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The Manor and Church of Great Chalfield

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THE MANOR AND CHURCH OF GREAT CHALFIELD.

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I.

I.—THOMAS TROPENELL, the builder, or rather re-builder, of the Manor-house, caused a chartulary of his property to be drawn up in 1464 and following years, which will be largely used in the present memoir. The book, which had been lost sight of for many years (*see* Hoare's *Wilts*, vol. v., pt. 2, p. 116; Jackson's *Aubrey*, pp. 2, 20, 82, &c.; and Walker's *Great Chalfield*, p. 25), passed into the hands of the present writer some few years ago from a representative of former possessors of the Monks and Bowden Park Estates; and it may be of interest to give at once a general description of this long-missing chartulary. In size and appearance it is a strongly-bound volume, with brass clasps; the binding, in ledger style, dating apparently from the seventeenth century. It measures 14 by 11 inches and 4½ inches thick, and contains 978 parchment pages besides fly-leaves, on the first of which is a list of the manors or properties dealt with. Just inside the cover, on the *verso* of the coloured leaf, occurs the name, which has been erased with a knife, but which is just distinguishable when it is otherwise known, of "E. Dickinson, Esq., Monks, Wilts." There appears to have been no date attached to the name. At the end of the book is a long note unsigned, but probably by one of the Danvers family, and bearing date 1695, stating that "Mr. Tropenell had issue one sonne and two daughters: the sonne being att mans estate dyed by an unfortunate accident, as hunting putting one end of a paire of Dogg Couples over his Head

running after his sport, and leaping over a hedge, the end of y^e Dogg Couple which hung at his back tooke hold of a boughe, kept him from touching y^e ground untill hee was strangled. His sisters co-Heirs, the eldest married Mr. John Eyre, the other Mr. Young." The note then gives the lineage of the elder daughter (the Eyre family), and ends with the reflection, "Quale foliorum genus tale et virorum:"

"As leafs from trees Mankind doe drop away,
So sons of Mortals flourish and decaye.—1695."

The chartulary, which is rubricated throughout, commences thus in rubric:—"In this Regester begonne to be writte on Alsowlyn day in the iiijth yere of Kyng Edward the iiijth [November 2nd, 1464] bethe conteyned all dedes and evidences concernyng all the maners, londes, and tenementes belongyng to Thomas Tropenell, Esquyer, and to his heires, and to his ffeoffees to her vse remaynyng in the seid Thomas Tropenelle's warde at the writyng hereof."

The documents concerning each manor or property are given in order. Thus those concerning Neston, Corsham, Corshamland, commence with a deed of Richard, Earl of Cornwall, tested but not dated, followed by a confirmation of 6 Ed. III. (1332); on page 44 is a note, by the writer of the note above quoted, and dated in the same year (1695), concerning the failure of Mr. Tropenell's male issue (but see below) and the succession to the Monks estate. The note ends with the similar reflection:

"Fatis agimur;
Quidquid patimur, mortale genus,
Quidquid facimus venit ex alto.
What mortals build time dos in rubbish lay,
As ffates decree the destinies obey."

Pages 45—50 give the customs of the lordship of Corsham "fro the tyme that no mynde rennethe." Following this are documents concerning Laverstock, Alington, Chippenham, Burton co. Glouc., Atworth, Cottles, Stratford, and Ficherton. From p. 245 to p. 262 an account is given,

apparently from the episcopal annals of Bishop Poore,¹ concerning the foundation of the city and cathedral of Salisbury (*Quomodo civitas Nove Sarum in principio inceptit, et Ecclesia Cathedralis ibidem fundata fuit, et de compositionibus inter Episcopum et Majorem et cives civitatis predictae factis*). This is followed by an account of property in New Sarum, Chalfield, Great Chalfield, with its owners from Sir Harry Percy to the then present possession of Thomas Tropenell, with their coats of arms emblazoned; next a chartulary of Great Chalfield, including notes on the constableness of Trowbridge Castle. Next come documents concerning lands at Hindon, Knolle, Milton, Chicklade, East and West Codford, Maiden Bradley, the advowson of Great Cheverell, Hazelbury, Castle Combe and Langdene, Harsrigge (Hassage), Littleton, and Wellow. Next a pedigree of the Tropenell family; after which documents about Whaddon-by-Ivychurch, Sopworth, Sherston, Kington, East Harnham, Kilmersdon, Walton, Broughton Gifford, Durnford. Lastly comes the note of the possessor of 1695, first quoted, relating to the death of the heir-male and the succession of his two sisters. Concerning this family tradition, it may be well to point out at once that the writer of the notes gives no Christian name to the Mr. Tropenell, or to the son who is said to have met with the fatal

¹ Richard le Poore, bp. 1217—1229. The register is not now existing. For account of the foundation of the cathedral given above (MS., pp. 245, 246) see *Sarum Charters* (Chron. and Memorial series, No. 97), 1891, p. 266. The remaining very interesting documents (pp. 247—262), which, among other things, contain the early customs and ordinances of the city, with concession of guild merchant, are also preserved in the first eleven leaves of a parchment folio among the cathedral muniments, and form the first part of those documents which Bp. Richard Beauchamp (1450—1482) had copied in support of his case before Henry VI. and Edward IV., in a long controversy with the Mayor and Corporation on the rights of the See and City respectively. At the foot of the eleventh leaf of the cathedral folio is a memorandum referring to the Tropenell chartulary, and stating that all that had been written up to that point was also "regestryd in an auneynt booke of parchment which sumtyme was Mr. Trapnell's boke and now ys Mr. John Eyers of Chalfeld, wherin ys regestryd also all Mr. Trapnell's lands wherof the greatest parte ys dyscendyd to the saide Mr. Eyers' wyfe as one of the coparceners and coheiers of the sayde Mr. Trapnell: which booke was sene by me John Hooper and hyt agreyth with thys boke." I have to thank A. R. Malden, Esq., of the Close, Salisbury, for this interesting information.

accident, or to the two daughters who succeeded. It may be that he supposed the occurrence to have concerned the author of the chartulary and his children. It will be seen in the sequel that this is impossible, but that there may perhaps be room for the tragic mishap to have occurred to the great-grandson of the builder of the Manor-house, and that the succession did then pass to his sisters (*see* on p. 231).

2.—An account of the *History and Antiquities of the Manor House and Church of Great Chalfield*, by Mr. Thomas Larkins Walker, architect, appeared in 1837, and a second edition in 1840. The author was just in time to put on record and to preserve, in numerous beautiful engravings by Le Keux, a memento of what then existed. He had the advantage of having been employed by the proprietor, Sir Harry Barrard Neale, Bart., to carry out certain repairs necessary to preserve the building, and he made good use of his opportunities, for which we who come after, and have lost very much of what then remained, must be grateful. Mr. Walker's work occupies about fourteen quarto pages, in which are incorporated certain fragments of the Tropenell chartulary relating to the family pedigree which had been more or less accurately copied into a MS. then in the possession of William Waldron, Esq., of Lipiat, to which Mr. Walker apparently had access. But serious errors have been admitted into the historical description, some possibly unavoidable at the time, and an interpolation has been made in the Tropenell pedigree on pure conjecture of what *must* have been—a process somewhat dangerous and very awkward when it comes to be seen what really *was*. But the extremely valuable part of Mr. Walker's work is his accurate architectural drawings of every portion, and it may be almost said of every detail, of the buildings as they existed in 1835 or 1836. These are represented in twenty-eight plates, accompanied by about eleven pages of explanatory notes. In the preface to his second edition Mr. Walker laments that the owner's good intentions as to the entire preservation of the original buildings were broken through. The roof and two

of the exterior walls of the guest chamber were found to be unsafe and were taken down, and the making good of the original design was abandoned. Next, at the suggestion of the tenant the banqueting hall was cut into two heights, so as to provide bedrooms above and kitchens below. Thus the interior of the hall was totally destroyed, the screen removed, and the frontage disfigured by modern insertions under the original windows of the hall, which have been cut short at the transoms (*see also Gent. Mag.* for March, 1838). We are thankful, then, for these admirable drawings, which will be duly used in this paper.

II.

Great Chalfield—perhaps the “ceald” or cold field—is a parish of about 706 acres in the hundred of Bradford, county of Wilts, and diocese of Salisbury, containing some three score inhabitants; and its church, within the moat of the manor-house, is a small structure originally of the latter part of the 13th century, or very probably earlier. It is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Melksham and the same from Bradford. Little Chalfield, which comprises about 512 acres, is joined ecclesiastically with Great Chalfield; but for parochial purposes the ancient parish, together with Little Chalfield and Cottles, are placed now under Atworth.¹ There was formerly a church at Little Chalfield dedicated to St. John the Baptist,² founded by the ancestors of Margaret, lady of Little Chalfield, who was probably daughter to Walter de Chalfield (*see below among patrons and rectors*), and who married George de Pershay, of whom hereafter. The existence of

¹ I have to thank Mr. T. Pullen, of Lenton Farm, churchwarden of Great Chalfield, for his extreme kindness and personal assistance while examining the house and premises, also for affording much local information. Mr. Pullen was an intimate friend of the late Rector, Rev. Edward Kingston, and fully shared with him the interest he took in the church under his official care and in the adjacent manor-house. My acknowledgments are also due to Mr. and Mrs. Bailey for permission to examine the interior of the manor-house, of which they are tenants.

² I am indebted for this dedication to Mr. A. Story-Maskelyne, of the P.R.O., from *Inquis.* p.m. 22, E. iii. (1348).

this church is traceable at least from the opening of the 14th century, but it disappears soon after the middle of the 16th (*see* list of rectors below). Its site is not known, though there having been glebe in a certain spot may perhaps be inferred from the name still existing of "parson's" field; and the same is the case with Great Chalfield (*see* more below, sec. III., p. 247), where, indeed, a lively fancy might almost imagine some faint traces of foundations of the parsonage-house to exist. The buildings of Great Chalfield manor will be dealt with in the third section of this paper.

From *Domesday* we learn that in the time of King Edward the manor was held by Wallef, possibly to be identified¹ with the unfortunate Earl Waltheof, the son of Siward, cruelly betrayed by his wife,² and finally executed on a charge of concealment of treason in 1076; but at the time of the Survey in 1086 Ernulf de Hesding, one of the large *Domesday* owners, was in possession. The following is Canon Jones's extension of the text:—

"Ipse Ernulfus tenet Caldefelle. Wallefus tenuit tempore regis Edwardi, et geldabat pro 2 hidis et dimidio. Terra est 2 carrucata. De eâ est in dominio 1 hida et dimidium, et ibi 1 carracata, cum 1 servo, et 4 bordariis. Ibi dimidium molini reddens 18 denarios, et 6 acræ prati, et 6 acræ silvæ, et 8 acræ pasturæ. Valuit 4 libras: modo 50 solidos.

"Ipse Ernulfus tenet in eâdem villâ tantundem terræ pro uno manerio. Godwinus tenuit tempore regis Edwardi. Ibi tantundem habet quantum in superiori continetur, et tantundem appreciatur."

