; but the larger proportion of the Norfolk churches are in the decorated and perpendicular styles, usually intermixed and seldom completely distinct. Noble specimens of these styles are to be found along the whole coast line, and still finer ones exist in the fen country and between Lynn and Wisbech. Many of these churches display beautiful specimens of flint and stone panelling, in which the flints are so regularly squared and so evenly faced as to be almost said to represent a sheet of glass. Not the least interesting features of the churches are the numerous fine rood loft screens, the lower panels of most of which are enriched with beautiful paintings of apostles and saints.

The round towers in Norfolk and Suffolk are numerous and nearly all built in the Norman period. Historical documents seem to show that in the middle ages those counties were regarded as far behind others in the march of improvement in building. So many of these round towers appearing in clusters would lead us to suppose that the round tower was a style preserved by many local builders from father to son in some districts. Some of these round towers are found along the coast and sometimes in towns, as in Norwich and Bungay.

## THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH.

Herbert de Losinga, the first Bishop of Norwich and founder of its cathedral church, was, according to Pitts and others, born in Orford, in Suffolk, but the inscription on his tomb informs us Thesnes, in Normandy, and this appears to be the most correct statement. In his youth he entered the monastery of Fiscamp, in that dukedom, of which he in time became prior, and it is said attained the like dignity in the priory of Bec. William Rufus, in 1088, brought him to England, appointed him his chamberlain, Abbot of Ramsay, in Huntingdonshire, and bestowed other preferments on him, by which he became so rich as to be able in three years from his arrival to purchase the abbey of Winchester for his father, at the price of £1000, and the bishopric of Thetford for himself, at £1900—a very large sum in those times. We are told, however, that the bishop's conscience reproved him so much for these practices that he intended to go privately to Rome, and obtain absolution from the Pope; but the King having notice of this intention stopped him, and stripped him of his pastoral staff, but shortly after granted him permission to proceed. Arriving at Rome, Pope Paschal II. enjoined him, as a penance, to build several churches and monasteries—amongst which were the cathedral (with its priory for sixty monks) and other churches at Norwich, the church of St. Nicholas' at Yarmouth, St. Margaret's at Lynn, St. Mary's at Elmham, and others, forming a number which, considered as the work of one man, is truly astonishing. While he was at Rome he obtained license to remove his see from Thetford to Norwich, and returning employed himself in the religious performance of his vows and the due regulation of his diocese. On the accession of Henry I., Bishop Herbert enjoyed the favour of that monarch, who made him Lord Chancellor, and, in 1116, sent him ambassador to Rome. He died on the 22nd day of July, 1119, and was buried before the high altar in the cathedral church of Norwich; a tomb an ell high was placed over him, but was pulled down in the time of the rebellion, and left in ruin till 1682, when the present altar-tomb was erected by the Dean and Chapter on the same spot.

Bishop Herbert has been accused of perfidy, of deceitful and servile methods of procuring preferments, and of simony; from the last charge we have seen it is impossible to exculpate him, but in the others it is very probable that envy and detraction have borne a considerable share. He raised a great many enemies by cordially seconding Anselm, the Primate, in his endeavours to enforce celibacy amongst the clergy, a proceeding which must be attributed more to an error in judgment than to any badness of disposition, and the surname of Losinga, a liar or flatterer, might very naturally be applied by the rude courtiers of that age to a man who in learning and affability is acknowledged to have far exceeded his contemporaries.

## CHAPTER X.

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### EASTERN ENGLAND IN THE TWELFTH CENTURY.

**T**HE Norman Conquest of England was completed, and nearly all the Anglo-Saxon or Danish owners of the soil were dispossessed in every county. Two Norman Kings, Henry I. and Stephen, continued the line in the first half of the twelfth century, and under their despotic sway the country was in a miserable state. Three of the Plantagenet Kings followed; Henry II., Richard I., and John, and then a great change for the better took place in the political system of society.

REIGN OF HENRY I., A.D. 1100 to 1135.

Henry I. was the brother of the last King and fourth son of the Conqueror. He married first Matilda, or Maud, daughter of Malcolm III., King of Scotland, and niece of Edgar Atheling, and second Adelicia, daughter of Geoffrey, Duke of Louvain, and niece to Pope Calixtus. He had one son William, and one daughter Matilda. According to agreement between William II. and his brother Robert, as well as from priority of birth, the latter was now entitled to the throne, but he had delayed his return from the crusade, and in consequence Henry hurried to Winchester and demanded the royal treasures. William de Breteuil, to whose care they had been entrusted, opposed himself to Henry's pretensions and told him that the treasures belonged to Robert, who was now their King, and that he was determined to maintain his allegiance to him. Henry immediately drew his sword, threatened him with instant death if he dared to disobey him; and, as some of their mutual friends interposed, Breteuil was prevailed upon to withdraw his opposition. Having secured the treasure and the castle, he was saluted King, and on the third day after his brother's death he was proclaimed at Westminster.

In the following year, 1101, Robert, who had arrived in Normandy shortly after his brother's death, resolved to assert his right to the English

crown, and many of the Norman barons engaged to support his cause. He landed at Portsmouth and proceeded towards Winchester, but he was overtaken in his march by Henry, who persuaded him to agree to a reconciliation. Robert renounced his claim to the crown, and received in lieu thereof an annual pension of 3000 marks and all the castles which Henry held in Normandy except Domfront.

By the terms of this treaty, the King had bound himself not to punish those of his barons who had shown their preference for Robert; but he soon evinced great animosity against them, and every means was employed to bring them within the grasp of the law, so that he might gratify his revenge. The most powerful of these disaffected barons was Robert de Belesme, the bold, haughty, and cruel Earl of Shrewsbury, who had large possessions both in England and Normandy. He was cited to appear at the King's Court on no less than forty-five charges, and as he resisted the royal authority he was dispossessed and banished in 1102.

The Duke of Normandy had up to this time religiously observed the peace, and had even ravaged Belesme's land on hearing of his rebellion, but when he found that the earl and other barons were punished, notwithstanding the amnesty, for their previous delinquency, he paid a visit to his brother, in the hope that he might persuade him to adopt milder and more generous counsels. He found, however, that by his imprudent visit he had imperilled his liberty, and he was glad to secure his return, in 1103, by relinquishing the pension that had been granted to him. The duke was afterwards imprisoned for life.

So much of the general history of the period is given in order to explain the course of local events. To Matilda of Scotland, who was Queen of Henry I., we owe the restoration of the laws of Alfred the Great and of the privileges which he had granted to the nation. Henry was enamoured of the Scottish princess, and on his accession to the throne he gave back those laws of which the nation had been robbed. After his marriage, he restored the Saxon nobles to their rank and placed them on an equality to the Norman barons.

At this time the difference in the size of London and Norwich was only slight compared with what it became in the following centuries. It thus happened that the municipal regulations which were found suitable for London were considered desirable by the men of Norwich, and had in all probability been asked for by them in an interview with the King while enjoying the festivities of the winter season in the castle. The clauses of the charter make us acquainted with the state of municipal administration both in London and Norwich. These clauses relate chiefly to the administration of justice and to local taxation.

About the year 1100 Bishop Herbert de Losinga, the founder of

Norwich Cathedral, built a church and priory at Yarmouth. The church is now the parish church and the largest in the kingdom. The black monks of the priory were in great repute for sanctity and devotion under the control of the priory at Norwich.

In 1109 King Henry I. placed Yarmouth under the government of a povost, whose magisterial office was in or near the Broadway, now called the Conge. The King thus took the town under his protection for the purpose of terminating the frequent disputes between the inhabitants and the barons of the Cinque Ports, or the five ports in the southern counties. Those barons had for a long period despatched bailiffs to Yarmouth to superintend and regulate the business done during the great mart or free fair held yearly for the sale of herrings. The barons of the Cinque Ports appear to have exercised this prerogative long subsequent to the period when the town was constituted a borough, their bailiffs having been admitted into court to hear and to determine causes in conjunction with the magistrates of the borough.

Bishop Herbert founded a priory at Lynn, for the Benedictine Order (1100), and he endowed it with all his property in rents, lands, and men, as far as the church of William, son of Stanguin, on the other side of Sedreldefeld, &c. All the grants were made to the priory of the Holy Trinity in Norwich, of which this convent at Lynn was a cell. Bishop Herbert at first placed only a prior and three monks in his Lynn convent. It was situated on the south side of St. Margaret's church, but all the buildings were pulled down soon after the dissolution of the priory to enlarge the burial ground of St. Margaret's church.

Bishop Herbert was the founder of St. Margaret's Church at Lynn as well as of the priory adjoining. The ground plan is cruciform, having a nave with side aisles, and two towers at the west end, a choir with side aisles, and north and south transepts. The west front is remarkable, exhibiting at one view specimens of English architecture of several periods. The earliest portion showing the Norman style of the twelfth century, is at the south-west corner, where, in the basement story, is an ornamental row of intersecting arches, springing from corbels, above which appears a zigzag moulding, surmounted by another row of trefoil arches, springing from columns with Norman capitals.

During the reign of Henry I. in 1121, Eborard, Archdeacon of Salisbury, son of Roger, Earl of Arundel, succeeded Herbert as Bishop of Norwich. He continued the work begun by his predecessor and built the nave of the cathedral. He also built the Church and Hospital of St. Paul. He persecuted the Jews, and is stated to have been deposed for his cruelty in 1145, when he retired into Yorkshire, where he died in 1149. There is a figure of him on the south side of the west window of the cathedral.

King Henry I. visited Norwich in 1122, and kept his Christmas there, and he was so much pleased with the reception of the citizens that he granted them by charter the same franchises and liberties as the city of London then had. And from this time they were governed by a provost chosen by the King, who had to collect all the King's dues, and this was the first charter of the city by which its government was severed from that of the castle, where felons were put in prison at this time. There are no records of what liberties were granted to the city in this reign.

In 1132, Henry I., returning to England after his interview at Chartres with Pope Innocent III., was overtaken by a violent tempest. Considering it as a judgment of Providence for his sins, he made in the hour of danger a solemn vow to amend his life, in pursuance of which, as soon as he had landed, he repaired to Bury to perform his devotions at the shrine of St. Edmund. Nearly all the Norman Kings subsequently visited the shrine of the saint, and performed their devotions.

William, Lord Baynard, of Norfolk, rebelling against Henry I., forfeited his estates in that county, and one of them, at Bexwell, in the Hundred of Clackclose, was granted by the King to Robert, a younger son of Richard FitzGilbert, ancestor to the Earls of Clare. From this Robert the noble family of FitzWalter, barons of the realm, descended. In the time of Henry III., John de Aula, or Hall, held the fourth part of a fee in Bexwell (Nether Hall) of Robert, Lord FitzWalter; and in the reign of Edward III. it was in the same family.

Henry I. built a country seat at Thetford, and often resided there. It was the only town in eastern England which could boast of a royal palace, which remained till the reign of James I., when it was pulled down and a more magnificent house built in its place. Thetford, under the Norman Kings, was a town of large extent and great importance, containing many churches and monasteries, the remains of which may be traced at the present day.

The early history of the industry of the eastern counties, and indeed of all others in England, was almost entirely agricultural. Down to a comparatively recent period, East Anglia was a great grazing district, and wool was its principal production. Matthew Paris wrote, "The ribs of all nations throughout the world are kept warm by the fleeces of English wool." The people being as yet unskilled in the arts of manufacture, the wool was bought up by foreign merchants, and exported abroad in large quantities, chiefly to Flanders and France, where it was spun and woven into cloth, and partly returned in that form for sale in the English markets. The wool and its growers were on the English side of the sea, and the skilled workmen who made it into cloth on the other. When wars broke out, and intercourse between the two shores was interrupted, as

much distress was occasioned in Flanders as in England. In the reign of Henry I., the Flemings began to emigrate from their own country to England in consequence of the severity of the regulations enforced by the guilds or trades' unions in various towns. Many of them came into Norfolk, and first settled at Worstead, then at Norwich, where they introduced the manufacture of worsted stuffs, which soon gave rise to a great trade in the city and county.

King Henry I. granted the manor of Diss, with the advowson and Hundred of Diss, to Sir Richard de Lucy, a Norman knight, a man of great renown in those days, for his services to the crown. This knight was governor of Falaise, in Normandy, the third year of King Stephen, which place he manfully defended against Jeffery, Earl of Anjou, who had besieged it. The Tower of London and Castle of Winchester were put into his hands on condition that he should deliver them up on King Stephen's death to King Henry II., and this he did, and it so far advanced him in royal favour that the King made him Chief Justice of England, and in his absence he was appointed Governor of the Realm.

During the time he was Governor, in 1173, he encountered an army of Flemings near Fornham, in Suffolk, and in a pitched battle he took prisoner Robert, Earl of Leicester, together with his Amazonian proud Countess Petronell, and routed 10,000 Flemings which the Earl of Leicester had brought into Suffolk. Most part of these Flemings were buried in or about Fornham in 1173. Their sepulchres are to be seen in mounds near a place called Rymer House, on the right hand of the road leading from Watford to Bury St. Edmund's, and are now called the Seven Hills, though there are many more, but seven of them being much larger than the rest are more particularly noticed by those who pass that way.

In 1179 Richard de Lucy, Chief Justice of England, died and was buried in the choir of the Abbey Church at Lisnes in Kent, which he had founded, and where he had taken upon him the habit of a canon regular in the previous year. From this Richard de Lucy the manor of Diss passed to Sir Walter FitzRobert, son of Robert de Tonebrigge, the fifth son of Richard FitzGilbert, surnamed de Tonebrigge, who came in with the Conqueror, of whose gift he had the castle and town of Clare, in Suffolk, and Tunbridge, in Kent, and other lordships in England. He was Justice Itinerant in Norfolk and Suffolk, and died in 1198, being buried in the midst of the choir of the priory church of Little Dunmowe, in Essex, of which Robert de Tonebrigge, his father was the first founder. He left Robert the Valiant his heir. This Sir Robert FitzWalter, called Robert the Valiant, was leader of those barons who rose against King John, and Mr. Weaver in his book on Dunmow, states the cause of the revolt of the barons.

## REIGN OF STEPHEN, A.D 1135 to 1154.

King Henry I. died in 1135 in Normandy, thinking that he had left a crown undisputed to his daughter and his grandson ; but it happened far otherwise, for on the first news of the King's death, Stephen of Blois, his nephew, sailed for England, where he was elected King by the prelates, earls, and barons who had sworn to give the kingdom to Matilda. The Bishop of Salisbury declared that this oath was void because the King had married his daughter without the consent of the lords ; others said it would be shameful for so many knights to be under the orders of a woman. Stephen of Blois was very popular for some time with the Anglo-Normans on account of his tried valour and his affable and generous disposition. The first portion of his reign was peaceful and happy, at least for the Norman race. Geoffroy of Anjou, the husband of Matilda, agreed to remain at peace with him for a pension of 5000 marks, and Robert of Gloucester, natural son of the late King, who at first intended to vindicate the rights of his sister, took the oath of allegiance to Stephen. But this calm did not last long. Towards the year 1137 many young barons and knights, who had fruitlessly demanded of the new King a portion of his demesne lands and castles, proceeded to take forcible possession of them. Hugh Bigod seized Norwich Castle ; one Robert, that of Badington ; the King recovered both, but the spirit of opposition went on gaining strength from the first moment of its manifestation. The bastard son of King Henry I. suddenly broke the peace he had sworn to Stephen, and sent a message from Normandy defying him and renouncing his homage. The malcontents, encouraged by the defection of the late King's son, were in movement throughout the eastern counties and indeed all England, preparing for the contest. "They have made me King," said Stephen, "and now they abandon me ; but by the birth of God, they shall never call me a deposed King." In order to secure an army on which he could depend, he collected mercenaries from all parts of Gaul. As he promised good pay, the soldiers hastened to enrol themselves ; horsemen and light infantry, especially Flemish and Bretons.

The Normans in England were thus divided into two hostile factions, but the English stood apart. In the quarrel between Stephen and the partisans of Matilda they were neither for the King nor the princess. They resolved to act for themselves and formed a conspiracy for the freedom of the country. On an appointed day all the Normans in Norfolk, Suffolk, and all other counties, were to be killed. The enterprise failed because a disclosure of it reached the Norman Richard Lenoir, Bishop of Ely, under the seal of confession. He soon communicated his discovery to the other Bishops, but notwithstanding the promptitude of their measures many of the conspirators had time to fly. The numbers

who were taken perished on the gibbet or by other means. This event took place sixty-six years after the last defeat of the insurgents of Ely and seventy-two after the battle of Hastings. Whether the old chroniclers have not told us all, or whether after this time the tie which bound Saxon to Saxon could not be renewed, it certainly appears that no further projects of deliverance formed by common accord among all classes of the oppressed people occurred in the succeeding ages.

But the Norman inhabitants of East Anglia did not tamely submit to King Stephen. While engaged in a troublesome war, an insurrection broke out in the eastern district. Again the marshy lands of Ely which had served as a refuge to the last of the free Saxons, became a camp for the Normans of the Angevin faction. Baldwin de Riviers, or Redvers, Earl of Devonshire, and Lenoir, Bishop of Ely, raised against the King intrenchments of brick and mortar in the very place where Hereward had erected a fortress of wood. It was not out of personal zeal for King Stephen that Lenoir served the King against the Saxons, but from patriotism as a Norman, and as soon as the Normans had declared against Stephen, Lenoir joined them, and undertook to make the islands of his watery diocese a rendezvous for the friends of Matilda. Stephen attacked his adversaries in this camp successfully. He constructed bridges of boats over which his cavalry passed and completely routed the troops of Baldwin and Lenoir. The Bishop then fled to Gloucester.

During the reign of the usurper Stephen, eastern England lay in the sullen quietude of despotism. There are few events on record, but there is no doubt that the whole district suffered in the wild struggle for the throne, and was scourged by the feudal system, then at its height. The family of Suene, the hereditary Earl of Essex, appear to have embraced the cause of Matilda, as we find the monarch conferred that title which carried with it the rule of the county of Essex upon the Geoffroy de Mandeville who ruled in baronial state at Saffron Walden. This nobleman, however, soon deserted him. Lured by the winning smiles and more substantial offers of the princess, which included ample grants of land, he prepared to go over to her standard. The King being informed of this, seized him at St. Alban's, stripped him of his honours, and extorted from him the surrender of the castles of Walden and Pleshy. The proud earl, thus deprived of his fortresses, and with them of the power he had plotted to carry over to the rival of Stephen, became the chieftain of a band of political outlaws, was excommunicated for plundering Ramsay Abbey, and was at length killed by an arrow before Burwell Castle, in Cambridgeshire. It is related that a party of Knights Templars, who were accidentally passing, took his body, enclosed it in a leaden coffin, and carrying it with them, hung it upon a tree in the orchard of the old Temple, London. So

fearful was the sentence of excommunication in those days, that they durst not bury it.

At this time eastern England was desolated by the fierce wars which the barons, freed from the control of government, carried on with each other to such an extent that the land was left untilled, the instruments of husbandry were abandoned or destroyed, and a grievous famine was the result. These feuds clothed by the character of the reign of Stephen in the garb of a public cause, devastated the villages in the eastern counties. The knights and vassals of the nobles mustered against each other, fought battles, and the victors carried away captives, but there are no records of the strife, like that of so many kites and crows.

In the reign of King Stephen the citizens of Norwich used all the interest they could with that monarch to have a new charter, and to be governed by coroners and bailiffs instead of their provost, but the affair took a contrary turn to what they expected, for before the end of the year 1135, the King fell into a lethargy which caused a report that he was dead. Then Hugh Bigod refused to render up the custody of the castle because he found that William de Blois, natural son of the King, wanted to supplant him, but the King seized the liberties of the city and granted it to his natural son William. In 1140 the liberties were restored to the citizens.

In this reign more Flemish weavers came over the seas to the eastern counties; and these successive migrations hither were a real blessing to the land. England hitherto had not been a country of manufactures till the arrival of the foreigners, who introduced the arts of the preparation, spinning, weaving, and dying of wool, so that in process of time not only the home market was abundantly supplied with woollen cloth, but a large surplus was made for exportation.

King Stephen created Hugh Bigod Earl of Norfolk, which was again confirmed to him by King Henry II., together with the stewardship of that King's household. Yet notwithstanding all these favours he took part with the Earl of Leicester in his rebellion, adhering to young Henry in his rebellious practices, but meeting with no success he was forced to make his peace with the King for a fine of 1000 marks. Not long after he went into the Holy Land with the Earl of Flanders and there died in 1177, upon which the King seized all his treasure and kept possession of it.

King Stephen, by letters patent, granted the Hundreds of East and West Flegg in East Norfolk to Henry, his nephew, then abbot, and the monks of St. Bennet, in that Hundred. In the 18th of Henry III., the year 1294, a composition was made between the Abbot of St. Bennet and the Prior of Norwich about wreck at sea between Palling Cross and Yarmouth Cross, two parts of the wreck being assigned to the abbot and

the third part to the prior. The two Hundreds with the Hundred of Happing were valued in 1250 at £18, and farmed by William de Brugh for that sum in 1266.

In 1153 Ipswich and Bungay were besieged by King Stephen; and his son Eustace committed great ravages at the same time in the neighbourhood of Bury St. Edmund's. Soon after the treaty concluded by King Stephen with Henry, son of the Empress Maud, by which the latter was acknowledged his successor, Eustace came to Bury and demanded of the abbey and convent considerable supplies of money and provisions to enable him to assert his claim to the throne. On the refusal of the abbot to comply with the requisition that prince ordered the granaries of the monastery to be plundered, and many of the farms belonging to it to be ravaged. In the midst of this violent proceeding he was seized with a fever, and expired at Bury on St. Lawrence Day, 1153, in the eighteenth year of his age.

The condition of the eastern counties, and indeed of all England, during Stephen's reign was the worst in our entire history. Both the competitors connived at the excesses of their adherents, and both parties were eager to retaliate. Baronial castles, as at Norwich, Bungay, Framlingham, covered the country; even abbeys and other religious buildings were converted into fortresses, and the occupiers, secure within their walls and moats, set the restraints of law and justice at defiance. They plundered the country, maltreated the people, and imprisoned those who had property.

#### REIGN OF HENRY II., A.D. 1154 to 1189.

Henry II., the first King of the House of Plantagenet, was the son of Geoffrey Plantagenet, Earl of Anjou, by his wife Maud or Matilda the Empress, daughter and heir of Henry I. Matilda was the daughter of Malcolm III., King of Scots, by Margaret his wife, the daughter of Edward, the son of Edmund, surnamed Ironside, King of England of the Saxon race. Thus in him the blood of the Saxon race was restored, greatly to the joy of the English, who detested the Normans and cherished with veneration the memory of their former sovereigns.

As soon as Henry II. was crowned in 1155 he prevailed with Hugh Bigod to yield up all his castles to him, which he did accordingly, by which the whole right was vested in the Crown, and the King governed the city of Norwich by the sheriff for some time, and he paid the profits accruing from it into the Exchequer. About 1163, Hugh Bigod came again into favour with the King by means of Henry, the King's son, who did him what service he could in order to draw him over to his party, whenever he, (the Prince Henry) should attempt to wrest the crown from his father.

Prince Henry, the second son of Henry II., was crowned King in the lifetime of his indulgent father. The prince married Margaret, Princess of France. Lewis, King of France, persuaded his son-in-law, that by the coronation ceremony, he had acquired a title to sovereignty. Young Henry on his return from France to his father's court, desired the King to resign to him either the Crown of England or the Duchy of Normandy, and in consequence of the King's refusal, went to Paris, and he, with his brothers, united against their father, being aided by many powerful barons in England, including several in Norfolk and Suffolk.

Prince Henry rebelling against his father the King, promised to Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, amongst other things, that he and his heirs should have the custody of Norwich Castle, in order to keep the earl in his interest. The prince was also joined by Robert Bellemont, the Earl of Leicester, in conjunction with Mowbray, Robert Ferrars, Earl of Derby, and others. Robert Bellemont, or Blanchmains, as he was otherwise called, assembled an army at Leicester, and made war in favour of the prince; but being defeated by the friends of the King, he was so closely pressed that he was obliged to fly to France. He soon collected an army of 3000 Flemings and passed over to England, and attempted to land at Dunwich, then a fortified city, but failing to land there he disembarked his troops at Walton, on September 21st, 1173. After ravaging the county of Suffolk he besieged Dunwich, but Walter de Valeins the governor, forced him to raise the siege. He then retired to the castle of Framlingham, held by Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk. Mr. Bird the Suffolk poet, has admirably depicted the scene of the siege:—

O'er Albion's realm the voice of faction rose .  
 From Henry's rude and discontented foes ;  
 The kind indulgent father with his son,  
 Shared the bright crown his wisdom valour won,  
 While the proud youth by envious barons swayed,  
 Against the King an alien host arrayed,  
 And haughty Leicester who in arms had shone,  
 First of the brave defied him and his throne,  
 And leagued with fearless spirits spread afar  
 The flame of discord and the rage of war !  
 Round Leicester's banner many a warrior pressed,  
 Earl Ferrars—Bigod—braver than the rest  
 The youthful Mowbray, who in hall and bower,  
 In joust and tournament, in war's rough hour,  
 Was all the gentle and the brave should be,  
 The pride of dames the flower of chivalry.  
 Allured with these were Flemish warriors bold,  
 Tempted by Leicester's glory and his gold ;  
 Beneath his standard on the swelling main,  
 Embarked for love of tumult and of gain.

Equipped for warlike deeds the Flemish host  
 Had plied their galiots to East Anglia's coasts ;  
 And now in secret lurked the desperate band,  
 And watch like wolves to seize this happy land,  
 On which its foes, however strong their trust,  
 May rush to mingle with the meanest dust.  
 Hark ! loud, far louder than the ocean spray  
 A shout came echoing from the distant bay,  
 While, from the rampart on the night wind borne,  
 Rang the deep warning of the warrior's horn,  
 That wildly breathed a dread portentous blast,  
 And sudden terror o'er the city cast.  
 Quick ceased the mirth which there had ruled the feast,  
 Upsprang the warrior and uprose the priest,  
 While monks affrighted sought their lonely cells,  
 As clashed the arms of rousing sentinels ;  
 And hasty watchwords told of dangers nigh,  
 And distant shouts soared mingling to the sky  
 From the rough shore, beneath whose lofty cliff  
 Light on the wave lay many a gallant skiff,  
 Who bounding comes in breathless haste along,  
 From yon high rock to join the city throng ?  
 Who down the the ramparts speeds so swiftly now,  
 As speeds the ibex from the mountain's brow ?  
 He gains St. Michael's Tower, and down the hill,  
 With heart wild beating bounds he faster still ;  
 Dark plumes are nodding on his helm and pale  
 Gleam flickering moonbeans o'er his burnished mail ;  
 On, on, he springs, beneath his feet are crashing  
 Rough broom and brun, and from his eye is flashing  
 A living flame in which a spirit dwells,  
 That all the ardour of his bosom tells ;  
 His sword glares brightly in his hand while loud  
 His voice is heard among the trembling crowd,  
 Whose coward blood seems stagnate in their veins,  
 Till warned to life by WALTER DE VALEINS.  
 Arm ! arm ! the foe is near ! a Flemish band,  
 Swift from their barks, are gathering on our strand ;  
 Strike now, or never ! strike ye ere too late  
 Foes tread our shore, and treason mars our state !  
 Courage, brave hearts ! each bold, each valiant one  
 Will guard his King against that faithless son,  
 Whose wild ambition and whose desperate hand  
 Urged by the restless barons of the land,  
 Would pluck the crown from that most Kingly brow  
 Which long hath borne and bears it wisely now !  
 Haste to the rampart ! let the bowmen ply  
 From wall and tower their deadly archery !  
 And thou bold Edric of the Cliff away !  
 Lead on some chosen spearmen to the fray,  
 Speed to the beacon hill and nobly dare,  
 But wait my signal for the onset there.  
 Quick from their barks on Dunwic's sounding shore,  
 Bold men had leaped ; the mighty billows' roar

Was lost amid that dread and reckless strife,  
 Which laughs at death and only sports with life !  
 Brave Walter's hand had met the foeman's shock,  
 As waves are met by adamantine rock ;  
 They nobly dared, led on by him who knew  
 Of fear as little as the sword he drew !  
 Short was the strife of clattering mail and spear ;  
 Forced to the beach, the Flemish host in fear  
 Fled to their barks, though some more madly brave,  
 Fought till their heart's blood mingled with the waves !

That siege left traces at Dunwich which might be seen even in this century, according to Gardner the local historian. On the east and west of the city, a rampart was raised of earth fortified upon the summit with palisades, and the base with a deep fosse, part of which with the bank terminating at the north end of the Sea Fields. This rampart, it is said, was erected as a fortification against the attack of Robert Bellemont, Earl of Leicester. After raising the siege as before stated, he retired to the castle at Framlingham, then in the possession of Hugh Bigod who was favourable to the cause. The castle was a spacious and noble structure, the surrounding walls including an area of nearly an acre and a-half. The walls were forty-four feet in height and eight feet in thickness, defended by thirteen square towers of considerably greater elevation, two being watch towers. The whole was surrounded by a double moat, over the inner of which was a drawbridge. After some days spent in this fortress in refreshing his troops, he was joined by another force of Flemings and proceeded to the castle of Haughley, commanded by Ralph Broc who espoused the cause of the old King.

The excursion was made for the purpose of showing the immense body of Flemings brought over by Leicester, to aid the rebel princes, the country in which they were to do battle. The siege was bloody. Large numbers of the foreign forces bit the dust, and the dead were gathered into heaps and buried near the scene of slaughter. The rebels were, however, successful, and the old castle was demolished. The victor after this success retired to the Castle of Framlingham, where he refreshed his men. Soon after he marched to the north, and on his way to Leicestershire, and while passing Fornham St. Genevieve on October 27th, 1173, was attacked by the King's troops, then lying at Bury St. Edmund's. The King having assembled a large army at this place to oppose his rebellious sons, caused the sacred standard of St. Edmund to be borne in front of his army, and the victory was then ascribed to its influence on the minds of the soldiers. The battle soon became general, and the result of the encounter was that the rebel earl was completely routed, and 10,000 Flemings were slain upon the field, and were buried in heaps where they fell. They lie beneath the mounds of earth which stand up like solitary monuments of a far earlier

age. The traveller passes these lonely tombs, heedless of the story of their mouldering tenants. Even the villagers living close to their green precincts are ignorant of the history of the great fight, whose victims lie beneath the heaped up turf.

The immense number of Flemings brought over from their own country to assist in the war against Henry II. may be inferred from the circumstance that after the disastrous issue of the battle of Fornham to the rebels, permission was given to the foreign forces to pass back to their own country, and no less than 14,000 Flemings marched through the middle of Suffolk on their way to the coast, where they embarked for their own land.

After this victory the royal general marched against the Earl of Norfolk, who withdrew to France, but returning soon afterwards with an army of Flemings, he took the city of Norwich, which he plundered and burned. He also fortified the castle, and put in it a large garrison of Flemings. The King, who was in Normandy, being informed of these proceedings, hastened back to England, and assembling his troops on all sides, ordered their rendezvous at Bury. With this army, Henry marched to chastise the earl, and having demolished his castles at Ipswich and Walton, advanced towards his other places of strength at Framlingham and Bungay; but the earl finding that any further opposition would be unavailing, submitted to the King, and thus terminated the contest. The citizens of Norwich behaved bravely on the occasion, and on Bigod's surrendering the castle, the King was so much pleased with the people that he granted them a new charter, which is still extant in their guildhall.

During the reign of Henry II. the barons were virtually the masters of the country, oppressing the people and controlling the sovereign. To counteract this tyranny, the King adopted the policy of raising and strengthening the commercial classes, while he depressed the power of the barons. He chartered and largely extended the privileges of many towns in the eastern and other counties, amongst them those of Colchester, and Maldon in Essex, Ipswich in Suffolk, Norwich, Yarmouth, and Lynn in Norfolk. In order to reduce the power of the barons the King set about the dangerous task of demolishing all their recently-erected castles; but in this he did not succeed.

The owners of all the castles murmured, some resisted. Hugh Mortimer resolved to hold his castle of Brignorth in Essex, and at the siege which followed an affecting instance occurred of loyal devotion. In an affray before the walls, a brawny warrior aimed a death blow at the person of the King; Hubert, the governor of Colchester, perceived the blow descending, and flinging himself before the monarch, received it, sacrificing his own life in saving that of the sovereign. Royal gratitude for

the noble deed was shown in the care and protection of Hubert's only daughter, for whom the King found a meet husband in William de Langvæle, who succeeded her father in the rule of the burgh.

Richard de Lucy of Diss was the Lord Chief Justice of England, who, having the command of a division of the army, fought victoriously in support of the cause of his sovereign, Henry II., against the rebel force led by Earl Robert, at the sanguinary battle of Fornham St. Genevieve, on October 27th, 1173. In those feudal days, judges, bishops, and archbishops were all warriors; neither law nor divinity was any bar to their taking up arms as liege subjects at one time or as rebels at another time.

The reign of Henry II. is of much interest in our ecclesiastical history, on account of the contest between the sovereign and the clergy. The latter, since the time of the separation of the ecclesiastical from the civil jurisdictions, had endeavoured to introduce into their courts causes which really appertained to the secular judges; and further maintained that members of their body, when charged with the most heinous offences, could only be tried before ecclesiastics, who never inflicted heavy punishments on clerical delinquents. It was to check this aggressive spirit that Becket was appointed archbishop, but he resolved to extend rather than to limit the privileges of his order.

It is worthy of notice, as a proof of the good administration of justice even in those troublous times, that at a council which was summoned in the bishop's garden in Norwich, at which the King's steward sat as a judge, assisted by the Bishops of Norwich and Ely, the Abbots of St. Edmund and Holm, and most of the barons of the two counties, Sir Robert FitzGilbert and Sir Adam de Hornyngesheth being charged with conspiracy to seize the King, claimed these two knights as men of the blessed martyr of St. Edmund and demanded respite of judgment till he could have conference with the King. This being granted, the abbot was told that all justice originally belonged to the county court there; they must therefore return back to the county and council whence they came; and whatever they did the King would abide by. On producing their charters and liberties to the county court, it was observed that a similar question had arisen in the time of Henry I. concerning the liberties of St. Edmund, when it was allowed that all pleas, suits and actions whatever, concerning any person in those liberties, excepting the pleas of murder and treasure found, belonged to the court of St. Edmund, and were to be tried by the abbot, his steward, or some officer appointed by him. On this the liberties were returned and presented to the King's steward as good, and the King confirmed by presentment. Soon after the King went to Bury, where, by the mediation of the barons, he pardoned the two knights. Thus, it appears, that in those days the

authority of the shire or county courts was very great, for in them sat the principal persons in the county to administer justice.