"Ernulf himself holds Caldefelle. Wallef held it in the time of King Edward, and it was assessed at 2 hides and a half. The land is two ploughlands. Of this there is one hide and a half in demesne, and there is one ploughland with one serf, and four bordars. There is half a mill³

¹ Birch, *Domesday Book*, p. 120. ² *See* Dugdale, *Bar. i.*, 55, 56.

³ A mill had often more than one owner, and sometimes was divided into several shares (*see* Morgan's *England under the Normans*, p. 99; Jones, *Domesday for Wilts*, p. xlv.).

paying 18 pence, and six acres of meadow, and six acres of wood, and eight acres of pasture. It was worth four pounds, but now fifty shillings.

Ernulf himself holds in the same vill the same quantity of land for one manor. Godwin held it in the time of King Edward. He has there as much as is contained in the above manor, and it is valued at the same."

This latter account is probably that for Little or West Chalfield, and may include the tax for the other half of the mill spoken of above.

Ernulf de Hesding, the *Domesday* possessor of Great Chalfield, was the first Earl of Perch, and father to Rotrock, the second Earl, who married Matilda, a natural daughter of King Henry I. He is said to have been a man of great bodily stature, brave and active; he was, moreover, a benefactor to the Abbey of Gloucester.¹ Charged unjustly with conspiracy against William Rufus, he is said to have defended himself successfully in wager of battle by his champion against the King's man, but to have thrown up his lands in disgust at the royal suspicion, and to have joined the crusades in the Holy Land, where he died of disease.² His death thus occurred after, and perhaps not long after, 1095.

We next find the manor in the hands of the Percies, and have the Tropenell chartulary for our guide. This family,³ as we judge from their arms (*see* below), was a younger branch of that of William de Percy, who came into England in the time of the Conqueror and died in the Holy Land in 1096; and the William de Perci, with whom our list begins, may perhaps have been a grandson of Alan de Percy, son of the above, who died (1120) in the time of Henry I.

The chartulary professes to trace the possession of the

¹ See Taylor's *Domesday Survey of Gloucestershire*, p. 161.

² See Sandford's *Genealog. Hist.*, p. 32; Freeman's *William Rufus*, ii. 65.

³ Fontblanque, in his *Annals of the House of Percy*, makes no mention of the Great Chalfield family. But connection with the chief house was certainly claimed by the unquestioned possession of the ancient arms, and we may surely allow the claim, though unable to establish the link with any certainty.

manor from a period beyond legal memory. The rubric is as follows:—“These ben for certayn all the pedegrees and mean estates in substance of all inheritours, purchasours and occupiers of the manor of Estchaldefeld, otherwise called Moche Chaldefeld, with the office of constablewyke of the Castell of Trobrigge, in the counte of Wiltshire, fro the tyme of Kyng Harry is day the thirde, and before fro tyme that no mynde rynneth, unto annum quintum. Edwardi quarti [1465-6] declared undirstond and clerely determyned by the counseil lerned of Thomas Tropenell, Squyer, and by himself.” Against this is written in the margin, “Henricus de Percy tenuit in Chaldefeld feodum unius militis de Comite Sarum, et ipse de Rege de honore de Trobryg, nunc in manibus Thome Tropenell.” This description of the holding is further enlarged in the text just below, where we are told that all who had possessed the said manor “ffro the tyme that no mind rynneth, and before, have hold the said manor of Estchaldefeld of the erle of Salysbery, and he of the honour of Trobrygge by an hole knyght fee as h^t apperyth in the chekker in the boke of fees² made in y^e tyme of King Edward y^e furst, sone to Kyng Harry y^e iij^{de}; and also they have hadde and okypyed the offyce of y^e Constabilwyke of y^e seid castell of Trobrigge³

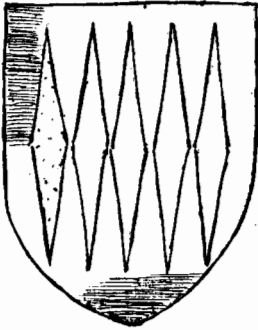
¹ MS., p. 341.

² *i.e.*, Testa de Nevill, seu liber feodorum in curia Scaccarii. temp. H. iii., Ed. I.

³ It will be seen below that while sometimes, as *e.g.* in the Inquisition taken at the Death of Tropenell in 1488, it is stated that the manor of Great Chalfield was held “by service of being Constable of Trowbridge Castle,” in point of fact the Constableness was sometimes violently severed from the manor, and we find it at least once so held by royal patent (*see* below, pp. 220, 221). The office was considered by the holders of the manor as one of honour and emolument, but the loss of the Constableness did not involve forfeiture of the manor.

It appears from the Inquisition of 1348 (kindly sent to me by Mr. A. Story-Maskelyne) that certain nine acres in Little Chalfield and a rent of 2s. were held by Henry de Percy (*i.e.*, Sir Harry Percy the third—*see* below, p. 206) of the lords of Trowbridge by service of the ward of a tower there (*per servitium custodiendi quamdam turrin ibidem*) for 40 days in war time, the lords of Trowbridge holding of the King in chief by Knight service. This tower, no doubt, belonged to the town defence, but its custody had possibly nothing to do with the Constableness.

I.



PERCY.

II.



TROPENELL.

IV.



ROCHE.

III.



ROUS.

V.



LUDLOW.

VI.



PERSHAY.

w^t a place in Trobrigge called y^e logge place, otherwyse called a syte w^t a gardyn called the logge place, and a wey to y^e same by y^e space of vij fote of brede. Takyng all maner fees, issues and profites apperteynyng or belonging to the same office ffrom the seid tyme of no mynde vsed also and acustomed. Alwey to be discharged of all maner rentes, sutes, and all other services and demaundes ayenst the lordes of the said maner of Trobrigge."

In tracing the succession we are met by a difficulty at the threshold. The MS. commences with a Sir Harry de Percy "before time of mind," who is followed by his son, Sir Piers, also "before time of mind"; while the next on the list, Sir William, was acting in 1260 and 1273 (*see* below). Going back then from these ascertained dates, it is not possible to place his father, Sir Piers, in a period before legal memory—*i.e.*, before 1189 (1 R. I.), and we must suppose the expression used somewhat vaguely. On the other hand, there is a William de Perci not mentioned in the chartulary, but of whose existence and whose date there can be no doubt, to whom the first place may be assigned with the greatest probability.

I. William de Perci, who excused himself from answering in Court on an action concerning land in Wilts, January 27, 1 John, 1199, on the ground of sickness at Chalfield.¹

II. Sir Harry² de Percy, Knt., "before tyme of mynd," whose arms were "azure, five fusils conjoined in fess or" (*see* on Plate No. 1), was seized of the manor of Great Chalfield, and of the manors of West Portlemouth, co. Devon, Upcerne, and Folke, co. Dorset, in his demesne as in fee—that is, in his absolute and sole possession with power to dispose of it as he pleased, subject only to the services which under the feudal law were inalienable from it. He had issue:

III. Sir Piers de Percy, Knt., who, on the death of his

¹ *Essoniavit se de malo lecti apud Chadesfeld, &c. (Rot. Cusie Regis, i. 245; see also pp. 248, 288, 324).*

² The pedigree in the chartulary begins with this Knight.

father "before tyme of mynde," entered upon all the said estates, and was seised of them in his demesne as in fee. He married Beatrice, daughter of Sir Otys Dynham, of Devonshire, Knt., whose arms were "gules, four fusils conjoined in fess arg." This Beatrice, in her widowhood, obtained in perpetuity for herself and heirs from brother Henry de Fleg, Prior of Monkton Farlegh and the convent there (founded about 1125), the privilege of presenting a fit and proper person to be a monk in that house, who should be sufficient in singing and reading, and should proceed to priests' orders, and serve continually in the Church of Farlegh, and pray for the souls of the said Beatrice, her ancestors and successors. The grant is undated.¹ Sir Piers and Beatrice had issue :

IV. Sir William Percy, Knt., who, on his father's death, entered upon the manor of Great Chalfield and the above estates. He married Agnes, daughter of Sir John Strugge, Knt., lord of half West Codford, co. Wilts, which land was purchased in fee by Sir Thomas Hungerford. The Strugge arms were "arg., three lions rampant, sa. two and one." Sir William obtained from brother William de Cicester, Prior of Monkton Farlegh, and from the convent there, confirmation of grant to present one monk in perpetuity, dated February 7th, 1260.² A few years later, 2 Ed. I. (1273-4), we find him making estate to Walter Wilton and Geoffrey de Aune of the manor of Upcerne, with the advowson of the church at a rental of £27 per annum."³

Sir William and Agnes had six children: Sir Harry Percy, Knt., John, Sir William,⁴ and Sir Nicholas, Knts.; Isabel and Katharine, who all died without issue, except the first (of whom presently), and Katharine, who was married to Walter Tropenell. The M.S. now turns to this daughter, and continues with the Tropenell family till

¹ MS., p. 367. ² MS., p. 368. ³ P. 342.

⁴ Mr. Hubert Hall, of the Public Record Office, calls my attention to a very early erasure in the M.S., over which the names of Sir William and Sir Nicholas have been written. This occurs twice.

the then present time (1466), and it may be convenient to follow the same arrangement.

Walter Tropenell was second son to Sir Osbert,¹ and brother to Sir James, Knt., "before the tyme of mynd lordes and patrones of Sopworth in Wiltshire w^t the lawday of the same and other londes," &c. Their arms were (Plate, No. 2) "gules, a fesse engrailed, arg., powdered with ermine, between 3 griffins' heads of the same erased." Walter inherited² parcel of his father's lands in Sopworth, all his lands in Much and Little Sherston, Whaddon by Ivychurch, and Combe. Walter and Katharine had issue a son, Philip, and a daughter, Galiena. The latter received from her father a marriage portion of his lands in Sopworth, which in her widowhood she gave³ to the house of Monkton Farlegh about 1247. She died childless.⁴ Philip married Isaude, daughter of Richard Cotell, of Cottles Atworth, whose arms were "Or, a bend gules." Their children were Roger Tropenell, of Whaddon by Ivychurch and John Tropenell of Sherston.

Roger, who inherited from his father lands, &c., in Whaddon and Combe, and was in possession of his property in 5 Ed. I. (1277) and 9 Ed. II. (1316), as we learn from deeds,⁵ married Christian, daughter of Sir John Rous, lord of Imber, and sister to Richard Rous, ancestor to William Rous (of whom below); whose arms were (*see* Plate No. 3) a "field departed az. and gules, three lions' rampant arg., powdered with ermine armed with gules and azure." They had several children, who all died without issue excepting John.⁶

¹ From a deed tested but undated (p. 714), we find that the father of Sir Osbert was Sir George le Tropenell, though the pedigree in the chartulary commences with Sir Osbert (*see* pedigree at end of this paper) The witnesses were; Gerard le Mautravers, Henry le Percy, William de Montefort, Bartholomew Badelismere, Knts., John Yevelton, Nicholas, his son, Roger de Kaynys, Nicholas Comerwell, and William Monte (Sir Osbert's steward), and others. ² M.S., p. 716.

³ These lands are stated (Wilts Fines) to have been exchanged in 1206 for land at Uffcott with Elias de Turri, probably a prior of Monkton Farlegh. (Jackson's *Aubrey*, p. 112.)

⁴ Pp. 342, 711.

⁵ Pp. 712, 713.

⁶ P. 343.

John, whose name appears as the grantor in deeds of 14 Ed. III. (1340) and 17 Ed. III. (1343),¹ married Agnes, daughter of James Lye, lord of Landford, whose arms were "Arg. a fesse gules, in chief three bucks heads sable." They had but one child, namely:

Harry, who married Edith, daughter of Walter Roche, younger brother to Sir John Roche, Knt., sons of John Roche of Bromham, whose arms were (Plate No. 4) "Azure, within a bordure arg., three roaches of the same." Their issue was:

Thomas Tropenell, Esquire, "now [*i.e.* 1465-6] lord of the seid Moche Chaldefeld, which had the lyverys of ij Kynges, that is to sey, of Kyng Harry the sixt and Kyng Edward the iiiijth." He married Margaret,² daughter of William Ludlow, of Hill Deverell, butler of Henry IV., Henry V. and Henry VI., whose arms were (*see* Plate No. 5) "Arg., a chevron between three martens' heads erased sable." Ludlow was "buried in Seynt Thomas Church in new Salisbury undir a marble tombe³ atte ende of the hygh auter in the northside therof. The ile of the which the said William Ludlow hathe late new siled and paynted and sette w^t scochlyns of armes of hymself his wyf and his children."⁴

Thomas and Margaret had two sons, Humphrey and Christopher, and two daughters, Anne and Mary, "all alive atte makyng of this boke."⁵

Returning now to the younger line, John Tropenell inherited from his father, Philip, lands in Much and

¹ Pp. 713, 714.

² This was his *second* marriage; *see* more on his marriages below, p. 224.

³ In spite of Murray's *Guide* (1882) the name of Ludlow is not even remembered at S. Thomas's. Hoare, *Hist. of Salisbury*, p. 590, tells us that at a then recent restoration of the church, the Ludlow tomb was taken from the situation it had long occupied, on the north side of the chancel, and broken to pieces; and the remains of himself, his wife and child thrown into some unknown corner. This was no doubt the case, and inquiry has failed to elicit any further information.

⁴ Pp. 343, 714. ⁵ *i.e.* the Tropenell chartulary.

Little Sherston. His name occurs in deeds concerning Sherston and Kington in the 14th, 15th and 16th Ed. II. (1321—1322).¹ He "had issue John," mentioned in deeds 39, Ed. III. (1366) and 44 Ed. III. (1370),² "and John had issue John," who with his wife, Matilda, occurs in deeds 1 H. VI. (1423) down to 15 H. VI. (1437),³ "and John had issue Agnes, wedded to Thomas Ive of Sherston: whiche had issue togedres John Ive, otherwise namyng himself John Tropenell, and Harry, a younger son, alive atte making of pis boke." We resume the succession to the estate.

Sir Harry Percy,⁴ the second, succeeded to Great Chalfield and the other manors on the death of his father. We find him holding a fee in Folk and Upcerne of the Bishop of Salisbury in 1285, and John de Percy holding half in Upcerne of the said Henry. He married Eva, daughter of Sir John Gifford, lord of Broughton Gifford, whose arms were "Azure and or, checky." They had four children: Sir Roger, Sir Walter, and Sir William, Knts., and Julian, all of whom but the first-born died childless.

VI. Sir Roger Percy, Knt., on the death of his father (perhaps about 1303), entered on the manor of Great Chalfield, and the other estates, and was holding them in 9 Ed. II.⁵ (1316). He married Dorothy Ryvers, lord (*sic*) of Burgate, Southamptonshire, whose arms are left blank in the MS. Their children were Sir Harry, John, and Emmot; the two latter died without issue, but John was alive, as we shall see, in 30 Ed. III. (1356), when on January 26th he released to Bishop Wyville,⁷ and on March 16th to dame Constance (*see* below), any right he might have in Great Chalfield.⁸

¹ Pp. 715, 716. ² P. 717. ³ Pp. 718, 719.

⁴ His holding is mentioned, *Testa de Nevill*, pp. 135, 138b, &c.

⁵ *Feudal Aids* (Dorset), vol. ii.

⁶ *See* Canon Jones's *Nomina Villarum, Wilts Arch. Mag.*, xii.

⁷ Deed, p. 374. ⁸ Pp. 344, 345, 375.

VII. Sir Harry Percy, Knt., the third, entered duly on the estates. He took to wife, firstly, Alianore, daughter of Sir Walter Skydmore, Knt., lord of Upton Scudamore, co. Wilts, whose arms were "Gules, three stirrups arg. two and one, the leathers azure, the pendants, buckles and studs or." Sir Harry, by deed bearing date February 10th, 12 Ed. III. (1338), enfeoffed William Burgayn, perpetual Vicar of Upton Scudamore, and John de Chaldefeld, parson of Great Chalfield, with the manor and advowson of Great Chalfield,¹ who on June 28th, the same year, enfeoffed Sir Harry and his wife, Alianore, and the heirs and assigns of the said Sir Harry with the same properties,² by virtue of which enfeoffment Sir Harry became seised "in his demesne as in fee" and "Alianore in her demesne as of freehold."³ Among the witnesses to these deeds was George de Percy, no doubt of the Percy or Pershay family of Little Chalfield, of whom hereafter. Sir Harry and Alianore had but one child, Beatrice.

On the death of Alianore, Sir Harry took as his second wife Constance, "bedfellow and cosyn to Maister Robert Wayville, bisshop of Salisbury,⁴ born to no lond, neither to none armes;" and by deed⁵ bearing date October 2nd, 23 Ed. III. (1349), enfeoffed in fee Sir Rauf Olney and Sir Reynold of Berley (*see* list of rectors below), parsons of Broughton Gifford and Little Chalfield, with his manors of Great Chalfield, and Folke, co. Dorset, and with the advowsons of the same, &c., and later in the month Reginald de Berley released in fee his right to Sir Rauf Olney.⁶ He, being thus sole seised of the whole above manors and advowsons, made estate of the same again by deed, October 31st, same year, to the said Sir Harry and to Constance, his second wife, and to their

¹ Deeds, p. 370. ² Pp. 370, 371. ³ P. 344.

⁴ From 1330 to 1375.

⁵ P. 371. Mention is made in this deed of William de Percy, and Thomas de Percy is among the witnesses.

⁶ P. 372.

issue, with remainder in default of this to the rightful heirs of Sir Harry.¹ And afterwards, by fine in the King's Court, January 27th, 28 Ed. III. (1354), Sir Harry and Constance plaintiffs, and Sir Rauf and Sir Reynold, deforciant, the latter in the usual manner granted the said manors to the plaintiffs, and to the heirs of their bodies, and in default of such issue with remainder to the right heirs of Sir Harry in fee: by virtue of which fine Sir Harry and Constance were seised in their demesne as of fee tail.²

After this it seems, but the matter was never made clear, that some kind of estate in the same properties was given to Bishop Wyville: and to him as above stated (p. 205). John Percy released with a warranty (1356) any right he might have in the manors of Great Chalfield and Folke. However this may have been, it is certain that Sir Harry re-entered and continued his possession: and finally started on pilgrimage³ for Jerusalem, driven to this step, it appears asserted, "by the naughty lyf that the said Constance, his second wyf lyved in with bisshop Wayvile and with other." He died on his way at Cologne, where he was buried, having had no issue by his second wife.⁴

VIII. Constance was now, and so remained during her life, in full possession of all the properties as tenant in special tail "apres possibilité d'issue extinct." And now in her widowhood she received from Bishop Wyville, by deed dated Sherborne, March 5th, 30 Ed. III. (1356),⁵ a release of the manors and advowsons of Great Chalfield and Folke, which he had by concession of the late Sir Harry; and a release from John Percy (*see* above, p. 205) on March 16th, the same year,⁶ all which appears to have been so much void action because of the late Sir Harry Percy's "entre aycne upon the seid bisshop: and also because that

¹ Pp. 345, 365, Deed, 372. ² Pp. 345, 374.

³ A later hand has supplied a date over the line—"Feb. 4, 31 Ed. III." [1357]; not noticing that this is inconsistent with what follows.

⁴ P. 346. ⁵ Pp 346, 375. ⁶ Pp. 346, 365, 375.

Constance was seised of the seid maner and other but as of frehold."¹

Constance now took as her second husband John Pershay,² otherwise called Percy, in no way related to the above family of Percy, but son of George Pershay or Percy, the first lord of that name in Little Chalfield, in right of his wife Margaret, who bore arms (Plate, No. 6), "Ermine, on a chief gules a lion passant or, crowned azure," otherwise "A lion passant arg.,"³ and both were seised of the manor and other possessions in right of Constance as tenant in tail as above. But now law troubles commenced, if they had not before.

In Easter term, 33 Ed. III. (1359), Beatrice, daughter and heir of Sir Harry and Alianora, through her guardian Michael Skillyng,⁴ she being under age, tried to recover the manors of Great Chalfield and Folke, &c., from Pershay and Constance by suing a "formedon in descendre" against them, *i.e.* a writ for the recovery of her inheritance according to the form of donation in the feoffment made to her father and mother (June 28th, 1338; *see* above, p. 206). The jury, however, declared that the feoffment had been to Sir Harry and Alianora his wife, and to the heirs of Sir Harry in fee simple, and not to the heirs of their bodies in fee tail as Beatrice had contended.⁵ Pershay and Constance were thus far victorious, and Beatrice took nothing by her suit.

Pershay seems to have died about this time; and soon after Beatrice, in duress and under age, as it was constantly asserted and subsequently (1457) proved, in view

¹ *I.e.* her life-tenancy.

² Pp. 346, 362, 474: the name is also written Percehay. We meet with Henry Percehay in 1361, 1374 (pp. 72, 73).

³ It is said of a descendant, "I trow he understandes not whether [of the two shields] he haught to bere" (p. 473).

⁴ Another Michael Skilling, of New Sarum, no doubt a direct descendant of the above, was among the attainted and pardoned 1 R. III. and 1 H. VII. (1483 and 1485). Rot. Parl. VI. 246, 273.