William Turbas, a Norman by birth, was appointed Bishop of Norwich in 1146. He was chiefly concerned in the foundation of Buckenham Priory. He was a warm defender of ecclesiastical rights and privileges, and he espoused the cause of Thomas à Becket against Henry II. He openly excommunicated Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, in the cathedral, for which he was obliged to retire in order to escape from the wrath of the King. He died in 1174, and was buried in the north side of the choir.

John of Oxford, Dean of Salisbury, succeeded as Bishop of Norwich in 1175. He was a man of great learning, one of the judges, and he wrote several poetical works. He built the parish church of the Holy Trinity at Ipswich. He died June 2nd, 1200, and was buried on the north side of the choir in Norwich Cathedral.

During the Norman period, when prelates and abbots were appointed to their dignities, they were required to pass through ceremonies before they were fully recognised. They first received from the hands of the King the ring and crosier (the emblems of their spiritual office), and this ceremony was called their investiture; they also, like all territorial proprietors who held their estates from the crown, did homage by kneeling before the King, putting their hands in his hands, and in that posture swearing fealty to him. Hence, it is apparent that as the sovereign might refuse to grant investiture and to receive homage, his assent became essential to the enjoyment of the profits of the higher benefices. The sovereign, in fact, appointed the archbishops and bishops who were his nominees for the time.

Henry II. granted the lordship of Bawdeswell, in Norfolk, to the Montchesnys, and so it came to the Valences and Hastings, Earls of Pembroke, and the Greys of Kent. In 1437, John Fuderby Thomas Boughton released this manor to J. Grey, Esq., of Ruthyn, and Sir Thomas Wornton. From the Greys it came to the Somersets, Winwoods, Pilfields, and Lombes.

An old *Chronicle* of Norwich, date of 1728, states that in 1165 "there was a great earthquake in Norfolk, Suffolk, and the Isle of Ely, which made the bells to ring in the steeples." The same authority records some subsequent earthquakes in Norfolk, but whether they were really such terrestrial disturbances is doubtful. In 1445, a general earthquake is recorded to have taken place all over England, but little damage is stated, so that it must have been only a slight shake of the island, or perhaps only a tremble.

Soon after the Norman conquest many Jews settled in different towns of the eastern counties, at Norwich, Yarmouth, Lynn, Bury St.

Edmund's, and other places, where they became very numerous. In 1179, the Jews of Bury were accused of having murdered a boy, named Robert, in derision of Christ's crucifixion, and of having committed the like offences in other parts of England. They were banished the kingdom, but they probably found means to make their peace in some places, for it appears that within ten years afterwards they had by their excessive usury rendered themselves so odious to the nation, that the people rose with one accord to destroy them. Among the rest many of those who lived in Bury were surprised and put to death; and such as escaped by the assistance of the abbot Sampson, were expelled the town, and were never permitted to return.

In the reign of Henry II., about 1100, Hubert Walter, then Dean of York, founded West Dereham Abbey, having bought the land on which it was built of Geffrey Fitz Geffrey, and belonging to his own fee or lordship. It was dedicated to God and the Virgin Mary for regular canons of the Premonstratensian Order, who were to pray for his own soul, the souls of his father and mother, Ralph de Glanville, Justiciary of England (who had the care of his education), and of Berta his wife. The founder was a native of West Dereham, son of Hervey Walter, and brother of Theobald Walter, Chief Butler of Ireland, from whom the noble family of Butler, Dukes of Ormond, were descended. The first preferment in the church that we find him possessed of was a fourth part of the church of Felmingham, in Norfolk. After that he was Dean of York, one of the Barons of the Exchequer, Bishop of Salisbury, and Archbishop of Canterbury, Legate to the Pope, Lord Chancellor, and Chief Justice of England. No clergyman before or after him had so great power and authority, and no man ever used it with greater prudence and moderation, being the Prime Minister of Richard I. and King John.

#### REIGN OF RICHARD I., 1189 to 1199.

Henry II. was succeeded by his second son, Richard I., whose excessive bravery gained him the title of *Cœur de Lion*. He was well-informed, his eyes were blue but full of fire, and his hair rather red. After having concluded a peace with Philip Augustus, who gave him back Mans, and the rest of the cities he had taken from Henry, Richard went to Rouen, where the ducal sword was put into his hand on July 20th, 1189. He set at liberty his mother, Queen Eleanor, who had been imprisoned sixteen years; crossed into England, and was crowned at Westminster on September 3rd, in the same year. The rest of his reign belongs to the history of the crusades. He exhausted his treasury by engaging in a crusade, and to raise supplies, sold his claim to the sovereignty of Scotland for 10,000 marks, then a very large sum.

He raised an army of 35,000 men in order to go to the wars in the Holy Land, and invested his brother John with the government of six counties, left the government of England to William Longchamp, Bishop of Ely, his Chancellor, the Pope's Legate, in conjunction with the Bishop of Durham; crossed again into France; had an interview with Philip at Vezelai, June 25th, 1190; proceeded to Marseilles, and from thence to Sicily, where he spent the winter with Philip who had also joined in the crusade. A quarrel broke out between the two monarchs in that country, for Tancred, King of Sicily, being disgusted at Richard, endeavoured to engage the King of France in his quarrel, but Philip being a wise prince, prevented so fatal a circumstance by marching to Acre, then besieged by the Christians.

Richard embarked some days after, when a storm arising, part of his fleet was cast upon the coast of Cyprus, on which Isaac, King of that island, imprisoned all who engaged in that shipwreck, and would not permit either Princess Berengera of Navarre (betrothed to Richard), or the Queen Dowager of Sicily to shelter themselves in the harbour. This cruelty was fatal to Isaac, for Richard defeated his troops, dispossessed him of his cities, loaded him with silver chains, seized upon Cyprus where he left strong garrisons, and after having consummated his marriage with Berengera of Navarre in the city of Limisso in Cyprus, he went to the camp before Acre, which city was taken. Then the quarrel between Richard and Philip broke out afresh, for Richard having acquired a superiority by his military achievements, which greatly mortified the King of France, his jealousy broke out on every occasion. Acre having been taken in 1191, Philip falling extremely sick quitted the camp, and leaving the command of his army to the Duke of Burgundy, sailed for France, where he landed. King Richard continued to signalise himself, and sustained his great reputation. On September 7th, 1191, he entirely defeated the army of Saladin and killed 40,000 of his forces. He repaired the cities of Ascalon, Joppa, and Cæsarea, which Saladin had abandoned, after demolishing their fortifications. Soon after Richard concluded a truce with Saladin, being abandoned by the Christian princes, and set sail for England. In his voyage he was wrecked on the coast of Istria, after which he attempted to travel through Germany in disguise. He fell into the hands of Leopold, Duke of Austria, whom he had affronted at the siege of Acre. The Duke kept him a close prisoner, and then delivered him to the Emperor Henry VI., his sworn enemy, who kept him in confinement till the English barons paid a ransom of 100,000 marks in silver. King Richard being then set at liberty, after fifteen months imprisonment, embarked at Antwerp for England, and arrived at Sandwich on March 13th, 1194, and was received by his people with great

rejoicings. In his absence for four years the King of France had instigated his brother John to rebel, but the King on his return soon resumed his authority.

Richard then passed over into France, where Philip was invading his dominions. Richard met his brother John at Rouen, where they were reconciled, and the war was followed by a truce, and this was concluded by a treaty of peace for five years. The treaty was ill observed on both sides. Richard beseiged Chaluz in Limousin in order to obtain a treasure which a gentleman of that province had discovered in his grounds. At this siege the King was wounded by an arrow, and he died from the wound on April 6th, 1199, in the tenth year of his reign, and the forty-third of his age. He was buried at Fontevraud.

Richard being no friend of the Jews, commanded that none of them should presume to be present at his coronation, but some of them disobeyed the order, and this caused a disturbance. Many of the people fell upon the Jews and chased them to their houses, and killed some of them. It being rumoured everywhere that the King did not favour the despised Jews, the populace at Norwich, Lynn, and Bury rose against them and robbed many of them.

Richard I. created Roger Bigod, son of Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk on November 27th, 1189, and by this earl's influence the citizens of Norwich obtained as ample a charter as the city of London then had. Before the King went to the Holy War, as it was called, the citizens presented him with a large sum of money, for which he granted them many privileges, and ordained that they should be ruled by two head officers called bailiffs, whom they should elect from among themselves every year.

The King paid a devotional visit to the shrine of St. Edmund at Bury before he went to the Holy Land, and on his return he offered up the rich standard of Isaac, King of Cyprus, at the shrine of St. Edmund.

In the reign of Richard I. in 1189, Roger, son of Hugh Bigod, was created Earl of Norfolk. He added such strength to the fortifications of the castle at Norwich that it was deemed impregnable. In 1193 he obtained a new charter from the King, in which the people of Norwich were first styled citizens, and empowered to choose provosts every year out of their own body. In the next reign in 1199, John de Grey, afterwards Bishop of Norwich, on the promise of 300 marks to be paid by the citizens, obtained a confirmation of their liberties.

During the reign it is supposed that, though the trade of the country generally did not increase, yet some of the artisan soldiers who returned from the crusades, brought back a knowledge of some of the useful arts in eastern Europe. The improvements introduced in England were of little worth, owing to the troubles of the succeeding reigns. Yet it is

clear that owing to the influx of foreign artisans in Norwich the manufactures there had been all along prosperous.

The Hundred of Eynesford, in Norfolk, belonged to the crown till Richard I., on his return from the Holy Land, granted it to Sir Baldwin de Retun, Earl of Albemarle and Holderness, with the lordship of Foulsham, from whom it came to William Mareschal, Earl of Pembroke; from the Marshals to Sir Robert de Morley, and from the Morleys to the Lovells, and Parkers, Lords Morley. In 1852, Edward Parker, Lord Morley, sold it to Thomas Hunt.

### THE FEUDAL SYSTEM.

The Norman Conquest of England in 1066 led to a mighty change, and entire revolution in the whole system of the country. William I. claimed all the land, reserved 1400 manors and most of the towns for his own share of the spoil, and divided the rest among his Norman followers, who expelled the Saxon thanes and took possession of the soil. Nearly all the estates in the eastern counties changed hands without any payment or compensation.

Earl Morton became possessed of 793 manors; Hugh de Albrincis obtained the whole palatinate of Chester; Allen, Earl of Brittany, 442 manors; Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, 493 manors, besides twenty-eight towns or hamlets in Yorkshire; and the large county of Norfolk was divided amongst only sixty-six Norman warriors. The holders of these large estates usually resided on them, except when engaged in war.

The fental system was established in England by chapters 52 and 58 of William's laws. By it the ultimate proprietorship of the whole country was vested in the King. He granted out, however, large estates to his followers, as before stated. These fiefs consisted, in some cases, of one, in others of a large number of knights' fees. Each fee comprised twelve plough lands, and was valued in the reign of Edward II. at £20 per annum. It was such an amount of land as was deemed sufficient to provide an armed knight in time of war. The entire number of knights' fees in England was 60,215. The King was called the lord *paramount* or *suzerain*, and those who held their estates of the crown *tenants in capite* or tenants in chief, so that they were only occupiers or holders and not owners of land.

Landed property was now chiefly held in four ways, which depended on the services that the tenants were required to perform. These services were either free or base; free, if they were deemed honourable, such as serving in war, or paying a sum of money; base, if they were only suited to persons of a servile condition, such as ploughing land and so on. Hence we find the following:—1. Lands held by services free and uncer-

tain, known as knight service. 2. Lands held by service free and certain, known as tenure or free socage. 3. Lands held by tenure, base and certain, known as tenure in villenage socage. 4. Lands held by services base and uncertain, as tenure in pure villenage.

The first kind of service was that which formed the most essential element of the feudal system. Besides the ceremonies in connection with the transfer of a fief, there were several services incident to the holding of these estates. 1. *Military service*.—The knight was bound to attend his lord to the wars for forty days in every year if required. 2. *Aids*.—These were sums of money demanded on three occasions (*a*), to make the eldest son of a lord a knight; (*b*) to marry his eldest daughter; (*c*) to ransom his person if taken prisoner. 3. *Relief*.—This was considered one of the greatest grievances of the feudal system. It was a payment of one hundred shillings for every knight's fee in case the heir had attained the age of twenty-one.

The landholders in all the counties held their lands by feudal tenure and military service. All the land in the country was liable to castle guard service and many other kinds of service. The rights of landholders were in many cases limited by rights of common enjoyed by the neighbouring inhabitants; but these rights the landholders began to absorb gradually, sometimes by downright usurpation. While this process of absorption was going on laws made by the landholders were put in force intended to make sure that all the land they once got within their grip should never get out of it.

War and the chase, the two ancient and deadliest foes to agriculture, occupy too prominent a place in the history of the Norman Kings who succeeded the Conqueror to afford much scope for industrial progress; and the story of the New Forest in Hampshire, with other instances of tyrannical devastation in the northern parts of this island, assure us that this was not an age of improvement. But it should be remembered that the whole country was then like a waste wilderness with few enclosed lands, while whole counties like Essex were covered with forests. Norfolk was all a vast common like Roudham Heath, and few roads crossed the county.

## STATE OF AGRICULTURE.

That the conquest of Britain by the Normans contributed to the improvement of agriculture is undeniable. Ingulphus in his history says, "For by that event many thousands of husbandmen, from the fertile and well-cultivated plains of Flanders, France, and Normandy settled in this island, obtained estates or farms, and employed the same methods in the cultivation of them that they had used in their native countries. Some of the Norman barons were great improvers of their lands, and are celebrated in history for their skill in agriculture."

During the Norman period East Anglia was a wild uncultivated region of heaths, bogs, and swamps. Thick woods, desolate wastes, expansive sheets of water and rivers, which often overflowed their banks, formed the physical aspect of the country. The Norman monks and some of the nobility devoted much attention to agriculture. One of the latter, Richard de Rulos, chamberlain to William I., and lord of Brune and Deeping, enclosed and drained a great extent of country, embanked the Welland, and on the reclaimed tract planted orchards and cultivated meadows and pastures. But notwithstanding all the improvements, we have ample proof of the limited area to which operations were long confined.

After the Norman conquest till the end of the twelfth century, the inhabitants of most of the villages in Norfolk and Suffolk were either customary tenants, and so bound to perform all their customary services to their lords, or else villains, in plain English slaves, to their several lords, who had so absolute a power that they could grant their wives and children, born or to be born, together with all their household goods, cattle, and chattels whatever, to whomsoever they pleased, and indeed nothing is more common than to meet with grants of this nature in former ages from one lord to another, or to whoever he would; nay, so absolute was the lord's jurisdiction over them that they could not live out of the precincts of the manor without their lord's leave, nor marry their children to another lord's tenant without their lord's license; but in all ages men were naturally desirous of liberty, for these villains continually endeavoured to procure their freedom, either by pleasing their lord so much as to obtain a manumission, or by getting some friend or relation to purchase it for them.

During the whole of the Norman period for a hundred years the whole population of England did not exceed three millions, and of the eastern counties only half-a-million. Only a small part of the land was cultivated,

and large tracts were great forests. The early form of English was spoken by the bulk of the oppressed people, but Norman-French by the nobility and gentry. The names of all animals while alive were Anglo-Saxon, but when killed and prepared for food were Norman. Thus ox, steer, cow are Saxon, but beef Norman; calf is Saxon, but veal Norman; sheep is Saxon, but mutton Norman-French. So it is severally with swine and pork, deer and venison, fowl and pullet. Bacon is the only exception, and on it the peasantry feed to the present day when they can get it. The towns were nearly all of small size, the streets narrow, the houses of timber and the roofs of thatch. London, Bristol, and Exeter were large towns, but Norwich, Ipswich, and all the towns in the eastern counties were small places. Norwich contained only 1500 burgesses or freemen, all the other men being slaves. The city rose gradually round a castle, that frowned in feudal grandeur over the whole district. Yarmouth was only a small fishing station that had just emerged from the waves. Most of the towns were built near rivers for the sake of inland navigation. All the roads were in a bad state, and infested with robbers. Much of the internal trade was carried on at markets or fairs. The fairs were holidays in the earliest ages of the church. The markets and fairs were often held in churchyards, and continued to be so till prohibited in the reign of Edward I., in the thirteenth century. These markets and fairs have continued ever since on the same days in most of the towns of the eastern counties. For a long time the fairs were held for the sale of horses, cattle, sheep, manufactures, and all sorts of goods, which were bought by the common people for their use all the year round.

The fair days were holydays in the earliest ages of the church (as the derivation from the Latin *feria*, a festival, indicates), and were often held on Sunday; but in the lapse of time business was transacted at them all over East Anglia, and the place of sale was generally in the vicinity of the church, sometimes in the churchyard, and when it was subsequently removed to an open space in the town, a market cross was erected to remind persons that on becoming traders, they did not cease to be Christians.

From the tenth to the sixteenth century, money was nearly ten times its present value, and after the sixteenth century nearly equal to the present time. The following were the prices of various articles at different periods of time, estimated according to the present value of money:—In 930 a sheep 12s. 6d., the fleece 5s., an ox 75s., a cow 50s., a horse £18. In 966 an acre of land 10s., a palfrey £6. In 980 an ox 75s., a cow £3. In 1252 a good horse £15. In 1327 a lean ox 48s., fat 72s., a fat hog two years old 10s., a fat wether sheep unshorn 5s., shorn 3s. 6d., a fat goose 7½d., a fat capon 6d., a fat hen 3d., two chickens 3d.

## COUNTY FAMILIES IN THE TWELFTH CENTURY AND SUCCEEDING AGES.

The names only have been preserved of many Kings, thanes, and county families that lived in the Anglo-Saxon period. As already stated, the Anglo-Saxons and Danes who had exterminated the aborigines, were in their turn expelled by the Normans, who took possession of their lands. The Norman warriors, not content with the grants of the Conqueror, often invaded the lands of the East Anglian thanes, who had made their peace with the King, and took forcible possession of very large estates in the western counties.

After the Norman conquest, for nearly a century the more eminent men in Norfolk and Suffolk were grim warriors who came over with the Conqueror, or their immediate descendants, the De Warrennes, the Bigods, the l'Estranges, the Walters, the Albinis, the Rainalds, the Bainards, the Ferrars, the Giffards, the Godrics, and many others, who built strong castles, in which they lived, and who made a great figure in an iron age. Most of them soon disappeared from this earthly scene.

The records that remain to us of the more powerful families that in an early age constituted a portion of the ancient nobles of our land, are extremely scanty, as might be expected from the imperfect chronicles relating to the period in which they flourished. Unless their names occur in connection with the stirring events of the times which are matters of public history it is rarely that they occupy a position sufficiently prominent to attract the attention of the chronicler, and the biographer is able to glean at best only a faint outline of characters which from their importance in some respects would seem to require detailed statement. This circumstance is of little consequence in some cases, in which the quality of the information obtained will scarcely repay the labour of research to the curious inquirer, and however he may delight to pore over musty tomes, the issue will often be disappointment as the ideal attributes of nobility and distinction with which eager imagination is prone to invest its favourite hero, are scattered to the winds by the glaring evidence of moral turpitude. We may nevertheless cling to the hope that if the worst traits of character are recorded, it is because these alone have attracted the notice of the historian, for as Shakespeare says:—

The evil that men do lives after them,  
The good is oft interred with their bones.

Before we proceed to notice the great men and county families of this Norman period, it may be interesting to glance at the general character

and customs of those ancient barons who occupy so prominent a station in the early annals of our history. They were a very chivalrous race in the age of chivalry, insomuch at least as the term implies considerable military skill, personal courage, hardihood and independent spirit; but in the higher qualities of chivalrous bearing they were often deficient. The success which they attained in their military operations was unsurpassed by any warriors of the time, and victory usually crowned these exertions in whatever quarter they were directed. In performing these exploits, they were not at all scrupulous as to the rights of anybody. They obtained possession of their domains by the sword, and they kept possession by the sword. They introduced a stern uncompromising grinding system, which enabled them to crush with iron-hand that spirit of resistance which a more equitable policy might have failed to subdue. Such in brief was the general character of the feudal system. The establishments maintained by these haughty Normans corresponded with the oppressive magnificence which characterised their general demeanour. They lived in great castles, which were crowded with retainers, who apart from mere ceremonies of state were wont to be at the disposal of their liege masters on all ordinary occasions.

In travelling, a baron was sometimes attended by 1000 horse, besides a retinue on foot, which in time of war, in addition to the pecuniary resources, they could bring to the assistance of the sovereign; their trains, fully mounted and equipped, were like little armies. Whatever share a love of pomp and parade might have in such displays, there can be no doubt that the extreme insecurity of the country, and the precarious tenure by which the Normans felt that they held their lands, suggested the necessity of these precautions, which rendered them formidable to the predatory bands of the Angles, or Saxons, or Danes, who scoured the country.

A similar profuse expenditure prevailed in the domestic arrangements of the baronial strongholds, but in most instances the means were not adequate to the intention. The Norman barons never dreamt of the modern accessories of luxurious ease. Straw supplied the place of beds; rushes rudely strewn served for carpets, the regal palace boasted of nothing better for all its inmates. Splendid garments, rich armour, massive cups of gold and silver, and priceless jewels were not uncommon, but the barons were utterly ignorant or careless of the numerous appliances of domestic convenience which long custom has rendered necessary to the humblest cottager in the land.

The baronial tables were provided with the rarest luxuries that the age could produce or that money could procure, and no pains were spared to render the entertainments sumptuous and *recherché*. The cookery was

congenial to the prevailing taste, not over fastidious. Amongst the most esteemed of their dainties may be noticed the crane and the peacock, the latter being often sent to table in its gorgeous plumage, while certain other dishes were especial favourites known by the names of Diligront, Kasarupie, Maumpigirum! Wines of powerful quality, ales and cider were the usual beverages.

The mental culture of the Norman barons was such as might be expected in an age when might was regarded rather than right, and the sword was more in use than the pen. Few, very few, could read still less could write, for such acquirements were looked upon as only fit for "poor beggarly clerks." Even seals were not employed till a late period, and the usual mode adopted by the baron to confirm a grant or sanction a deed was to bite the wax, leaving the impress of his teeth on the pliant mastic, as the only proof of his approbation. Such were some of the characteristics of a high class of men, who filled conspicuous positions in the early annals of our history, and who were destined to be the instruments of great and decisive changes in the state of society.

#### THE BIGOD FAMILY IN EAST ANGLIA.

Roger Bigod came over the sea with the Conqueror, and was the first of the family that settled in England. He was created Earl of Norfolk, and he received many lordships in Norfolk and Suffolk. He was appointed Governor of Norfolk and Suffolk and Constable of Norwich Castle. He received grants of 176 manors in Norfolk and 117 in Suffolk. Henry I. having succeeded to the throne in the year 1100, whilst Duke Robert, the King's eldest son, who should have succeeded him, was engaged in the crusades, he could not divest himself of fears that his brother might ultimately assert his claim and that disastrous consequences might follow; to avert which he endeavoured to ingratiate himself with his subjects, amongst whom was Roger Bigod who had survived the two former monarchs and who was very powerful in East Anglia. Therefore, the King rewarded him amongst other grants with the castle and lordship of Framlingham, and constituted him also a witness to his laws, and steward of his household, an office then of much importance. This he did not long enjoy, as he died in 1107 and was buried in the priory of Black Canons of Thetford, which he had founded and endowed.

William Bigod, the eldest son and heir of Roger, succeeded the deceased in his various honours and possessions, and was also appointed steward to the King's household. These he enjoyed only about thirteen years, as he perished at sea on his return from Harfleur in company with Prince William, the King's eldest son, and in consequence of the intoxication of the captain and crew; 140 young noblemen perished at the same time.

Hugh Bigod, the brother and heir of the unfortunate William, succeeded to the like honours and to the stewardship of the King's household. This possession of Framlingham Castle was the principal instrument for advancing Henry's successor, Stephen, to the throne in 1135, by swearing with signal falsehood that Henry had on his death bed disinherited his daughter Maude. Stephen, to reward this flagitious act on the part of Hugh Bigod, advanced him to the earldom of the East Angles, soon after which he appeared in arms against his sovereign, espousing the cause of Maude, and in the sequel engaged in a civil war which raged throughout the country for several years. In 1154 Stephen died, and Henry II. succeeded to the crown, and he immediately took possession of all the castles, but he subsequently restored Framlingham Castle and all other grants to Hugh Bigod.

Notwithstanding this royal bounty, the ungrateful Hugh Bigod, forgetting his allegiance, perfidiously supported the cause of Prince Henry, the King's eldest son, in his most unnatural revolt against his father, by receiving an army of Flemings sent by Lewis King of France, under the command of Robert Earl of Leicester, who landed at Walton in Suffolk, marched through the country to Framlingham, where his troops were quartered in the castle, and there soon after laid waste the whole district with fire and sword. This castle was then the temporary residence of Prince Henry.

In 1173, the Earl of Leicester's power being much increased by the arrival of more Flemings, he with the Earl of Norfolk (Hugh Bigod), left the castle with the view of aiding their supporters in Leicestershire, when these rebel earls, being met on the march by the royal army under Richard de Lucy near Bury St. Edmund's, a sanguinary battle ensued, the Earl of Leicester and his countess were taken prisoners, and 10,000 of their followers slain. Hugh Bigod, however, escaped, and having reached Dover he took shipping with 14,000 Flemings, and sailed to France. He returned again, and Framlingham Castle was restored to him, and his descendants held it till 1269.

Roger (1184 to 1220), the eldest son and heir of Hugh Bigod, succeeded his father in his estates, and appears to have been quietly possessed of them through the last five years of Henry II.'s reign; when, upon the accession of Richard I. in 1189, on payment of 1,000 marks, he constituted or rather confirmed this Roger Bigod Earl of Norfolk, and made him steward of his household. This Roger was not otherwise conspicuous than in having been one of the twenty-five celebrated barons appointed to enforce the observance of the Magna Charta, and who, after meeting John and his few worthless courtiers on the plain of Runnymede, on the 15th of June, 1215, opened their

conferences, and on the 19th of June achieved the great work in which they were so nobly engaged.

John, with the aid of the Pope, having almost immediately after declared that all his concessions were void, because they were accomplished without the consent of the Pope, the barons were again obliged to take the field, and the consequence was, that in 1215, not being able to bring their forces together, Framlingham Castle was surrendered to John, who with an army of mercenary soldiers, which were collected and sent him from Lower Germany, ravaged East Anglia and other parts of the kingdom, especially the lands of the confederate barons, with impunity, and the greatest cruelty. Roger Bigod with the twenty-four other noble barons were excommunicated and denounced to be worse than Saracens, and their lands laid under an interdict by Innocent III., for the part they had taken in having exacted from John those covenants whereby the Government virtually became vested in their hands. From this period Roger Bigod appears to have passed the remaining four years of his existence in a state of tranquility, and dying in 1220, was buried with his ancestors in the monastery at Thetford. This earl intermarried with Isabel, the daughter of Hamlyn Plantagenet, Earl of Warren, base son of Geoffrey Earl of Anjou, and half-brother to Henry II. He had another wife, whose name was Ide.

Hugh Bigod, who was likewise one of the twenty-five barons before alluded to, became the next earl, as son and heir of the last-named Roger Bigod, and performing his homage to Henry III., in 1220, had possession of his father's inheritance, which he did not long enjoy. He died in 1225, and his remains were interred at Thetford. He left two sons, Roger and Hugh, by Maud his wife, the eldest daughter and co-heir of William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, but who had been divorced from him; Hugh, the youngest son, professing the law, was made Chief Justice of England in 1256. On his death the castle and manor of Framlingham and all his inheritance descended to Roger Bigod, as eldest son of the last Earl Hugh, who became the sixth earl, and succeeded him in all his honours (1225 to 1262). He was descended on his mother's side from the Marshall's, Earls of Pembroke, and bore their arms, which were—party per pale, or and vert, a lion ramp. Gu. armed and languid az. Some of the family of Bigod's also bore a lion saliant in their arms. This earl, in 1225, had delivery of possession of Framlingham Castle by Henry III.'s special precept. Upon the authority of Blomefield, it appears that the earl by deed gave to his beloved cousin, Reiner Pecot, knight, and his heirs male, for the acceptable services that he did him in feats of arms and other honourable deeds, to his great credit and praise, with the King's special leave (amongst other things), all Framingham Pigot, in

Norfolk, and at the same time he constituted the said Reiner and his heirs male marshal of his household and castle in Framlingham, in Suffolk, with all perquisites, customs, and profits thereto belonging, with liberty to take two bucks every summer, and one doe every winter, at what time they pleased.

The life of this individual presents but little of importance beyond that of his having been a warrior through the long and eventful reign of Henry III. In 1232 he was girded by his sovereign with the sword of knighthood; and in 1246 Henry bestowed upon him the office and honour of Earl Marshal of England, Roger having claimed the same in right of his mother Maud, the sister and co-heir of Anselm, Earl of Pembroke (then right heir to the last Earl Marshal of England), into whose hands the marshal's rod was solemnly given; which she then delivered over to this earl, her son, on which he did homage to the King. In 1253, he was present at the great convention of Parliament holden in London, and assisted in obtaining a ratification by the King of the Great Charter granted by King John, his father. In 1255, it appears that, having to make an apology for Robert de Ros, a great baron of that age, who was accused of keeping as prisoner Henry's daughter Margaret, Queen of Alexander III., King of Scotland, which was near costing him his life, Roger Bigod had very harsh language offered to him by Henry relative to the matter, who openly called him a traitor, upon which he told the King he lied—that he never was or could be a traitor; adding, "If you do nothing but what the law warranteth, you can do me no harm." "Yes," replied Henry, "I can thresh out your corn and sell it, and so humble you." To which the earl replied, "If you do so, I will send you the heads of your threshers." However, by the interposition of the lords then present, matters were reconciled, and the earl proceeded on an embassy to the French King. In 1263, a civil war broke out concerning the provisions of Oxford, which were, in fact, the first introduction of popular representation, and led to the gradual formation of the Commons House of Parliament, which Henry did not scruple to resist. In the outset of these contentions, the barons generally were opposed to him, and supported the cause of Prince Edward his son, but the great houses of Bigod and Bohun and the Piccies, with their warlike borderers, were on the side of the recreant King. To strengthen the power of Roger Bigod, he was made governor of Oxford Castle, when the only exploit of which we have any record respecting the subject of the present memoir was his fighting under Henry's banners at the battle of Lewes, on the 14th day of May, 1265, where the King was taken prisoner; but Roger having previously escaped from the field, fled with other barons into France. In 1269 his mortal career was closed, by

having had his bones put out of joint at a tournament, in which warlike exercises he was pre-eminently skilled, and was buried at Thetford, "if," says Weever, "his last will and testament was performed." His wife was Isabel, daughter to William King of Scotland. The late earl having died without issue, Roger, the last of the great house of Bigod (who was the son of Hugh Bigod, Chief Justice of England, and nephew to the last Roger Bigod), succeeded, at the age of twenty-five, as heir to his late uncle, 1269 to 1305, and performing his homage, had possession of the great inheritance belonging to his ancestors, including therein the Hundred of Loes. In 1285 he claimed to have warren in Framlingham, Ike, Soham, and Hoo by prescription, as also one fair in Framlingham on the vigil of St. Michael the Archangel and the four following days, and a market weekly on Tuesday, Friday, and Sunday.

The leading feature in this earl's character was the opposition shown by him and Humphry Bohun Earl of Hereford, High Constable of England, on Edward I. requiring them with others of the nobility to furnish him with troops, in 1297, to invade Flanders; who eluded the demand by desiring to be excused serving in Guienne, though they were willing to furnish troops. Edward, not satisfied with their excuses, threatened to give their lands to others more obedient. These menaces occasioned serious commotions among the nobles, who justly considered that their lands were not at his disposal. On this, Humphry Bohun and Roger Bigod fearlessly told the King they were ready to follow him, where he commanded in person, but not otherwise; and Bigod, as Earl Marshal, added that he was willing to lead the vanguard under him, as his office obliged him to do, but that he would not serve under any other, and to which none had right to compel him. Edward, in a great passion, said he would make him go, to which Bigod, with an undaunted spirit, replied he should not. "By the eternal God, then," said the King, in great rage, "you shall march or be hanged." "By the eternal God," replied the earl, "I will neither march nor be hanged," and immediately withdrew with Humphry Bohun from Court, and ceased to be courtiers any longer. In the end they were joined by many of the barons and great men to the number of thirty bannerets, and assembled about 1500 men together in arms, intending to stand upon their own defence, with which army the two earls withdrew into their own neighbourhood, where they took such measures against the Government that they positively refused to pay any manner of taxes or contributions, and forbade the officers, on pain of losing their heads, to adventure within their jurisdiction. The King, according to Rapin, availed himself of the opportunity of correcting the boldness of the two earls by dismissing them from their high situations, because they again refused to attend him in Flanders,

lest, as they feared, they should fall into his hands. From this period the offices, held both by Bohun and Bigod, would appear to have been in abeyance, but in the interim the two earls asserted and finally obtained their rights, by compelling the King, while in Flanders, to undertake to confirm the Great Charter granted by King John, with a further protection that he should not charge his subjects so freely at his pleasure as theretofore, without consent of the states in Parliament, besides stipulating also that a pardon should be given them for refusing to attend him abroad, all which Edward undertook to do under his great seal, and which was afterwards ratified by the Parliament holden not long after at York. The death of Humphry Bohun having happened soon after, Roger Bigod found himself involved in debt, contracted while acting in opposition to Edward; and being called upon by his clerical and affluent brother, John Bigod, to repay the sum which he had advanced him, the Earl Roger became so incensed against him, that to disappoint the lender of that inheritance which he had intended for him, and partly also to atone for his open defiance to regal authority, he, by a special instrument, dated at Colchester in the Abbey of St. John, on the 12th of April (1301-2) made Edward I. his heir, and granted to that monarch and his heirs all his castles, manors, &c., whatsoever, whereof he had an estate in fee, as well in England as in Wales; and did also render and release to the King all his right and title which he had in the name of earl and the earldom of Norfolk, as also in or to the marshalship of England, upon condition that Edward paying his debts and adding to his estates other lands of the annual value of 1000 marks, he, the King, should re-grant the Earldom of Norfolk and also the marshalship unto him and his heirs, and also all his castles, &c., in England and Wales, to the use of him, the earl, and Alice his wife, and the longest liver of them, with a limitation in favour of their issue, and for want of such issue, then to the King and his heirs. Under this grant Earl Roger was again possessed of his titles and his domains until the time of his death, when, dying without issue in 1305, he was interred with his ancestors at Thetford by the side of Aliva, his first wife, who was buried there in 1280. This event happening, the earldom of Norfolk and marshalship of England reverted to the King, who died in 1306. Upon the earl's demise, Alice, his second wife (who was a daughter of the Earl of Hainault, as Countess Dowager of Norfolk, took possession of this and all Earl Roger's other castles, manors, &c., in England and Wales; but having survived her husband only about three years, the whole passed in virtue of the grant to Edward II., as heir to his late father; upon which he appointed John de Bottetourt, Esq., governor of Framlingham Castle, but who taking part with the Earl of Warwick against Piers de Gaveston, King Edward's favourite, he displaced him. In

1302, John de Hastings, Esq., was steward of the Manor of Framlingham ad Castrum for the last earl, and continued in that office during the life of Alice his countess dowager.