⁵ Pp. 347, 468, 469.

no doubt of impending marriages, and probably under the influence of her strong and unscrupulous step-mother, released to Constance and her heirs in fee, by deed dated Potterne, May 7th, 35 Ed. III. (1361), all her right and title to Great Chalfield and the other possessions.¹

It will be well now to follow Beatrice. She was married, firstly, about this time, while still under age, to John Belet, Esq., lord of Southcote, near Reading, who, dying without issue, she married, secondly, Reynold Pavot, Esq., lord of Plaitford, Hants, by whom she had five children, who all died without issue. She married, thirdly, Robert Beverley, sergeant-at-arms with Richard II., a "riotous man" of Gloucester, born to no land or arms. There were three children by this marriage, of whom we shall hear again—Thomas, Allayn, and John the hermit. Beatrice must have been unhappy; and this plain-speaking chronicle gives the name of her husband's mistress and of his four illegitimate children, with whom, however, we are not concerned. She was at length left a widow with her three sons. Her husband was buried at Bermondsey Abbey by London; and she herself died in the 4 Henry VI. (1425-6), and was buried at Hyde Abbey, Winchester.

We now return to Constance. She married, thirdly, Sir Philip FitzWaryn, of Bratton, Wilts, Knt., "born to no land and no kyn to FitzWaryns of the West Countre," who bore "Gules and argent, quarterly, denty," while he bore "Or and gules, quarterly, denty." And now Sir Philip and Constance, seised of the property in right of the latter, enfeoffed Sir William FitzWaryn,³ of Westbury, Knt., and Piers FitzWaryn, clerk, by deed dated at East Chalfield, August 16th, 35 Ed. III. (1361)⁴; and a few days later (August 29th)

¹ Pp. 347, 376. ² P. 347.

³ It appears that in 1346 Sir Harry Percy III. and William FitzWaryn held the fee in Folk and Upcerne, which the heirs of Sir Harry Percy and John de Percy formerly held (*Feudal Aids*).

⁴ Pp. 348, 376. In this deed mention is made of William de Percy and Thomas Percy.

received back in fee, from the said William and Piers, the manors and advowsons and other properties, to themselves and issue between them, failing which to the right heirs of Constance.¹ And afterwards a fine was levied in the King's Court, October 20th the same year (1361), between the said Sir William FitzWaryn, plaintiff, in an action of covenant, and Sir Philip FitzWaryn and Constance, his wife, deforciant, concerning the manors, by which fine Sir Philip and Constance acknowledged the properties in question to be the right of the said Sir William, as having been given to him by them; for the which acknowledgment, fine, and concord Sir William granted to Sir Philip and Constance by the same fine the aforesaid manors of Great Chalfield and Folke to themselves and to their lawful issue; failing which, with remainder to Robert, the son of Bishop Wyville and Constance, by the name of Robert only, and in default of issue there to Hugh, a brother of Constance, and finally, in lack of issue there, to the lawful heirs of the said Constance.²

It will appear in the sequel that this grant and confirmation by fine was inoperative, owing to defect in title of Sir Philip and Constance; as it was, their assumption was followed by the litigation of a hundred years.

Sir Philip and Constance had two daughters—Isaude and Johan (of whom later). And now Sir Philip died, after 1367—possibly some years after that date,³ at which an exchange of land was made with the monastery of Edington; the above-mentioned Robert and Hugh also died without issue.⁴

On the death of her third husband Constance took a fourth—Sir Harry de la Ryver, lord of Tormarton, co. Gloucestershire, Knt.—apparently in 1385⁵; but it is needless to say there were no children by this marriage, and she was in her fourth widowhood by 1404.

¹ Pp. 348, 377. ² Pp. 334, 348, 378.

³ Inquis. p.m. 40 Ed. II.; also documents, Hoare's *Westbury*, p. 61.

⁴ Pp. 335, 348. ⁵ P. 449.

We now turn to the daughters of Sir Philip FitzWaryn and Constance. (1) Isaude became the wife of John Rous, lord of half Imber and of Baynton, Esq., son to Richard Rous (*see* in the Tropenell pedigree). They had but two children, William (of whom presently) and John. Besides this, however, Isaude's husband had an illegitimate son, Richard Phillips or Rous, who, to add to the confusion, took to wife Alice, daughter and heir to John Percy or Pershay, lord of Little Chalfield, great-grandson to George Percy or Pershay, the first lord of that name in Little Chalfield.¹ John Rous had also several other illegitimate children—one, Thomas, became William Rous's farmer at Great Chalfield—but we need not follow them.

William Rous,² the elder son of Isaude and John, married, firstly, Margaret Thorp, sister to Rauf Thorp, lord of Boscombe by Salisbury, Esq.

(2) Johan FitzWaryn married Thomas Beaushyn, then of Dorsetshire, afterwards of Cottles Atworth,³ Esq., whose arms were "Paly of six wavy, sable and arg. on a chief of the first three crescents of the second."⁴ We shall hear of their issue lower down.

And now Constance, in her fourth widowhood and in her old age, seised by virtue of the entail to herself and Sir Philip of the manors and advowsons of Great Chalfield, Folke, Cottles Atworth, &c., made a feoffment of them by deed to Robert Long and Nicholas Videlowe in fee with a warranty; and by deed⁵ tripartite indented, July 6th, 4 H. V.

¹ Pp. 349, 362.

² In 1 H. VI. (1422) he is found to hold manor of Imber from the King "in capite pro servitio essendi unus de Camerariis domini Regis," as his ancestor Ric. Ruffus had held in time of H. II. In 16 H. VII. (1437-8) he sold Imber and half manor of Folke to Walter Lord Hungerford for a yearly annuity; and two years before had granted all his rights in Imber South to Edington. (*See* Hoare's *Heytesbury*, pp. 161, 162.)

³ P. 335. ⁴ P. 350.¹

⁵ I have retained law expressions wherever they occur in English just as they stand in the MS. In the very involved law proceedings which follow I have adhered strictly to my authority, and have ventured on as little comment as possible.

(1416), took estate again from them of all the manors, &c., for term of her life, with remainder, after her decease, of the manor of Great Chalfield (certain parcels of land excepted) and of half the manor of Folke, with alternate presentation to the church there, to her grandson, William Rous, son of Isaude and John, and to Margaret, his wife, and the lawful issue of the said William, failing which to John, his brother in tail, and in fault of issue there to Thomas Beaushyn and his wife Johan, second daughter of Sir Philip and herself, and to the lawful issue of the said Johan, and finally to Johan's rightful heirs. The other half of Folke, with alternate presentation, the manor of Cottles Atworth, with the advowson of its church, and certain parcels of land in Great Chalfield were to go to the Beaushyns and to the lawful issue of Johan, failing which to William Rous and Margaret, and to the lawful issue of William Rous, failing which to his brother John in like manner, or finally to the heirs of William Rous.¹

Constance, of course, remained in possession of the whole property till her death, which occurred in or after, but probably not long after, 1419.

IX. William Rous and Margaret now entered on the manor of Great Chalfield (with the certain exceptions) and on half the manor of Folke; while the Beaushyns also inherited as provided above, and resided at Cottles.

Rous and Margaret had several children, sons and daughters, but all died young without issue; while during his wife's time Rous had also illegitimate children, on whose story we need not enter. He divorced his wife, and married a second time, as we shall see, but he never had lawful issue.

Thomas Beaushyn and Johan had two sons, John and William, and two daughters, Alice and Isabel, both of whom were married and had issue, but whose fortunes we need not follow. John, the first son, died childless; William married, firstly, Johan Deny, by whom he had two sons, each

¹ Pp. 330, 335, 336, 350, 351.

named John. Of these the eldest married Johan Cricklade, with whom a sad story was connected. We know nothing of the other John. On the death of his first wife, William Beaushyn married, secondly, Alice, daughter to William Pavy, of Bristol, by whom he had one son, George.

John Rous, mentioned above as brother of William, was twice married, but had no lawful issue. He was lord of Beynton, and is said to have died in 1451,¹ and was buried with his first wife, Johan Assheley, at Edington, in the south aisle of the choir, his anniversary being kept in the rectoy church, for which purpose his manor of Beynton was held.² Law troubles were not long in thickening. Thomas Beverley (*see* above, p. 209), son and heir to Beatrice, daughter to Sir Harry Percy and Alianore, his first wife, sued a "scire facias," commenced in Mich. term, 6 H. VI. (1427), against William Rous and Margaret, basing his claim on the fine of 28 Ed. III. (1354), which provided that failing issue of Sir Harry Percy and Constance remainder should rest with the heirs of Sir Harry (*see* p. 207). This was answered by pleading the release made by Beatrice to Constance (*see* above, p. 209), a point "specially and tendirly soliced and labored" by Rous's attorney, who was no other than John Beaushyn, mentioned above as eldest son of Thomas and Johan, who was clerk to Judge Westbury, and acted under his master's advice and "other of as good Counseil as coude be gete in London for money." This was again answered by pleading the duresse and non-age of the said Beatrice; but before the issue of the trial Beverley died.³

And now upon the death of Beverley, who had left a young son—Thomas, Rous enfeoffed Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, William Darell, and others with the manor,

¹ This date cannot be correct, as he executed a release to Tropenell in Feb., 1453 (p. 399).

² Pp. 352, 340. The manor of Beynton had been granted to the rector and brethren in 22 H. VI., 1443-4. For some further account of this John Rous, *see Hoare's Heytesbury*, pp. 161, 162.

³ P. 352

Jan. 1st, 7 H. VI. (1429), by virtue of which feoffment they were seised in their demesne as in fee.¹

But his shaky tenure was never long undisturbed. The Pershays or Percies, of Little Chalfield, afterwards themselves claimants for the manor,² appear for some time to have joined interest with the Beverleys. Especially, we are told, on one occasion, in July, 1431, they had collected a number of men of Salisbury and elsewhere in their manor house, less than a mile off, with a view to ousting Rous; while he, with his brother John, was living at Great Chalfield Manor ready armed for all events, for they had with them "Richard of Bowys, lewtenaunte of the fforestes of Blakemore and Peuesham, Rob^t Eyre, John Quyntyn, William Clerk, and her men fforsters of the seid fforestes, and servauntes to the seid duke of Gloucestre with many mo other herneysed to defende the seid entre."³ What came of all this we are not told.

We are introduced to Thomas Tropenell, the future re-builder of the manor-house, a few years later, he being then apparently tenant of the manor. By a deed of feoffment with a condition in English, dated June 24th, 15 H. VI. (1437)—it looks something like the sale of a contingent remainder—we find William Rous conveying to Henry Long,⁴ Richard Chok,⁵ and Thomas Tropenell, and to the heirs of the latter, all his properties (enumerated), the witnesses being Sir Robert Hungerford, Sir John Beynton, and others named. The condition was that should he (the said William Rous) have lawful issue, then the said feoffees should make estate to the said William and his heirs; but failing such issue, all the properties after his decease should remain to Thomas Tropenell and his heirs. The manors of Imber and Folke⁶

¹ Pp. 352, 383-5. ² P. 473. ³ P. 362.

⁴ Probably of South Wraxall.

⁵ Afterwards serjeant-at-law, and subsequently (1461) judge of the Common Pleas (*see* below).

⁶ It appears that almost directly after this he sold Imber and Folke to Lord Hungerford (*see* note above, p. 211).

were to be sold at the will of Tropenell, while a sum of £20 was to be given to each of four bastard children of Rous in order to promote their marriage, and should any of these die in the meanwhile the remaining money was to be used at the disposal of Thomas Tropenell for the benefit of the said William Rous and his ancestors. At the same time Rous gives authority, in reference to Great Chalfield, to William Darell and his other feoffees (*see above*, p. 213) to release to Henry Long, Richard Chok, and Thomas Tropenell, and to his heirs, all right and claim that they had received from him some time before. Accordingly under this special authority from Rous—but it was not quite immediately—they released to Tropenell, at that time tenant of the manor, and to his heirs in fee, all right and title in the same, Sept. 29th, 17 H. VI. (1438).¹

Margaret Rous was divorced about this time and died, after which Rous took as his second wife Isabel Godechild, asserted with detail to have been at the time the wife of another man, but who was undoubtedly accepted as the wife of Rous.

And now some few years later Thomas Beverley, son of the last of that name and grandson of Beatrice, sued another "scire facias" against Rous's feoffees—Long, Chok, and Tropenell—for the manor of Great Chalfield, in Hilary and Trinity terms, 22 and 23 H. VI. (1444-5), claiming as the heir of Sir Harry Percy, and pleading the non-age of Beatrice when she made the release to Constance; while the feoffees of course affirmed the contrary, denying all right of Beverley to the manor.² No issue is recorded, but in the next year we find Thomas Tropenell, of Great Atworth, enfeoffing Robert Northfolk, Robert Lye, and John Coke with his manor and advowson of Great Chalfield, &c., Jan. 6th, 24 H. VI. (1446),³ upon whose possession William Rous entered again;⁴ and then we find Tropenell releasing to Rous and to his heirs for ever all right and title to the

¹ Pp. 353, 354, 385—387. ² Pp. 354, 388—390.

³ P. 390. ⁴ P. 354.

manors which he had in reversion in default of lawful issue by Rous (*see above*), in consideration of having received from him estate by fine in a certain 120 acres of land in Great Chalfield. Tropenell, who seems to have been residing about this time in his mansion at Neston, also delivered up all obligations from Rous and documents concerning the property. The release of the feoffees—Long, Chok, and Tropenell—to Rous in accordance with this is dated Feb. 1st, 25 H. VI. (1447). On this (Feb. 3rd, same year) Rous took estate by fine of the various properties to himself and Isabel his wife and their issue, failing which to the heirs of Isabel;¹ and he enfeoffed Master Adam Moleyns, Bishop of Chichester, Master John Stokes, Roger Harper, chaplain, and others, by deed dated Feb. 8th, 25 H. VI. (1447), who made a lease of the manor for term of years to Thomas Tropenell, upon whose possession the above-mentioned feoffees of Tropenell—Northfolk, Lye, and Coke—entered into the manor and put out Tropenell, claiming their first estate, and then enfeoffed Tropenell again by deed dated July 5th, 27 H. VI. (1449), releasing to him by deed the next day, he being so tenant of the manor, all their right and title to the same in fee.²

We next hear of the death of Rous. His will was dated August 28th, 30 H. VI. (1452), and he died in London on the last day of the same month, leaving no legitimate children, and was buried at the Grey Friars, London.³ He had not done well in his tenure. He had been ousted before this from the cherished appurtenance of the manor, the Constablership of Trowbridge Castle (*see pp. 200, 220*), and it is charged against him that he had taken no pains to recover it,⁴ "for he was allway occupied in lechery and avowtry (adultery) and toke none hede to sew therfor, but only for to devowre and selle away all his wodes and his tylestones tymbre and his houses."⁵

¹ Pp. 354-5, 392-3. ² Pp. 354-5, 394-5. ³ Pp. 340, 395.

⁴ Though for one small effort at least *see below*, p. 221.

⁵ P. 363.

X. Upon the death of Rous in 1452, Isabel, his widow, who is described as of London, entered on the manor again in accordance with the will of her late husband, receiving from his feoffees—Roger Harper, chaplain, Stephen Forster, and others (Bishop Moleyns, John Stokes, &c., being now dead)—by direction of the will, full right and title to the manors to herself and her heirs in fee, Nov. 14th, 6 H. VI. (1452), disseising Thomas Tropenell.¹

Tropenell, however, entered again, and put out Isabel; after which the latter released all her rights in the manor to him and to his heirs in fee, by deed July 6th, 32 H. VI. (1454), confirming all this more than once in September, the same year, to Tropenell and to co-feoffees—Richard Chok, serjeant-at-law, and Thomas Yonge²—upon which Tropenell, having entered, continued his possession, his co-feoffees, Chok and Yonge, surrendering to him all rights, Nov. 3rd, by virtue of which surrender he was seised in his demesne in fee, and a few days later (Nov. 12th) Isabel made estate by fine in the King's Court to him and his heirs, reserving certain considerations for herself and an annual rent of 100s. for life, with the proviso, however, that should the manor be recovered by any other claimant on ancient and just title, this annuity should cease to be a charge on Tropenell.³ It was afterwards (Jan. 30th, 1459) compounded for, when Isabel further renounced all claim to the manor.⁴

But now again, the same year (1454), Thomas Beverley made what was subsequently described as lawful entry⁵ upon the manor, on the grounds of the forfeiture of her estate by Constance through levying the fine of 35 Ed. III.

¹ Pp. 355, 398.

² Pp. 399—403. Abundant erasures occur in these deeds. From a subsequent document (p. 406) we find that among the original feoffees were Richard Duke of York, Thomas Earl of Devonshire, John Earl of Worcester, John Viscount of Beaumont, Sir Reginald Stourton, Knt., Nicholas Asshton; but all these names have been carefully erased and the spaces left blank.

³ Pp. 355-7, 405. ⁴ P. 422.

⁵ Pp. 338-9, 357.

(1361),¹—ousting Tropenell. He also entered on the possessions of Johan Beaushyn and of others, inherited as above, and for the same reasons.² However, so soon as December 4th, same year (1454), we find—no doubt after money had passed—seisin delivered again by Beverley's attorneys to Richard Chok, Thomas Tropenell, &c., and to the heirs and assigns of Tropenell.³ A release also occurs from Beverley to the same of all his rights, dated Dec. 12th, same year;⁴ while some time after Richard Chok and other co-foffees of Beverley release to Thomas Tropenell and James Brown, and to the heirs and assigns of the former, all right and title to the manor, Nov. 25th, 35 H. VI. (1456).⁵ After this we find a feoffment by Tropenell,⁶ dated Sept. 10th, 37 H. VI. (1458), bestowing his manor of Great Chalfield, &c., on Robert Lord Hungerford, Gilbert Kymer, Dean of Sarum, William Ludlow, his father-in-law, and others; and ten days after Johan Beaushyn, now a widow, waiving any claim of her own which she had been lately asserting, signed a document at Neston, Sept. 20th, 37 H. VI. (1458), relinquishing to Tropenell and his heirs all right to the manor.⁷ And at length a final concord was agreed between the parties, Oct. 17th, same year, Johan and her son William releasing to Tropenell all right and title to Great Chalfield, &c., and being bound, each of them, by statute staple, in the sum of £200 to Thomas Tropenell, to observe the terms of the final concord.⁸ By this deed some acknowledgments were made to Isabel Rous, the widow, and William Beaushyn specially bound himself in view of liberation, through Tropenell, from prison in the King's Bench, where, for whatever reason, his lodging had been for some little while. All this was solemnly affirmed under sanction of the Court of Arches by instrument bearing date Oct. 19th (1458),⁹ the document being duly delivered to Tropenell.

Still, no more than two months later, Johan entered

¹ Above, p. 209. ² Pp. 338-9, 357. ³ P. 407.

⁴ Pp. 357, 408. ⁵ Pp. 357, 413-14. ⁶ P. 434.

⁷ P. 421. ⁸ Pp. 359, 360. ⁹ Pp. 360, 417-421.

again on the whole manor and properties (specified), Dec. 20th,¹ ousting Tropenell, distraining cattle, and remaining in possession till Feb. 23rd next (1459), when by a writ of right sued out in Hilary term that year, Johan making default, judgment for recovery of the whole manor was given to Tropenell, who thus again obtained possession, April 18th, same year.²

But a further step became necessary. Johan and William, her son, having again made entry on the manor the same year, Tropenell, in July (1459), obtained judgment at Salisbury and recovered on an assize of novel disseisin, being finally put in possession of the manor, &c., by Hugh Pagenam [Pakenham], Sheriff of Wilts, as subsequently exemplified in Chancery, Feb. 7th, 2 Edward IV. (1463);³ after which Tropenell, being in actual possession, Johan and her son execute various deeds in his favour in July, 1459, in 1461 and 1462.

Tropenell had been amply reinstated, but by no means to the satisfaction of Beverley. He tried another "scire facias" against him for the manor of Great Chalfield, &c., whereupon Tropenell pleaded that Beverley had before been seised of the manor, but that he had on divers occasions made over to him all his rights, and he showed the many deeds of confirmation and release made to him by Beverley, especially the above quoted of Dec., 1454.⁴ To all this Beverley confessed in open court, and so took nothing by his suit, Nov. 23rd, H. VI. (1459).⁵

John the Hermit, who must have been an old man, also released to Tropenell, by deed dated Feb. 5th, 38 H. VI. (1460), at Heytesbury, where he died and was buried.⁶

And finally, on March 10th, 2 Ed. IV. (1462), William Ludlow and the remaining co-foffees deliver up to Tropenell their charge of his properties (enumerated).⁷

XI. Tropenell, though in possession, was hardly in peace.

¹ Pp. 360, 423. ² Pp. 361, 424, also 340.

³ Pp. 361, 429—434. ⁴ See above, p. 218. ⁵ Pp. 357, 426—429.

⁶ Pp. 358, 436-7. ⁷ P. 476.

For one thing, the Constablership of Trowbridge Castle had to be regained. It had been lost, as stated above, some years before. The story was that Rous, as a partisan of Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, had joined him with several servants at the Parliament at Leicester in 1426, and had drawn on himself the special enmity of the Cardinal of England (Beaufort), Gloucester's uncle, at that time one of the feoffees of the Duchy of Lancaster, of which duchy the lordship of Trowbridge was parcel. In consequence of this, through the influence of the cardinal, it was stated, Rous lost his office. It is said to have been purchased by Robert Andrews, steward of the manor, for his nephew, John Bourne, Rous's bitter enemy, and as also appears a claimant, through the Pershays, for Great Chalfield. At all events Bourne, who was second husband to Alice, daughter and heiress to John Percy or Pershay, lord of Little Chalfield, obtained the office of Constable "for a time," or as afterwards stated, such was the confusion, through "hereditary right."¹ After this Thomas Harvey, a yeoman of the King's Guard, was appointed by royal patent, and held the office "till he was slain at Lambourne, Berks, about the taking of John Rogers." During the last two years of Henry VI. Tropenell had constantly endeavoured to recover, but in 1 Ed. IV. (1461) John Bourne,² the younger, son of the above John and Alice, was admitted, it was averred, by bribery of Barnard Colvile, at that time clerk of the court at Trowbridge.³ Tropenell must have gained possession not long after this, for possession is assumed on the face of the chartulary, which bears date but three or four years later. It is certain that Sir Harry de la Ryver and Constance had dealt with the Constablership in 1397,⁴ and dame Constance in her widowhood in

¹ Pp. 362-3. *Trowbridge Court Roll. MS.*, p. 434.