THE FAMILY OF DE WARRENNE, CASTLEACRE.

Generally speaking, there is so much obscurity and intermixture of legendary lore in the annals of our ancient worthies, that it is no easy task to sift the incongruous mass of matter in order to arrive at something near the truth ; and this remark applies with peculiar force to the records which relate to the founder and members of that once illustrious family of whom we here present a sketch. The very name of De Warrenne exists but in the faint traces of the past ; and a family once conspicuous for its powerful influence and princely wealth, associated with royalty, and distinguished for military prowess, has long ceased to have a living representative.

For some centuries they occupied a prominent station in the courts of princes, and enjoyed a measure of prosperity and influence vouchsafed to few, until at length their grandeur passed away as a dream of the night, and their large possessions were dispersed into various channels unassociated by title or kin with the original proprietors.

William first Earl de Guarrenne (Warrenne in Normandy), and of Surrey and Norfolk in England, was the chief of a family among the most powerful and illustrious of his native land. He enjoyed the intimate friendship of the Duke of Normandy, with whom he was nearly connected by his marriage with Gondrel, the fourth daughter of that Prince, and it was natural that he should form one of that reckless band of daring adventurers who followed the fortunes of their ambitious master on his invasion of England. Among those who took an active part in the battle of Hastings, none was more conspicuous than the Knight William de Warrenne, whose zeal and devotion met with prompt attention and reward. His royal master first created him Earl of Surrey, and then put him in possession of lands of such vast extent as amounted to a principality. The official situation which he occupied in the Court of William I. was that of Justiciary of the Kingdom. His colleague in this responsible office was Richard de Bienfait, and these names occur among those of the Counsellors of State, associated with Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, the half-brother of the King, in the Government when William I. revisited Normandy after his first partial subjugation of the country. The substantial acknowledgments received by De Warrenne as his share of the plunder may be summed up in a few words. In Norfolk alone he had grants of 139 lordships, in Suffolk eighteen more, and at least an equal number in Sussex, besides vast possessions in the Northern counties—enough to satisfy the cravings of the most rapacious spirit.

Of all his extensive territories, his Lordship of Acre (Castleacre) attracted his peculiar regard, no doubt on account of its situation; and here, as soon as the partial settlement of affairs consequent on the Conquest would permit of his applying to the work, he hastened to erect his castle or baronial residence, wherein he took up his permanent abode. Vast as were the resources which so wealthy a noble might bring to bear upon this undertaking, the work must have been one of great labour as well as of time, nor was it finished till some years after the earl's decease. In the meanwhile, however, once fairly established in possession of his broad lands, he appears to have applied himself with considerable activity to a work of a more peaceful character, as proved by this castle at Acre. An opinion has prevailed amongst antiquaries that this venerable stronghold of feudal grandeur was built on Roman foundations, and that traces of their work may be found in the existing remains. The inference does not appear sufficiently supported by evidence to be deemed conclusive, and a careful examination of the site does not confirm the supposition. The whole structure of the castle appears to be entirely Norman work.

A distinguishing trait in the Norman character was the mania for founding and endowing religious houses, and this disposition prevailed to a great extent among them. De Warrenne, partaking of this spirit, determined to apply some portion of his vast resources to purposes which might bequeath to him a fairer position in the annals of fame than he might otherwise have attained. It is simply related that upon some occasion he, with his countess, went on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, and at an early period of their progress they availed themselves of the hospitality usually proffered by the monasteries to those who were bent on a like pious errand. The reception they experienced at Clugny, and the general character of the religious profession exercised within its walls, so charmed the noble pilgrims, that when in after years an opportunity was presented for carrying into effect a long-cherished desire to found some religious house for the welfare of their souls, they determined to bestow on the foundation at Clugny the house they proposed to establish. Thus the priory of Lewes was endowed for the support of twelve Cluniac monks, who with Lanzo at their head were despatched about the year 1078 from the parent establishment to take possession of this new retreat. Their privileges were then duly confirmed to them by charter. Within six years after this, the earl commenced the foundation of another religious establishment, immediately contiguous to his Castle of Acre, which he appropriated to the same order and annexed as a cell to his previous foundation at Lewes, both being thus subordinate to the wealthy abbey of Clugny. Scarcely, however, was the first stone of the new priory of Acre laid, than its munificent founder sustained a bereavement

for which he was ill prepared. His wife Gondrel, to whom he appears to have been tenderly attached, died in childbed at his baronial castle, on May 27th, 1085, and was removed for interment to the new priory church of St. Pancras at Lewes, and there deposited. From this period the bereaved earl seems to have passed the remainder of his days in comparative seclusion, devoting his time to religious exercises and works of piety. Within four years after the loss of his lamented countess, he was himself gathered to his fathers, and expired in the month of June, A.D. 1089. It is said that his remains were deposited with those of his countess in the priory church of St. Pancras at Lewes, where priests prayed for the repose of their souls.

William, second Earl de Warrenne and Surrey, succeeded to the titles and vast possessions of his father. Very scanty details of his life remain to us, but it appears that he was a suitor, not altogether unfavoured, for the hand of Matilda, daughter of Malcolm, King of Scotland, and subsequently Queen Consort of Henry I. The marriage, however, was not sanctioned by William II., named Rufus, to whom the demand was made, and not to the relatives of the lady. Rufus had good reasons for the prohibition, in the simple fact that it would have been impolitic on his part to encourage a union between so powerful a vassal and a princess of the ancient Anglo-Saxon line; and this project failing, there is no account of the earl taking a wife. We find him on the accession of Henry I. associated with the Earl of Shrewsbury and Arundel, Walter Gifford, Arnulf de Montgomery, Robert de Mallet, and other barons, in supporting the pretensions of Robert of Normandy, the elder brother of Henry, to the crown of England. These powerful nobles promised to join the duke with all their forces, upon his landing to assert his right to the throne, and they were true to their engagement. But the result was a failure, and the leisure-loving Robert was speedily won over by his wily brother to effect a compromise. The defection of the barons was punished by the confiscation of their estates, but De Warrenne escaped without any molestation.

Of William de Warrenne, the third earl, the historical particulars are equally meagre; but he is said to have obtained high consideration for services rendered to King Stephen. In requital for these services, that monarch bestowed on De Warrenne the demesnes of the borough of Thetford, together with the advowsons of all the churches on the Suffolk side of that place, then of great importance. The earl, already in the enjoyment of princely possessions, determined forthwith to apply his new acquisitions to pious purposes, and accordingly he commenced at Thetford the foundation of an extensive monastery, which he appropriated to the use of regular canons of the holy sepulchre. This foundation he

endowed with all that he had received from the King, adding further grants and privileges. This example was followed by his brothers, and other successive members of his family, until the establishment acquired much wealth. He fostered the ancestral foundation at Acre, to which he was a liberal benefactor, causing a foundation to be built at Stevesholm, as a cell to that establishment. At this period the torch of enthusiasm about the Holy Land kindled a flame all over Europe, and sharing the common zeal, De Warrenne hastened to join the ranks of the crusaders, carrying great aid to the army under Louis King of France. He met an honourable death in the Holy Land, and his possessions devolved upon his only child Isabel, who married Hamlyn Plantagenet, of the house of Anjou.

Hamlyn Plantagenet, a member of the illustrious house of Anjou, and nearly connected with the reigning sovereign as fourth Earl de Warrenne and Surrey, succeeded to the titles and estates solely in right of his marriage with Isabel, the only child of the deceased earl. By her he left issue William, who succeeded to the family honours. Hamlyn was not a man of much spirit, for we read of him that having been appointed during the reign of John to serve the office of Justiciary of the Cinque Ports, he declined serving, and was thereupon required to pay the fine of a palfrey to the King for his contumacy. And upon another occasion, in the same reign, he is mentioned as having, in conjunction with the Archbishop of Canterbury, paid a second fine to the same monarch, in order to be released from the obligation of sending their knights and retainers over into Poitou. From these little traits, we infer the earl to have been of a retiring and domestic disposition; but he was by no means indifferent to the stirring events of the reign of King John. We find the seal of De Warrenne amongst others appended to Magna Charta, proving that he was one of the bold barons who wrung that charter from the reluctant and unprincipled King.

William, fifth Earl De Warrenne and Surrey, survived his father but a short time, but having married Maud, a daughter of Wm. Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, he left issue John Plantagenet and Isabella. The former was destined to become a conspicuous character in the annals of his country, as taking part in the serious differences which arose between Henry III. and his barons, under the influence of the celebrated Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester. De Warrenne appears to have adhered to the King's party, and enjoyed the friendship of Prince Edward. Upon the serious reverses sustained by the royalist forces at the battle of Lewes, De Warrenne escaped to the Continent, accompanied by his half-brothers, to the King. From thence he subsequently returned, and landed in Wales at the head of 120 knights and a troop of archers. His loyal example

was speedily followed by other barons who joined his standard, and after a series of successful manœuvres, De Montfort sustained a complete overthrow at the battle of Evesham. It cannot be doubted that the devotion of De Warrenne to his master's cause obtained for him the favour of that monarch.

John Plantagenet, the sixth Earl de Warrenne and Surrey, became a historical character. Possessing undaunted firmness, undoubted courage and great military talent, he could not fail to attract the special regard of one of the most chivalrous monarchs who ever ruled in England. Edward I. on his return from a long sojourn in France, found that his exchequer was low, and that vigorous efforts were required to raise money. For this purpose he had recourse to some arbitrary measures, which roused the opposition of the barons. Commissioners were appointed, before whom the barons of the realm were summoned to give an account of the titles by which they held their estates, under the pretext that encroachments had been made on the rights of the crown. Earl De Warrenne appeared before the commissioners in obedience to the summons, and when required by them to produce his title, he drew his ponderous sword, and pointing to it, said, "By this instrument do I hold my lands, and by the same I intend to defend them. Our ancestors coming into this realm with William the Bastard acquired their possessions by their good swords. William did not make a conquest alone or for himself solely; our ancestors were helpers and participators with him."

The fearless earl was no longer urged, for the King was not prepared to dispute the validity of such title deeds, and De Warrenne escaped unscathed from the ordeal. But others were not so fortunate, for in cases wherein title deeds had been lost or destroyed, the King seized upon the manors or estates, and would not release them except on the payment of large sums of money by way of ransom. This Earl de Warrenne became very distinguished in the wars against Scotland, and his name will always be associated with the annals of that country. The particulars of the domestic career of this distinguished member of the family are extremely uncertain. It appears that he had one son, who married and died within the lifetime of his father, leaving issue also one son, who at an early age succeeded to the titles and estates on the decease of his grandfather.

John de Warrenne, the grandson, was the seventh and last earl, a weak, mercenary, and dissolute man, who by his vices degraded the family name and diminished the patrimony. He married twice, but had no issue. He sold his estates and bought them again, and in 1336 he made a grant of them to the reigning King Edward III.; but that sagacious monarch, disgusted with the recklessness that could so readily tamper with the

time-honoured possessions of an illustrious family, returned them on the hands of the earl, with the express stipulation that in the event of his decease, as he had no issue, the property should revert to Richard, son of Edward, Earl of Arundel, and Alice his wife, a sister of this same worthless Earl de Warrenne. By this expedient the King effectually secured those noble domains from further detriment or misappropriation at the caprice of a weak-minded man. This last male scion of the noble house of De Warrenne survived the re-settlement of his estates eleven years, and died June 30th, 1347.

The castle and manor of Acre, and the greater part of the vast possessions of the De Warrennes, now passed to Richard Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel, a nephew of the last De Warrenne, in conformity with the prudent arrangement of the King to that effect. Of this earl no facts of importance are recorded, save that to avoid the recurrence of such an arbitrary transfer of property as disgraced the career of his predecessor, he adopted the precaution of entailing the castle and manor of Acre on his heirs male only. He married Eleanor, daughter of Henry Earl of Lancaster, and by her had one son. He died in 1375.

#### THE SHARNBORNE FAMILY—SHERBOURNE.

This ancient family dated from the time of King Canute, who in 1010 came over the sea to Norfolk, and brought with him Edwin the Dane, to whom he granted lands in Sherbourne, from which place the family was named. A son of this Edwin married a daughter of Albin the Norman, who held lands in the neighbourhood, and from them descended a long line of the Sharnbornes, as appears from a manuscript account of the family.

The Sharnbornes held two manors in Sherbourne 600 years, the name continuing in a succession till the beginning of the eighteenth century. This family of the Sharnbornes was one of the most distinguished families in all England, having produced many great warriors whose names are celebrated in history. Amongst others, Sir Adam de Sharnborne, knighted in the Holy Land in the reign of Richard I.

Sir Andrew de Sharnborne, knighted in the Holy Land in the reign of King John.

Sir Peter de Sharnborne served in the Holy Land in the time of Henry III.

Sir Andrew de Sharnborne was knighted in the Holy Land, 1248, at the holy sepulchre, in presence of many French, Spanish, and German nobility.

Sir Andrew de Sharnborne, his son, was at the battle of Cressy, and at the siege of Calais, and died afterwards at the siege of Rhenes, being killed by a great stone.

Thomas de Sharnborne was chamberlain to the famous Queen Margaret, consort to Henry VI.

Sir Henry de Sharnborne, knighted by Henry VIII., was Provost-Marshal and Vice-Admiral of England, and was killed in a sea fight with the French. His son and heir, Thomas de Sharnborne, was with his father when killed, being then eighteen years of age. He became deaf from the explosion of the great guns in the action.

Francis Sharnborne, Esq., was the last of this family that bore the name of Sharnborne. His daughter and heiress married Sir Augustine Sotherton, of Taverham, near Norwich, in the time of the Commonwealth.

Miles Branthwayte, Esq., married Maria, the only daughter of Thomas Sotherton, Esq., of Taverham, and who was then the last heiress of the Sharnbornes. The son of Miles Branthwayte, of the same name, became a descendant in the right line of this ancient family. Mrs. Branthwayte, who was living in 1780, was the sole heiress of the oldest family in Norfolk, which is now extinct.

#### THE FAMILY OF LE STRANGE, HUNSTANTON.

This family was very ancient in France and originally of the province of Limosin, where is the castle of Le Strange in a parish of the same name. It is most probable that Guy Le Strange, so called in the time of the Conqueror, brought that name with him from France, and did not assume it as being a stranger, but took it as most of the Norman chiefs did, from the lordship or place in France where they lived. Guy Le Strange, an officer under Alan the son of Flaad, had a grant from him of the lordship of Knockyn, in Shropshire; and from this Guy Le Strange descended the ancient family of the Le Stranges, lords of Knockyn, the barons of Blackmere, and the Le Stranges of Hunstanton, where the family have been owners of the land for 650 years. The first account of this family is by Sir William Dugdale, in his "Baronage of England," where he says, "At a great joust or tournament held at Castle Peverel, in the peak of Derbyshire, among other persons of note were Owen Prince of Wales, a son of the King of Scots, two sons of the Duke of Bretagne and the youngest of them, being named Guy, was called Guy Le Strange, from whom the several families of the Le Stranges do descend."

About the end of the eleventh century Roland Le Strange obtained Hunstanton in marriage with Matilda Le Brun, daughter and sole heiress of Ralph Fitz Herluin and Helevisa de Plaiz, who were respectively the children of Herluin and Hugh de Plaiz, the original owners of the soil, and in his direct posterity the manor has remained till the present time.

The more immediate ancestor of the Le Stranges of Hunstanton was Sir Hamon, third son of John fifth Baron Le Strange Knockyn, in Shropshire. This Hamon was infeoffed of Hunstanton by his eldest brother John in 1310. He married Margaret, daughter of Ralph Vernon, and co-heir of Richard Vernon, of Mottram, in Cheshire, and died in 1317.

Hunstanton Hall, the ancient seat of the Le Stranges, was built at different times, and is a fine specimen of domestic architecture, built much in the style of a college. There is a rivulet in front of the hall, and a beautiful park around celebrated for the fineness of the pastures. The family of Le Strange held this manor of old on condition that they should send two soldiers to defend Rising Castle, not far distant.

Hamon Le Strange, son and heir of Sir Hamon, married Catherine, daughter and heir of Lord Camoys. He died in the reign of Richard II., and was buried in Hunstanton Church.

Sir John Le Strange, his son and heir, accompanied John Duke of Lancaster into Spain, which duke, being lord of Smithdon Hundred in Norfolk, granted to him for his services, "that his tenants there should be exempt from serving on juries in his courts of the Duchy of Lancaster in Norfolk." He married Eleanor, daughter and heir of Sir Richard Walkfare, and dying in 1417 was succeeded by his eldest son.

John Le Strange, the fourth lord of Hunstanton, had two brothers:—

1. Christopher, returned in the roll of the gentry of England, 1433.
2. Leonard Le Strange, who had lands in Suffolk and died young. He married Alice, daughter and heir of Nicholas Beaumont, gentleman, and co-heir of John Pike and John Rushbrook, and by her had

Roger Le Strange, Esq., who by his wife Jane Bebe had two sons, viz.:

1. John Le Strange, Esq., of Norwich, returned in the roll twelfth of Henry VI. He died without issue, and was buried in St. Mary's Chapel, Field College, Norwich. Of this college no remains now exist.

2. Sir Henry Le Strange, Knt., who succeeded his brother at the age of thirty, and married Katherine, daughter of Roger Druery, of Halsted, in Essex. He died, seized of manors in Hunstanton, Holme, Ringstead, Heacham, and Sedgford, in the Hundred of Smithdon, in Norfolk. He was buried in the chancel of the church at Hunstanton. He left three sons and one daughter—Sir Roger, Sir Robert, John, and Ann.

Sir Roger Le Strange, the eldest son, was esquire of the body to Henry VII., and High Sheriff of Norfolk of the eleventh of that reign, 1497. He married Amy, daughter of Sir Henry Heydon, by whom he left no issue alive, and died on October 27th, 1506, and was buried in the church at Hunstanton.

Sir Robert Le Strange, who succeeded his brother, was the ninth lord of Hunstanton, and married Ann, the daughter and co-heir of Thomas,

son of Sir Thomas Le Strange, of Wellisburne, in Warwickshire, who was lord-deputy of Ireland in 1429. Sir Robert died in 1511, leaving an only son and three daughters.

Sir Thomas Le Strange, Knt., the tenth lord of Hunstanton, born in 1497, was High Sheriff of Norfolk in 1532, and married Ann, daughter of Lord Vaux. He died in the thirty-sixth Henry VIII., leaving sixteen children, one of whom, Roger Le Strange, was highly distinguished for his military services for the house of Austria against the Turks.

Sir Nicholas Le Strange, Knt., aged thirty, the eleventh lord of Hunstanton, was knighted in Ireland, was High Sheriff of Norfolk in 1548, Knight of the Shire, and died February 20th, 1579. By his first wife Eleanor, daughter of Sir William Fitz Williams, he had three sons and a daughter.

Sir Hamon Le Strange, Knt., the twelfth lord of Hunstanton, was High Sheriff of Norfolk in 1573, and married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Sir Hugh Hastings, of Elsing, by whom he had five sons and four daughters. He enjoyed his inheritance but one year, and died October 7th, 1580, leaving his eldest son,

Thomas Le Strange, who died in 1590, aged eighteen years, leaving no issue.

Sir Nicholas Le Strange, Knt., the fourteenth lord of Hunstanton, was knighted in Ireland in 1586, and was married to Mary, daughter of Sir Robert Bell, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer. He died December 22nd, 1592, and was buried in Nottinghamshire. He was succeeded by

Sir Hamon Le Strange, Knt., the fifteenth lord of Hunstanton, who married Alice, daughter and co-heir of Richard Stubb, of Sedgford, and had three sons. He was High Sheriff of Norfolk in 1609, and died, aged seventy-one, in June, 1654. He was a learned man, and a very active magistrate, esteemed for his benevolent disposition.

Sir Hamon Le Strange was succeeded by his eldest son,

Sir Nicholas Le Strange, Bart. He was created baronet on June 1st, 1629, in the fifth year of Charles I., and married Ann, daughter of Sir Edward Lewkner, of Denham, in Suffolk, by whom he had several children, who married into honourable families. His eldest son dying February 15th, 1655, before his father, who died July 24th, 1656, was succeeded by

Sir Nicholas Le Strange, Bart., the sixteenth lord of Hunstanton. His first wife was Mary, daughter of John Coke, of Holkham, by whom he had a son and daughter, who died young. His second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Justinian Isham, Bart., of Lamport, in Northamptonshire, by whom he had a son and two daughters. He died in 1669, and was succeeded by his only son and heir,

Sir Nicholas Le Strange, Bart., who married Ann, daughter of Sir Thomas Wodehouse, Bart., of Kimberley. He died December 18th, 1724, leaving three sons and two daughters.

1. Hamon Le Strange, who died unmarried in Italy.
2. Sir Thomas Le Strange, Bart., who married Ann, daughter of Sir Christopher Culthorpe, but died without issue.

3. Sir Henry Le Strange, Bart., the eighteenth and last lord of Hunstanton of that name. He married Mary, daughter of Roger North, Esq., of Rougham, and died September 9th, 1760, also without issue.

4. Armine Le Strange, sister to Sir Henry, married Nicholas Styleman, Esq., of Snettisham, and had two sons.

1. Nicholas Styleman, Esq., of Snettisham. He married Catherine, daughter of Henry Holt Henley, Esq., of Leigh, in Somersetshire, by whom he had no issue.

2. The Rev. Armine Styleman, of Ringstead, in Norfolk, who married Ann, daughter of James Blakeway, Esq., of the Royal Navy, and had sons and daughters.

5. Lucy Le Strange, sister to Sir Henry, married Sir Jacob Astley, Bart., of Melton Constable, and had

1. Isabella, who died young.
2. Blanche, married to Edward Pratt, Esq., of Riston, in Norfolk, who had a son and two daughters.

3. Sir Edward Astley, Bart., of Melton Constable, knight of the shire in 1780 for Norfolk. He married first Rhoda, daughter of Francis Blake Delaval, Esq., of Seaton Delaval, in Northumberland. By her he had two sons, Jacob and Francis. He married second Ann, daughter of — Milles, Esq., of Kent, and by her had several sons.

4. The Rev. John Astley, of Thornage, in the Hundred of Holt, who married Catherine, daughter of — Bell, Esq., of Watlington, in the Hundred of Clackclose, and sister to Henry Bell, Esq., of the same place.

#### THE JERNEGAN FAMILY AT SOMERLEYTON.

The ancestor of this ancient family is said to have come over the sea from Denmark to England in the reign of Canute, but there is no authentic record till after the conquest. The first that we meet with on record of this family was named Hugh, without any addition, whose son was named Jernegan, and was always called Jernegan Fitz Hugh, or the son of Hugh. He died in 1182, and his son was called Hugh, or Hubert, son of Jernegan, who gave a large sum of money to Henry II., and paid it into the treasury in 1182. He first took the surname of Jernegan, and married Maud, daughter and co-heiress of Thorpine de Watheby, of Westmoreland. He died in 1203, and the King granted the

wardship of all his large possessions and the marriages of his wife and children to Robert de Vetre Ponte, or Vepount, so that he caused them to be married without any disparagement to their fortunes.

Sir Hubert Jernegan, of Horham, in Suffolk, Knt., his son, succeeded, who had been a rebel against King John, but on the accession of Henry III. to the crown, submitted himself and obtained his pardon, but he had not recovered all his estates in 1239. He died in 1239, and was succeeded by Sir William Jernegan, his son and heir, who married Julian, daughter and co-heiress of Gimmingham, of Burnham; and Hugh de Polstead married Hawise, the other co-heiress, and levied a fine of all the Gimmingham estate in Barnham in 1209. He died young and without issue, and was succeeded by Sir Hugh Jernegan, of Stonham, — Jernegan, Knt., his youngest brother Godfrey, and brother being dead, who, in 1243, came to an agreement with his mother Margery, and settled on her in lieu of the dower of Sir Hubert, her late husband, during her life, the capital messuage of the manor of Holkham, with the park, &c., and in consideration of this settlement Margery released all her right in dower in all his other estates in Norfolk and Suffolk. In 1249 he had lands in Hillington and Congham, in Freebridge Hundred, and lived to be very old, for in 1269 he held of Roger Fitz Osborn divers lands in Stovene and Bugges, for which he did homage. He married a second wife, Ellen, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas de Ingoldisthorpe, Knt., who survived him. After the death of his mother he settled Sir Walter Jernegan, his son, in the manor of Horham, upon his marriage with Isabel, daughter and at length co-heiress of Sir Peter Fitz Osbert, or Osborn, of Somerleyton, in Suffolk, who it seems died before him, leaving Sir Peter Jernegan his son, who became heir to his father and grandfather, and also co-heiress to the Fitz Osbert's estate in right of his mother, and on a division made with John Norn, Somerleyton was settled on Sir Peter Jernegan, who came there, making it the seat of the family, and it continued so for many generations.

Sir John Jernegan built the old hall at Somerleyton, in Suffolk, and it was the residence of this ancient family for a long series of years. It was surrounded by a park very tastefully planted. At one end it was adorned by a fine grove of lime trees, with avenues like a grand cathedral, and decorated with other trees in great variety. The situation of the hall fully justified the enthusiastic expression of Fuller, who visiting it, exclaimed, "That it well deserves the name of Somerley, because it was always summer there, the walks and gardens being planted with perpetual evergreens."

The old hall was a brick building, having a high roof, with dormers, stone pilasters, and a cornice. The coigns and dressings of the windows

were of stone, the centre was very bold and imposing, and the extremities had carved pediments, terminating in scrolls of considerable magnitude. The windows in the great room were gorgeously decorated with heraldic figures and arms, the tinted and glowing blazonry of which carried the thoughts of the spectator back to the age of chivalry. The old hall is now quite covered by the new structure.

THE MORTIMER FAMILY, ATTLEBOROUGH.

The family of the Mortimers came into England in the reign of William I., if not before, and settled in the ancient town of Attleborough, in Norfolk, where they had a good estate. The first of the family was Sir William de Mortimer, of Attleborough, Knt., whose effigy, riding full speed on horseback, with his drawn sword in one hand and his shield in the other, was appendant to an original deed of his in Cotton library. The next of the family that we find was Sir Robert Mortimer, Knight, who lived in the reign of Henry II. He was succeeded by William, his son and heir, who in the year 1194 was forced to give sureties to Richard I. because he presumed to hold a tournament without royal license. A tournament was an exercise of armed knights encountering each other with spears or lances, a favourite diversion in those days.

In 1218 Sir William de Mortimer held one knight's fee at Barnham Broom, Little Ellingham, Tofts, and Attleborough; half a fee at Sanford and Buckenham Parva, and another half in Scoulton, of the Earl of Warren. In 1250 he had a charter for free warren in his manors of Attleborough. He was succeeded by his son and heir, Sir Robert de Mortimer, who lived in the year 1263, whom we shall notice under that date, and his successors also who lived at subsequent periods.

Sir Robert de Mortimer lived at Attleborough, Norfolk, in 1263, when the barons rose against Henry III., among whom Sir Henry Hastings, who was very active against the King, came and besieged the castle of Buckenham, because Sir Robert Tatteshale, the second of that name, who was owner of it, held it, declaring openly for the King, and great part of the neighbouring gentry sent men and arms to him in order to enable him to endure the siege. Among others, Sir Robert de Mortimer sent a servant of his, called Leonine, to the castle during the siege with some private information to the besieged (as it would seem), for the siege being raised upon it, Sir Henry went to Sir Robert's manors in Norfolk, burnt the houses, and wasted the flocks upon them. Whether Sir Robert himself was killed does not appear, but he died that very year. His son and heir, Sir William de Mortimer, was in the custody of the Earl Warrenne, who now was on the King's side, so that he and his goods were safe and protected by the castle at Buckenham, Norfolk. Sir William

being always attached, as well as his father, to the King's side, was summoned by the King to attend his service among his judges and council. In 1285 he had the King's letters of protection, during his absence beyond sea about the King's business, and during the same year had liberty of free warren, assize of bread and ale, view of frankpledge and waif allowed him, in his manor of Attleborough. In 1293, King Edward going to Gascoigne, he had command to fit himself with horse and arms (as did the chief men in England at that time), and to attend the King at Portsmouth to assist him against the French. He died at Paris, November 12th, 1297. In 1297, Constantine de Mortimer was son and heir of Sir William de Mortimer, of Attleborough, but he being then only sixteen years old, the King seized him as his ward, but in 1298, John Earl Warrenne sued the King for his wardship, which belonged to him in right of the Manor of Attleborough, which was held of him. In 1307 he was one of the great men in the retinue of John de Warrenne, Earl of Surrey, who was then with the King in France at the interview and marriage with Isabel, daughter of Phillip, King of France. He died in November, 1329.

In 1329 Sir Constantine Mortimer succeeded his father, and in 1335 was steward of the household to Eleanor, Countess of Gueldres, the King's sister, and had an allowance of £22 for the charges of his men and horses in that service. In 1337 he had a charter for free warren on all his lordships and lands. In 1341 he was summoned to Parliament among the barons, but never after. In the same year he went with the King's expedition to France. He died in 1354, leaving no issue.

Sir Robert de Mortimer, his brother, succeeded him, and founded the College or Chantry of the Holy Cross at Attleborough, where he was buried in 1387. He had two sons, Sir Thomas Mortimer, his eldest, who died before him beyond sea, leaving issue by Mary his wife, who died May 2nd, 1406.

Constantine Mortimer, his younger son, was possessed of the manors of Great Ellingham, Barnham, Bekerston, and Carston, in Norfolk, and had free warren allowed him to them all in 1405.

#### THE FAMILY OF THE DE GREYS, OF MERTON.

At the Conquest, William I. gave the lordship of Merton to Ralph Baynard, one of his Norman warriors. William Baynard, who succeeded, took part with other conspirators against Henry I., and lost his barony of Baynard's Castle, which was given by the King to Robert, a younger son of Richard Fitz Gilbert, from which Robert the family of the Fitz Walters descended, of which family the manors of Merton and Bunwell were held as of Baynard's Castle, the head of the barony, by a younger branch of

the Baynard family, to which these manors were given, and they continued in that branch till Isabel, a co-heiress of it, carried them to Sir Thomas Grey, her husband.

The family of the De Greys, of Merton, Norfolk, are all descended from Anschitel de Grey, a Norman who came over with the Conqueror, being surnamed from the place of his residence, and had large possessions of that prince's gift. His son Richard de Grey was a benefactor to Eynesham Abbey, and was succeeded by John de Grey, his son and heir, whose second brother, John de Grey, was Bishop of Norwich, and his third brother, Henry de Grey, was in great favour with Richard I., as proved by the grant that prince made him of the manor of Tunse, in Essex, in 1194. That he was in the good graces of his successor, King John, is evident not only from the confirmation of his predecessor's grant, but from his public charter of special privilege to have the hare and fox in any lands belonging to the Crown, excepting the King's own demesne parks. He was in favour with Henry III., who gave him Grimston Manor, in Nottinghamshire, to support him in the King's service, the said manor being part of the possessions of Robert Bardolph, whose sister Isolda he married, and in 1224 had the third part of all his estate in his wife's right. Henry de Grey aforesaid left four sons : first, Richard, whose principal seat was at Codnovre, in Derbyshire ; the second, John, who was sometime a justice of Chester ; the third, William de Grey, of Sundford, in Nottinghamshire ; the fourth, Robert de Grey, of Rotherfield, whose descendants were Parliamentary barons.

Sir Thomas de Grey, of Cornerth, in Suffolk, son and heir of John de Grey, of Greys Hall, in Cavendish, was married before 1306 to Alice, daughter and sole heiress of Sir Richard de Cornerth, after which match, perceiving the paternal arms of Grey to be borne by so many families, he totally omitted them and assumed those of Cornerth. His descendants live at Merton till this day, and bear the same arms.

Thomas de Grey, Esq., lord of Merton, was elected member for Thetford in 1705 and again in 1708. After that time he worthily served in Parliament for the County of Norfolk, and was a justice of the peace. On June 7th, 1721, an Act was passed for discharging several estates in Norfolk and Suffolk from the uses contained in the marriage settlement of Thomas de Grey, Esq., and for settling other estates to the said uses. The said Thomas left issue by Elizabeth, daughter of William Windham, Esq., of Felbrigg, first, Thomas de Grey, who succeeded him ; second, Sir William de Grey, Knight ; third, Elizabeth, married to the Rev. Edward Chamberlain, of Great Cressingham. Thomas de Grey, Esq., the next lord, was educated at Christ College, Cambridge, and was afterwards in the office of the Secretary of State. In the war when the Norfolk Militia

was embodied, he served as captain in the Western battalion, and in the year 1759, when the kingdom was threatened with an invasion, he marched with that corps to Portsmouth, and afterwards became Colonel. On the decease of Viscount Townshend he was elected a member of Parliament for Norfolk, being considered of equal abilities to any other gentleman in the county. Sir William de Grey was born in 1719, and after having been appointed successively Solicitor-General, Attorney-General, and Lord Chief-Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, was created Baron Walsingham, of Walsingham, October 17th, 1780. The late Right Hon. Thomas de Grey, fifth Lord Walsingham, was born in 1804, and succeeded his father in 1839. He was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he graduated M.A. in 1824, and LL.D. in 1842. He died in 1871.

#### THE REEDHAMS, OF REEDHAM.

Richard de Reedham took the name from the place, as he held the lordship there in 1086, at the time of the grand survey. He was the father of Asketel de Reedham, who lived in 1125, as testified by the register of Holm Abbey. Osbern de Reedham seems to have been his son, and was lord of Reedham about the year 1150. William de Reedham conveyed by fine in the fifty-second of Henry III. 160 acres of marsh in Reedham to Langley Abbey in Norfolk. Sir William de Reedham granted in the tenth of Edward I. to the Abbot of Holm all his right of fishery from Weybridge to the abbey.

Sir William de Reedham, the grandson of the aforesaid knight, married Margaret, daughter of Sir Robert Caston by Joan his wife, daughter and heiress of Richard Barry, Esq., lord of Rockland Tofts, by whom he had a daughter and heir, Margaret, who married Thomas Berney, Esq., of Witchingham. She carried the estate into the Berney family. They took their name from the village of Berney, in the Hundred of North Greenhoe, in Norfolk.

In the reign of Henry I., the family of De Reedham possessed the Manor of Stokesby, in Norfolk; from them it passed to the Berneys, of whom Thomas Berney, second son of John Berney, of Witchingham, married Margery, daughter and heiress of William de Reedham. John, the son of Thomas, presented to the living in 1356, and in this family the presentation continued for many generations, Richard Berney, of Worstead being rector in 1748. The manor passed by marriage to the Cleres, of Ormesby, and the marriage of Susan Clere, daughter of Thomas Clere, of Stokesby, with a Wyndham, it came to a branch of that family who had property at Mileham. Le Neve in a MS. says Sir Henry Wyndham, of Mileham, was knighted on July 23rd, 1603, and was buried at Great Walsingham. Thomas Wyndham, his son, married the

above Susan Clere, and was the first of the family resident at Stokesby. Thomas Wyndham of that place succeeded him, and he had a son Charles who died there, and was buried in the church, February 6th, 1668, and his son, another Charles, seems to have had no male issue, and the estate on his death passed to his brother, Clere Wyndham, the second son. About 1710 he sold the property to George England, Esq., Mayor of Yarmouth, and went to Holland, where he died in 1712.

THE FAMILY OF DE VAUX, NORFOLK.

Soon after the Conquest the family of Vallibus of Vaux were enfeoffed of the lordship of Holt, in Norfolk. Robert de Vaux held it in the fifth of King Stephen, and then gave £53 6s. 8d. livery for lands of his wife's inheritance. It continued in the Vaux family till the death of Sir John de Vaux in 1288, who was a parliamentary baron, and held it of the Earl of Albemarle. Margaret de Riparigs, Countess of Devon, recovered her dower in seven knights' fees in Holt, Cley, &c., held by Baldwin, the late earl, her husband, and the freemen's tenures that Giffard held were united to the capital manor afterwards.

William de Vaux, son of Robert de Vaux, held a manor at Watton, and left it to John de Vaux, his third son, who obtained a charter for a weekly market to be held in this manor every Friday. But in 1204 there was a writ brought to enquire whether it was not prejudicial to the market of Saham, and it being found so, the charter was recalled. Before the expiration of this year, however, Oliver de Vaux, having the manor conveyed to him by his brother, obtained from the King a new charter, in which the market was granted to be held every Wednesday, as it is to the present time.

Afterwards finding the liberties of the people infringed, he became one of those barons who met together at Stamford, and sent the King word to Oxford that if he did not restore their ancient liberties to the people, they designed to possess themselves of all his lands and castles, for which the King seized his lordships in Norfolk, but afterwards restored them on his submission. John, his second son, granted a messuage to Richard de Wator. This was the rise of Watton's free tenement, which was afterwards joined to the manor of Curson.

This John de Vaux, or Vallibus, was one of those barons who stood against Henry III. in defence of their liberties; but he soon left them, and ever after adhered firmly to the King, who, having proved his fidelity, immediately after his victory at Evesham, made him Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk, and in 1266 governor of the castle at Norwich. In 1282, on the marriage of his daughter Maud to William de Roos, he settled the manor of Watton on them and their heirs. On the death of this John

de Vaux (sixteenth of Edward I.) his whole estate was divided between his two co-heiresses, Petronell and Maud, who both married, and carried the estates into their families.

#### THE FAMILY OF THE BOZUNS, WHISSONSETT.

The Bozuns were lords of Whissonsett, Ovington, and Yelverton, in Norfolk, during the Norman period. The first of this family that we meet with in ancient records is Herbert or Hubert Bozun, who lived in the reign of King Stephen, and granted eight acres of land to the monks of Castleacre. His son Roger Bozun was living in 1202, and he purchased lands in Ovington, Norfolk. In 1227, his son Peter Bozun had the advowson of the church of Ovington. This Peter, in 1233, was, with William Rustain, a collector in Norfolk and Suffolk of the aid granted to Henry III. for marrying his sister to the Emperor.

About 1270, an agreement was made between Peter Bozun, lord of Whissonsett, and Sir Thomas Burt, lord of Horningtoft, about the extent of their commons, which was settled by arbitration. The Bozuns continued lords of Whissonsett for a long time, and John Bozun, in the thirty-third of Edward III., was in the retinue of John de Montague, and had the King's letters of protection while travelling in foreign parts. Richard Bozun was lord in the fifth of Henry V., and dying in 1430 was buried in the chancel of the church at Whissonsett. The descendants remained in quiet possession of the estate till 1657, when it was sold to Catherine Calthorpe, widow of James Calthorpe, of East Barsham.

#### THE FAMILY OF ST. OMER.

The family of St. Omer at Outwell in Norfolk is on the roll of those persons of note and eminence who came over from Normandy with William I. Hugh de St. Omer is mentioned as a baron of the realm by Matthew Paris, and no doubt was seated at Outwell soon after the Conquest. The first lord of the manor that we meet with on record is Sir Thomas de St. Omer, Knt., in an old deed in the reign of Henry III. In a bag of deeds of the county of Norfolk, it is mentioned that a difference existed between the Prior of Lewis and Sir Thomas, Knight of St. Omer, and other persons about the right of common and it was urged that the prior should have a right of common for all his own cattle belonging to the manor of West Walton, freely.

#### THE FAMILY OF TALBOT.

The family of Talbot gave their name to a manor at Fincham in Clackclose. Soon after the Conquest they were enfeoffed of the manor by the Earl Warrenne. William Talbot gave it with the advowson to the priory

of Castleacre, founded by Earl de Warrenne, and it was confirmed by John, Bishop of Norwich, in the reign of Henry II., ordaining that the monks should receive a mark of silver yearly. Jeffrey Talbot, by deed, without date, gave to the said priory a croft and seven acres of land. In the reign of Henry III., when an aid was granted to that King, Sir Sampson Talbot and Adam Talbot held two knights' fees at Fincham of the Earl de Warrenne.

#### THE FAMILY OF THE BACONS.

Grunbold was the founder of the family of the Bacons at Baconsthorpe, in Norfolk. He is said to have been a Norman related to William, Earl de Warrenne, and came with him into England at the conquest. He had three sons, the second of whom, Reynold or Ranulf, was lord of Baconsthorpe, and took the surname of Bacon.

Roger his grandson, succeeding his eldest brother Thomas, who died without issue, was in arms with the barons against King John, and had his estates seized, but was restored to favour by Henry III., and had his lands again in 1216.

His son, Robert Bacon, or Bacon de Baconsthorpe, inherited the estate, and in 1227 separated the manors and settled the manor of Woodhall upon his brother Roger de Baconsthorpe *alias* de Hingham and his heirs. From him descended the Bacons of Baconsthorpe, who became the lords of the place about the beginning of the twelfth century. We find little more recorded of this ancient family than that they continued there 480 years, that they were married and given in marriage, that they had sons and daughters, that they bought and sold, lived well, and died happy.

## CHAPTER XI.

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### EASTERN ENGLAND IN THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY.

**T**HE Plantagenet Kings, Henry II., Richard I., and John, had been engaged in many wars in the twelfth century which were continued by their successors in the thirteenth century. In the latter period we may observe the hold of Norman tyranny relaxed and some slight manifestations of the spirit of liberty. We see our rude ancestors shake off the yoke of bondage, the commencement of the emancipation of the serfs and the rise of the yeomanry of England.

#### REIGN OF KING JOHN, 1199 to 1216.

John, who was born at Oxford in 1166, was the youngest son of Henry II. He was surnamed Lackland, because, unlike his brothers, he held no fiefs before his father's death. He married first Hadwissa, heiress of the earldom of Gloucester, whom he divorced shortly after his accession on the plea of consanguinity; second, Isabella, daughter of the Count of Angoulême and already betrothed to the Count De la Marche, whom she married after the King's death.

King John, soon after he was crowned in May, 1199, went to Normandy, which the French King had invested, but the citizens of Norwich found means to apply to him for a confirmation of their liberties, and he granted their request on their promising to pay 300 marks, which they did next year. The charter is word for word the same as that of Richard I., only in the style the King had the new additional title of Lord of Ireland. The charter is still extant in the Guildhall, Norwich, with the King's seal in green wax appended, and it bears date Caen in Normandy, Anno Domini 1199.

In 1199 King John granted the first charter to the town of Ipswich, conferring on the inhabitants important privileges, some of which strikingly illustrate the oppressions under which the mass of the people

groaned in those ages of misrule. By this charter, the King granted to the burgesses the borough of Ipswich, with all its appurtenances, liberties, &c., to be held of him and his heirs, by the payment of the usual farm of £35 and 100 shillings more at the Exchequer. He exempted them from the payment of all taxes under the denominations of tholl, lastage, stallage, passage, portage, and all other customs throughout his land and seaports. The other privileges granted to the people of Ipswich by this charter were as follow : That they should have a merchants' guild and house of their own ; that no person should be quartered upon them without their consent, or take anything from them by force ; that they might hold their lands and recover their just dues from whomsoever they were owing ; that none of them should be fined or amerced but according to the laws of the free borough ; and that they might choose two bailiffs and four coroners out of the principal men of the town.

Ipswich was not the scene of any of the violent commotions which arose from the quarrels between King John and his barons ; but the inhabitants quietly contributed to the tax which he levied in the seventh year of his reign. In 1215, the duty levied on woad (used in dyeing) amounted in Suffolk to £50, in Yorkshire to £96. Thus it appears that Ipswich enjoyed a share of the woollen manufactures which the Flemings had introduced, and which were fostered by royal charters.

King John, in the first year of his reign, in consideration of 120 marks, granted to the townsmen of Cambridge the same privileges as the King's free and demesne burgesses. In the year following he granted them a mercatorial guild, with extensive privileges ; and in 1207 the liberty of being governed by a provost to be chosen annually by themselves. In 1208, Fulk, son of Theobald, gave King John 120 marks and three palfreys for the farms of the castles of Cambridge and Huntingdon, and the custody of Cambridge Castle.

King John granted charters to the towns of Yarmouth, Lynn, Bury St. Edmund's, and Ipswich, in consideration of contributions from those towns and their supposed loyalty. Yarmouth was created a free borough, and many liberties and immunities were invested in the burgesses, who were to hold the town in fee farm for ever, paying to the King and his heirs an annual rent of £55, which they were to raise by the customs arising out of the port, and not by any goods sold on shore in their market, as appears from the original Latin text of the charter.

By the charter of King John, it is observable that Yarmouth was still to be governed by a provost, and so probably continued till the reign of Henry III., in whose fifty-sixth year we find the burgesses laid before that King, under their common seal, a set of articles or bye laws by which they solicited to be governed, and which he confirmed by his letters patent

dated October 26th in that year. By these articles they were to elect for their magistrates four wise men of the town, or in other words four bailiffs, as appears by the sixth article. Yarmouth was thus brought into notice, created a free burgh, and invested with certain privileges, on payment to the King and his heirs of an annual fee farm or rent of £55 for ever. This era is by far the most important in the annals of the town, for from this time its importance was derived and its interests advanced. The town became very popular, made considerable progress in commerce, and according to custom the inhabitants formed themselves into guilds or associations for the protection of trade, or rather to maintain some monopoly.

After the charter granted by King John, Yarmouth began to rear its head, and acquired a more respectable aspect. The burgesses were invested with so many privileges, that their trade and commerce began to flourish and assumed an importance which excited the jealousy of their neighbours in Gorleston and Southtown. This led to various contests concerning the rights and privileges of the town, but the burgesses were ultimately successful. Little Yarmouth, consisting then of West town and North town, must have contained many inhabitants, and these joined to the people of Gorleston, equally envious of the good fortune of Great Yarmouth, and apprehensive of its future power, soon proved themselves to be no less formidable rivals than implacable enemies, and accordingly omitted no opportunity of attacking their privileges and endeavouring to turn some of their rights to their own account.

John de Grey became Bishop of Norwich in 1200. He was secretary and chaplain to King John, over whom he had great influence, of which he made good use for the benefit of the Church. He lent large sums of money to the King, receiving in pledge the royal regalia. He was Lord Chief Justice of England, and for some time Lord Deputy of Ireland. In 1205 he was made Archbishop of Canterbury, which not suiting the designs of the Pope, he appointed Stephen Langton, which gave rise to the subsequent troubles. This prelate was one of the Keepers of the Seal; he went on an embassy to Rome, and died on his way home at St. John de Angelo, near Poitiers, October 18th, 1214, whence his body was brought and interred in Norwich Cathedral.

According to Matthew Paris, "On St. Edmund's day, November 20th, 1214, the earls and barons of England met at St. Edmund's Bury. Archbishop Langton, who was the guiding spirit of the assembly, came among them. The Primate of All England stood at the high end of the altar, and thither advanced each peer according to seniority, and laying his hand on the altar, swore solemnly that if the King would not consent to acknowledge the rights which they claimed, they would withdraw their

fealty and make war upon him, till by a charter under his own seal he should confirm their just demands. And at length," says the old chronicler, "it was agreed that, after the nativity of our Lord, they should come to the King in a body, to desire a confirmation of the liberties before mentioned, and that in the meantime they were to provide themselves with horses and arms, in the like manner, that if the King should perchance break through that which he had specially sworn (which they well believed), and recoil by reason of his duplicity, they would instantly by capturing his castles compel him to give them satisfaction."

The King's misgovernment and licentious conduct had so alienated the goodwill of the nobility, that they were anxious to obtain some pledge that they should not be subjected to further grievances, and the low condition to which the King's affairs had sunk, furnished a convenient opportunity for the barons to demand a redress of their grievances. The new archbishop, Stephen Langton, led the movement. At a meeting of the barons, held at Bury St. Edmund's on November 20th, 1214, professedly for religious duties, he placed before them the charter of Henry I., which contained certain laws and immunities, granted to the church as well as to the nobles, and it was unanimously agreed that after Christmas they should go to the King and demand the confirmation of the liberties which they required; and that meanwhile they should collect arms so as to compel his assent in case of refusal. When they presented their petition, he solicited a delay, promising to give a satisfactory answer after Easter, by which time nearly all the nobility joined the confederation. They met at Stamford at the time appointed, and at the King's request laid before him their demands at Oxford, on hearing which he said they were vain or visionary, that they might as well have asked for his kingdom, and that he would never grant such liberties as would make him their slave. The barons then adopted such measures as soon compelled the King to sign Magna Charta, at Runnymede, on June 19th, 1215. It soon became manifest, however, that he was waiting for an opportunity for revenge on his triumphant barons; and he was assisted in his difficulties by the Pope, who absolved him from the oaths he had taken, on the ground that all concessions made without the sanction of the lord paramount were void. He began to collect mercenaries from the continent, and to provision and garrison his castles. He advanced to St. Alban's, and dividing his army into two parts, gave the command of one to the Earl of Salisbury, who was ordered to devastate Middlesex, Essex, and the adjoining counties, while he himself advanced to Nottingham, burning on his march the residences of the barons and plundering their estates.

In 1215 King John appeared in arms before Framlingham Castle against Roger Bigod, who with other powerful barons were confederated against

their sovereign elsewhere, when not being able at the moment to concentrate their forces, the castle if not then besieged, those who garrisoned it had to show a flag of truce (if they had one) and to capitulate on the best terms they could obtain. It was surrendered at all events into the hands of the King, as appears by an entry in the close rolls. The confederated barons, being driven to extremities, resorted to the perilous expedient of offering the kingdom to Lewis, son of the King of France, who notwithstanding the prohibition of the papal legates, accepted the promised crown and landed in England on May 21st, 1216. John retired to the west, and all the counties in the neighbourhood of London submitted to his rival, with the exception of the castles of Dover and Windsor. While these castles were being besieged, John advanced northward and reduced Lincoln; thence he proceeded southward through Spalding to Lynn, ravaging the country in his progress.

During the turbulent reign of John, in 1215, Salier de Quincy having collected an army of foreigners, laid siege to Colchester in Essex, but on the approach of the barons, who were advancing from London to its relief, he drew off his forces, and retired to Bury St. Edmund's. He afterwards got possession of Colchester, and having plundered it, he left a garrison in the castle, which having been invested by the King, was compelled to surrender. It was subsequently besieged and taken by the troops of Prince Lewis of France, whom the barons had invited into England to their assistance, and who hoisted the banner of France upon its walls, but he was soon after expelled by the barons.

In 1215 Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, joined the rebellious barons, and was one of the most active in compelling the weak King to sign that great bulwark of British liberty, Magna Charta, which was afterwards frequently confirmed. He was expelled by the King from Norwich Castle, and the Earl of Pembroke and John Fitz Robert were appointed Constables of the Castle of Norwich and other places. During these intestine wars, Lewis the Dauphin of France, who had obtained a grant of the kingdom from the Pope, brought over an army, ravaged Norfolk and Suffolk, took Norwich Castle, and plundered the citizens in 1216.

In the year 1216, the war between King John and his barons being at its greatest height, the King appointed Falcasius de Brent Governor of Cambridge Castle. The Isle of Ely was now again doomed to desolation. Walter Bunck, with a party of Brabanters, entered the island, opposite a place called Herebie, and plundered the monasteries, carrying away the monks, and extorting great sums for their release. Soon after the Earl of Salisbury, Falcasius de Brent, and Savory de Mullo Leone, entered the island at Stuntney Bridge, spread devastation as they went, and robbed the churches of what had been spared by Bunck and his party. They entered

Ely Cathedral with drawn swords, threatening to burn it to the ground, a fate which, by the payment of 209 marks, the prior with some difficulty averted. Many persons of all ranks were taken prisoners, but most of the richer residents made their escape over the ice, or either concealed themselves in the neighbourhood of London.

About this time, the barons who were in London went with some cavalry into Cambridgeshire, laid waste the whole country, took the castle at Cambridge, and carried away prisoners twenty of the King's servants, whom they found there. The King shortly afterwards quitted Winchester with the intention of wreaking his vengeance on the estates of some of the rebellious barons, and for this purpose he marched into Cambridgeshire, where he did "hurt enough." From thence he passed into Norfolk and Suffolk, which counties he ravaged.

King John, after punishing the revolted barons of Norfolk, assembled his forces at Lynn, and, during his stay, on the petition of John de Grey, Bishop of Norwich, granted the town a charter to be a free borough for ever, and the burgesses to choose themselves a provost on condition that he should be subject to the bishop and take an oath early to that end, at the bishop's palace at Gaywood, whence he was called the bishop's man. At the same time the King presented to the Corporation a large elegant drinking cup and cover weighing seventy-three ounces, and holding a full pint of wine. It has been well-preserved and it is used upon all public occasions and entertainments with some uncommon ceremonies, at drinking the health of the King or Queen; and whoever goes to visit the Mayor drinks sack out of this cup. The King also gave them a sword from his own side, and it is said the weapon having a silver mounting to be carried before the Mayor, but Bishop Gibson asserts that the sword was really the gift of Henry VIII., when he granted the town certain privileges.

Leaving Lynn, King John turned his face towards the north, and marched to Wisbech, from whence he proceeded to a place called the Cross Keys on the northern side of the Wash, which he resolved to cross by the sands. At low water this estuary is passable, but it is subject to sudden risings of the tide. John and his army had nearly reached the opposite shore called the Fossdyke, when the returning tide began to roar. Pressing on in haste and terror he escaped the tide, but on looking back he beheld all his carriages, with all his money, lost in the waters. The surge broke furiously over the carriages, and they soon disappeared; horses and men were swallowed up by the impetuous ascent of the tide. In a mournful silence, broken only by curses, the King travelled on to the Cistercian Abbey of Swinestrand, where he rested for the night. He went on to the Castle of Slenford, where he rested another night.

Thence he proceeded to the castle at Newark, where he died on October 18th, 1216, aged forty-nine, and in the seventeenth of his wretched reign.

King John, in his first year, granted to the abbot and convent of West Dereham, in Norfolk, a weekly market on Wednesday, and an annual fair for four days—viz., on St. Matthew and the three following days, with toll stallage, and all liberties belonging to a market or fair, dated at Westminster June 10. King John, by his charter dated at Rouen in France on September 7th, same year, at the request of the founder of West Dereham Abbey, confirmed to this abbey all their lands, rents, services, and advowsons, which had been given by the founder of his own fee. Hubert Walter, the founder, being afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, all his successors in the see of Canterbury had the title from him, and in times of necessity were applied to as founders or patrons.

In the reign of King John, Jeffrey Fitz Piers was created Earl of Essex, and held many great lordships in Norfolk. He was a person of great power and authority in that age, and Chief Justice of England. He founded the priory of Shouldham, Hundred of Clackclose, in Norfolk, and, dying on October 2nd, 1212, he was buried in the priory, where on the foundation of it he laid the body of his wife, who died in childbed. His character in history is worthy of his high station. His death was said to be the general loss of the whole nation, he being a firm pillar thereof, generous and skilful in the laws, and allied to all the great men of England either by blood or friendship, so that King John feared him above all mortals, for it was he that held the reins of government, and after his death the realm was like a ship tossed in a tempest without a pilot.

#### REIGN OF HENRY III., 1216 to 1272.

Henry III. was the eldest son of King John by Isabel his third wife, and was born at Winchester, October 1st, 1206. On the death of John, being elected by the barons in opposition to Prince Lewis of France, he was crowned at Gloucester, by Josceline and Peter, bishops of Bath and Winchester, on October 28th, 1216, so that the young King was only ten years of age. He married Eleanor (daughter of Berenger, Count of Provence), and had by her several children.

Soon after he was crowned, Lewis and his forces made a military progress through Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk, and wasted those counties, taking the castles of Hevingham and Orford. Then Hubert de Burgh sent to Thomas de Burgh, his brother, who was Keeper of Norwich Castle, requesting him to defend it as well as he could; but he was not in a condition to resist for want of forces, and fled. Lewis seized the castle, put a garrison into it, and made William de Bellemont constable thereof.

Lewis reduced the city to a poor condition, and plundered the citizens ; but in 1217, he was compelled to quit the realm.

The famous or infamous Pandulph, surnamed Musca, an Italian and the Pope's legate, became Bishop of Norwich in 1221. He is said to have been the chief instrument in persuading King John to resign his crown to the Pope, who in return excommunicated the King and his subjects, and instigated Philip, King of France, to invade the realm and to usurp the crown. Pandulph was rewarded for his exertions by the gift of the see of Norwich. He did not live long to enjoy the dignity, as he died in Italy on September 16th, 1226. His body was brought over and buried in Norwich Cathedral. There is a figure of him on the north side of the west window in the habit of a cardinal.

Thomas de Blunderville succeeded, and after ruling the diocese ten years, died on August 16th, 1236.

Radulph, or Ralph, was the next Bishop of Norwich, and he died in 1237.

King Henry III., in the fifteenth year of his reign, granted the first charter to the University of Cambridge, which grants the privilege of appointing persons called taxers to regulate the rent of lodgings for the students. This was about fifty years before the foundation of Peter House, now called St. Peter's, the first endowed college. This college was founded in 1257 by Hugh de Balsham, then sub-prior, afterwards Bishop of Ely, who purchased two hostels belonging to the Jesuits, and the Friars of Penance united them, and appropriated the building for the residence of the students ; but it was not till 1280 that he endowed the college with revenues for the support of a Master, fourteen Fellows, two Bible clerks, and eight poor scholars. After his death, a new college was built on the site of the new hostels, for which purpose the bishop gave by will the sum of 300 marks ; he gave them also the Church of St. Peter. Among the principal benefactors in subsequent times were Simon Langham, Bishop of Ely, who gave the rectory of Cherry Hinton ; Bishop Montacute, who appropriated the Church of Triplow, and gave the Manor of Chewell in Haddenham ; Margaret, Lady Ramsay, who founded two fellowships and two scholarships, and gave two advowsons ; Dr. Hale, one of the masters, who gave the sum of £7000 and two rectories.

Henry III., by letters patent dated at Woodstock, June 13th, 1231, granted to all men, women, boys, and girls, born or to be born in his village of Coltishall, that they should be free from all villainage of body and blood, they and their families, in all parts of England, and that they should not be forced to serve any offices for any one unless they liked it, and that all frays and transgressions of bloodshed, bargains, and all quarrels and suits concerning the town of Coltishall, should be determined

twice every year, before the King's officers at the leets there; and the natives of Coltishall shall be free from toll, by water and by land, in all fairs and markets throughout England, and from all stallage, pannage, and pieage, being the King's tenants, and as such they were to pay to him and his successors twenty shillings to the aid to make his eldest son knight whenever it happened, so that the King's officers demanded it in the village, and if then not demanded, it was not to be paid, and they were in like manner to pay twenty shillings percentage as often as it was raised on the newly-acquired royal demesnes, of which this town was part, and that they were to pay one shilling every Michaelmas for the fee of those demesnes.

At the Assizes in 1247, the then Dean of Norwich was prosecuted for taking holiday toll (probably toll paid by the bakers for the liberty of exercising their profession on Sundays or holidays) of the citizens, but on his pleading that it was an immemorial privilege enjoyed by his predecessors the action was discharged. A suit was also commenced against the citizens of Norwich, the burgesses of Yarmouth, and the inhabitants of Acle for selling by unsealed measures; and another against the city for taking toll on every bushel of corn, and these being innovations the said individuals were not only fined, but the liberties of the city were seized. Afterwards the liberties were restored in 1252.

In 1263 prosecutions were commenced against several of the citizens for firing each others' houses and committing other crimes. At this time the citizens seem to have been divided into factions, and the ancient feuds between them and the monks broke out afresh. In 1267, the bailiffs of Norwich were summoned to answer for the numerous murders and disorders which had taken place in their city, but on their contemptuously leaving the Court their liberties were again seized by the Crown.

In 1251, and in the thirty-fifth of Henry III., the Eastern Counties suffered much from a severe drought, which was succeeded by damps and foul air, which produced contagious diseases among the cattle and ruined the harvest, insomuch that a dreadful famine and plague ensued destroying many people. At that time the land was not half cultivated, and all Norfolk was an immense common like Roudham Heath. The whole population of Eastern England was very small, not 100,000, but the produce of the soil was not then sufficient to supply the common necessities of life.

King Henry III. held the fee farm of Yarmouth and Lothingland, and in the twelfth year of his reign Roger Fitz Osbert, warden of Lothingland manor, took certain customs in the port of Yarmouth against the express liberties of the burgesses, which being represented to the King, he commissioned Martin de Tatteshale and others to inquire into and ascertain what customs belonged to the burgesses and what to his said manor of

Lothingland. Whereupon an inquisition was taken at Yarmouth, the same year, upon the oaths of twenty-two knights and others of Norfolk, and twenty-six of Suffolk, when a verdict was found that all wares ought to be unladen and sold at Great Yarmouth, and that all the haven belonged to the burgesses of that town; but that the lesser wares and victuals might be unladen at Lothingland, on the Yarmouth side, at the option of the owners or importers thereof. This decision, though much in favour of Yarmouth, did not make the burgesses much gainers in the contest, as ships might unload with victuals on the Lothingland side, and as their chief trade was fishing they found themselves losers in an article from whence they derived their profits. In the fortieth year of Henry III., therefore, they petitioned that King for a new charter, which was granted. It was to this effect, "That all merchandises and wares as well of fish as of other commodities, should be sold at Yarmouth by the hands of the importers of them into the haven, whether found in ships or without; and that henceforth there be no brokers in the aforesaid town of Yarmouth, by whom the buyers and sellers may be impeded to the detriment of the said town."

Besides these contests, the burgesses were subject to many others; and in particular on account of Henry III. exchanging the fee farm of Yarmouth and Lothingland with John de Baliol, of Bernard Castle, for certain lands in Cheshire. The said John de Baliol dying in 1269, the fee farm of Yarmouth and Lothingland became the possessions of his son, John de Baliol, King of Scots, who as well as his father had for many years taken tolls and customs in the port of Yarmouth, contrary to the charter and injurious to the interests of the burgesses, who had suffered these invasions of their rights with impunity, from an apprehension of their inability to contend with such powerful oppressors. But after the said King of the Scots had renounced his homage to Edward I., King of England, and in consequence had forfeited all his English estates, this fee farm of Yarmouth and Lothingland reverted to the Crown.

The situation of Yarmouth being as it were the grand entrance by sea into the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, it was only natural that after it had acquired some degree of importance as a seaport and commercial town, it should be thought necessary to provide for its security against invasion by some more substantial means than the adventitious advantages so open and exposed a situation could afford. Accordingly we find that measures were taken for this purpose, and the burgesses presented a petition to the King praying for a new charter.

In 1260, Henry III. granted to the burgesses of Yarmouth two charters of privileges with the liberty of having a jail for the security of their own prisoners. The King justly considering that Yarmouth was the

key to the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk, granted his letters patent to the burgesses to fortify the town with a WALL and MOAT, and to use every precaution against a foreign enemy. These fortifications, however, were not begun till 1285, when King Henry's tower was erected at the north-east corner of St. Nicholas' Churchyard, but the others were not completed for a long time. The wall and ditch surrounded the town on all sides except that next the river, and measured 2238 yards. The wall had ten gates and sixteen towers, and a ditch was navigable for boats and had a draw-bridge at each gate. A castle was also erected near the centre of the town, surrounded by a beacon and flanked at the corners by four turrets or watch-towers. Thus fortified, the town was considered impregnable, until the use of artillery rendered it necessary to improve the works. This charter was dated St. Paul's, London, 28th September, 1260.

In order to assist the inhabitants in carrying on this work, they had a grant from the King empowering them to collect a custom called murage, which was levied upon all ships arriving at their port; but about two years after, in 1262, the walls not being yet begun, the merchant strangers made a just complaint against the town of the imposition, on which the custom was annulled, and the moneys already collected on that account ordered to be refunded for the use of the King.

It is probable that the north-east tower, in St. Nicholas, Churchyard, was the first part of it that was built, and it was begun on the east side, and thence proceeded southward. This is the more probable, as we find men afterwards employed at the south end of the town, about the Blackfriars, and thence trace them to the north end, which no doubt was the last finished. After the wall was built, a moat was made all round the town, and bridges were thrown across the moat at every gate.

After the Norman Conquest and the rise of towns in East Anglia continual disputes arose between the burgesses and the monks or friars, more especially in Cambridge, Norwich, Ipswich, Bury St. Edmund's, and Yarmouth. The Kings frequently interfered, and generally in favour of the religious orders. To notice all the disputes would be an endless and wearisome task. Mr. John Kirkpatrick left a long account of the religious orders in Norwich and of the quarrels between the citizens and the monks. This account was printed at the cost of the late Hudson Gurney, Esq., and edited by the late Dawson Turner, Esq., and published in one volume.

While the citizens of Norwich had been subject to the repeated disasters already related, they had in addition sustained many injuries and offences in another direction. Not only had they been scourged by Kings and barons, they had also received many stripes of injury from the

lordly ecclesiastics of the period. A partial subsidence of differences took place in the reign of King John, but they broke out with greater violence than ever in the reign of his son Henry III. The monks in some way or other incensed the populace to such a degree that they forcibly entered the convent and plundered and burnt part of it, thus rendering some interference necessary on behalf of the higher powers. When the Sheriff of Norfolk was about to visit the city to ascertain the extent of the depredations, the burgesses would neither suffer him to do so nor do it themselves. The King finding his officer thus resisted, seized all the liberties of the city into his own hands, though shortly after on their submission he restored the liberties. A triumph was, however, reserved for the citizens in the year 1244, when the tax for the city being laid at £100, the tenants of the Prior of Norwich, dwelling in the privileged locality, were taxed at £20, which they were obliged to pay for the first time.

The citizens exulted over the fact that while the prior had gained a nominal victory over them, they had secured a substantial victory over him, in placing his tenants on the same footing as they were with respect to taxes. Fuel seemed never wanting to keep in a blaze the fire of animosity enkindled between the parties. When the barons rose in arms against King Henry III., with Simon de Montfort at their head, the bishop and clergy took their side, while the city bailiffs and commons, with the dwellers in the castle fee, took the side of the monarch. The leader of the barons enlisted in his favour Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, who was Constable of the Castle, and thus the barons were overawed; but when the King defeated the insurgent barons at Evesham, he removed Roger Bigod from his office, and appointed in his place John de Vaux. While these feuds prevailed, the citizens killed many of the monks and their partizans, and the citizens in their turn suffered by the retaliation of their opponents, and the two factions burned down the houses of each other. About the close of 1266, the barons, headed by Sir John d'Eyville, entered the city, killed and imprisoned a great number of the inhabitants, and carried away in triumph some of the wealthier citizens.

This touched the pride of the monks, who held that the officers of the city magistrate had no right to enter within this jurisdiction in pursuit of the criminals, as it was exempt from the interference of the authorities. They accordingly shut up their gates, and enlisted the services of a body of soldiers, who shot at and wounded several citizens who were only passing the place. They did not confine themselves to these outrages, as on the Sunday before St. Lawrence day (August 10th) they rushed into the city, which they ravaged all that day and night, plundering the houses and killing several merchants and citizens without provocation. In this

emergency the magistrates, being unable to repel force by force, sent information to the King, stating what had occurred, and summoned the citizens to meet them in the Market Place on the following day. The inhabitants rose in a body, filled the Market Place, and enraged at the brutal atrocities committed by the myrmidons of the church, flew to the priory, assaulted it on every side, set fire to the great gates, and stormed the defences. Once within, they applied the torch to St. Albert's Church, the great almonry, the church doors, and the great tower, which was speedily enveloped in flames and burnt down as far as the materials could be burned.

The whole church (except St. Mary's Chapel) with the dormitory, refectory, hall of entertainment, and infirmary (with its chapel), and almost all the buildings in the court, were consumed, while many of the subdeacons, clerks, and laymen were killed in the precincts; others were carried out and slaughtered in the city; others were cast into prison. All the plate, holy vessels, books, and vestments, and what articles the flames had not destroyed in the church, were carried off by the besiegers, who carried on their riot for three days, killing and plundering the tenants and partizans of the church. The prior, meanwhile, fled to Yarmouth, and the affrighted monks who survived sought refuge wherever it was to be found.