² He appears to have died about 1477, seised of the manor and advowson of Little Chalfield, and of the manor of Cricklade (*Inquis. post-mortem*, 17 Ed. iv.)

³ Pp. 363, 475. ⁴ P. 379.

1408;¹ while Rous, whatever his demerits, had at least petitioned his "treshault et puissant prince mon tresredoulte et gracioux seigneur le duc de Gloucestre" to intercede with the Treasurer of England and help him in regaining his hereditary rights in this respect which had been sold by the feoffees to Robert Andrews, to the petitioner's great damage. The "supplication"² is, unfortunately, without date; but it was clearly at the first alienation of the Constablenesship—perhaps not long after 1426. In another place, however, that alienation is said to have occurred about 1441.³

And now for a further element of trouble we return for the last time to the Beverleys and Beaushyns. William Beaushyn had somehow obtained possession, when Thomas Beverley sued a "scire facias" against him for the manor, Michaelmas term, 1466, claiming as the rightful heir of Sir Harry Percy, and entitled under the fine of 28 Ed. III. (1354).⁴ The question of the old release by Beatrice to dame Constance was now decided in Beverley's favour. His ancestress was affirmed to have been in duress and under age when she gave her signature; and the issue was that Beverley recovered the manor in full, June 14th, 7 Ed. IV. (1467).⁵

It seems a little uncertain what immediately took place, but we may make a very safe inference. On August 10th, same year, Beverley's attorneys were empowered to deliver seisin to Tropenell,⁶ while the latter further received from Beverley himself, then of Fisherton Anger, by various deeds, dated August 20th, October 30th, November 6th (1467), full release of all right and title to the manor and advowson of Great Chalfield and the other properties, with the Constablenesship of Trowbridge Castle, all which properties and rights Beverley is stated to have lately recovered from William Beaushyn.⁷ After this Beaushyn himself, then of

¹ P. 380. ² P. 385.

³ P. 475. ⁴ See above, p. 207. ⁵ Pp. 364, 458—462.

⁶ Pp. 462-3. ⁷ Pp. 464-6.

Cottles Atworth,¹ released to Tropenell all right to the various possessions under the seal of the mayoralty of New Sarum, February 27th, 7 Ed. IV. (1468).²

Tropenell had now opportunity of surveying the battle-field; many had gone down in the strife, but some few opponents still survived. He had lived, as so many of our forefathers, in the midst of "law's alarms," and though use must have become second nature, it is doubtful whether he remained altogether free from anxiety. At least, so long after as 1482 we find him submitting his documents to three well-known counsel of Lincoln's Inn, who advise him, to the extent of seven folio pages, on the answers he might give to questioners; while further on occur other six pages of answers respecting his position.³ These have been duly used.

Taking leave then of this period of litigation, and venturing to sum up in as few words as possible, the position seems to have been this: There were, omitting Tropenell for the moment, two chief lines of claimants—that deriving from Sir Harry Percy, the third; and the second from Constance and Sir Philip FitzWaryn: the former represented now by Thomas Beverley, the younger; the latter, by William Beaushyn. Of these the stronger was Beverley. His title came from the fine 28 Ed. III. (1354),⁴ and he ultimately maintained his right, as we have just seen, against Beaushyn.

The title of Beaushyn had rested on the fine of FitzWaryn and Constance, 35 Ed. III. (1361).⁵ But

¹ William Bewshyn, arm., presents to chapel of Cottles Atworth in 1485; Thomas Bewshene, generosus, presents in 1533 (Phillipps' *Wills Visitations*).

² Pp. 477, 478.

³ Pp. 334—340, 470-475. He took the same course in reference to his Little Durnford property about the same time (1482), consulting several well-known lawyers "at London at the taverne called the Cardynal's hatte w^oute Newgate, wich is a place accustomed for lernyd men of ye lawe to comen maters concernyng ye lawe for thassurans of men's titles" (p. 971)

⁴ See above, p. 207.

⁵ See above, p. 209.

dame Constance had exceeded her powers, and by that very fine had forfeited her estates and given entry to the heir at law, *i.e.* the representative of Sir Harry Percy. So that all acts depending from that fine down to the entry on the manor by Thomas Beverley in December, 33 H. VI. (1454),¹ which was lawful to all intents, were utterly defeated and undone.

Again otherwise, William Rous, who derived through Constance, and whose heir William Beaushyn was, had enfeoffed Tropenell, June 24th, 15 H. VI (1437),² with the moiety of the property which had come to him; while as to the other moiety which went to the Beaushyns, that was at least covered on the writ of right successfully carried against Jolian Beaushyn in July, 37 H. VI. (1459),³ which indeed had extended to the whole manor. Moreover nothing could be more decisive than the result of the last "scire facias" which Beverley had just sued against Beauchyn.

There was indeed a third line of claim, that of John Bourne—but it was never seriously asserted—through Alice, his mother, heiress of the Percies or Pershays of Little Chalfield. She had married, firstly, Richard Rous, an illegitimate son of John Rous, father of William,⁴ and, secondly, John Bourne. But the claim was generally treated as worthless, the Little Chalfield family being in no way related to the Percys of Great Chalfield.⁵

Tropenell's title is never stated in so many words; his estate ultimately came through Beverley. What induced the latter to give way? Was there anything of a purchase or arrangement? There can be no doubt of it; so that another family claimant, *i.e.* Tropenell himself, though not so strong in title, prevailed in the long run, especially under the past circumstances of December, 1454,⁶ and November, 1459.⁷ Certainly he had in his veins the blood of the Percys, though drawn from a source higher up—namely,

¹ See above, p. 217. ² See above, p. 214.

³ See above, p. 219. ⁴ See above, p. 211. ⁵ Pp. 473-4.

⁶ See above, p. 218. ⁷ See above, p. 219.

from Katharine Percy, who had been married to his direct ancestor, Walter Tropenell.¹

XII. Thomas Tropenell may have been born about 1405. He married, firstly, Agnes, who is mentioned as his wife in deeds of 1431, 1435, 1437, 1442, 1448, 1449. She was the widow² of Thomas Bourton,³ who was cousin and heir to John Bourton, jun., of Atworth, Lockeridge, and Bourton, in Gloucestershire. It is singular that her name does not occur in the pedigree; we know nothing further of her, but that she was of a good family, and certainly Tropenell's wife for at least eighteen years. He married secondly—probably in May, 1456⁴—his cousin Margaret, second daughter to William Ludlow,⁵ and widow of John Erley. She appears as wife of John Erley in a deed of 1439 and in 1447, when she receives a legacy from Robert Warmwell, as widow of John Erley and wife of Thomas Tropenell in 1456, 1457, and continues to be mentioned as wife of Tropenell in deeds to 1461. There is, however, no doubt that she lived much longer. She predeceased her husband, and as there is no reference to her in 1479, when Tropenell appointed trustees⁶ with a view to his will, we may conclude that Margaret was no longer living; certainly she had died before 1486 (2 H. VII.), since in that year her name is not found in a deed which recites old grants to her husband and herself, and confirmation is granted to Thomas Tropenell alone.⁷ The approximate date of her death has its bearing on the date of the manor-house and the Tropenell Chapel at Great Chalfield. Her arms are displayed abundantly over

¹ See p. 202, and pedigree.

² MS., pp. 158, 180. They were married probably in 1431, as in December that year Tropenell does homage to the Abbot of Evesham for certain lands in Burton which belonged to Agnes's first husband. She was a widow in June, 1431 (p. 157).

³ We meet with several generations of this family, John de Bourton, Robert 1325, John 1399, John 1410, 1418, whose heir, Thomas, the husband of Agnes, was (pp. 150, 154, &c.).

⁴ P. 749. ⁵ See above, p. 204, and pedigree.

⁶ Pp. 783, 831. ⁷ P. 837.

those works, and the inference is that she was alive at the time. Looking to probability, we should hardly assign a date before 1460 for the commencement of the rebuilding, and for reasons just stated we suppose the house and church to have been finished before 1479.

It is not to be supposed that Tropenell and his possessions were altogether unaffected by the troublous times in which he lived. As a prominent county man, he could hardly fail to take some part in politics; and however skilful and wary, it was little likely he would move absolutely at ease and unharmed amid conflicting parties. We do not know much of his personal character. An enemy—whether with justice or not—calls him grasping: “The seid Thomas Tropenell is and alwey hathe be called a perillous covetous man.” From the same Inquisition, 32 H. VI. (1453), we have again in hostile evidence a personal reference to Tropenell. He is represented—possibly very untruly—as one who would make his power felt if he got an adversary into his hands; but all this—according to the disingenuous speaker—might be discounted now, for on the testimony of a certain “Lyte,” who came riding from London, “Thomas Tropenell was fast in prison at London, and never like to come out, and there condempned in a Teynt, and (Lyte) seid he was one of tho that atteynted hym.” Why, then, mind writings and so forth? Why not take a quiet bribe and be at peace? “for Tropenell that his grete trust is on, is there he may not help hymself, and undone for ever.”¹ Whether there was any shred of truth in this we cannot say, but swearing seems to have been hard and hazards were great. Tropenell’s political position may have been a little difficult to define. It may not have been altogether consistent; during his long life he had to serve many masters. A petition² addressed by him a few years later to “my full right gracious and honorable the Erle of the Marche” throws a curious light on the times. It appears—for he fully states his case—that recovery of lands and tenements in Chicklade

¹ Pp. 522, 523. ² Pp. 548—551.

and Hindon had been granted to him (1456) against a certain Richard Page, and Tropenell had been put in seisin by the Sheriff of the county. Page, however, had re-entered, and continued in possession some five years, supported by the might and authority of the Earl of Wiltshire, "tille now your gracious comyng home into England that it liked my full gracious lord Chaunceller,¹ that now is, to graunte a writte of redisseison unto your seid suppliant directed to the Sheref that now is." By virtue of this, Tropenell again obtained recovery and damages, and the Sheriff attempted to distrain for the value. "Whereupon," the petition continues, "there is a Walsshman called Richard Guynneth,² whiche pretendeth to be your servant, hath straitly charged and comaunded the seid Sheref in the name of your lordship that he shal nat make no maner of levy of the seid Catell nor no parcell therof, agenst all law and conscience: so that the seyd Sheref for displesyng your lordship dare not execute his office therin, till he have other comaundement from your seid lordship. Wherefor pleseth your gracious lordship to considre the premysses and the great costes, damages, and wronges that your seid suppliant hath suffred in this mater aforetyme, to geve in comaundement by your gracious lettre to the seid Sheref and his officers there, that they do execucion and make lewev of the seid Catell to your seid suppliant according to the lawe, as reson and conscience requyreth, and as youre seid suppliant shall pray to Almyghty God to encrese your worshypfull estate to His plesure and youre hertes desire." Upon this a "letter" follows "made by Edward Erle of the Marche next after the bataile and feld of Northampton, next after his exilyng and comyng into this lond agene, to John Ferys, Sheref of Wiltes, for Thomas Tropenell for londes and tenementes in Chicklade and Hyndon, upon a lettre of supplicacion of

¹ George Neville, Bishop of Exeter, brother of the Earl of Warwick, appointed July 25th, 1460; removed from office June 8th, 1467.