They had conjured up a storm which they could not lay, but a day of reckoning for the city was at hand. The report of the outrage reached the ears of the stern old King Henry III., who convened a meeting of all the nobles and bishops of England in the grand old abbey of Bury St. Edmund's, on St. Giles' day, to consider what should be done in this important matter. The King, having heard the denunciations of his councillors, resolved to punish the city with the utmost severity.

At the same time the Bishop of Norwich called the clergy together at Eye, in Suffolk, when excommunication was denounced against all the persons who were concerned in the riot, and the whole city was placed under an interdict, a dreadful thing in those days, the effect being a suspension of all religious ceremonies, as those in relation to the marriage service, the burial of the dead, and the performing of mass and vespers; no persons could be married, no corpses could be buried, no business done. All commerce was suspended, all shops closed, and gloom reigned over the doomed city everywhere. Norwich seemed to be a city of the dead. The whole power of the Church and the State was brought to bear upon the unfortunate citizens, and with the most brutal accompaniments, as will be related. The barons, most of whom held in partial dependence boroughs of their own, and the bishops, who feared that similar riots would break out elsewhere, were not likely to counsel moderation in dealing with such offenders.

The result of the Parliament at Bury was the visit of the King in person to the scene of the riot, with the stern intention to punish the rioters, and he did so with a vengeance. He entered the city on September 14th, when at his request the bishop removed the interdict.

Then followed atrocities which seem to be incredible in these days. The King's officers caused thirty-four of the offenders to be drawn by horses through the streets until they were dead; others were hanged and quartered, and their bodies afterwards burned; and a woman who first set fire to the gates was buried alive! Minor penalties were inflicted on those who were implicated in the riot. Twelve of the inhabitants forfeited their goods to the King. The city was fined 3000 marks towards re-building the cathedral, and £100 for a cup of gold weighing ten pounds. The King also seized the city and its liberties, and appointed officers to govern it in his name. At the same time the prior was thrown into a dungeon, and the priory property was taken out of his hands.

In the following year, the bailiffs being summoned to answer for the many murders and disorders lately committed in Norwich, contemptuously departed from the court without leave, and the King in consequence seized their liberties, and kept them in his own hands.

The monks and the citizens were greatly embittered against each other by their frequent armed collisions; so that they scarcely needed a pretext for attacking each other with weapons on any public occasion.

On Trinity Sunday, in 1272, a fair was held on Tombland, according to custom, under a charter granted to the monks, before the gates of the monastery. This custom on a Sunday would have been more honoured in the breach than the observance, but it was observed with very fatal results. The fair on this Sunday was attended by the citizens and the servants of the monks; and as might have been expected, they soon came to blows, and several of the citizens were killed in the affray. Warrants were directly issued for the apprehension of the offenders wherever they could be taken, an inquest having been held on the bodies by the city coroner.

While attempting to describe the feuds between the monks and the citizens of Norwich, we have, for the time, dropped the thread of our narrative of civil and municipal events, and, therefore, here resume it in due order. The charter of Richard I. established the burgesses in the possession of their privileges, though these were from time to time suspended at the discretion of various monarchs. Henry III. granted three charters, but they do not seem to have added any material franchises to those before granted. In his third charter, dated 1256, he gave them the return of all writs as well as of all summons out of the exchequer, as of all other things relating to the city of Norwich, requiring also that all

merchants enjoying their liberties and merchandises should pay to the lot and scot, and aids of the citizens wherever they might dwell, as they ought and used to do ; and that for the future no guild be held in the city to its damage. Thus it appears that, for some time previously, a portion of the suburban population had participated in local advantages without sharing the public burdens.

In 1265, the Isle of Ely being then in rebellion, the King came to Cambridge and took up his abode in the town and began to fortify it, causing gates to be erected and a ditch to be dug round the walls with all speed. During his stay, Walter Cottenham, who had been knighted by the rebellious barons, was taken at Hornsey and executed at Cambridge. The King being called away suddenly by the news of the successes of the Earl of Gloucester, left Cambridge without a garrison, of which his enemies in the Isle of Ely taking advantage, marched there immediately, and burnt the gates which the King had erected, and the house where he had lodged. The townsmen fled at their approach, leaving their houses to be plundered and destroyed. The Priory of Barnwell was saved from the flames by the intercession of the Peeches, who were patrons of that monastery, and then in arms with Lord Hastings and his party. Barnwell Priory was situated near Cambridge, near the present railway station.

The fifth Earl de Warrenne, of Castleacre, Norfolk, took an active part in the serious differences which prevailed between Henry III. and his barons, under the influence of the celebrated Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester. De Warrenne appears to have adhered to the King's party, and enjoyed the friendship of Prince Edward. On the defeat of the Royalist forces at the battle of Lewes, De Warrenne made his escape to the continent, accompanied by the half-brothers to the King. From thence he subsequently returned and landed in Wales with a small force, and soon after overthrew De Montfort near Evesham.

Roger de Skerving (so called from his native place), who had been Prior of the Convent of Norwich Cathedral, was chosen Bishop in 1265. In his time the Cathedral was set on fire, during a commotion between the monks and the citizens. He died January 22nd, 1278, and was buried in the Cathedral. William de Middleton, Archbishop of Canterbury and Prebend of St. Paul's, London, succeeded him. He was enthroned on the day when the Cathedral was re-consecrated, after the damage done to it by the fire, the repairs being then finished.

The first Parliament of England appears to have been held in 1272, in the reign of Henry III. The next was held in 1296, in the reign of Edward I., when Norwich, Yarmouth, and Lynn, in Norfolk, returned representatives. The next Parliament was held at Bury St. Edmund's in 1496, in the reign of Henry VI. The last time Parliament was held at

Bury St. Edmund's was in 1448. Afterwards, Parliament met regularly at Westminster.

Henry III. assembled a Parliament at Westminster for granting supplies to enable him to recover Gascony. After long debates, the laity agreed to a scutage, and the prelates consented to an imposition according to the Pope's bull, which they had formerly rejected. But they complained that the King had overruled the elections of bishops and abbots, contrary to the first article of the Magna Charta. The King acknowledged that upon some occasions he had extended the royal prerogative too far, but said that he had firmly resolved to observe the charters with the utmost punctuality. Sir Thomas Bacon, Knight, was returned to be one of the principal knights of the shire of Norfolk, and in his time the House of Commons appears to have had some weight in checking the power of the King.

In 1272 Norwich, Yarmouth, and Lynn first sent representatives to Parliament, originally four in number for the city, who were paid for their services. The latest researches confirm the conclusions of the earlier historians that the year 1265 is the date of the first regal summons con-voking the great council of the nation, at least in its complete form as a muster of lords spiritual and temporal, knights of the shire, and representatives of cities or boroughs; and throughout the whole sexcentenary period which has elapsed, the estates of the realm have been convened at frequent intervals to advise the sovereign on national affairs. Parliament gradually effected great advances in the cause of liberty; for, at the time of granting taxes and aids, the Commons generally coupled such concessions with important provisions for the good of their constituents, as well as of the community at large. For many centuries the House of Commons represented only the landed interest before great towns arose, and nearly all laws were in favour of the landowners, who under pretence of protecting native industry, enacted laws to prevent or limit the importation of foreign corn.

Thetford returned its first representatives to Parliament in or about the year 1272, and continued to do so without interruption till the sixteenth century, when this privilege was either taken from its inhabitants or it was allowed by them to fall into disuse. The privilege, however, was re-established by the charter of Elizabeth, upon petition of the Mayor and Corporation, and continued till the Reform Act of 1867. In those early elections monkish influence is supposed to have largely predominated, and it was not till later times that political opinions had much influence at elections.

The Jews had a synagogue in the Market Place, Norwich, during the thirteenth century, but it was destroyed by the unruly citizens in their

rage against that peculiar people. They were accused of corrupting the nation with usury, and debasing the King's coin, and having first a badge given them that they might be known, they were afterwards banished from England to the number of 300,000 men. There are some underground remains of a synagogue to be seen in some cellars in the Market Place, Norwich.

William de Raleigh, Chaplain to Henry III., Prebendary of London and Litchfield, succeeded to the bishopric of Norwich in 1240 and was translated to Winchester in 1243.

Walter de Suffield was the next Bishop of Norwich. He repaired the bishop's palace at Eccles, where he resided. He built the Chapel of St. Mary the Great at the east end of the Cathedral, now demolished. He died at Colchester May 20th, 1257, possessed of immense wealth, all of which he bequeathed to religious and charitable purposes.

Prince Edward came to Cambridge in 1270 and caused an agreement to be drawn up, by which certain persons were appointed by the town and the University, for keeping the peace between the students and the inhabitants. The same illustrious personage in 1294, being then King, spent two days in the castle at Cambridge, and it is observed by the annalist who records the fact, that this was the first time that the town had been honoured with a royal visit within the memory of man.

Henry III. granted to Sir Robert de Tateshale, Knight, a charter for free warren at Denton, in Norfolk, which was confirmed to his heir Constantine Clifton, and in 1285 Roger Bigod as lord of the Hundred had joint free warren with him. It went from the Tateshales, through the Bennalls, Orrebys, &c., to the Cliftons, and continued in that family with Buckenham Castle till 1447, when Sir John Clifton, Knight, gave this manor to Robert Clifton, his cousin, and his heirs, who conveyed the united manors of Denton cum Topcroft, the manors of Hoes and Littlehall, in Denton, with the advowson of the church, to Sir Gilbert Debenham, Knight, and the advowson of St. Giles' Chapel in Topcroft, the manors then extending into Denton, Topcroft, Aldburgh, Bedenham, Woodton, Hemenhale, Haddiscoe, Thorpe, and Dickleburgh. Sir Thomas Brewer, of Sall, in Eynsford Hundred, and of Wenham, in Suffolk, in right of Elizabeth, his second wife, sister and heiress to Sir Gilbert Debenham, inherited this estate, from whom it descended to Robert Brewse, Esq., of Topcroft Hall, his second son. John Brewse was lord in 1602. He was afterwards knighted and married Cecily, only daughter of John Wilton, of Topcroft, and soon after the Wiltons were lords. It passed with the Wiltons till Nicholas Wilton, Esq., sold it in 1680 to George Smyth, Esq., of North Nibley, Gloucestershire. This George Smyth took his degree of M.A. at Oxford,

May 21st, 1661, and then travelled abroad for twenty-five years. On December 4th, 1638, he was admitted Doctor of Medicine at Padua, as a fine diploma in possession of the family testified, in which he is called *Nobilis Anglus*. He married Mary, daughter and heiress of David Offley, Esq., of Cheshire, by whom he had one son Offley. His second wife was Ann, daughter of William Chilcot, of Isleworth, in Middlesex, who survived him, but had no issue. At his death, Offley, his son, inherited the estate. He was also a great traveller, and never resided at Topcroft, but died in London in 1708, and lies buried in St. Bride's Church there. He left this manor to George Smyth, Esq., his eldest son, by Mary, daughter of Thomas Archer, Esq., of Gloucestershire, who settled at the manor house of Topcroft Hall. He married Mary, third daughter of William Churchman, Esq., of Islington. In 1735 he was High Sheriff of Norfolk, and he died December 1745, leaving a numerous family. William Smyth, Esq., his eldest son, inherited, and he married the eldest daughter of Alderman Black, of Norwich, by whom he had issue.

In the reign of Henry III., Robert Bardolph, a priest, inherited an estate of his deceased half-brother at Banham in the Hundred of Guilt-cross. This Robert was rector of no less than thirty churches, a proof of his interest with the Pope at that time, for the Pope then granted, by way of proviso (as it was called), many rectories to one man under pretence that the income over and above serving them should go towards the expenses of the Holy War, the darling enterprise of that age. This Robert died in 1224, leaving his inheritance divisible among his five sisters.

#### REIGN OF EDWARD I., 1273 to 1307.

Edward I. was the eldest son of Henry III., and was born at Westminster, June 16th, 1239. The name of Edward was given him in the reign of Edward the Confessor, which monarch his father venerated as his titular saint, and whom he in many respects resembled. He acquired the name of Long Shanks, from the great length of his legs. In 1254 a match was proposed for him with Eleanor of Castile, whom he married at Burgos. By her he had four sons, John, Henry, and Alphonso, who died in youth, and Edward, who succeeded his father on the throne.

Edward I. placed some checks upon the jurisdiction of the clergy, and in the Parliament (seventh of Edward I.) was passed the famous statute of *mortmain*, the object of which was to prevent property from being granted to monasteries. These gifts were injurious to the interests of the King and country, as when land was in the possession of the church it ceased to be liable to the feudal incidents, and thus the taxation on the rest of the community was increased in proportion. This was sensibly felt in the eastern counties, wherein so many monasteries existed.

Edward I., when he ascended the throne, had the city of Norwich, the castle, and all the liberties in his hands, but in 1273, Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, had the custody of the castle and the liberties granted to him. In this reign continued broils took place between the bishop and monks on one side, and the citizens on the other, but the King settled their disputes.

In 1277, the King himself led an army through Suffolk and Norfolk, and kept his Easter at Norwich, returning thence by the sea coast of Suffolk and Essex, making this military progress to see his castles and forts put in good order and well supplied with all necessary stores.

In 1281 the King seized the liberties of the city of Norwich, because the bailiffs were not at the Exchequer at the time appointed to answer for the city debts and to pay their fee farm rent, but upon their appearance and payment the liberties were restored.

Edward I. committed some arbitrary acts, and before the excitement was allayed, he ordered the Constable Bohun, Earl of Hereford, and the Lord Marshal Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, to land an army into Flanders, while he proceeded to Guienne. Both declined the duty assigned them, on the ground that they were not bound to serve out of the kingdom, except in attendance on his person. Edward grew angry, and in the height of his passion said, "By the everlasting God, Sir Earl, you shall either go or hang." The marshal replied, "By the everlasting God, Sir King, I will neither go nor hang." The two earls retired from the royal presence, and as they were supported by a large body of the nobility and people, the King adopted conciliatory measures towards his subjects, and tried to enlist the Londoners on his side. He was ultimately obliged to confirm the charters which he had infringed.

According to Oldfield, the borough of Yarmouth sent burgesses to Parliament as early as 1294, the twenty-third of Edward I.; but he gives no names of representatives. In the twenty-sixth year of the same reign, a writ of summons was ordered for Yarmouth, and in 1299 two burgesses were returned whose names were the first on record that have been preserved—William Fastolf and Henry Rose, who sat in the Parliament at Lincoln.

Yarmouth continued to be governed by four bailiffs, under articles often confirmed by royal authority, till the reign of Edward I., when the twenty-four jurats or aldermen compiled a circle of laws or customs, the original of which is now lost, but a translation is still extant, entitled "The Copy of the Olde Boke of the Lawes and Customes of Yermouth, translated out of Frenssh and English, by T. Banyard, styward there, the year of our Lord God mccccLXXXI, in the time of Christopher Moy and John Bedingham, bailies."

In 1294, the French attempted to invade England with a fleet of 400 ships, assisted by the treachery of Tuberville, an English knight; but the plot miscarried, and the men of Yarmouth, putting to sea a fleet of armed ships, captured and burnt Cherbourg, in Normandy; while a fleet from the Cinque Ports ravaged the whole coast of France within twenty miles of Dieppe. For this and other services rendered by the burgesses, Edward I. granted them two more charters, one in 1298 for acquitting them of tollage, aids, and other taxes; and the other in 1309 for regulating their trade and commerce.

In the thirty-fourth of King Edward I., the year in which that King gave all the possessions of John de Baliol in England to his nephew, John de Brittainy, the burgesses of Yarmouth thought it the most eligible time to apply to that monarch for an explanation of the charter of Henry III., which they alleged was couched in too vague terms, and solicited one more explicit by which their right and title to all customs in their port might be made more clear. This the King granted in the same year, notwithstanding all the opposition made to it by the inhabitants of Gorleston. After this all goods were freely bought and sold in the town without taxation or impediment. Notwithstanding, frequent disputes arose between the burgesses of Yarmouth and the inhabitants of Gorleston, who on many occasions claimed and took some of the customs exclusively granted to Great Yarmouth. But after all the long disputes and legal contests between the parties, the Courts of Law determined always in favour of the burgesses of Yarmouth, who retained their ancient rights and privileges.

Edward I. well knew how to appreciate the heroic qualities of some of his warriors, among whom none was more distinguished than the sixth Earl de Warrenne, of Castleacre, Norfolk, a man of great military talent. The King readily availed himself of the powerful aid supplied by the vast resources of this Earl, who greatly enhanced his reputation by his exploits during the wars against Scotland, for which he was appointed to the exalted post of governor of all the castles in the realm.

The King's wars in Scotland are matters of general history that need not be repeated here, nor the deeds of the Norfolk warrior; but we must notice the personal favour of the gratified monarch towards his illustrious general. Early in the year 1297, when De Warrenne had retreated for a short period from the cares of his responsible office to the peaceful retirement of his own loved Castle of Acre, Edward I. honoured him with a personal visit, attended by the most distinguished members of his court, and sojourned for three weeks in the ancestral stronghold of the De Warrennes.

Then did its massy walls ring with the shout of joy and revelry; its

stately halls were thronged with mailed men and all the pomp and circumstance of military splendour. Retainers crowded within the walls, men-at-arms thronged the ramparts, noble knights and squires filled the spacious apartments; courtly dames and beauties graced the ample dais; tilts and tournaments allured with their gorgeous pageantry; mimes, glee men, and minnesingers added fresh enjoyment to the festal hours. But scarcely had the prolonged roar of festivity, consequent on this distinguished visit, ceased to echo in its ample courts, than the noble master was again abruptly summoned from the peaceful seclusion of his home to play his part in the turmoil and activity of vigorous warfare, for Scotland was again in open insurrection, and making another fierce struggle for independence. The Norfolk warrior was not so successful in his last expedition into Scotland, but the fatal reverses he experienced did not diminish the confidence reposed in him by his royal master.

Ralph de Hingham, of Hingham, in Norfolk, was Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench in the second of Edward I., in the year 1274, when the King returned from the Holy Land. He held that post sixteen years, and he was one of the judges who lost his place for corruption, being fined and imprisoned with nine others. This Ralph was amerced 7,000 marks for bribery, and displaced; but after his fine was paid, he gave such signs of a true repentance that he was made Chief Justice of the Common Pleas in the reign of Edward II. He died soon after, and was buried in St. Paul's Church.

Walter de Suffield, Bishop of Norwich, was duly installed in 1243. He drew up an account of the value of ecclesiastical revenues in England for the Pope. He built the beautiful chapel of St. Mary the Great at the east end of the Cathedral in Norwich, but it was demolished. He also founded and endowed St. Giles' Hospital in Norwich. He was so charitably inclined that in a year of great scarcity he sold all his plate, and with the money he bought bread, which he gave to the poor. He died at Colchester on May 20th, 1259, having bequeathed his immense wealth to religious or charitable purposes. He was deemed a man of so great piety, that after his death miracles were believed to have been wrought at his tomb in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, where he was buried, and this chapel was afterwards so enriched that it became a shrine to which people made pilgrimages.

Simon de Walton, chaplain to Henry III., and one of the Judges in the Court of Common Pleas, became Bishop of Norwich in 1257, and ruled the diocese eight years. He died on January 2nd, 1265, and was buried in the Chapel of St. Mary the Great, then at the east end of the Cathedral.

Ralph de Walpole, Archdeacon of Ely, succeeded to the bishopric. He commenced the cloisters, always considered to be the finest in the kingdom,

and he much advanced the family of the Walpoles in Norfolk. He was translated to Ely in 1299, and dying there he was buried in Ely Cathedral. The next Bishop of Norwich was John Salmon, prior of Ely, Lord Chancellor of England. He founded the Chapel of St. John, now the free school in Norwich, which he endowed. He built the chapel in the Bishop's Palace and the great hall.

### STATE OF AGRICULTURE.

The great Civil War of this period under John and Henry III. was a war of races rather than of rulers, and it greatly affected the people of the Eastern Counties. Its real motive was the fear which the barons of Norman origin entertained of experiencing a conquest in their turn on the part of other foreigners called into England by their Kings, and of being despoiled of their territories, as they had dispossessed the Angles, Saxons, Jutes, and Danes.

About the commencement of the thirteenth century, according to Fleta, in Suffolk, if an acre of wheat yielded only three times the seed sown, the farmer would be a loser, unless corn should sell dear. Three ploughings, 18d.; harrowing, 1d.; two bushels of seed, 1s.; weeding,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; reaping, 5d.; carrying, 3d.; in all, 3s. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., which was more than six bushels of wheat by 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. The same year the price of a bullock was 8s. 6d.; a hog, 2s. 6d.; a pig, 6d.; threshing a quarter of wheat, 3d.; of seligo, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; barley, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; peas, 2d.; drayet, 1d.; oats, 1d. A man's wages for cutting firewood, two days, 4d.

Some idea of the produce obtained from the soil in the time of Edward I. may be gathered from a remark of the learned Fleta (book ii, chap. 8), who observes that the farmer could pay no rent and must be a loser, if he could not obtain six bushels from an acre. This low return was probably caused in a great measure by the enormous disproportion of arable land to pasture. Sir John Cullum in his antiquities of Hawsted, Suffolk, mentions that there were 1,300 or 1,400 acres of arable and forty-five of meadow, and in almost every report that has come down to us the same disproportion appears.

### THE FORESTS OF ESSEX.

The game laws are a grievance as old as the Norman dynasty, or older. The forests were sources of feuds and oppressions; and Essex being covered by one of these royal nuisances, was frequently excited by the occurrences and conflicts to which it gave rise. The wild woodlands which at one time stretched over so large a portion of Essex, became vested in the Crown, and long after the Conquest these tracts of wilderness were found in the heart of Essex. Here the sovereigns and gallants of the courts

hawked and hunted during their sojourn at Havering bower, or the palace of Chigwell, which appears to have been erected solely for a royal hunting lodge; or in their visits to the palaces of New Hall and Writtle. The latter was built by King John in 1211, about a quarter of a mile from Writtle Green, on the left hand side of the road leading to Chelmsford, the building covering an acre of ground, and being surrounded by a deep moat. In this forest the stag was chased, and the wild boar—an important part of the game of these woods—brought to bay, for the fox appears to have been looked upon with contempt by the Nimrods of those days. Here, in later times, the outlaw, composed of about equal portions of the poacher, the bandit, and the hero, found ready shelter. And here, too, at a period bordering on our own days, the burglar and the highwayman shaped their caves and concealed their plunder. The forest regulations were terrifically severe, though often set at naught. The killing of a stag in these hunting grounds of the King was regarded as more heinous than murder. The slaughter of a man could be expiated by a pecuniary fine; but one of the game laws of the Conqueror enacted that the killing of a deer, boar, or hare in his forests should be punished by the loss of the offender's eyes. This law was renewed by Richard I., with the addition of further disgusting mutilation. Civilization, with its multiplying people, increasing the necessity for larger supplies of food, and thus raising the value of land, has laid so steady a siege to the forest of Essex, as it was originally called, that no idea can be formed of its extent from the remnants of it which are left, under the name of Hainault, Waltham, and Epping. It stretched at one time along the whole of the northern boundary, from nearly Bow to Cambridgeshire, filling up the whole of the vast space between Hertfordshire and the line of road from Brentwood and Romford on that direction—even extending beyond it—and running from Bishop's Stortford to Colchester. This latter portion was stripped of its forestal character by King John. Stephen had previously disafforested Tendring Hundred, and given it over to the husbandman, who has long since converted it into a fertile and flourishing district. Parts of Barstable abutting upon Rochford Hundred were treated as forest less than 300 years ago. In 1563, £500 was paid to the Crown for leave to disafforest Jarvis' Hall and various other lands in South Bemfleet. Even Chelmsford, the centre of Essex, was hemmed in on both sides by these royal hunting grounds. In the twenty-seventh of Edward I. the Earl of Oxford obtained a license to enlarge his park at East Hanningfield by eleven acres, "being within the bounds of the forest;" and the records of the exchequer show that in the same reign there was a perambulation of "the forest at Writtle."

Gradually these open woodlands have disappeared. The popular feeling, in no age very strong in favour of game-preserving, was aided in this case, when hunting formed so important a part of the pastimes of the nobility, by the barons and the landowners—the predecessors of those who are now the greatest sticklers for upholding the laws of the chase—and the sworn opponents and punishers of poachers of all descriptions. The rights of the Crown, as they were called, trenched seriously upon the privileges of the local lords; lands which had long been granted out and grubbed up, being still considered as forest. This led continually to the institution of vexatious suits, and the exaction of heavy fines from the King's tenants and the freemen. At length it produced open conflicts with the Crown; and the united barons, by an act of compulsion, wrung from King John the Charter of Forests, "a bar," says the historian, "to oppression, and a happy instrument of improving our agriculture." "Every article of this charter," adds Rapin, "is a clear evidence how the subject was oppressed under the pretence of preserving the royal forest." The spirit of that charter was jealously guarded. In the conditions exacted from Henry III., an additional Charter of Forests was included, by which capital punishment for these offences was abolished, and they were made punishable by fine and imprisonment. Further, the proprietors of the land recovered the right of cutting and using their own wood at pleasure. The Commons gave Edward I. the bribe of a fifteenth of all the goods of the kingdom, to have its provisions carried out. From this period the forest of Essex rapidly disappeared, as shown by the perambulations made in the reigns of the four succeeding monarchs.

The office of Lord Warden of the forest, now in the Earl of Mornington, through the marriage of his father, the Hon. Mr. Long Pole Wellesley, with Miss Tilney, the great heiress of Wanstead House, was formerly a post of great importance and profit. The warden had the same duty in the forest as the sheriff had in the county. The right belonged for centuries to the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, the Lords of Hedingham Castle; and the receipts from it must have been enormous. The steward appointed a lieutenant, a riding forester, and three yeomen foresters; and the requisites of the warden and steward are thus stated:—"They had all the deer-browsing wood, all waifs and strays within the limits of the forest; likewise all the amerciements in the swan motes and wood comptes agreeably to the size of the forest (the amerciements for venison, and the bodies of oaks only excepted). Upon the sale of every wood they were entitled to the second best oak contained therein; and the buyer and seller thereof were obliged to present them with one bow and one broad arrow, paying at the same time each of them one penny out of every shilling. They likewise received from the sale

of every covert or hedge-row of every shilling one penny." There was also a chief forester, generally a member of some noble family, one of the Fitz-Archer's, of Copt Hall, holding it in the reign of Edward I.; but with the decay and diminution of the forest, the office appears to have become virtually extinct. There should also be four verderers, elected by the freeholders of the county at large, but the deaths of Mr. Sergeant Arabin and Mr. Conyers, whose places it has not been deemed necessary to fill up, have reduced them to two—Mr. Lockwood and Major Palmer. Anciently important duties attached to all these officers. There were three courts in which they exercised their power. The verderer's or forty-day court, as it was called, from being held every forty days, was the first that took cognizance of offences. The verderers, as judicial officers, appointed to observe and keep the assizes and laws of the forest, were sworn "to view, receive, and enrol the attachments and presentments to the swanimote court," where the matters were decided upon by a jury; and then returned to the court of justice seat, the highest forest court. This was held by the Lord Chief Justice in Eyre, under the King's commission, and, though limited to forest offences, it seems to have been similar to a court of assize. Formerly, these courts were held at Chelmsford; but as the forest was driven by the agricultural pioneer to the northern and western borders, they were removed to Chigwell. The sittings have taken place there for the last 300 years. Nought but shadows of the two first courts are now left, and the court of justice seat was extinguished by the tenth of George III., which transferred its powers to the commissioners of woods and forests.

## COUNTY FAMILIES DATING FROM THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY.

### THE PASTON FAMILY IN NORFOLK.

The family of the Pastons, who generally lived at Oxnead or at Paston, had many estates in Norfolk, and flourished in the county for several centuries after the Norman Conquest. They had estates at Sporle, Palgrave, Cressingham Magna, Oxnead, Gresham, Swainsthorpe, Mantby, Marlingford, Sparham, Matlask, Bassingham, Hellesdon, and Winterton, in Norfolk; and manors in Suffolk, Surrey, and Cambridgeshire. Members of this family intermarried with many other families in Norfolk and Suffolk.

The family of the Pastons, of Paston, is said by most historians to have come into England three years after the Conquest. Wolstan, who was one of the ancestors of the family, having a grant of lands at Paston, assumed, according to the custom of the age, his surname from the said town. The first proof of this family is that the founder of it was Griffinus

de Thwayte, to whose son Osborn the priest, rector of Paston, Anselm, Abbot of St. Benet's at Holme, gave all the land of St. Benet in Paston in fee to him and his heirs; and William the abbot granted to Richard de Paston, son of Osborn, son of Griffin de Thwayte, all the land that convent held in Paston, and the said Richer covenanted with Reginald the abbot and convent, that when peace was settled in England, and pleadings were held in the King's court, he at the request of the abbot would appear in court and give security therein at the cost of the abbot to release the lands in Paston.

There was also another branch of this family, of which Wystan or Wolstan de Paston, who was the ancestor of Sir William Paston the judge, and the Earls of Yarmouth. This Wolstan lived in the reign of Henry II. and Richard I., and married a daughter of the Glanvilles, as appeared from an impalement of Paston and Glanville in the windows of Paston Hall at Paston; his son and heir styled himself Robert de Wyston and Robert de Paston, who dying about 1242, was buried at Broomholme.

William, son and heir of Clement Paston, Esq., of Paston, was the famous Sir William Paston who married Agnes, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Edmund Berry, by Alice the daughter and heiress of Sir Thomas Gerberge. This Sir William Paston was bred to the law, and in 1413 made steward of all the courts and leets belonging to Richard Courtney, Bishop of Norwich, who settled on him £5 yearly out of his lordship of Blofield. In 1426 he was made serjeant-at-law, and in 1429 Henry VI. granted him 110 marks per annum, with two robes more than the ordinary fees of the Judges, as a special mark of his favour; he being a Judge of the Common Pleas, was of the King's Council for his Duchy of Lancaster, and a Knight. The priory of Broomholme in 1438 gave him for his good services in the law sixteen acres of land at Bacton, and the Abbot of Bury granted him a letter of confraternity, or brotherhood, whereby he partook of all the prayers of that abbey, both alive and dead. He was commonly called the "Good Judge," and dying at London, August 14th, 1444, aged sixty-six, he was buried in our Lady's Chapel at the east end of the Cathedral Church in Norwich.

John Paston was son and heir of Sir William, aged 23, at his father's death. He married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Sir John de Mentebey, by Margaret his wife, daughter of John Berney, Esq., of Reedham. Sir John Fastolff, Knt., appointed him one of his executors, gave him all his manors, lands, &c., in trust to found a college of seven priests at Caistor, near Yarmouth, and to pay 4000 marks for charitable uses in Norfolk, Suffolk, and Norwich, believing that the said John Paston, his cousin, would faithfully execute his will.

Edward IV. seized on several estates of the said John Paston, and he

was committed prisoner to the Fleet just before his death, which occurred at London, May 26th, 1466. He assigned over his jewels, chattels, &c., to Sir John Paston, sen., his eldest son and heir. His other sons, John Paston, jun., William, and Clement were lords of manors in the following towns:—Sporle, Palgrave, Cressingham, Oxnead, Gresham, Swainsthorpe, Mautby, Marlingford, Sparham, Matlask, Bassingham, Hellesdon, and Winterton in Norfolk, being the family estates. Sir John was buried in Broomholme Abbey in 1466, in a very solemn manner.

In 1467 Edward IV. granted a pardon and release to William Paston, Esq., son of William de Paston, late one of the Judges of the King's Bench, for all treasons and crimes whatever; the chief crime was adhering to Henry IV., and it was particular that it should not extend to those who adhered to him, nor to Henry VI., Margaret, his wife, or Edward their son. This William Paston was a knight, and married Ann, daughter and co-heiress of Edmund Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, by whom he left two daughters; Ann, married to Sir Gilbert Talbot, and Elizabeth to Sir John Savile, Knt.

Sir John Paston, Knt., succeeded as heir to his father, and Edward IV., on July 6th, 1466, granted him a warrant under his hand and privy seal to take possession of all the lands of inheritance of his late father, or of Agnes his grandmother, or of Margaret his mother, or of William Paston and Clement Paston, his uncles. He gained great honour for several gallant actions in France, and was appointed on King Edward's side at the great tournament at Eltham in Kent, against the then Lord Chamberlain and others. After this he was sent to conduct the King's sister into France on her marriage to Charles Duke of Burgundy. He died on November 15th, in the nineteenth of Edward VI., without issue and not married, and was succeeded by his brother, John Paston, Esq., who in 1475 had a letter of confraternity from William, Prior Provincial of the Franciscans or Grey Friars, making him partaker of all the prayers of that Order in life and death. He was made knight banneret by Henry VII. at the battle of Stoke in Nottinghamshire, and was one of those appointed to receive the Princess Catherine of Spain, wife of Prince Arthur, on her landing at Plymouth. He died in 1503, and was buried in the White Friars' Church at Norwich, and left by Margery his wife, Sir William Paston, and Phillip Paston, and a daughter Elizabeth, married first to William Clere, eldest son of Sir Robert Clere of Ormesby, and afterwards to Sir John Fineaux, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench. Sir William, the eldest son and heir, was an eminent counsellor at law. In 1516, the corporation of Yarmouth retained him, and granted him an annuity of £40 per annum. He lived to a great age, and dying in 1554, left five sons and seven daughters. Sir Clement Paston was born at

Paston Hall, Norfolk, and was the great-grandson to Judge Paston. He was a great sailor, and as such performed some worthy exploits. He was at the burning of Conquest in France, in the reign of Henry VIII., and being made captain of a war ship by that King, he took a galley, and with it the French Admiral Baron Blancard, whom he kept at Caister, near Yarmouth, till he received 7000 crowns for his ransom, besides the spoil of the galley, on board which was a cup and two snakes of gold, with many other things of value. He was called by Henry VIII. his champion, by the Protector Somerset his soldier, by Queen Mary her seaman, and by Queen Elizabeth her father. He lived to be very old, and died at Oxnead, and in his will he decreed his body to be laid in the earth in the chancel of the parish church of Oxnead; his funeral not to be costly nor over sumptuous, but decent and Christian-like, according to his degree and calling, a tomb to be made over his body, and his wife's arms to be engraven thereon. In the chancel his tomb presents the following lines:—

You that behold this stately marble tomb,  
 And long to know who here entombèd lies,  
 Here rests the corpse, and shall till day of doom,  
 Of Clement Paston, fortunate and wise,  
 Fourth son to old Sir William Paston, Knight,  
 Who dwells with God in sphere of christol bright.

Of Brutus' race, princes he served four,  
 In peace or war as fortune did command;  
 Sometimes by sea and sometimes on the shore  
 The French and Scot he often did withstand.  
 A peer of France in spite of all his betters  
 He took in fight, and brought him home in fetters.

Oxnead he built, in which he livèd long,  
 With great renown for feeding of the poor;  
 To friends a friend, of foes he took no wrong,  
 Twice forty years he lived, and somewhat more,  
 And at the last, by doom of high behest,  
 His soul in heaven, his body here doth rest.

Obt., 18 Febr., 1597.

The fifth son of Sir William Paston was Sir Thomas Paston. In the thirty-fifth of Henry VIII. he was a gentleman of the King's privy chamber, and in the year following was knighted at Boulogne in France. He married Ann, daughter and co-heiress of Sir John Leigh, of Addington in Surrey, and from him descended the family of the Pastons of Barningham, in Norfolk.

The daughters of the said William were—1st, Eleanor, married to Thomas Manners, Earl of Rutland; 2nd, Anne, married to Sir Thomas Tindale, of Hockwold; 3rd, Elizabeth, to Sir Francis Leak, of Derbyshire; 4th, Margery, a nun at Berking; 5th, Mary, to Sir John Chaworth, of Nottinghamshire; 6th, Margaret; 7th, Bridget, to — Carre, Esq. Erasmus, the eldest son and heir of the aforesaid Sir William Paston, married Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Windham, of Felbrigg, and died before his father, November 15th, 1538. He was buried at Paston, leaving Mary his wife, by whom he had William Paston, his son and heir, who succeeded his grandfather in his inheritance, and had livery of it, in the first and second of Philip and Mary. He married Frances, daughter of Sir Robert Clere, of Stokesby, received the honour of knighthood, and was famous for his great hospitality. On the school of North Walsham he settled £40 per annum, and £10 per annum for a weekly lecture there; to the Cathedrals of Bath and Norwich he gave £200; to Caius College, £100; to the poor of Yarmouth, £18 per annum; to the poor of Caistor, £2 per annum; and died October 20th, 1610.

Christopher Paston was son and heir to Sir William, and married Anne, daughter of Philip Audley, Esq., of Palgrave, in Norfolk.

Sir Edmund Paston, Knight, was his son and heir apparent, and married Catherine, daughter of Sir Thomas Knevet, of Ashwellthorpe; she died March 10th, 1628, and was buried in the Church of Paston. Sir Edmund died in 1632, aged forty-eight, and was buried there.

Sir William Paston, his eldest son, succeeded him, and was admitted in Corpus Christi College in Cambridge, taking the degree of B.A. in 1626. In 1636 he was High Sheriff of Norfolk, and on June 8th, 1642, he was created a baronet. He died February 22nd, 1662, and was buried at Paston.

His first wife was the Lady Catherine, daughter of Robert Bertie, Earl of Lindley, which lady dying in childbed in 1636, was buried in the chancel of Oxnead. His second wife was a daughter of Mr. Hewet, of London, and sister to Sir William Hewet, who died without issue.

Sir Robert Paston, Knt. and Bart., the eldest son of Sir William, was born at Oxnead May 29th, 1631, educated at Westminster School and at Trinity College, Cambridge. He was a man of learning, and travelled in foreign parts, where he collected many curiosities. He was created Baron Paston of Paston and Viscount Yarmouth in 1673, and Earl of Yarmouth in 1679. He was a member of Parliament for Castle Rising. On August 9th, 1676, he was beset in the night by some villains, who fired five bullets through his coach, one of which passed through his body without killing him. He built the Free School of North Walsham, founded by his ancestors, and gave a rich service of plate to the Church of Oxnead, and died March 8th, 1683.

William Paston, Earl of Yarmouth, the eldest son, succeeded his father in honour and inheritance, and married Lady Charlotte Jemima Maria Boyle (alias Fitzroy), natural daughter to Charles II. by Elizabeth, Viscountess Shannon, daughter of Sir William Killigrew, and wife of Francis Boyle, Viscount Shannon in Ireland. By Lady Charlotte he had Charles Lord Paston, colonel of a regiment about 1710; William Lord Paston, and Robert, who was captain of a man of war, but all died before their father. After the death of this earl, who left all his estates to pay his debts, his seat at Oxnead fell into decay. Lord Anson the Commodore bought all the family estates in Norfolk. His lordship, whilst on his return from a circumnavigation round the globe, captured a Spanish galleon from Acapulco, worth £313,000, which he brought home June 14th, 1744, by which he acquired a princely fortune, and died in 1762 without issue. G. Anson, Esq., of Shugborough, became the owner of all the estates in Norfolk.

Gentle reader, be not impatient if we indulge in a little genealogy, so delightful to the soul of an antiquary, for you may depend upon it few county families can be traced for any great length of time. The Norman barons and their descendants soon disappeared from this earthly scene, and left no trace behind, except their tomb stones, which are the only records of many of them. Of every one it may be said—

How great, how noble, once now matters not,  
To whom related, or by whom begot;  
A little dust is all remains of thee,  
'Tis all thou art and all the proud shall be.

#### THE WODEHOUSE FAMILY AT KIMBERLEY.

This ancient family took their name from lands called Wodehouse, in Silfield, near the town of Wymondham. That they were gentlemen of good rank before the time of King John, we are informed by Peacham in his work on blazonry, which appeared to him by the ancient grants and evidences of the family that he had seen, and from which the pedigree was collected.

We shall begin with Constantine de Wodehouse, who married Isabel, daughter and heiress of Botetourt, in the reign of Henry I. From them all the Wodehouses descended in a long line from father to son for thirty generations to the present time. From the lady arises the claim to the title of Botetourt, one of the oldest baronies in the kingdom.

Constantine was succeeded by Sir George de Wodehouse, who flourished in the reign of Henry I., whom he accompanied into Normandy, and was present at the burning of Bayeux and the capture of Caen Castle. He married Winifrede, daughter and heiress of Lacy. Sir Henry, his son and

heir, married Beatrix, daughter of Lord Say. Sir Richard, his son and heir, married an Aspell, and lived in the time of King John. Sir William, his son and heir, was the first of the family who bought lands at Kimberley; but no manor there, though he was lord of manors in Norfolk. He married Petronilla, daughter and heiress of Clervaux. Francis, his son and heir, married the daughter of Sir John Peche.

He was in a short time succeeded by his son and heir, Sir Bertram de Wodehouse, who attended Edward I. into Scotland when the King invaded that country. He married Muriel, daughter and heiress of Lord Felton, by whom he acquired several manors in Cambridgeshire. Sir William de Wodehouse, his son and heir, was sheriff of London in 1329. He being a man of great valour, was retained by the Black Prince, whom he attended as a captain into Spain. He married the daughter and heiress of Humfrey Luttrell, and was succeeded by his son and heir, Sir Richard, who married Alice, daughter and co-heiress of Sir John Northwood, of Northwood-Barningham. He was succeeded by his son, Sir Thomas, who married Alice, sister and co-heiress of John Emond, Esq., of Cranworth, who married Maud, daughter and heiress of Sir Baldwin Botetourt, of Cranworth, Knt. Sir Edward de Wodehouse, son of Sir Thomas, married a daughter and co-heiress of Erpingham, who brought East Litcham, which still remains in this family. He owned lands in Kimberley in 1378. There is no account of his sons or daughters except Sir John, who was a younger son knighted by Henry IV. He settled at Kimberley, having married Margaret, daughter and sole heiress of Sir Thomas Fastolf, of Kimberley, and removing from the old seat at the west end of the town, built a new seat or moated hall in the east part, with the tower within the park belonging thereto. By deed dated Jan. 20, in the second of Henry IV., upon his son's marriage with Furneaux, he entailed his new house and estates on them. He was succeeded by John Wodehouse, Esq., who in his father's lifetime was gentleman of the privy chamber to Henry IV., and in 1400 married Alice, daughter and heiress of Furneaux. On the decease of Henry IV., his son, Henry V., chose him esquire of his body. In 1414 he was admitted to be one of the Chamberlains of the Exchequer for life. In 1415 he attended the King's person to the battle of Agincourt in France, where he won great renown by his valour, spiring up the English troops who were inclined to stand. When the battle inclined to them, many of the French nobles fled and got into an old fort, where, on account of the straightness of the passage, they were difficult to overcome, but this famed Norfolk hero undertook and accomplished the arduous task. For this gallant action the King granted him an annuity of ten marks a-year out of his manor of Thetford, and made him steward of all the dominion of the Duchy of Lancaster in Norfolk, with a salary of

£10 yearly, and as a perpetual augmentation of honour, assigned him the crest of a hand stretched from a cloud, holding a club, and the motto, "Frappe Forte," strike strong, or, rather, beat down the fort. The wild man holding the club, which was the ancient crest of the family, was now omitted, and two of them placed as supporters to the arms, which had a further augmentation of honour in the shield, and two men placed as supporters to the arms, as borne to the present day.

This Norfolk hero served no less than four times in Parliament for the county of Norfolk, namely in 1409, the eleventh of Henry IV., when John Winter, Esq., was his colleague, also in the second of Henry V. with John Inglethorpe; in 1414 Sir Edmund Oldhall was his colleague, with whom he served again in 1416. He continued in favour with the Princes he served all his life. Peacham says he was one of the executors to Henry IV., and also to Henry V., of whom he obtained license to found a chantry priest to sing for the souls of that king and his queen, and of his beloved esquire, John Wodehouse, and his wife, their ancestors and posterity, either in the Cathedral church at Norwich or in the charnel chapel belonging thereto.

He died at Roydon in 1430. His will is dated there, January 15th, by which he ordered his body to be buried in the lower chapel of the charnel, near the Cathedral in Norwich, and also ordered that after mass said over his body in the Cathedral, they should carry his body into the charnel, and there perform such services for him as he enjoined, for which he gave the custos of the upper chapel 6s. 8d., and two silver dishes (gilt) and two silver candlesticks, to each of the priests of the charnel 3s. 4d., and to the chaplain of the lower charnel chapel, in which he was buried, 6s. 8d. After this the chaplain became his chantry priest, and sung for him till the dissolution of religious houses in 1536.

Henry de Wodehouse, Esq., was twenty-four years old at his father's death, and then lived at Bocking Ash in Suffolk. He was fined for not taking the order of knighthood. He married Constance, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Gedding, Esq., of Icklingham in Suffolk. He died at Kimberley in 1465. His son and heir, Sir Edward Wodehouse, was knighted at Grafton Field May 4th, 1471. The pedigree says that in 1461, by order of Edward IV., under his privy seal, he levied in Norfolk 200 of his followers, tenants and gentlemen of quality, and armed them at his own charge, and attended the King on his journey into Scotland, being accompanied in his own retinue with two dukes, seven carls, thirty-one barons, and fifty-nine knights. His son and heir, Sir Thomas Wodehouse, was created Knight of the Bath at the marriage of Prince Arthur, eldest son to Henry VII., with the Infanta of Spain, and he was sent ambassador into France, where he married his first wife, a lady of Picardy, by whom

he had no issue. He married a second wife Thomasine, daughter of Sir Roger Townshend, of Rainham, and he died in 1487. His son and heir, Sir Roger Wodehouse, was knighted by Edward VI. in 1548, and he nearly lost his life while trying to suppress Kett's rebellion. He had two wives, Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Robert Ratcliff, and Elizabeth, daughter of John Drury. He died, and was buried in Kimberley Church, February 10th, 1560. His son and heir, Sir Roger Wodehouse, served in Parliament for the borough of Aldborough in Suffolk in 1570, and was knighted by Queen Elizabeth at Blickling in August, 1578. The Queen, on her return from Norwich, in her progress to Cambridge, lodged at his house at Kimberley August 22nd, 1578. He married Mary, daughter of John Corbert, of Sprowston, and died in 1588, and was buried at Kimberley. His son and heir, Sir Philip Wodehouse, served Queen Elizabeth, both by sea and land, in Spain and Portugal, was at the Conquest of Cadiz in Spain, and for his valour shown there was knighted by Robert, Earl of Essex, and Charles, Earl of Nottingham, the Queen's generals.

His wife was Grizell, daughter of William Yelverton, of Rougham, and, dying at Kimberley, he was buried there October 30th, 1623. Sir Thomas Wodehouse, knighted by James I., was gentleman to Prince Henry, was twice member of Parliament for Thetford in the reign of Charles I., viz., in 1639 and 1640. He married Blanch, daughter of John Cary, Baron of Houldon and Earl of Dover, and died March 18th, 1658, and is buried at Kimberley. His son, Sir Philip Wodehouse, Bart., was one of the members of Parliament for Thetford in 1660. He married Lucy, daughter of Sir Thomas Colton, of Corrington, and died June 26th, 1684.

Sir Thomas Wodehouse was knighted by Charles II. November 2nd, 1666, died of the small-pox at Kimberley in 1671, and was buried in the chancel of the church. He married Ann, daughter and co-heiress of Sir William Armine, of Osgodby, in Lincolnshire. His only son and heir, Sir John Wodehouse, Bart., was born at Kimberley, March 23rd, 1669. In 1695 he was elected member for Thetford, and in 1705 he was elected a knight of the shire for Norfolk. He married first Elizabeth Benson, sister to John, Lord Bingley; second, Mary Fermor, daughter of William, Lord Lempsier, and left issue William Wodehouse, Esq., who died in London without issue. Armine Wodehouse, Esq., second son and heir of Sir John, upon his brother's death, was chosen in his place to serve in Parliament for Norfolk. He married Letitia, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Sir Edmund Bacon and elected knight of the shire with him, after a severe contest against Sir William Harbord, Bart., and the Hon. Robert Coke, brother to the Earl of Leicester.

Sir Armine Wodehouse represented the county thirty-four years without any place, pension, or emolument; and died in 1777, greatly lamented, leaving three sons.

Sir John Wodehouse, Bart., succeeded his father, Sir Armine, in 1777. He married a niece of Lord Berkley, of Stratton, by whom he had issue. He followed the example of his father, who marched out of Norfolk at the head of his battalion of Norfolk Militia to Portsmouth, in the prospect of a French invasion in 1759. In like manner, Sir John put himself at the head of the same regiment in the first embodying of the militia on a like occasion in 1778, and assisted in guarding the coast of Suffolk by garrisoning Landguard Fort.

At the beginning of the eighteenth century, Sir John Wodehouse built the present house, which stands on the east side of the park, and it was afterwards enlarged by Sir Armine Wodehouse, who added four towers at the angles. It is a large and handsome brick mansion, with many convenient rooms and some fine paintings, one of which is a portrait of Vandyke, painted of himself when young. The park is richly ornamented with wood and water, and well stocked with deer.

The late Sir John Wodehouse, the seventh baronet of his family, represented the county of Norfolk in two parliaments, and in 1797 was created Baron Wodehouse of Kimberley, and died aged ninety-eight in 1834, when he was succeeded by his son John, who died in 1846, and was succeeded by his grandson John, the present Lord Wodehouse, who was born in 1826, graduated first class in classics at Christ Church, Oxford, in 1847, was Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs from December 1852, till April, 1856, and from June, 1859, to July, 1861; and Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Russia, from May, 1856, to March, 1858. His son and heir was born in 1848.

#### THE FAMILY OF DE ERPINGHAM, NORFOLK.

Robert de Erpingham was the first of the family who was lord of Erpingham in 1244, and was succeeded by his son John; for in 1277, John de Erpingham had a large estate in Wickmere, Calthorpe, Itteringham, Alburgh, Beckham, Baconsthorpe, and Barningham, of which last manor Robert de Erpingham, son of John, held a quarter of a fee there of Walter de Berning, and he held it of the Earl Marshal, and in 1315, the said Robert being then a knight, was lord. Sir John de Erpingham, Knight, his son, succeeded him, but did not long survive him. He lies buried under a large stone at the east end of the south aisle in South Erpingham Church; the arms are lost, but the effigy remains in armour, standing on a lion. Sir Thomas Erpingham, Knight Banneret, his son

and heir, became one of the most famous warriors in that age. In 1385, he had the King's protection when he went abroad.

Sir Thomas Erpingham accompanied John Duke of Lancaster, into Spain. In 1399 he was chamberlain of the household, &c., and one of those lords who voted that Richard II. should be put into safe custody. He was constantly in all the wars of Henry IV. and Henry V., particularly at Agincourt. In the year 1400, Henry IV., in recompense for his services, gave him a messuage called the New Inn, near St. Paul's Wharf in London, for his residence. He appears to have favoured the views of the Reformers, and to have exerted himself in disseminating the principles of Wickliffe in Norfolk.

This conduct excited the enmity and opposition of the bishop and the monks, who being more powerful than the knight, had him arrested and committed to prison. Afterwards he was enjoined to build the Erpingham gate-house, opposite the west front of Norwich Cathedral, as an atonement for his heresy. The knight is said to have built that beautiful gateway. He was afterwards reconciled to the bishop by the command of King Henry IV., who in Parliament held February 9th, 1400, declared that the proceedings of the knight against the bishop were good, and originated in great zeal, and as the latter was of royal lineage, he commanded them to shake hands and kiss each other in token of friendship, which they did.

#### THE FAMILY OF DE LUCY AT DISS.

This ancient family resided near Diss, in the reign of Henry I., who granted the manor of Diss to Sir Richard de Lucy, a Norman knight of great renown in those days for his services in the French wars. This knight was governor of Falaise, in Normandy, in the third year of King Stephen, and he manfully defended the place against Jeffrey, Earl of Anjou, who had besieged it. He did much to promote an agreement between that King and Henry III., and he had charge of the Tower of London and Castle of Winchester, on condition of his delivering them up on the death of Stephen, which he did, and he was made Chief Justice of England.

Robert Lucy, of Diss, was knighted in 1274, and had a great part of his possessions in Norfolk in his own hands before that date. In 1293 he was summoned to attend King Edward I. at Gascoign in order to recover his inheritance from the French King; and to that place he went in the retinue of Edmund Earl of Lancaster. In 1296 he was in the Welsh expedition, and in 1299 in the Scotch wars. He was the first of the family that styled himself Lord of Wodeham in Essex, where he had a mansion, surrounded by a fine park. He obtained a charter of

confirmation for a fair every year at his manor of Diss, upon the eve day and morrow after the feast of St. Simon and Jude, and three days following. He was one of the Parliamentary barons who sealed the letter to the Pope in 1301, denying that the kingdom of Scotland was his fee, or that he had any jurisdiction in temporal affairs. In 1309 this knight founded a friary at Colchester, and he retired there to spend the rest of his days. He married two wives, by one of whom he had a son, who succeeded him.

Robert Fitz Walter, Lord of Wodeham, married in his father's lifetime to Joan, daughter of John de Botetourt, in 1304, by whom he had no issue. Afterwards to Joan, one of the daughters of John de Moulton, of Egremont, who survived him, and had for her dowry an assignation of the manors of Henham in Essex, Diss and Heminhale in Norfolk. This Robert Fitz Walter was in the expedition into Scotland in 1326, and he died in the following year, leaving a son and heir, then under age. From him the noble family of the Fitz Walters descended.

John Fitz Walter inherited the family estates in Essex and Norfolk, and in 1359 he was in the French wars, being one of those engaged to accompany Sir Walter Manning in the skirmish at the barriers of Paris, and he was then knighted. He married Eleanor, daughter of Henry Lord Percy, was summoned to Parliament from the fifteenth to the thirty-fourth of Edward III., and died in 1360 leaving a son and heir under age. Walter Fitz Walter gave proof of his age in 1362 and inherited the family estates. In the forty-fourth of Edward III. he was in the expedition made into Gascoign, and there reputed one of the most expert soldiers in the whole realm, but being taken prisoner in those wars he was forced to mortgage his castle and lordship of Egremont for £1000 towards raising the fine for his ransom. In 1372 a French invasion being feared, having raised what force he could for the defence of Essex, he was commanded to go into Norfolk for the safety of that county. In 1379 he procured the King's Charter for a weekly market every Friday at his lordship of Hemenhale in Norfolk, and a fair yearly on the eve day and morrow after the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle. Soon after, in 1381, he did great service against the rebels, under Jack Straw, by suppressing those who tried to make head there. Many other noble exploits of this warrior may be read in the first volume of Dugdale (Baron fol. 222). He was a lieutenant to Thomas Duke of Gloucester, Constable of England, in the great cause between the Lords Lovell and Morley for the Arms of Barnel in the Court of Chivalry in the years 1384 and 1386, and he died in Spain in 1386.

Robert Fitz Walter, his eldest son, lived to be of age, though he died before his father, and he married Phillippa, daughter of John de Mohun, lord of Dunster, who, after the death of this Robert, married again to

Edward Plantagenet, Duke of York, who held Diss manor, hundred, and market, together with Hemenhale, till he was killed, and after his death she held them till 1403, when she died.

Sir Walter Fitz Walter, second son and heir, succeeded to the inheritance, and married Joan, daughter of Sir John Devereux, Knt., who died in 1408. She soon after married to Hugh Burnel, who had by her two sons, Humphry and Walter, and one daughter named Eleanor. Humphry, Lord Fitz Walter, his eldest son, was under age at his father's death, and was a ward of King Henry V., who granted the custody of him to John de Beaufort, Earl of Somerset. The earl dying soon after, left him to his executor, Henry Beaufort, Bishop of Winchester, but the ward dying before he came of age, was never in possession of the inheritance, which went to his brother, Walter Fitz Walter, who was under age, and had not possession of his estate till 1428, at which time he had livery thereof, but not of Diss and Hemenhale till 1431, when Phillippa died, who had held them all this time in dower. Then he settled them in trust in his feoffees, Richard Barnard and Simon Cistern, Rector of Berningham, who presented here jointly with him. This Walter was one of the most active men in the French wars in the time of that victorious Prince, Henry V., who in the eighth year of his reign, for the great services of this Walter, gave to him and his heirs male land in the duchy of Normandy, which reverted to the Crown from the failure of heirs male. He was then a very young man, not being of full age till 1422. He died in 1432, and was buried in Dunmow Priory. Elizabeth, his wife, who survived him, held in dower Hemenhale and Diss manors, with the Hundred of Diss, in Norfolk, with other manors in Suffolk and Essex. She afterwards married to William Massey, by whom she had two daughters, and died in June, 1463, leaving her daughter Anne, wife of Thomas Ratcliffe, Esq., who had no issue; and Elizabeth married to his brother, John Ratcliffe, Lord Fitz Walter. This John Ratcliffe was soon after summoned to Parliament as Lord Fitz Walter, and, in right of his wife, enjoyed all the honours and possessions of that noble family. He enjoyed till 1493, when he was attainted of treason, and, being apprehended abroad, was brought into England, with several other knights, among whom was Sir Robert Ratcliffe, who was beheaded, but the Lord Fitz Walter was pardoned. After that he went to Calais, and being suspected of supporting Perkyn Warbeck, the pretender to the Crown, he was apprehended and beheaded, because he attempted to escape.

Henry VII., at the time of his attainder, seized upon all his revenues, and among them the manor of Diss hundred and advowson, with other manors, which remained in the Crown till Henry VIII. restored them to

Robert Ratchiffe, son of the said John, who was in great favour with that King.

THE FAMILY OF DE TONY.

Roger de Tony was the first of his family who settled at Saham Tony, in the Hundred of Wayland, in Norfolk, in the year 1197. King John, in the first year of his reign, granted to him and his heirs the lordship of Saham Tony, with the Hundreds of Wayland and Grimshoe in Norfolk. He was descended in a direct line from Roger de Tony, standard-bearer of Normandy, whose son Ralph came over with the Conqueror, and for his services had nineteen lordships in Norfolk. He was succeeded by Roger de Tony his son, who became the ancestor of all the Tonys in Saham Tony. Ralph de Tony, the next heir, joined the barons against King John, but was after that in the King's favour. In 1239, being signed with the cross like other nobles, he travelled to the Holy Land and died on the sea. His widow Petronell had the manor of Saham Tony for life. She married William de St. Omer who was lord in her right, and in 1275 was Justice Itinerant in Cambridgeshire. Her son Roger de Tony died in 1276, so that he never was lord, and at her death the manor went to her grandson Ralph de Tony, who died in 1293.

Robert de Tony was the next heir, and in 1298 he obtained the renewal of a charter for a weekly market at his manor of Saham Tony, and two fairs yearly, one on the day and morrow of the Feast of St. Martin the Bishop and five days following, and another on the eve and morrow after the Feast of St. George the Martyr and five days following. He was one of the barons who subscribed the letter sent to Pope Boniface on February 12th, 1300, concerning the subjection of the kingdom of Scotland to that of England, with which the Pope then pretended to intermeddle. This Robert Tony died in 1309.

THE TRUSBUTT FAMILY, SOUTH RUNCTON.

The Trusbuts were an ancient family located at South Runcton, in the Hundred of Clackclose, in Norfolk. Richard Trusbutt lived in the reign of Henry III., and his son John in that of Edward I. In the second of Henry VI., Lawrence Trusbutt, of Shouldham, purchased an estate at South Runcton, and his descendants lived there a long time. The Trusbuts were a family of good account, for we find that Agatha Trusbutt was wife of William de Albini, Earl of Sussex and Lord of Castle Rising. She paid King John in his chamber at Lynn 100 marks of silver as a fine for her husband being in arms against that King only eight days before the King's death.

## CHAPTER XII.

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### EASTERN ENGLAND IN THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY.

THIS period includes the reign of the three last Plantagenet Kings, Edward II., Edward III., and Richard II. It was a period of continual wars with Scotland and France, in which wars many noblemen in the Eastern Counties were engaged. It was also a period of civil wars, which spread desolation over the country, but it soon recovered its former prosperity. This was in a great measure owing to the vast influx of foreign artisans, who were induced to come over the sea to England and introduce new branches of industry.

#### REIGN OF EDWARD II., 1307 to 1327.

Edward II. began his reign on July 7th, 1307, when Walter de Norwich, son of Jeffery de Norwich, was so much in favour as to be one of the Barons of the Exchequer in 1311, and in 1314 was summoned to Parliament as a Parliamentary Baron, and afterwards made Treasurer of the Exchequer, which office he held for many years. He obtained liberty for free warren in all his demesne lands, and a fair to his manor of Ling in Norfolk, on the eve and day of St. Margaret (July 20th), and two days following. He enjoyed the royal favour till his death.

Edward II. married Isabella, daughter of Philip IV., King of France, in the thirteenth year of her age in 1318. She afterwards became one of the most infamous Queen Consorts ever known in this country. Her children by the King were Edward, who succeeded him, John, Earl of Cornwall, and Joan, who married David (son of Robert Bruce), the famous King of Scotland. King Edward II. appears to have been ignorant of the intrigues of his French wife, who imposed upon him, and brought about his destruction.

On the death of Philip V. of France, his successor, Charles IV., seems to have sought pretexts for hostilities against Edward II., so that he might

if possible obtain possession of Guienne. To compose their differences, Isabella was sent to France in 1325, and on her arrival she proved faithless to the King, and entered into communication with some of the banished Lincolnshire nobles, who, in common with herself, bitterly hated the Spencers. She more especially gave her confidence to Roger Mortimer, one of the lords of the Welsh marshes, who, after the defeat at Boroughbridge, had been confined in the Tower, but had escaped to the continent. The Queen and he were soon criminally intimate. While in France, she informed her husband that if he wished to retain Guienne, he must send over his son, in which case her brother would invest the youth with the possession of that duchy. The French King performed his promise, and Edward desired his Queen to return, but she visited Flanders, and without asking the assent of her husband and the Parliament, affianced her son to Philippa, the daughter of the Count of Hainault. By the aid of that prince, she levied an army of 3000 men to wage war on her lord the King.

Edward II., a weak-minded Prince, had from his childhood enjoyed the society of Piers de Gaveston, the son of a Gascon knight, but as the Prince grew up, Gaveston acquired such an ascendancy over him that the last King shortly before his death banished him from the country, and made his son promise never to recall him. On the King's death, his son marched a little way into Scotland, but soon returned and disbanded his army. Gaveston was sent for, and on his arrival was loaded with honours and estates. Edward appointed him regent of the kingdom before leaving England to marry Isabella, daughter of Philip IV., King of France.

Gaveston, though a man of courage and ability, was so unwise as to irritate the nobility by his arrogance and insolence, and he did not even refrain from applying sarcastic nicknames to some men of the highest rank. The barons forced the infatuated King to banish the minion (May 18th, 1308), but he was determined that he should not retire in disgrace, and therefore appointed him Viceroy of Ireland, the government of which he conducted with vigour. In his absence, Edward tried to soften the animosity of the barons against him, and bravely gained over a portion of them by concessions. He ordered Gaveston to return (June 26th, 1309), but the favourite had not profited by his late humiliation, and became in consequence the object of still greater dislike. The barons did not disguise their hatred, and on the pretence that they were exposed to danger from the power of their enemy, refused to attend a Parliament summoned to meet at York. As the King needed supplies, he directed Gaveston to retire from public observation, and convoked another Parliament at Westminster. Thither the nobility came with a large retinue of armed followers, and thus having all power in their hands, made the King do what they pleased, and Gaveston was banished.

In 1327 the King, Edward II., kept his Christmas at Bury St. Edmund's, and being sore afraid of the Queen's return, and of those exiles who were with her, he commanded musters to be made in every city, burgh, town, hundred, and wapentake in all England, to exercise the men in arms both horse and foot, that so they might be ready whenever they were called upon. He also commanded that beacons should be erected in order to raise the people at a distance whenever they were fired.

About Michaelmas Queen Isabel, Roger de Mortimer, Edmund de Woodstock, Earl of Kent, the King's brother, and others, landed at Harwich, in Essex, and soon after came to Norwich, and thence went to Bury St. Edmund's, where the Queen stayed some time to refresh herself. She prosecuted her wicked designs against the King with such success that he was deposed on the Christmas Day after, and murdered on September 21st following, in the year 1327.

The guilty Queen appears to have spent the remainder of her wicked life at Castle Rising, in Norfolk, then a place of some importance. In the reign of Edward III., the Dowager Isabella took possession of the castle, where she resided during the greater part of her widowhood. Before taking up her abode at the castle, she visited the far-famed shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham. Several well-preserved records among the documents of King's Lynn relate to events during her residence at the castle, and show that her son, Edward III., and numbers of his family were frequent visitors there.

One of these entries indicates the time when the alterations and enrichments of the castle and chapel were effected, in the reign of Edward III. On this occasion, Queen Isabella sent her precept, dated at the castle, to John de Cokestord, Mayor of Lynn, for eight carpenters to make preparations for the reception of the royal party, and during this visit, the account rolls of Adam de Reffham and John de Newland mention a present of wine sent to the King. Similar gifts were also made from time to time to the Queen Dowager. Lynn was then famous for its importations of wine.

In 1357 the rolls of the Chamberlin at Lynn record a gift to the Queen at Rising, showing that she was resident there at that date. Some historians state that the Dowager Queen was a prisoner at Rising on account of her too intimate acquaintance with her guilty favourite Mortimer. Sir John de Molins, who seized Mortimer in Nottingham Castle, after his execution was appointed steward of the household at Rising, and this looks very much like his holding the office of jailer. He must, of course, have been very obnoxious to Queen Isabella at the castle.

The more we study the history of the Queen the less appearance do we find of her being treated as a prisoner in any strict sense of the word, for

it is certain that during her long residence at Rising she was treated respectfully by her son, King Edward III. Her presence at the castle can be traced till nearly the time of her death, August 22nd, 1358, aged sixty-three years. She was buried in the Church of the Grey Friars in London, where a monument of alabaster was erected to her memory.

In 1317, Sir John Howard, son and heir of Sir William Howard, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, was made Constable of the Castle and Sheriff of Norwich. In 1321, the castle was in the King's hands, as appears by a writ directed to the Sheriff commanding him to furnish it with all warlike stores and the garrison with victuals and all necessaries; and the year after, William de Reedham was made Constable of the Castle at Norwich.

During the reigns of Edward I., Edward II., and Edward III., Norwich seems to have been left in the quiet enjoyment of some tranquillity after having endured so many wrongs at the hands of Norman Kings, barons, priests, and monks. The liberties of the city continued undisturbed, and were confirmed by successive Kings in a formal way in their charters. In the fourteenth century, the commercial condition of the city was greatly improved by its being made a staple town for the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk.

Murage taxes had been imposed for some time to build the walls, gates, and towers of Norwich; and in 1319 these fortifications were said to be completed, although it would appear only generally so. When the thickness and extent of the walls are considered, it cannot be thought surprising that a period of twenty-five years elapsed before these mural defences were finished so as to dispense with any additional tax; but something more was required to render them adequate for the intended purpose. Neither towers nor gates could be of much use unless furnished with munitions of war.

The gates and towers of the city of Norwich had been built, but not fitted up after the walls were finished, and about 1342 the gates and towers were fortified by Richard Spynk, citizen of Norwich. One benefit produces another, and to that wealthy citizen Norwich was not only indebted for its safety from aggression, but also for an extension of its liberties. It is recorded that Queen Isabella induced the King, her son, in consideration of the costs and charges for the walls, which had been raised without any call on the government, to grant a charter to the citizens that they and their heirs and successors dwelling in the said city should for ever be free from the jurisdiction of the clerk of the market and of the household of the King and his heirs, so that the said clerk or his officers for the future should not enter the city or fee to make assay

of any measures or weights, or to exercise or do anything belonging to the said office of the clerk of the market, &c.

In the reign of Edward II. Sir Robert de Morley, of Swanton Morley, in the Hundred of Launditch, Norfolk, was Marshal of Ireland, and truly famous for his many gallant actions, both by sea and land, being Lieutenant of Norfolk and Admiral of the King's fleet. He obtained such a notable victory near Sluys in Flanders, that the like sea-fight was never known before. He was Constable of the Tower of London, summoned to Parliament from the eleventh of Edward II. to the thirty-first of Edward III., and died in the thirty-fourth of that King.

Sir Robert de Morley's descendants lived for a long time at Swanton Morley, in Norfolk. The last male heir of this noble family was Robert, son of Thomas Lord Morley, and the Lady Isabel his wife, daughter of Michael De-la-Pole, Earl of Suffolk, who dying in the twenty-first of Henry VI., left by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of William Lord Roos, Alianore, his daughter and heiress, who afterwards married William Lovell, a younger son of Lord Lovell, of Tichworth, who in her right was Lord Morley, and inherited the estate of that family.