² Guynneth is said in the heading to have had the "mayntenaunce of Sir Richard Benet, parson of Estcodford, a nawghty man."

the seid Thomas Tropenell." In this missive the case is again recited, and the interruption to the Sheriff is thus dealt with:—"We be enformed there is a Walsshman named Richard Guynneth pretending to be oure servaunt, of whom as far as we can remembre we have no knowlage, hath straitly charged and comaunded you in oure name that ye shall make no levee of the seid Catall nor of no parcell therof, so that in eschewyng oure displeasure ye forbere to execute your office theryn tille from us ye have other comaundement. Therefore we wol and in the Kynges our soverayn lordes name straitly charge you that ye faithfully and truly execute the Kynges writte to you directed in that behalve after the forme tenor and effecte of the same, not sparyng for love, mede, hate, favoure, nor drede of any persone or persones, as ye wil eschewe our displeasure. Yeven vnder our signet at London the xxx day of August" [1460]. But the matter does not seem to have been finally settled till Edward's fourth year.

One further indication of Tropenell's political position we find towards the end of his life, when in November, 2 R. III. (1484), he received a general pardon—possibly in reference to the Wiltshire implication in the rising of the Duke of Buckingham—"Thomas Tropenell, of Chaldefeld, in the Countie of Wiltes, Squier, hath a general pardonne."¹

Tropenell died on Jan. 31st, 3 H. VII. (1488),² and was buried at Corsham in the tomb he had prepared for Margaret and himself.³ He had appointed⁴ some years before (May 10th, 19 Ed. IV., 1479), as feoffees of all his manors and properties for the fulfilment of his will, Sir Richard Beauchamp; John Catesby and Thomas Tremaille, King's sergeants-at-law; William Huddesfield, King's attorney; Master Walter Hill, Warden of New College, Oxford;⁵ Richard

¹ Harl. 433, f 83 b.

² *Inquis. post mortem*, 3rd May, 3 H. VII. (1488).

³ See on Tropenell wills and tombs below, sec. IV. ⁴ Pp. 783, 831.

⁵ Proctor, 1463; succeeded as Warden of New College September 5th, 1475; died March 30th, 1494, and was buried in the College chapel.

Esmonde, of All Souls' College, Oxford;¹ Edward Hungerford, John Mompesson, Robert Baynard, Esquires; Richard Jay, Thomas Wode, Ralph Tracy, and five others. This document occurs in duplicate, and in each the above list of feoffees occurs four times, and in every case all the names commencing with Master Walter Hill are written over erasures, but apparently by the original scribe. The witnesses to the second document vary. An enumeration is made of the several properties, which it may be interesting to give in substance:—"My manor of Great Chalfield with advowson, with all lands, tenements, rents, reversions, services, liberties, franchises, hereditaments, meadows, woods, pastures, pasture lands (*pascuas et pasturas*), with the office of Constable of Trowbridge Castle, and all belongings in Chalfield, Lynsford,² Holt, Trowbridge, Atworth magna, Atworth parva, *i.e.* Cottles³ Atworth; also my manor of

¹ A Richard Estmonde was Proctor in 1474, and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford in 1487.

² This was, no doubt, the existing Lenton farm. The name is written Lyntonesford, Lyntenesford, and Lyntesford. The ford may have been across the brook mentioned in a deed as the "Chaldeburn"—"super aquam que vocatur Chaldeburn versus Croftam dom: Will: de Percy." In another deed a croft called "Brodecroft" lies to the east of the "Lyntesford" road and abuts on "Lynton" wood. No date, but witnesses were Sir Robert Cotell, Sir William Percy, Philip de Comerwell, &c. A deed of 1302 speaks of a road leading from Lyntenesford towards Broctone (Broughton), and another from Lyntesford leading towards West Chalfield. The name occurs in connection with Bowode, Wastellys, Newlond, Wodelye, Smalbonysclos, Cokesmede, and Hangerfield in Chalfield. At Lynsford there appears to have been a house and about 48 acres. Mr. T. Pullen strengthens my conclusion. He tells me they can trace very plainly the lane or track towards Broughton, and also that leading to Little Chalfield, along which there is still a right of way; and the ford was close to the present ancient (Lenton farm) house. The "Chaldeburn," now called Chalfield Brook, worked the old Domesday Mill. There are several fine old oak-trees—one of especial grandeur—in a field abutting on the old ford, which Mr. Pullen believes may well be the remains of "Lynton" wood. Hangerfield and Bowood are still known, and the modern "Coarsemead" may possibly represent the old Cokesmede.

³ Lands and tenements, with the advowson of the chapel of Little Atworth, were settled on Richard Cotell and Isabel his wife, &c., in 6 Ed. I. (1278), p. 185.

Maiden Bradley"—which appears to have been purchased from Sir Robert Hungerford in 1452—"with all belonging in Maiden Bradley, West Codford, East Codford, and my manors of Chicklade and Hindon, with the advowson of the church of Chicklade; with all my lands, &c., in Chicklade, Hindon, Knolle Episcopi, and Milton; also my manor of East Harnham, with all lands, &c., waters, fisheries, &c., with everything belonging to East Harnham and Homington; also my manor of Durnford parva, &c., and the advowson of the church of Great Cheverell, &c., lands, &c., in New Sarum, Old Sarum, Fisherton Anger,¹ Stratford within the parish of Corsham, Neston, Corsham, Corshamland, with the chapel of St. John² the Baptist and the close adjacent in le Rigge (the Ridge) in Corshamland, Chippenham, Pewsham, Alington, Langdene, Castle Combe, Lockeridge and Tolland, in the co. Wilts; and all lands, &c., in Burton, Harsegge (Hassage), Wellow, Littleton, Woodcote, and Tollard, in the counties of Somerset and Dorset." The return at the Inquisition taken at his death is substantially the same as the above.

Of Tropenell's four children,³ Humphrey and Anne predeceased their father, who left to Mary, "unum lectum album," one white bed with everything belonging to it; while to Christopher, his son and heir, he gave the residue.

XIII. Christopher Tropenell succeeded his father. His name occurs in a deed⁴ with his father, 5 Ed. IV. (1465). In 1490 he presented to Great Cheverell by concession of presentation in perpetuity made to his father in 1476 by

¹ Ego Ricardus filius Henrici Ancheri dedi . . . Augustino le corvesire unam placeam terre in marisco de Fysherton." No date, (p. 217). The name becomes Anger on its way to the modern form (p. 449).

² This chapel was adjacent to the principal messuage there, called le Eyres (pp. 18, 19).

³ Above, p. 204.

⁴ Pp. 708, 709. It is a most singular circumstance that in the Inquisition after his father's death Christopher, his son and heir, is stated to have been 25 years old and more, when he must have been nearly double that age.

Margaret Lady Hungerford.¹ In 1496 (12 H. VII.) we find him the first of four commissioners for the county of Wilts, under the Act for subsidy granted to the King that year.² In 1501 (16 H. VII.) he confirmed to Sir Walter Hungerford, John Ludlow, Leonard Chafyn, &c., the manor of Maiden Bradley, &c., to hold to the uses of his will.³ He married Anne, daughter of Nicholas and Margaret Carewe.⁴ His death occurred soon after September 29th, 1503; and by his will (1501), after bequests to his wife Anne, he speaks of his children, and gives the residue "to him that shall be mine heir of my body lawfully begotten, if he be of good rule and disposition, or else not." He leaves to Sir Walter Hungerford his armour, beseeching him to be "a special good master in right unto my wife, my children, and mine executors." The will, which is of some interest, was evidently made when his children were quite young. His wife, who died in 1517, speaks in her will, dated in 1514, of the wardship and non-age of Thomas Tropenell, her son, and heir to Christopher her husband. Her executors were desired to see that her daughter Margaret be married according to the will of her late husband. She mentions her daughter Elizabeth, who was married to William Hall of Bradford (son of Thomas Hall, who was outlawed in 1502), and had already three children (named); and she gives us the date of her husband's death by referring to a book of accounts passed at Michaelmas next before that event in 19 H. VII. (1503). Christopher and Anne both lie buried at Corsham.⁵

XIV. Thomas Tropenell succeeded his father, Christopher. He presents to Great Chalfield in 1518. In 11 H. VIII. (1519) we find Sir Edward Hungerford, Philip Baynard, and John Ernley doing homage for the various manors, advowsons, &c., of the Tropenell property, the manor and church of Great Chalfield, the Constableness of Trowbridge

¹ P. 867. ² Rot. Parl., vi. 518.

³ Hoare's *Wills*, Maiden Bradley, p. 112.

⁴ See below, sec. iv.

⁵ See below, sec. IV.

Castle, &c.¹ He married Eleanor, daughter of the Sir Thomas Englefield who died in 1512.² In 15 H. VIII. (1523) the property was granted to Thomas Englefield, William Gale, and others, to the uses of Tropenell and his wife Eleanor, and his heirs for ever.³ He presented to Great Chalfield in 1525, while a John Tropenell—possibly a son of John (Ive) Tropenell, who may have acquired the presentation for that turn—presents in 1526. Thomas presented again in 1528, and to Cheverell Magna in 1529, and finally to Great Chalfield in 1535. This Thomas was also called Giles, as we infer from Harl. 1165 (f. 5) under “Young,” where we are told that “Egidius Tropenell” (married) “da. of Engfield.”⁴ In his very short will, which, “sick in body and of sound and whole memory,” he dated June 26th, 2 Ed. VI. (1548), he is described as of Sulham, Berks, where he possibly chiefly resided near his wife’s family. His will was proved November 4th, same year. He desired to be buried in the chancel of Sulham Church; leaves Eleanor, his wife, sole executrix; charges her with the education and furtherance of their children, and gives to his son Giles his crossbow, &c. His widow, Eleanor, in her will dated March 20th, 1555—proved September 14th, 1556—mentions her daughters Anne and Besse, Eleanor Blackman and Mary Young, giving her residue to John Young and William Charde, her sons-in-law, whom she makes her executors.

The above Giles, who obtained his father’s crossbow, and who “died young,”⁵ may have been the “heir male” whose death gave rise to the family tradition quoted above. At all events at this time the Great Chalfield property, with

¹ Addit 6363 (originalia), p. 175.

² Harl. Soc., xii. 123.

³ *Wilts Archaeolog. Mag.*, x. 265, from Addit, 5140.

⁴ See also Hoare’s *Maiden Bradley*, p. 112, and *Hund. of Amesbury* (ped. of Young), p. 125.