Walter de Norwich flourished in the reign of Edward II., and in the fifth year of that reign he was made one of the Barons of the King's Exchequer, and had summons to attend Parliament in the eighth year of the same reign. He was a person much in favour with that Prince, and besides the grant he obtained of him for a free warren on all the demesne lands in Norfolk and other counties, he was made Treasurer of the Exchequer, and held that office some years.

Sir John de Norwich, knight, who was summoned to Parliament in the sixteenth of Edward III., was Admiral of the King's whole fleet to the northwards, and was several times in the wars against Scotland and France, in which he performed so many signal services that the King made him two allowances out of his Exchequer, the one of sixty pounds fourteen shillings, and the other of fifty marks per annum, &c.

At the commencement of the fourteenth century, John Salmon, Prior of Ely, became Bishop of Norwich. The times were evil, and the bishop was not a man above the morals of his age. Summoned before the papal legate for unlawfully exacting the first fruits from the clergy of his diocese, he became the occasion of the first regular imposition of this tax upon the parochial clergy, and the payments which have built up the fund called Queen's Anne's bounty. But it was an age of building; a mania for architecture seems to have run through the length and breadth of the land. The Colleges of Clare, Gonville, and St. Peter at Cambridge, and of Exeter and Oriel at Oxford, besides a host of ecclesiastical buildings scattered over the country in every direction, belong to this period, and

Bishop Salmon was amongst the foremost of the builders. He founded a "convent for five priests at the west gate of the Cathedral church, together with a refectory chamber, and other suitable buildings; also that ample and lofty chapel in honour of St. John the Evangelist, and a vault or subterranean crypt, as a repository for human bones." This range of buildings, though it has undergone many mutilations, is in all its essential features identical with the School-house and the present Grammar School at Norwich. Probably when Bishop Salmon first began his work about 1315, he contemplated no more than the erection of a carniary or receptacle for human bones. These carniaries, or charnel houses, were intended to supplement the wholly inefficient churchyards of large cities, which in times of pestilence became so hideously choked that frightful heaps of bones were constantly to be seen on the surface of the soil, sometimes with the half-decomposed flesh adhering to them. As the building work proceeded, it was resolved to add the chapel, which was constructed over the original carniary. It is certain that a tower was intended to have been added at the west end, and that this was actually begun; the remains still exist, and it seems that it was intended to add an apse at the east end, but neither design was completed. Both the crypt or lower chapel, and the upper chapel, used as the present School-room, were consecrated, and in both masses for the dead were said and other services performed.

Robert de Baldock, Lord Chancellor and Archdeacon of Middlesex, was chosen Bishop of Norwich in 1325, but in a year after, being informed that the Pope had provided for the see, before he was elected, he resigned it. Being accused of treason in 1326 by Edward II. and his Queen Isabel, he was apprehended and committed to Newgate, where he died of grief, and was buried in St. Paul's, London, May 2nd, 1327.

William de Ayremyn was chosen Bishop of Norwich in 1325. He was a great pluralist, holding no less than ten prebends, besides other high preferments; he was also Lord Treasurer and Keeper of the Great Seal. He died March 27th, 1336, and was buried before the high altar in Norwich Cathedral. He was succeeded by Thomas de Hemminghall, a monk of the Priory of the Cathedral. He was elected, but not consecrated, he being translated to Worcester by the Pope.

Anthony de Beck, in 1336, Dean of Lincoln, was the next bishop; he was so haughty and imperious that he was hated by the monks, who caused him to be poisoned December 19th, 1343, and he was buried in the Cathedral.

#### REIGN OF EDWARD III., 1327 TO 1377.

Edward III. was the eldest son of King Edward II., by Queen Isabella, and as the Kings of France died without male issue, this Prince chal-

lenged the Crown of France, as the next male heir, according to the Salic law, peculiar to France. This led to many wars with that country. After a long reign, glorious in the annals of military fame, of fifty years and four months and twenty-eight days, this King died at Shene (now Richmond), in Surrey, July 21st, 1377, aged sixty-four years, and was buried at Westminster.

Edward III., in his first Parliament, held in 1327, had an Act passed by which all cities, boroughs, and franchised towns were to enjoy their franchises, customs, and usages as they were wont to do.

In 1328 there was a statute made by which all the staples, both beyond and on this side of the sea, ordained by Kings in former times, were to cease; and all merchants whatever had liberty of coming into and going out of England. It appears that this wise King was very desirous to encourage the trade of his subjects in every respect.

In 1332 great disputes took place between the barons of the Cinque Ports and the bailiffs of Yarmouth, concerning the free fair, which the former made an attempt to remove. A compromise, however, took place, in consequence of the royal interference, and the regulations of the fair were preserved. These disputes were very frequent, and sometimes resulted in acts of open hostility, which both parties practised to an unwarrantable extent. The barons of the Cinque Ports were always jealous of the increasing importance of the town of Yarmouth. A proposition was made to constitute this town one of the ports, but for some reason it was not carried out.

At the commencement of the reign of Edward III., Yarmouth was a naval station of considerable importance, and had eighty ships with fore-castles and forty without. In 1337 the Yarmouth fleet consisted of twenty men-of-war, and conveyed the plenipotentiaries of King Edward III. to the Court of Hainault. The King embarked on board of this fleet in 1342 on his expedition into Brittany, but while he lay entrenched before Viennes, Prince Lewis of Spain dispersed the fleet, and thus drove Edward to great straits from want of provisions.

Although the early Kings of England had been accustomed to encourage the migration of foreigners hither, it was not till the reign of Edward III. that any decided progress was made in manufactures. That sagacious monarch desired that the people of his realm should be as independent as possible of foreign supply. He accordingly invited the distressed Flemish artisans to come over and settle in England, with the view of teaching his people the art of spinning, weaving, and dyeing the best kinds of cloth. He sent abroad agents to induce them to emigrate, promising them protection, and holding out liberal offers to such as should accept his invitation.

The representations of the King's agents were effectual. But another circumstance contributed to hasten the exodus of the Flemings. This was the outbreak of the war between France and England in 1336. Philip de Valois, the French King, stirred up Louis de Nevers, the Count of Flanders, to strike a blow against England in his behalf, and an order was issued for the arrest of all the English then in the Low Countries. The order was executed, but it was soon felt that the blow had been struck at Flanders rather than against England. Edward III. at once retaliated by entirely prohibiting the export of English wool, as well as the import of Flemish cloth. The Flemings found themselves at once deprived of their supply of raw material, and shut out from one of their chief markets for the sale of their goods. At the same time the King repeated his invitation to the Flemish artisans to come over to England, where they would be amply supplied with wool, and provided with a ready market for all the cloth they could produce. He granted a charter for the express purpose of protecting such foreign artizans as might settle in England. These measures proved successful in a high degree.

The value of our English wool was not unknown to our ancestors even at the time of the Conquest, as appears from Domesday Book, where the sheep of every manor are exactly registered; but yet the manufacture of it was done by foreigners, and the value of it then consisted in the goods that were imported in exchange for it, and this so continued till the reign of Henry I., when an inundation in Holland drove numbers of Dutch people into Norfolk, where they first settled at Worstead, and introduced the art of weaving stuffs.

In the reign of Edward III. a great many Flemings, being encouraged by that King, came over the sea, and landing at Yarmouth, settled at Norwich, Worstead, Lavenham, and Sudbury, and extended the worsted or stuff manufacture. Soon after this, Norwich became one of the most flourishing towns in all England, in consequence of its great trade in worsted, fringes, fustians, and other goods, so that many thousands were employed in the manufacture, and being well paid could live well. Indeed this trade became the chief support of the citizens for centuries.

The year 1336 is memorable for the great increase of Flemish stuffs or worsted manufacture, which proved the most advantageous trade to the nation in general, and to Norfolk in particular, that was ever introduced amongst any people. There is no doubt that it was first introduced at Worstead from its name, which occurs in the most ancient notices of it. No doubt the goods being made at Worstead, caused them to be called Worstead stuffs, just as similar goods made at Norwich afterwards were called Norwich stuffs.

In 1336 Edward III., in order to promote trade, appointed divers

staples for wool and sheep skins and other commodities, among which Norwich was the only one appointed in Norfolk and Suffolk. They were so called from the Saxon word staple which signifies the stay or hold of anything, because by command the merchants of England were obliged to carry their wool, wool fells, clothes, &c., thither for sale, no one daring to dispose of such goods but in such staple towns, so that all trading places were very desirous of being staple in order to increase trade.

The Flemish weavers, who had been the victims of monopoly in Brabant, had scarcely established themselves in East Anglia ere the hard lessons which their fathers had learned were forgotten and the trades unions of the Low Countries were copied to the letter. The usual methods of maintaining prices and wages were enforced, long apprenticeships, limitation in the number of apprentices, and vigorous exclusion of all strangers; and when the native population at length came to learn the secrets of the trade, they, too, in their turn sought to exclude the very Flemings who had taught them the trade. At last the King was obliged to interfere for the protection of the foreigners. He issued a proclamation declaring the Flemish workmen to be under his protection, and the native violence was for a time held in check. The evils arising from the absurd restrictions of the Norwich guilds were, however, less easy of correction, but they brought their own punishment and in course of time wrought their own cure. They drove away many workmen who could not or would not comply with their regulations; and they prevented other workmen from settling in the city and carrying on their trade. The consequence was that the foreign artisans proceeded to other places, mostly in the north of England, and these laid the foundations of the great manufacturing towns of Manchester, Leeds, and Sheffield; whilst the trade of Norwich itself languished, and many of its houses stood empty. To remedy these evils, which the cupidity of the Norwich guilds had brought upon the city, the Flemish artisans were again induced to settle in it, as the guildmen could not yet dispense with the skill and industry of the strangers. Thus the prosperity of the city was again restored.

In 1336 John de Warrenne, the last earl, of Castleacre, Norfolk, made a grant of his patrimony to Edward III., but that monarch returned the lands to the earl with the express stipulation that in the event of his decease, as he had no children, the property should revert to Richard, son of Edward, Earl of Arundel, and Alice his wife; and in 1347 the castle and manor of Acre, with the greater part of the possession of the De Warrennes, passed to Richard Fitz Alan, Earl of Arundel, a nephew of the last De Warrenne, in conformity with the prudent arrangement of the King to that effect.

In 1339 Edward III., being on a visit to Walton, confirmed the charters of Ipswich and granted further immunities, but in 1345 he for some time disfranchised the borough, on account of an insult received there at the assizes by a judge named Sharford from some sailors, who thinking his lordship stayed too long at dinner, one of them in a frolic took his seat upon the Bench and caused another to make proclamation, requiring William Sharford to come into court and save his fine, and as the judge did not appear, ordered him to be fined. The judge, who was a morose man, so highly resented this joke, that because the magistrates refused to apprehend the sailors, he prevailed upon the King to seize the borough and to place it under the government of the Sheriff of Norfolk and Suffolk; but before the end of the year it was again under the control of the bailiffs.

In 1340, the fifteenth year of this reign (Edward III.), the King appointed a tournament to be held at Norwich, and at the same time prohibited all such tournaments from being held elsewhere, and writs were accordingly directed to all the sheriffs in England. This tournament began on February 14th, 1340, being St. Valentine's Day, and continued till Easter. The King and Queen Philippa, his wife, came to Norwich to see it and stayed some time, for then Sir Robert de Bouchier, his Lord Chancellor, came from London to him in the city, leaving the great seal behind him, and did not return till the 3rd of March following, soon after which the King, Queen, and court left the city, where they had lodged in the monastery. They visited the city again in 1342 and 1344. In 1350 there was another grand tournament in the city, on Monday, being the feast of St. Nicholas. The bishop, and Edward Prince of Wales, commonly called Edward the Black Prince, from the colour of his armour, were present at the tournament, as appears by the treasurer's accounts of that year, the Prince being then invited by the city to a grand entertainment provided for him at the public expense, which came to £37 4s. 6d. Sir William de Ufford and many others of the nobility were with him, but the Queen is not mentioned in the accounts of that year. The tournament is said to have taken place at the Gildencroft, so named from the gorgeous pageantries then displayed when Edward the Black Prince showed his knightly prowess in the presence of great crowds of admiring spectators. The Gildencroft was an enclosed green on the north side of the city. In subsequent times it was converted into a burial ground.

Sir Robert Sall of Oxnead, Norfolk, was one of a family of good repute, and knighted by Edward III. for his singular stature. He was in person one of the stoutest knights in England, and he was governor of the Castle of Mark near Calais. He purchased all the reversion of lordships in Bucks, Essex, and in Middlesex, after the death of lady

Margaret Trussell. In 1381 he was treacherously killed by the rebels in a barbarous manner.

In 1340, John Perebourne, a burgesse of Yarmouth, was made Admiral of the King's North Sea Fleet of 240 sail, which, whilst conveying King Edward III. on his intended invasion of France, met with the French Fleet of 400 ships near Sluys, assembled to oppose Edward's progress, and a furious battle ensued on June 13th, in which the French were entirely defeated, with the loss of 230 ships and 30,000 men.

In 1340, the manor of Ingoldisthorpe devolved to the family of Sir Richard de Walkefare. Of this family Sir Thomas de Walkefare signalled himself at the Battle of Poitiers in France, and in the thirty-first of Edward III. had from that King a safe conduct for his prisoner, Sir Tristram de Mugalies for Bromard, Gerrard de Brois and Megerdos, the scuten or esquires of the said Sir Tristram, or for his three valets, to go on horseback or on foot to France, to procure his ransom.

In 1346, at the taking of Calais, Yarmouth assisted the King with forty-three ships, having on board 1075 mariners; more than came from any sea port in England.

In the twentieth year of the reign of Edward III., 1347, we find the bailiffs, burgesses, and other inhabitants of Yarmouth, presenting a petition to the King for liberty to cut a haven nearer to the town than the old channel at the North End, it having been nearly silted up. The King immediately granted their request in consideration of their worthy service at Sluys in Flanders, they having supplied fifty-two ships for the King's service. The new haven thus obtained was but a temporary relief, for though it cost a large sum to keep up, in twenty-six years it was so choked with sand, that no ships could enter it, so that they were under the necessity of being unloaded at Kirkley Road. This being stated to the King (Edward III.), he was pleased to unite Kirkley Road to the port of Yarmouth, on payment of 100 shillings per annum, and to grant power to the port to receive the same duties at Kirkley Road as at Yarmouth.

But this union of Kirkley road to Yarmouth was not effected without great opposition on the part of the inhabitants of Lowestoft, on account of the advantages that attended the unloading of ships there, the owners of the ships refusing to pay the ancient customs due to the port of Yarmouth, which occasioned the burgesses to apply to the King, who thereupon granted a writ of *ad quod damnum*, in his forty-fourth year, directed to the escheator of Norfolk and Suffolk, and two inquisitions were accordingly held, and a charter was granted for uniting Kirkley Road to Yarmouth.

Notwithstanding this encouragement given to the burgesses, and their

troubles and expenses in making this second haven, in sixteen years after they found it as bad as the former, and navigation was again at a stand.

In this fourteenth century Lynn stood high among our seaports with regard to shipping. Hence, as long ago as 1347, when Edward III. was fitting out an expedition against France, and required his principal seaports to furnish him ships, he had nineteen ships from Lynn, when London only sent twenty-four, Bristol twenty-five, Plymouth twenty-six, Sandwich twenty-two, Dover twenty-one, Weymouth twenty, Newcastle seventeen, Hull sixteen, Harwich fourteen, and Ipswich only twelve. Thus Lynn appears then to have been one of the first seaports as to the number of its ships.

In 1347 the port of Dunwich sent six ships with 102 mariners to assist in the siege of Calais during the war with France, but most of the ships were lost with the lives of all the men and goods, to the value of £1000. During the twelve months' siege of Calais by Edward III. the seamen of the eastern coast took an active part. Colchester alone sent five ships and 170 mariners, and after the celebrated battle of Cressy, the custody of some of the prisoners was committed to the bailiffs of that town.

A chapter of horrors might be written descriptive of the plagues, pestilences, famines, floods, and fires which devastated the Eastern Counties for two hundred years after the Conquest. The darkness and gloom of the physical world seemed to correspond with the superstitions and vices of the people. The dark ages were ages of terrible calamities, and England was then a terrible country to live in. Plagues and pestilences now and again desolated the whole land. Norfolk and Suffolk did not escape the ravages of diseases, emphatically named the "Black Death."

A dreadful plague broke out in the year 1349 in the Eastern Counties, and 57,000 persons died in the diocese of Norwich, including Norfolk and Suffolk. Upwards of 7000 persons died of this malady in Yarmouth, and were buried in St. Nicholas' Churchyard. In every part of the town desolation prevailed, most of the houses were shut up, and all commerce was suspended. In Norwich about one-third of the inhabitants were swept away by the plague, and all trade was destroyed. Bishop Bateman collated 800 persons in his diocese to vacant benefices, so that at least one-half of his clergy must have died or fled away during the prevalence of the malady.

Soon after, the city rapidly prospered, and was visited by the most distinguished personages in the state, to many of whom loans were advanced. Its walls and towers were kept in a state of completeness and repair and constantly guarded, and the political influence of the citizens was felt throughout the country.

In 1351 the city was fined 100 marks for using false weights and

measures, and this practice had become so general that the fines in Norfolk alone for this fraud amounted to more than £1000. Such was the dishonesty of the county in that age.

The great pestilence of 1349 led to such a dearth of labourers that those who survived demanded exorbitant remuneration, and it became necessary that the government should at least attempt to regulate the price of labour. Of course rulers were ignorant of the true laws of supply and demand, and were not anxious to legislate in favour of the white slaves of England. The statute of labourers (twenty-third Ed. III.) made it imperative on every able-bodied person to do some work for small pay; but there is no doubt that working people were better lodged and fed in that long reign than they have been ever since.

The statute of labourers proves, however, that they were exposed to great annoyances, and were in a condition far below the state of political independence which they now enjoy; they were often compelled to do certain work, as is shown from such writs as the following, referring to the erection of Windsor Castle:—"Know ye that we have charged our friend William of Walsingham to take from our city of London as many painters as he shall need, to set them to work in our pay and to keep them as long as they are needed. If any be refractory let him be arrested and kept in one of our prisons, there to abide till further orders."

On January 15th, 1361, there arose so furious a storm of wind from the south-west as to throw down the tower of Norwich Cathedral, which falling on the choir, demolished a great part of it. The storm raged violently for six or seven days, and was followed by a prodigious fall of rain, which caused incredible damage by inundations. Where the inundations occurred is not stated in the local histories, but if in Norwich the damage must have been great indeed. The same year there happened a great dearth, attended by the plague. This was called the second pestilence.

In 1369 the plague broke out afresh in Norwich and Norfolk and in all the Eastern Counties, and carried off great numbers of people very suddenly. Yet in 1371 the citizens of Norwich were commanded to furnish the King with a good barge sufficiently equipped for war to serve against his enemies, the Spaniards and French.

About 1390 a great mortality broke out in Norwich, caused by the people eating unwholesome food, not from a scarcity of corn, but from the want of money to buy it. The plague raged greatly in Norfolk and in many other counties, and was nearly equal in severity to the first great pestilence.

In the fourteenth century, forty years after the date of the London charter, the city of Norwich, emulous of the example of the Metropolis, fancied that it would add to their importance if they, too, possessed in-

signia emblematic of their dignity. Having favoured the pretensions of Henry, Duke of Lancaster (son of John of Gaunt), he presented them with a sword, which on his ascending the throne, he permitted the Mayor and Sheriffs to have carried before them with the points erect, in the presence of all lords or nobles of the realm, whether they were of the Royal blood or not, excepting only in his own presence and that of his heirs.

The use of the sword as an emblem of municipal authority is not traceable in this country before the Norman Conquest, and indeed it is doubtful whether an object of any kind or shape was employed until the example was set by the Metropolis in the fourteenth century. The most ancient and general symbol of authority was the mace, which was originally an implement of war, invented for the purpose of breaking through the steel helmets or armour of the cavalry in the middle ages. About 1366, the serjeants of the City of London were empowered by Royal charter to carry maces of gold or silver, or plated with silver and ornamented with the Royal arms.

In the reign of Edward III. lived John Baconthorp, commonly called the subtle doctor. He was born at an obscure village in Norfolk, and educated in a monastery of Carmelites at Blakeney, after which he went to Oxford and thence to Paris, where he distinguished himself by his metaphysical knowledge. On his return to England, he was appointed principal of his order, and was sent to Rome to deliver his opinion on some points then in dispute concerning marriage, when he declared that the Pope had an inherent right to dispense with the laws of God, for which he was severely censured by his brethren, and obliged to sign a formal recantation. He was a strong supporter of the philosophy of Averrves, and wrote many books, which are all forgotten. He died in London in 1346.

In this reign of Edward III., the manor of Docking, Norfolk, was possessed by William Zouch, Lord Haringworth, in right of his wife, the daughter and heiress of John, Lord Lovell. This William, Lord Zouch, was a great warrior, and accompanied the King in many of his expeditions into France and Scotland. From John, Lord Zouch, this manor passed to Sir Thomas L'Estrange in the twenty-first of Henry VIII., and it remained in the family of L'Estrange till the end of the reign of Elizabeth. It then came to the female heirs of Sir John Zouch of Derbyshire, and from them to the family of the Hovells in the time of James I.

Sir Oliver Hingham, of Hingham in Norfolk, flourished in the reign of Edward III. He was a valiant man, whom that King left governor of Aquitaine, in France, with but a few men against a numerous enemy, yet he gave a good account of his trust, for when the French lay before

Bourdeaux, the citizens there set open their gates, and raised the golden lilies upon their towers as if they surrendered, but brave Oliver, who was governor of the city and country, gave them so warm a reception, "that they did not drink so much claret in the city as they left blood behind them." He lived many years after, and when he died he was buried at Hingham, under a tomb of freestone.

William Bateman, Bishop of Norwich, was born at Norwich in the latter reign of Edward I. He was from his tenderest years of a docile and ingenuous disposition. Having, therefore, made a good proficiency in learning, wherein he surpassed all his equals, he was sent to the University of Cambridge. After having gone through the usual course of the sciences, he applied himself to the study of the civil law, in which he took the degree of doctor before he was thirty years of age, a thing then uncommon. On the 8th of December, 1328, he was collated to the Archdeaconry of Norwich. Soon after this he went and studied at Rome for his further improvement; and so distinguished himself by his knowledge and exemplary behaviour, that he was promoted by the Pope to the place of auditor of his palace; he was likewise advanced by him to the Deanery of Lincoln, and so great an opinion had he of his prudence and capacity, that he sent him twice as his nuncio to endeavor to procure a peace between Edward III., King of England, and the King of France. Upon the death of Anthony de Beck, Bishop of Norwich, the Pope, by his usurped provisional power, conferred that bishopric upon him on the 23rd of January, 1343, and consecrated him with his own hands. He was confirmed on the 23rd of June, 1344. Being invested with that great dignity, he returned to his native country after many years absence, and lived in a regular and withal in a generous and hospitable manner. Of Pope Clement VI. he obtained for himself and successors the first fruits of all vacant livings within his diocese, which occasioned frequent disputes between himself and his clergy. In the year 1347 he founded Trinity Hall in Cambridge, for the study of the civil and canon laws, and another hall, dedicated to the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary, for the study of philosophy and divinity. Being a person of great wisdom, eloquent, and of a fine address, he was often employed by the King and Parliament in affairs of the highest importance, and particularly was at the head of several embassies, sent on purpose to determine the great differences between the Crowns of England and France. In 1354 he was, by order of Parliament, despatched to the Court of Rome, with Henry Duke of Lancaster and others, to treat in the Pope's presence of a peace then in agitation between the two Crowns above mentioned. This journey proved fatal to him, for he died at Avignon, where the Pope then resided,

on the 6th of January, 1354-5, and was buried with great solemnity in the Cathedral church.

Thomas Percy, brother of Henry, Earl of Northumberland, was chosen Bishop of Norwich, January 15th, 1356. During his prelacy the tower of the Cathedral at Norwich was blown down by a high wind, which, falling on the choir, damaged the building. He gave £400 out of his own purse, and obtained an aid from his clergy of ninepence in the pound, which enabled him to rebuild the tower with the lofty spire in its present elegant form. In 1368, the dread of the French invasion was so prevalent that this bishop with all the clergy in the diocese were put under arms. He died, August 8th, 1369, and was buried in the nave on the west side of the organ in the Cathedral.

Henry le Spencer, a relative of King Richard II., Canon of Salisbury, was nominated Bishop of Norwich in 1370. He was bred to arms in his youth, and may be called the military bishop. After being advanced to that dignity, he still continued to distinguish himself in his former profession by going to France at the head of a great military force to assert the pontifical rights of Pope Urban VI. against the anti-Pope Clement VII., and with his sovereign against the French King. He was a persecutor of all heretics, not suffering any of the followers of Wickliffe to live in his diocese. He died August 23rd, 1406, and was buried near the steps of the altar in Norwich Cathedral.

#### REIGN OF RICHARD II.—1377 to 1399.

Richard II. began his reign on June 22nd, 1377. He was the only son of Edward the Black Prince, and the grandson of Edward III. His first wife was Anne of Bohemia, sister of the Emperor Wencislaus; his second, Isabella, daughter of Charles VI. of France. He had no issue. The young King's accession was hailed by the acclamations of the people, and his coronation was conducted with unusual splendour on July 16th. Next day the barons held a great Council, and twelve persons were selected to assist the Chancellor and Treasurer in carrying on the Government during the minority of the King.

As the French took advantage of the youth of Richard to renew the war, and plundered the coasts of England, it became needful to raise supplies; and the new Parliament granted an aid of two-tenths in the towns, and two-fifteenths in the counties; and in order to secure its proper disbursement, two eminent citizens of London were appointed treasurers of the fund thus voted. Nearly the whole of the subsidy was expended in an expedition undertaken by John of Gaunt on behalf of the Duke of Brittany, but he returned without having engaged in any important operation against the enemy.

There was another urgent demand for a subsidy in the next Parliament ; and after requesting and receiving permission to examine the public accounts, they laid additional duties on wool, wool fells, and skins ; and about seven months after, in 1379, on the King spontaneously offering the Treasury accounts for the inspection of Parliament, a capitation tax was granted, which varied from 4d., the payment required from a laborer, to £6 13s. 4d., the sum at which a duke was assessed. The amount raised was insufficient for the exigencies of the Government, which was burdened by a war with Scotland as well as with France ; and in 1380 a tax was imposed of “ three groats per head on every male and female of fifteen years of age, except beggars, the sufficient people in every town to contribute to the assistance of the less able, so as none should pay above sixty groats for himself and wife.” This impost, which fell most oppressively on the poor, and was farmed out to collectors in each county, led to the famous rebellion of 1381, of which a particular account must now be given, as it commenced in the Eastern Counties, and extended through Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk.

#### WAT TYLER'S REBELLION.

In 1380 the Parliament granted the King, as before stated, a new and at that time strange subsidy by way of poll-tax ; to be levied on every person above fifteen years of age, monks and nuns not excepted. This poll-tax caused great discontent amongst the people, and the year following an open rebellion broke out, for the common people thinking themselves aggrieved thereby, and galled with the oppression of the lords and gentry, rose in many parts of the kingdom, resolved to force the King to make them free, and to release them from the state of villanage or serfdom under which they groaned, for England was at that time a land of bondage.

The insurrection first began in Essex, in consequence of some indecent conduct by a collector of the poll-tax towards the daughter of one Walter, a tiler, for which the father knocked out his brains with a hammer. The common people applauded the deed, and promising to stand by him, he soon found himself at the head of 100,000 men, who declared him their chief, and protector of the poor. They were presently joined by one John Ball, an excommunicated priest, who by his seditious discourses greatly influenced the minds of the people, telling them that, all men being the sons of Adam, there ought to be no distinction between them, that property was a robbery of the poor, and that the great difference in men's estate was directly contrary to Christianity. The favourite subject on which he commonly preached was comprised in the following distich :—

“ When Adam delved, and Eve span,  
“ Who was then the gentleman ?”

These risings were universal throughout the kingdom. Suffolk people collected to the number of 50,000 men, and committed numberless outrages. Sir John Cavendish, Lord Chief Justice, and Sir John Cambridge, prior of Bury, fell a sacrifice to their fury. So unbounded was their rage against every kind of literature, that they burnt all the ancient charters in the Abbey of Bury St. Edmund's and the University of Cambridge. Another body of rebels, collected from Lynn, Thetford, and Yarmouth, proceeded to Norwich, where they were headed by John Litester, a dyer and citizen, who styled himself King of the Commons. In the course of their proceedings they seized and carried along with them all the gentlemen they met with, some of whom Litester obliged to serve him at table on their bended knees. Sir Stephen de Hales, being a very handsome man, was appointed his chief carver. The citizens treated with the rebels, and advanced them a large sum of money to save the town from fire and plunder; but notwithstanding this, King Litester entered the city, and demolished the houses of the gentry and lawyers, pretending that they were not comprised in the agreement.

Henry le Spencer, then Bishop of Norwich, a man as remarkable for his bravery as his charity, hearing of these commotions, set out from his manor-house of Burleigh, near Stamford, and entered the city with all the troops he could collect. The rebels had retired to North Walsham, where they lay strongly encamped. The bishop followed them there, and attacked them in their trenches, which he soon carried, and after a severe contest obtained a complete victory. A dreadful slaughter of the rebels ensued. Litester, their king, with the principal leaders, were taken prisoners, tried, condemned, hanged, drawn, and quartered, according to the barbarous custom of the times. Others soon after received the just reward of their crimes.

The rebels in Essex and Kent dispersed on the death of their leader, Wat Tyler, who was killed by William Walworth, Mayor of London, at the head of his followers. Thus this terrible rebellion was quelled more easily than might have been expected. Mr. Collier gives the following account of the rebellion in Essex:—

Soon after the accession of Richard II., a new, and at that time it was considered a strange, spirit began to manifest itself in the lower orders of society. The concessions which the barons had exacted, as a sop to induce the common people to support their pretensions, had awakened a desire for a larger degree of independence. A revolt of the peasants in France was talked of among the serfs, and added to their sense of personal slavery, which was more general in England than in any other country in Europe. John Ball, who called himself "St. Mary's priest of York and now of Colchester," taking advantage of this feeling, went about Essex preaching the doctrine of equality in its widest sense, the right of all

to the soil, and inveighing against the insolence of one class in setting up distinctions of superiority over another. This was eagerly listened to and pondered over by the multitude, the mine of insurrection was thus prepared, and the spark which exploded it was struck from the anvil of an Essex blacksmith. A poll-tax of three groats a-head on all above the age of fifteen gave edge to the uneasy discontent of the degraded and, it may be truly said, the oppressed population. This impost had always been one of the most hated of government exactions, and in this instance an attempt to levy it with vigour drove the people to desperation. The ruling powers, pressed by a war with France, for the support of which the poll-tax was professedly laid on, finding it not sufficiently productive, sent out Special Commissioners to quicken its flow into the treasury. The Essex collectors were reprimanded for their remissness in not reaping a full harvest of groats from every head that had seen fifteen summers; and thus urged, they went forth with that stern sense of duty which power is so apt on all occasions to place in the foreground as an apology for its want of feeling. One of them entered the shop of a sturdy blacksmith at Brentwood, while he was engaged in the business of his craft. Attracted by his tread, a young maiden, just in her teens, came bounding forth from where she had been gambolling or watching her father weld the iron shoe. The quick eye of the tax-gatherer scanned her womanly height, and in the name of the King, demanded the tax upon her head. The blacksmith demurred; the girl, he said had not arrived at taxable maturity. The dispute grew warm; and the townfolk gathered round to listen. At length the taxing-man "offered to produce a very indecent proof that the girl was above fifteen, and at the same time laid hold of the maid." Heated by the quarrel, and exasperated by the insult to his child, the blacksmith with brawny arm raised his ponderous sledge hammer, and smote the tax-gatherer dead to the earth. This was the first blood shed in Wat Tyler's rebellion. The bystanders applauded the deed. Cries for further vengeance and demands for liberty were heard. The people instantly began to arm; and as the news spread throughout the surrounding county, multitudes flocked into the town, to take a part in this desperate and tumultuous movement of the common people. Thomas Bampton, one of the magistrates of the district, proceeded to the arrest of some of the leaders; but they were instantly liberated. The commissioners of the poll-tax and their attendants fled hastily to London; and the mob, left uncontrolled, proceeded to the most atrocious excesses. Houses were plundered, property was destroyed, several active officers of the government were murdered, and their heads were carried about on poles in triumph. "The flame," says Hume, "spread in an instant over the county; it soon propagated itself into that of Kent, Surrey, Suffolk, Norfolk, Hertford, Cambridge, and Lincoln. Before the government had the least warning of the danger, the disorder had grown beyond control or opposition; the populace had shaken off all regard to their former masters, and being headed by the most audacious and criminal of their associates, who assumed the feigned names of Wat Tyler, Jack Straw, Hob Carter, and Tom Miller, by which they were fond of denoting their mean origin, they committed everywhere the

most outrageous violence on such of the gentry and nobility as had the misfortune to fall into their hands." The Kent rebels assembled in a vast multitude on Blackheath, from whence they sent a message to the young King requesting an interview. The Essex men in the meantime mustered in thousands, and, marching upwards, swarming through Romford and Stratford, took a position on the opposite side of the river to second the demands. The King acceded to the proposed conference, but as he approached the mob he became alarmed at the signs of insolence amongst them, and hastily returned to the Tower. The Kentish peasants, enraged at this, rushed into the Metropolis and committed the most horrible excesses. Amongst those who perished was Richard Lyon, the owner of Liston Hall manor at Gosfield, a famous wine merchant and lapidary, who was one of the Sheriffs of London in 1374. He had been in former days the master of Wat Tyler, and in gratitude for all favours the rebel leader seized and beheaded him. While the Kent rebels thus devastated the city, the insurgent serfs of Essex appear to have lain quietly at Mile End. The King, with the Queen mother and party of nobles, met them there, and listened to their demands. It is a proof of the moderation of these men that at a time when they must have thought themselves irresistible, they asked only for the abolition of slavery, freedom to buy and sell in all market towns, a fixed rent instead of the services of villanage, and a general pardon. The sovereign granted their requests; the mob dispersed; and the following proclamation appeared:—

"Richard, &c. Know ye that of our special grace, we have manumitted or set free all and singular our liege subjects and others, of the county of Essex, and them and every one of them from all bondage do release and acquit by these presents. And also we pardon to our said liegemen and subjects all manner of felonies, treasons, transgressions, and extortions by them, or any of them, in any manner whatsoever done or committed, by riding about, going through divers places with men-at-arms, archers, and others, with armed force, flags and pennons flying. Witness ourself at London, the 15th of June, and the fourth year of our reign."

Having rid himself of one body of the rioters, the King turned with the same soothing mien to the other division of the city. The result of his interview with Wat Tyler and his band in Smithfield is well known. The rebel leader was struck down by the city mace, wielded by the hand of Walworth, the Lord Mayor; but the young King adroitly extricated himself from the consequences of this act, cajoled the rioters out of the city, and dispersed them with the promise that they should participate in all the privileges of the charter of enfranchisement he had just granted to the Essex men. While this was proceeding in London, fearful atrocities were committed by straggling bands of the seditious in various parts of the county. Colchester had caught the taint, and some excesses were committed in that district. Sir John Cavendish, the Lord of Pentlow, who had been Chief Justice of the King's Bench, was seized by a party of the "revolted clowns," as they were called, who were incensed against him because it was his son who killed Wat Tyler, after he had been prostrated at Smithfield. His house

was plundered and laid waste, and the judge himself was hurried into Suffolk and beheaded. But little resistance was offered to these excesses. Spencer, the celebrated military bishop, who had a seat at Lambourn, mustered a slender force and defeated the rebels in Norfolk. The arm of authority and the spirit of the nobles, however, appear to have been paralyzed by the sudden audacity of those who had been regarded as part and parcel of their estates; and for weeks the county lay in this state of anarchy, with society turned upside down, peasants dictating to kings, and the barons trembling at the footsteps of the serfs. Vengeance, however, was not far off. The King called a Parliament and laid before it the letters of enfranchisement, observing, "It is for you to decide whether the peasants shall enjoy the rights of freemen or not." "God preserve us," responded the barons "from subscribing to such charters, though we were all to perish in one day." They backed their bold words by a rally of their retainers, and the King soon found himself at the head of an army of 40,000 men. A part of this force, headed by the King, marched into Essex to thrust the serfs back into slavery, and took up a position at Waltham. The disaffected, on their side, mustered in vast force at Billericay, where they unanimously resolved to retain their half-fledged freedom, or die in the conflict. A distracted and undisciplined mob, however, was no match for mailed knights and men-at-arms; and when the King's force came up they were surrounded, smitten down, and scattered in all directions. Some sought shelter in the surrounding woods; and old Norsey, which has so often since then echoed the music of the fox hound, was surrounded by the armed horsemen, and disturbed by the cry of the overtaken fugitive. A remnant fled to Colchester; but the discreet burgesses and former abettors there would have nought to do with them, and they were either captured or killed. Chelmsford in consequence of these disturbances was honoured by a Royal visit. The King, with a large part of his force, took up his quarters in the town—the ancient palace of Writtle probably affording accommodation to the monarch and his court—and proceeded to hold an assize of blood. The first act was to call in the letters of enfranchisement, entire villages being menaced with wholesale military execution if they withheld them; and these were burnt in presence of the people. A proclamation was issued commanding that all freemen and knaves should, as heretofore, perform all the works and services which they owed to their lords, according to ancient custom, and should not be allowed any right or privilege they did not enjoy before the insurrection, "inasmuch," it was said, "as the letters of enfranchisement issued from our court without mature consideration, and seeing that the granting of them tended to the great prejudice of us and our crown, and of the prelates, lords, and barons, of our kingdom, and of the most holy church." The pardons were revoked; and those who had taken the lead in the insurrection were seized, condemned, and executed, some with form of law, but many others without. A court was opened at Chelmsford for the trial of the offenders, and it is stated that 500 persons, who repaired to that town, and threw themselves at the King's feet, obtained pardon; but the county wore the aspect of a common slaughter-house. Cruelties of the most horrible description were accompaniments of the executions. Men were half

strangled at one corner of a street, and then taken to be hanged at another. In this way some were "hanged four times at the corners of towns." These were the terrors and atrocities by which the spirit of that day sought to crush the freedom which every peasant in the land now enjoys, without being conscious of its value, or the price set upon it on former days—the right to choose his own master, and sell his labour where he likes—to rise, if he can, in the social scale, without being held in menial bondage, and disposed of as a chattel to the next possessor of the soil on which he happens to be born."

Richard II. granted a charter to the city of Norwich, which is dated at Westminster, February 26th, 1377, by which all the former charters were confirmed, and also "that if there are any customs contained therein which they have not used, yet for the future occasion they might use them without having a *non-user* or *dis-user* pleaded against them," and further there is a clause added that no privileged person should enter the city and buy victuals beforehand, &c.

Richard II. held a Parliament at Cambridge in 1381, in the buildings of Trinity College, which were then of sufficient magnitude for the purpose. Much dissatisfaction was expressed on account of the state of public affairs. The King, as he advanced towards manhood, did not exhibit that firmness which had been anticipated, but suffered himself to be guided by two arrogant favourites—De Vere, whom he created Marquis of Dublin; and De la Pole, whom he had made Earl of Suffolk and Chancellor. The Parliament, at the instance of the King's uncle, requested the dismissal of the Chancellor, whom they charged with maladministration.

Richard petulantly replied that he would not at their desire remove the meanest scullion from his kitchen. They threatened the King that if he continued obstinate they would depose him, and he removed his minister, who was impeached. De la Pole was convicted of some charges, ordered to pay a fine, and to be imprisoned during the Royal pleasure (1386). The De la Poles are an ancient family in Suffolk, and have been prominent in public affairs.

In the seventh of Richard II. (1384), Sir William Elmham, of Elmham in Norfolk, was accused in Parliament and condemned for having received of the King's enemies in France 3400 francs of gold for making peace with them whilst in the army commanded by Henry Spencer, Bishop of Norwich; and the King wrote to the Sheriff of Norfolk to levy the same on the lands and goods of Sir William, to arrest him and to bring him before the King and Council, to be imprisoned till he should satisfy him by a fine and ransom; but he was afterwards pardoned in the same year.

In the thirteenth of Richard II., a descendant of the Fitz Alans of Norfolk, Richard Earl of Arundel, subscribed the letter to Pope

Boniface complaining of the great mischief to the kingdom by papal previsions to benefices and other papal grievances which had become intolerable, and were the subjects of general indignation and complaint.

In the eleventh year of Richard II. (1388) Henry Spencer, Bishop of Norwich, had a license to build a castle at North Elmham in Norfolk, and he seems to have re-built the old manor house which is now in ruins. The site of the castle was on a mount, surrounded with a deep intrenchment, containing about five acres, formerly no doubt full of water, to which belonged a noble demesne and a park. That it was always a place of strength is highly probable, most of the bishops in ancient days having castles for their seats.

In 1389, when John of Gaunt visited Norwich, the citizens received him with the highest honours, and ten years after they openly espoused the cause of the house of Lancaster by declaring themselves for his son afterwards crowned Henry IV.

During this reign the trade of Norwich continued to increase, and laws were passed for regulating the sale of worsted stuffs. The citizens were then a plain, homely sort of people, and, like their forefathers, were content with coarse woollen cloths for their plain clothes.

Great enormities were committed in 1395 by some Danish pirates cruising off the eastern coast. Several small ships were fitted out to engage them at the expense of Norwich, Yarmouth, and other towns. Those ships falling in with the Danes, a sharp conflict ensued, in which the Norfolk vessels were defeated, and carried to Denmark, where the Danes obliged the crews to pay large sums of money for their liberation. The pirates took £20,000 in specie from some merchant vessels sailing northward.

In 1396 Thomas Lord Mowbray, Earl Marshal of England, went on an embassy to demand in marriage Isabella, daughter of Charles VI. of France, who became Queen of England, on which the Duke of Gloucester, the King's uncle, as also the youngest son of Edward III., not approving of the marriage, projected a conspiracy, which he formed at Arundel Castle, with Richard Fitz Alan, Lord Mowbray, and other lords, for taking the King Richard II. prisoner and hanging the lords of his Council; but this Lord Mowbray apprised the King of it. On this information the King went with an armed force to the duke's country seat at Pleshy, near Romford, in Essex, where by stratagem they inveigled him from his home towards London; when having at the midnight hour reached a solitary glen near Stratford, in Essex, the King designedly rode off, upon which the Earl Marshal, with a posse of horsemen, seized upon the duke and carried him on board a vessel which lay ready in the Thames, whence

he was conveyed to Calais, where he was smothered between two featherbeds in September, 1397. Soon after, the Earl of Arundel was arrested, arraigned, and found guilty of treason, and beheaded in Cheapside, London, the King himself being a spectator and the Earl Marshal the executioner.

In 1397 Richard II. advanced Thomas Lord Mowbray for his base services, to the title of Duke of Norfolk, with remainder to him and his heirs male, and granted him the castles, manors, and lands which were late the Earl of Arundel's, and gave him also the arms of Edward the Confessor, but his greatness did not last long, as in 1398 the King, who had been seeking an opportunity of exercising his arbitrary power over him, readily lent himself to the occasion of a quarrel between him and the Duke of Hereford (afterwards Henry IV.), which originated by the latter accusing the former in Parliament of having spoken seditious words against his Majesty in a private conversation. The Duke of Norfolk, denying the charge, gave the Duke of Hereford the lie, and offered to prove his innocence (according to the law of chivalry) by single combat. As proofs were wanting for legal trial, the lords readily acquiesced in that mode of determination, and the combat was fixed to take place at Coventry in the presence of the King, where, on the day appointed, the champions appeared, when the King stopped the combat, and proclaimed that both should be banished, Norfolk for life and Hereford for ten years. They were sent into exile accordingly.

In February, 1399, Henry the Duke of Hereford became Duke of Lancaster by his father's death, and being informed of the state of the nation, he landed with a small force at Ravenspur, and was at once joined by the Earls of Northumberland and Westmoreland. He declared on oath that his sole design was to recover the estates which had been detained from him, and this moderation, coupled with his popularity, soon placed him at the head of 60,000 men. A fortnight elapsed before Richard II. heard of his cousin's invasion, and after some delay he landed at Milford with several thousand troops, who nearly all deserted him, and the King in disguise proceeded to Conway, where he expected to find a numerous force under the Earl of Salisbury. Most of the earl's followers, however, had disbanded, only a hundred remaining with him. When the place of the retreat of Richard became known, Henry Duke of Lancaster sent the Earl of Northumberland to visit him, and he by solemn assurances of safety made himself master of the King's person and led him to his enemy at Flint Castle. The King was conducted to Chester and thence to London, where he was lodged in the Tower. He was soon after deposed and imprisoned in Pomfret Castle, where it was said he died or was starved to death.

The state of the roads in the country is indicated by the fact that when Henry Duke of Lancaster, afterwards Henry IV., rode with his kinsman, the unfortunate Richard II., from Conway to London in such haste that he would not even allow the deposed monarch time to change his clothes, the journey occupied eleven days upon the road. They rested the whole Sunday at Lichfield. The greatest distance that they accomplished in any one day was 24 miles, but 14 miles was the usual average. (See Hollingshed.)

John Colton, D.D., born at Terrington in West Norfolk, was made for his excellent endowments Archbishop of Armagh, Primate of Ireland, by Richard II. He was first chaplain to William Bateman, Bishop of Norwich, and appointed the first master of Gonville Hall (now Caius College,) in Cambridge, by the founder of it. He was employed in an embassy to the Court of Rome, about the schism made in it by Urban VI. and Clement VII., which gave him occasion to write a learned treatise—*De Causa Schismatis*, and afterwards another—*De Remediis Ejusdem*. He resigned his Archbishopric a little before his death in 1404.

#### TRADE GUILDS.

There are few subjects that might be more profitably handled than the history of religious guilds in East Anglia, and indeed in all England, especially with reference to their great increase about the commencement of the 14th century. This, we may conjecture, was the work of some master hand in ecclesiastical polity, having most important results in increasing the temporal power of the church. The materials before us were scanty, till three large bundles of the returns made by these guilds, according to the Government order of Richard II., were discovered among the miscellanea of the Chancery records. These guilds seem to have had a good deal of a social and convivial character.

From the regular rules it seems that the guild served not only for religious purposes, but also as sick and burial clubs of the period. At Norwich especially, the rules of nearly every guild provided for the comfortable maintenance and decent interment of any member falling into poverty; while at Bury the primary and sole object of the guild seemed to be to provide for their exclusive spiritual benefit as many masses, psalms, lights, etc., as possible. Most of the Bury guilds appear to have been ecclesiastical, founded by priests who were desirous of showing extra devotion, and this idea is confirmed by the fact that while the rules of all the Bury guilds were in Latin, those of the Norwich trading guilds were in English. Each guild was held in some church where it had an image of its patron saint, before whose shrine wax candles were kept burning continually, and the decorations of the shrines of the richer

guilds were no doubt very splendid. The richer guilds had also a Guildhall, where they held meetings, but the great event of the year was the day of the patron saint. Some guilds commenced their devotions on the preceding evening, and after hearing vespers, and praying for the souls of all deceased brothers and sisters, they had a light supper of bread and cheese and beer. On the day itself the scene was a very impressive one. All the members living within a certain distance, or not hindered by infirmity, met at a trysting place, probably the Guildhall, dressed in hoods and uniform, and after forming in procession, carried candles for the use of the guild to church. Here they heard mass, and after each had made an offering, returned to the Guildhall, where they dined together, sometimes at the expense of the guild, and sometimes, in the case of the more thrifty guilds, at their own expense. They probably dined jovially, as the rules mentioned money as applicable to the supply of drink; and from these guilds probably descended the gorging propensities of the city companies. At Norwich the guild-day was long devoted to feasting, and the Mayor for the year generally invited the members of the old Corporation to dine with him in St. Andrew's Hall.

About twenty guilds or companies flourished in Norwich for a long time; and they held their annual feasts in the Hall in St. Andrew's, now called St. Andrew's Hall, whereon their arms were hung on the walls. Besides these trade guilds there was the St. George's Company, which on all public days contributed greatly to the splendour of the show by the magnificent dresses, rich banners, &c., that were displayed. This company or fraternity first began in 1385, and were incorporated by Charter in 1416. It was called an Association of Brethren and Sisters in Honour of St. George the Martyr; and had power to maintain a chaplain, whose office it was to pray daily for the health of the King with their brethren and sisters whilst alive, and for their souls when dead. During the reigns of Henry V. and Henry VI. this society was in high reputation; in the year 1450, the number of members is stated to have been 264; amongst whom we find the names of the Bishop of Norwich, the Earl of Suffolk, Sir John Fastolf, Sir Thomas Erpingham, Sir William Phelip, Lord Bardolf, and Lady Joan his wife, the Lady Joan Thorpe, and many other celebrated persons of those times.

The trade guilds held annual feasts and pageants, for which Norwich was celebrated during the Middle Ages. Before the Tudor period, the most popular festival days were Whit-Monday and Tuesday every year. On these anniversary days the citizens assembled, and the people from the surrounding districts flocked into the city, to witness gorgeous processions, pageants, and rude dramatic exhibitions. Miracle plays were performed in the open air, and were got up at an enormous cost to please

the spectators. St. Luke's Guild had for many years the management of these Whit-Monday exhibitions; but the expense being very heavy, St. Luke's Guild presented a petition to the Mayor and Corporation, praying that every other guild should bear the expense of one pageant in the Whitsuntide procession. The Mayor and Corporation agreed to this, and accordingly each guild had to pay the expense of a pageant on Monday in Pentecost week. The assembly-book in the Record-room in the Guildhall contains a list of the early pageants, entitled "Creation of the World," "Helle Carte," "Paradyse," "Abell and Cain," "Noyse Ship," and other Scripture subjects.

The pageants were exhibited on movable stages constructed for the purpose. Each company brought forward its pageant on the stage, where it was played. These stages comprised two rooms, one above the other, open at the top. The lower room was used as a dressing-room; the upper room was the place of performance. Each play was performed in the principal streets and public places of the city, and scaffolds were erected to enable some of the spectators to sit during the performance. The first probably began on Tombland, and then moved on to the Market Hill, where the Mayor took his position at the show. By the time this pageant was ended, the second was ready to take its place, and then it moved forward to another street, and then to another, &c., so that all the pageants were exhibited at different places about the same time. Order was thus to some extent well preserved, notwithstanding the great concourse of people. The pageants were introduced by proclamation of three heralds, who, after a flourish of trumpets, announced in a lengthy prologue the various parts of the pageant that were to be exhibited. The performances, as described, would now appear very ludicrous, and very like burlesques of the Bible.

In connection with Guilds, there were celebrations of Plough Monday in agricultural districts. Plough Monday was the name given to a rustic festival held on the Monday after the feast of the Epiphany, commonly called Twelfth-day. The members of the Guild went on Plough Monday to church, and kneeling before the plough rood prayed—

God spede the plow;  
And send us ale and corn enow,  
Our purpose for to make—

that is, to carry on their labours on the land and to spend a joyful day at the plough light of Lygate; and then to show their belief in the need of good ale to enable them to work they said—

Be merry and glad;  
'Twas good ale this work mad.

After which, gaily dressed, they passed in procession through the village,

dragging a plough that had been censed with incense by the priest, and gathering largesses as they went along. It may seem strange to us to pray for ale, but in those times ale was the common beverage of the common people everywhere in England, and was thought as necessary as bread for the support of life. Therefore it was as natural to pray for ale-corn as to pray for daily bread.

### STATE OF AGRICULTURE.

In this fourteenth century, all England had only a population of 3,000,000, and most of the land continued to be uncultivated. The Eastern Counties contained about a fourth part, or half a million, half of whom were little better than slaves. The towns were all small with but a small number of inhabitants, like the country market-towns of the present day.

After the Norman Conquest, several centuries elapsed before the oppressed people made any attempts to regain their liberty. Continental writers of the eleventh and twelfth centuries express astonishment at the great number of serfs in England, and the harshness of their servitude. All the cultivators of the land were called bondmen, and could be sold with their wives and children by the Norman lords. In 1378 a poll tax was levied of three groats per head upon all persons above 15 years of age. This led to disorders in Essex, and ultimately to Wat Tyler's rebellion, causing thousands of men to take up arms.

On account of the internal wars and commotions that continued without a pause from the arrival of William I. to the death of King John, the progress of agricultural or any other industry must have been slow indeed. The monasteries in East Anglia were the chief seats of agriculture. We owe the reclamation of a great part of the district entirely to the monks. They chose, for the sake of retirement, secluded retreats, and they cultivated the lands with their own hands.

The wars of the Middle Ages so occupied the time of the nobility and gentry that agriculture was almost entirely neglected, and rendered land of comparatively small value. The Norman Kings and barons by their excessive passion for the chase desolated entire counties. Military governments for several centuries did not even protect life and property. Consequently all industry and trade languished. The condition of the people must have been very bad indeed.

Agricultural operations were not carried on with very great success in the Eastern Counties. There was a great excess of meadow land, which was deemed much more valuable than arable land, as the large flocks of sheep that were fed on the pastures furnished so much wool, the most profitable export. Many of the larger estates were farmed by the owners

who employed villains or serfs. A full average crop on an acre of wheat was estimated at nine or ten bushels, but now it is forty or fifty bushels per acre on good land.

In 1359 the lord of the principal manor of Hawsted in Suffolk held in his own hands fifty-seven acres of arable land, estimated at from 4d. to 8d. per acre, and eight pieces of meadow land, valued at 202s. 4d. a-year, the quantities being about fifty acres; forty acres of wood at 1s. per acre, and the cropping of the trees and hedges at 6s. 8d. per year. In 1420, at Hawsted, eight acres of arable land were let at 6d. per acre, thirty-eight acres at 9d. The hay was worth 5s. per acre. It should be remembered that money was then ten times its present value.

In coming to the social condition of the rural population, we must confess that our information is still very scanty. From gleanings that may be made among the accounts of agriculture, we gather that some of the estates must have been very large, as well as plentifully provided. From the estate of the elder Spencer, it is stated that at the commencement of the fourteenth century, his enemies carried off 1000 oxen and heifers, 1200 cows and their calves, 500 cart horses, 28,000 sheep, and 2000 hogs. Such in all probability were the estates of the highest of the English nobility, whose wealth then consisted chiefly in these herds and flocks, more especially in the Eastern Counties. But in descending from these extreme to more common cases, let us take, as an example, the parish of Hawstead in Suffolk, as detailed in Sir T. Cullum's history of that district. The manor-house, which was of very large extent, was surrounded by a moat, and had two court-yards and three gardens, with its due establishment of pigeon-houses, rabbit warrens, and fish ponds. The tenants were thirty-two in number, who held of the lord of the manor and did him service for the land they occupied, the wages with which they were repaid being in kind and money; and independently of the tenants, he held in his own hands 572 acres of arable and fifty of meadow land, with sufficient pasturage for the live stock of the manorial farm. The persons employed in such an establishment were—a steward, who presided at the manor courts, kept the accounts of the farm and family, and took charge of the domestics; a bailiff, who superintended the whole of the farming operations; a head harvestman, elected by the tenantry; a sufficient staff of ploughmen, plough drivers, carters, shepherds, swineherds, and men of all work. This was a large establishment to provide for; but in looking to the live stock, we find that the manor of Hawstead had ten horses, ten oxen, one bull, twenty cows, six heifers, ninety-two sheep, two hundred two-year-old sheep, five geese, thirty capons, one cock and twenty-six hens. Thus we find that the manor was well victualled, not only for all the inmates, but also for hospitality.

One evidence of the happy change in the state of society in the fourteenth century is to be found in the condition of the rural population. This no longer consisted only of master and slave, their sole inheritance was no longer that of enjoyment or endurance. From both ranks, but especially the latter, a middle class was being formed, created by the political necessities of the times, and the yeomanry of England were soon both in point of influence and number to form a sufficient counterpoise between the oppressors and the oppressed. There was now a peasantry in the land who could sit under their own roofs without fear of dislodgment, and eat the fruits of their own industry.

#### THE DUKES OF NORFOLK, FRAMLINGHAM.

We have now to introduce to our readers a long line of distinguished characters in the persons of the Mowbrays, and subsequently, the Howards, Dukes of Norfolk, who great in the senate, and ever conquering in the field, became the successive possessors of Framlingham Castle and all its domains, with estates in Suffolk and Norfolk, except when banishment, attainders, or executions placed their estates for a time in regal hands. The Mowbray family generally resided in the Castle at Framlingham.

Thomas Mowbray, the first of these ancient personages, was the second and only surviving of John Mowbray, lord of the Isle of Axholm, in Lincolnshire, who had married the lady Margaret's daughter, Elizabeth, by her first husband, the late John, Lord Segrave. In 1398, by the regular course of descent, he had possession of the castles, honours, manors, and lands of the Lady Margaret, the late duchess, his maternal grandmother. Richard II. constituted him Earl Marshal of England for life in 1385, and as a reward for his base services advanced him to the title of Duke of Norfolk in 1397. He married first Elizabeth, daughter of John Le Strange, of Blackmore, in Essex, who died August 23rd, 1383, without issue; secondly, Elizabeth sister and co-heiress of the unfortunate Earl of Arundel, by whom he had two sons, Thomas and John; and two daughters, Isabel and Margaret, who married Sir Robert Howard, Knt., from whom sprung the Howards, Dukes of Norfolk, whose names as well as deeds will form a prominent part of this history. Thomas Mowbray, the first Duke of Norfolk, having been banished, died in Venice about a year after his sentence, and was buried in the Abbey of St. George in that city.

Thomas Mowbray, son of the late duke, succeeded to the title and estates by a grant from the King Henry IV. in 1403, and he married the King's niece, the Lady Constance, daughter of John Holland, first of that name, Duke of Exeter. His career was very short, as he conspired with

other lords against the King. He was, with others, arrested and beheaded at York. His head was set upon the city walls, and his body was buried in York Cathedral. The next consequence of this act of treason was the forfeiture of the duke's real and personal estate to the Crown, but the King granted it again to his brother, John Mowbray.

In 1413 this John Mowbray had the office of Earl Marshal confirmed to him by Henry V. on his accession to the throne. In 1415, though then very young, he was with the King at the siege of Harfleur, and in 1417 at that of Caen, which was taken, and he continued there until the King's death in 1422. The father of this earl having died without attainder in 1424, he presented a petition to Parliament for the dukedom of Norfolk, which being allowed, in 1426 he was declared Duke of Norfolk as the son of the first duke. Next year he came into possession of all his lands, castles, &c.

Lady Catherine, his wife, was the daughter of Ralph Neville, Earl of Westmoreland, by whom he had one son, named John, who succeeded when he died, in October 19th, 1434, at his manor of Epworth, in the Isle of Axholm, and his remains were interred in the chapter house of the Abbey of the Carthusians, within a tomb of alabaster.

John Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, being a minor, was placed under the guardianship of Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester. In 1439 he went on an embassy with other lords to negotiate a peace between this country and France, but they failed in that object.

Within six years after this, upon confirmation of the title of the Duke of Norfolk to him and the male heirs of his body, he had a grant of place and a seat in Parliament and all other meetings. In 1447 the Duke, dreading the factions which were engendering between the rival houses of York and Lancaster, set out on a pilgrimage to Rome, but after remaining there a short time, he returned, and conveyed the castle and manor of Framlingham to John Stafford, Archbishop of Canterbury and others. He married Eleanor, only daughter of Lord William Bouchier, and by her had one son. In 1461 he died, and was buried at Thetford.

John Mowbray, the fourth and last of that name, Duke of Norfolk, son and heir of the former duke, succeeded at the age of seventeen to his father's title, having been in the lifetime of the latter created Earl of Surrey and of Warrenne, by Henry VI. in 1450, as being lineally descended from those earls. It does not seem that this nobleman took any part in the distressing contentions of his time, as the only instance in which he appears was after the twelfth battle fought between the contending houses at Tewkesbury Park, on May 4th, 1471, when in his official capacity as Earl Marshal he presided at the summary trial and condemnation of Edmund Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, and others of the supporters

of the house of Lancaster, who were all beheaded at Tewkesbury. On January, 17th, 1475, the short-lived grandeur of this duke was suddenly brought to a close, and he breathed his last in the castle at Framlingham. This last of the Mowbrays appears to have been frequent in his visits to "our Lady of Walsingham," and two of his pilgrimages *on foot* are specially noticed in the Paston letters.

The male line of this noble family having become extinct, the Lady Anne Mowbray, who was then about four years old, succeeded to her father's estates. This infant lady, being the richest and most noble match of the time, was on January 15th, 1418, when only six years old, married to Richard, second son of Edward IV., Duke of York, who on the eve of the alliance had received first the additional title of Earl of Nottingham, next those of Duke of Norfolk and of Earl Warrenne and of Surrey. He was also constituted Earl Marshal of England, and in right of his lady he became Lord of Segrave, Mowbray, and of Gower. His arms were France and England, a label of three points argent charged with a canton, in the first file gules, most of which were to be seen in various parts of the castle at Framlingham, Suffolk.

On account of the extreme youth of the parties, the castle and manor of Framlingham were settled by Act of Parliament upon Thomas Bouchier, Cardinal and Archbishop of Canterbury, and others, in trust for the duchess and his heirs. The duchess died in very early life, and before the consummation of the marriage; and the Duke of York, her ill-fated husband, with his brother Edward V., were conveyed to the Tower, where they were smothered in a dungeon at midnight by assassins obeying the order of their barbarous uncle, the Duke of Gloucester, who thus completed his usurpation and became King Richard III. On the death of these infants, their large inheritance descended to their cousins, John Howard and William Berkeley, the sons of Margaret and Isabel, daughters of Thomas Mowbray, first of that name Duke of Norfolk.

#### THE FAMILY OF FASTOLFF, CAISTER.

The Fastolff family was one of the oldest in Norfolk, and flourished in honourable distinction in different part of England before the Norman Conquest. The first of this family who had any possessions in Norfolk was Thomas Fastolff, Esq., to whom Oliver de Ingham granted in the seventh of Edward II. his right in the manor of Rudham at Caister; and in 1356 John Fastolff, Esq., purchased the lordship of Vaux, which was confirmed to Hugh Fastolff in 1363. John Fastolff was lord of Vaux, Rudham, and Caister manors, held of the Abbot of Holme, and was buried in the chapel of St. Nicholas, in the church of Yarmouth, leaving John, his son and heir, afterwards the famous Sir John Fastolff. He was

born at Yarmouth in 1389, but his father dying before he was of age, he became the ward of a nobleman, and was trained up according to the custom of the times in the Norfolk family. About the year 1401, Thomas of Lancaster, afterwards Duke of Clarence, second son of Henry IV., was sent as Lord-Lieutenant to Ireland, and it is supposed that Sir John attended him, for it appears that he was with him in 1405 and 1406, when Sir John was in the 25th year of his age. Two years afterwards he married, in Ireland, Melicentia, Lady Castlecombe, daughter of Sir Robert Tibelot, and relict of Sir Stephen Scrope, a lady of great beauty and fortune; soon after which, being appointed to some posts of trust in Gascony, he went to reside there. In 1415 Sir John was intrusted, in conjunction with the Earl of Dorset, with the government of Harfleur, and it appears that he was present with Henry V. at the battle of Agincourt, where he behaved with great bravery. After the death of that King, he was appointed by the Regent Bedford grand-master of his household, and seneschal of Normandy. In 1423 he was constituted lieutenant for the King and Regent in that province, in the jurisdiction of Rouen, Evreux, Alençon, and the countries beyond the river Seine, and also governor of Anjou and Maine. Afterwards he captured the castles of Tenaye, Beaumont le Vicompt, and Silliele, the latter in 1425, from which he was dignified with the title of baron. And in the same year, this active warrior took also St. Ouen, D'Estrius, near Luval, and the castle of Graville, with other places of strength, from the enemy, for which services he was about the same time elected in England a Knight of the Garter. In 1428 he gained great honour by his valour at the memorable battle of Herrings, in which he defeated the French and succeeded in conducting a convoy of herrings in triumph to the English camp before Orleans. On this signal victory a witty Frenchman wrote the lines:—

God was wholly turned unto the English side,  
And to assist the French the devil had denied.

In 1430 the Duke of Bedford, then regent, appointed him to the lieutenancy of Caen in Normandy. Two years after he was sent ambassador to the Council at Basil, and was subsequently appointed to negotiate a permanent or temporary peace with the French. The same year, Sir John, with Lord Willoughby, commanded the army which assisted the Duke of Brittany against the Duke of Alençon. After this he was for some time in England, but in 1435 he was again with the regent in France, and the same year he was appointed one of the ambassadors to conclude a peace with the French. The Duke of Bedford dying that year, showed his regard for Sir John by constituting him one of his executors.

His successor in the regency, Richard<sup>1</sup> Duke of York, gave Sir John an annuity of £20 out of his own estate for his good services and counsel. After 1436 he appears to have been settled for four years at his government in Normandy. In 1440 he returned home to Caister near Yarmouth. There he built the castellated mansion, part of which now stands as a monument to the hero. He died on November 6th, 1459, and was buried in a chapel erected by himself at the Abbey of St. Benet's in the Holme, near Ludham. It appears that at the time of his death he was extremely rich, and possessed estates in Norfolk, Suffolk, Yorkshire, and Wiltshire, the greatest part of which he bequeathed to charitable purposes. While he lived at Caistor in Norfolk he was highly esteemed for his virtues and great hospitality. He was a benefactor to both the Universities, and bequeathed a large legacy to Cambridge for the schools of civil laws and philosophy, and he was very liberal also to Magdalen College, Oxford.

A manuscript in the possession of Anstin, formerly Garter King at Arms, states that Sir John Fastolff having taken the Duke of Alençon prisoner at the battle of Agincourt, the duke agreed, as a ransom, to build a castle at Caister similar to his own in France, in consequence of which agreement this castle was erected at his expense. The battle of Agincourt was fought on October 25th, 1415, but probably the castle was not built till Sir John returned to his home at Caister. The mansion enclosed a court, in figure a rectangled parallelogram, whose south and north sides were larger than those in the east and west. At the north-west angle is the tower; the grand entrance was over a drawbridge on the west side. A manuscript in St. Benet's College, Cambridge, written by William de Worcester (who was officer of arms or herald to Sir John Fastolff), says that "on the right hand on entering the great hall, which measured forty-nine feet in length and twenty-eight feet in breadth, adjoining to the tower, was the dining-room." The great fire-place is still visible. Directly east of this, communicating by a drawbridge, stood the college, encompassed by three sides of a square, whose area was larger than that enclosed in the walls of the mansion. The west side was bounded by a moat, having two round towers on the north-east and south-east angles, and the great avenue was at the west end of the north side.

The Worcester MSS. before mentioned says that this castle was twice besieged in the reign of Edward IV., in consequence of the disputes between Sir John Fastolff's executors, and has preserved the names of the assailants and defenders upon those occasions. Anthony Lord Scales first took possession of it in the name of the King, under pretence that Sir John Paston was the King's villain (which was untrue), and destroyed much of the furniture and goods within the castle.

Sir John Fenn, in a collection of letters relating to this obscure period of Norfolk history, preserved one from John Paston, Esq., to his brother the knight, in which, referring to the siege, he says, "We were sore lack of victuals and gunpowder. Men's heart for lack of surety of rescue were driven thereto to take appointment," by which it appears the garrison suffered much inconvenience and distress during the siege. Sir John Paston, however, was afterwards, through the favour of the King, restored to his possessions, for on the 6th of July, 1466, the King granted him a warrant to take possession of all the lands of his late father, mother, and grandmother, which lands had been seized by the King on evil surmises made to him against his deceased father, uncles, and himself, of all of which they were sufficiently and openly acquitted before his majesty.

John Mowbray, the Duke of Norfolk, next claimed the castle, under the pretence of having purchased it and lands of William Yelverton; but this act of the duke's was illegal and contrary to the will of the founder, who had ordered that it should not be sold, but kept as a college for priests and an hospital for poor men. John Paston, jun., acting as governor of the castle on behalf of his brother, Sir John Paston, who was absent, refused to surrender the possession, but the duke appeared before the walls with 3,000 men armed with guns, and forced the surrender in about a fortnight. The duke continued in possession of the castle from September, 1469, till 1472, when John Paston, jun., presented a petition for his brother, Sir John Paston, and himself, to be restored to the manor of Caistor, from which they had been put out of possession more than three years.

The towers and ruins of the college have been converted into barns and stables; and the whole building wears an air of melancholy and deserted grandeur, forming a striking contrast to its former character for magnificence and hospitality. It conveys to the mind an impressive lesson on the mutability and uncertain duration of human labours.

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