⁵ Pedigree of Thos. Englefield, College of Arms, quoted (but in a mistaken argument) Walker’s *Great Chalfield*, p. 29.

Monks, &c., now passed to Anne, the eldest of the four daughters, who was married to John Eyre, Esq., of Wedhampton, while other of the estates went to Mary, the wife of John, son and heir to John Young, of Harnam, Wilts. We are alone concerned with the Eyres.

XV. John Eyre, of Wedhampton, also called of Chawvile (Chalfield), Esq., had issue by his first wife Anne Tropenell, one son, William (of whom next), and six daughters, Mary, Susan, Alice, Ann, Elizabeth and Margaret, whom we cannot follow. He and his wife Anna present to Great Chalfield in 1555. He was M.P. for Wilts in 1562-3. His will, "made by word of mouth," is dated September 20th, 1581, and was proved November 6th, same year. He mentions Elizabeth his wife—who must have been his second,—his daughters and their children, and leaves William his heir and executor.

XVI. William, afterwards Sir William Eyre, came into the property in 1581, and subsequently sold the Monks estate to the Danvers family,¹ whose posterity were enjoying it in 1695. He was baptized at Great Chalfield in 1555; High Sheriff for Wilts, 1591; M.P. for Wilts, 1597. He married, firstly, Ann Baynton, daughter of Sir Edward Baynton, and sister to Sir Henry Baynton,, of Bromham, Wilts, by whom he had issue three sons and two daughters, all baptized at Great Chalfield. The sons were: John (of whom next); Edward, who died unmarried; and William, afterwards Sir William, who inherited Neston. This latter had two sons, William and Edward. William succeeded his father in the Neston property in 1663, and died *before* 1688. He was succeeded by his son William, who entered the Middle Temple in 1688, and died without issue in 1693, leaving his sister, Jane Eyre, his heiress. She married

¹ Note on flyleaf of MS., p. 44.

² Will of Sir William, proved July 7th, 1663. His son William has the residue, and is sole executor, and his grandchild Anne has £500. He does not name any other of his family, and makes no mention of his landed property.

³ Hoare's *Wills*, V. ii. 56.

Sir John Hanham,¹ of Wimborne, Dorset, Bart. (of whom below).

Sir William Eyre, of Great Chalfield, after the death of his first wife, buried at Great Chalfield, June 19th, 1587, married, secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of Alderman Jackman, by whom he had issue two sons and three daughters—Robert and Henry, Ann, Lucy, and Olive. To the elder son, Robert, he left Little Chalfield (*see* below), which was afterwards sold to Sir Edward Baynton, who left it to his younger son, Thomas Baynton. Henry Eyre inherited Weddington (Wedhampton). Of his three daughters, Ann married John, eldest son of Sir Walter Long, of Draycot, Bart.; Lucy married William Stafford, of Marlwood, Gloucester; Olive died unmarried.² Sir William was predeceased by his second wife, who was buried at Great Chalfield, March 26th, 1622. He now married, thirdly,³ Ann, widow of William Noyes, Esq., and sister to Edward Earnley, Esq., of Kingston, Wilts. She had assued to her by indenture and fine of June, 1626, the enjoyment of the manor of Great Chalfield and other properties for life, on the decease of Sir William. This event occurred August 24th, 1629; he was buried at Great Chalfield, August 30th. His widow continued to reside at Great Chalfield, but she may not have survived long, and at her death the whole property went to Sir John Eyre, the son and heir to Sir William.

XVII. John, afterwards Sir John Eyre, of Great Chalfield, was baptized there August 26th, 1580; M.P. for Calne 1625, and for Chippenham 1628. He married Dorothy, daughter of — Bowstred, and succeeded to the Great Chalfield property on the death of Ann Lady Eyre; but, having “no issue, sold Great Chalfield, which after several alienations is

¹ Not Sir *William*, as Hoare states; *see* Hutchins' *Dorset*, iii. 231; also Tropenell MS. flyleaf, p. 978.

² Tropenell MS., *ibid.*

³ *Inquis. p. mortem* (7 Car. I).

now [1695] the property of Mr. John Hall, of Bradford."¹ His will was dated July 18th, and proved August 26th, 1639.²

XVIII. We find the property now in possession of Richard Gurney, or Gurnard. He was the son of Bryon Gurney, or Gurnard, born in 1577, and descended from the Gurneys of Kendal.³ He was of the Clothworkers' Company, and became knight and baronet, receiving his letters patent while Sheriff of London in 1633 (July 26th, 9 Car. I.); he became Lord Mayor⁴ in 1642 (18 Car. I.), but was discharged from his office by Parliament and committed to the Tower, where he remained a prisoner till his death in 1647. In 1638 the manor is described, as heretofore, as a whole knight's fee annexed to the Duchy of Lancaster, consisting of a thousand acres of land in Chalfield, Holt, and Lysford, and carrying with it the Constablership of Trowbridge Castle; it is returned as then held by "Richard Gurnard and the heir of Sir William Eyre."⁵ It appears that during the tenure of the loyal Sir Richard Gurney his manor-house was occupied and garrisoned by the Parliamentary troops, and certainly had endured a siege; but unfortunately no details are at present forthcoming. We find, however, a letter written by Sir William Waller from Salisbury, April 9th, 1645, asking for money and supplies, in which he enclosed one he had received from the committee sitting at Chalfield House announcing that Prince Rupert and Prince Maurice were at Marshfield. A statement also occurs by Sir Richard Gurney, estimating his loss as at least £2,000 by injury done to his house of Great Chalfield and cutting down his woods; while Robert Eyre (who had compounded for delinquency

¹ MS. flyleaf, p. 978.

² He seems to have been in poor circumstances. Besides his household stuff, his property was £250 in his iron chest in London. He left to his brother, Robert Eyre, his gilt bowl and cover, and 5s. to his wife, Dorothy Eyre.

³ Records of House of Gurney, p. 533.

⁴ For good account of his reception of King and Queen in the city, see Seymour's *Survey*, vol. ii., pp. 251—257.

⁵ *Wilts Knights' Fees* (Lancaster), quoted by Walker, p. 30.

in October, 1646),¹ son of Sir William, the owner of Little Chalfield (see above), complains, in a petition dated in 1648, that he had suffered greatly by the proximity of his house to the garrison which held Great Chalfield, especially when the latter was besieged.² But, as we have seen above, the lawful owner of the property was in the Tower, where he died with his fortune wrecked before the cause for which he had suffered was utterly lost. His son and heir-apparent in 1634 was Richard Gurney, but his name does not appear in the troubles. Sir Richard left two daughters—Elizabeth, married to Sir John Pettus, of Suffolk; and Anne, wife of Thomas Lord Richardson, of Cramont. Some few notices occur of proceedings as to Gurney's affairs, out of which his daughters got small consolation. In September, 1650, we find them pleading in reference to a claim of £5,000 from the Parliament that their father had really been freed from sequestration in November, 1646; that he had died unsequestered for delinquency; that Parliament had had £7,500 of his estate, besides Gurney House and his house in Wilts which was made a garrison; that he had suffered five years' imprisonment, dying in prison; that his estate had been so much encumbered that lands had been sold to pay off £26,000 debt, and £2,000 had been paid by the executrixes from their own estate. Nevertheless, they were ordered to pay the £5,000.³

XIX. Some few years later, if not before 1660, William Hanham, of Dean's Court, Wimborne, Esq., created a baronet May 24th, 1667, owned the manor.⁴ He married

¹ Cal. State Papers, October 10th, 1646.

² Mr. Waylen, in *Wilts Arch. Mag.*, vol. ii., p. 258; Godwin, *Civil War in Hants*, p. 209.

³ Cal. State Papers (advance of money), 1642-56. See October, 1646; October, 1647; March, 1648; July, September, 1650.

⁴ It is stated in Hoare's *Wilts*, Frustfield, p. 117, that the Tropenell aisle at Corsham belonged to Sir William Hanham. This may be an error for Sir John, as in Hoare's pedigree; and apparently must be so if the aisle went with the Neston property, for the Eyres were at Neston all the time Sir William was at Great Chalfield. But it may be that the aisle rather went with the possessor of Great Chalfield, which would seem the more natural.

Elizabeth, daughter of George Cooper, of Clarendon Park, Wilts, Esq., and, dying in 1671, left his son and heir, John, under age. By his will, dated May 27th that year and proved June 9th, he enjoined his trustees, by the sale of certain manors and lands specified, to discharge all sums of money for which his manor or lordship of Chalfield was engaged; and, being so cleared, he devised his said manor of Chalfield with the advowson of the church, together with his manor, cell, and dissolved priory of East Holme, to his wife, Dame Elizabeth Hanham, for life. He left her also guardian of their son while under age, and at her death the property was to go to the said John and his heirs. This lady was alive in 1689, for in that year her name occurs among prisoners in custody at the Tower of London, in company with the Earl of Peterborough, Lord Preston, Lord Montgomery, Sir T. Fenwick, Judge Jeffries, &c. She had been detained probably on a charge of Jacobitism, and was removed to the King's Bench in November with some others and admitted to bail, and finally was discharged.¹ But clearly the property had changed hands, probably under the circumstances detailed below, long before her death.

XX. Sir John Hanham, second baronet, who succeeded his father in the title in 1671, was the next possessor. He was still a minor in 1674, and in that year (25 Car. II.) an Act of Parliament was obtained to enable the trustees under the late Sir William's will² to sell lands and pay debts, according to directions, and for the management of the estates of Sir John Hanham during his minority. We do not know the date of Sir John's marriage with Jane Eyre (above, p. 232), nor the date of the sale of the Great Chalfield property, which now took place, or what reference, if any, such sale had to the above arrangement; but the manor had passed to the next owner before 1678. Sir John died, while

¹ Hutchins' *Dorset*, iii., 232. See N. and Q. (and reff.), series iii., vol. x., p. 66.

² Hutchings, *Dorset*, *ibid.*

still a young man, in 1703, and Jane Lady Hanham, who had inherited Neston¹ in 1693, died in 1707, leaving a high and beautiful reputation behind her as wife and mother, friend and neighbour.²

XXI. The manor was now, by purchase from the last proprietor, in the hands of John Hall, of Bradford-on-Avon, Esq., son of Sir Thomas Hall, who married Catherine Seymour, and fifth in direct descent from the William Hall who married Elizabeth, daughter of Christopher Tropenell. He was an active magistrate in his town and neighbourhood, and builder of the almshouses at Bradford, which he also endowed; Sheriff of the county in 1670. He married Elizabeth, second daughter of Sir Thomas Thynne, of Longleat, and added largely to his property by the purchase of various estates in his neighbourhood, Great Chalfield being one. He presented to the benefice in 1678, and again in 1689 and 1707; he also gave the communion plate now in use, consisting of chalice, paten, and alms-dish.³ He died a widower before May 16th, 1711, leaving his estates to Rachel Baynton, of Little Chalfield, the arrangements for whose marriage with Lord Kingston (*see* next owner) were not completed when Hall died. By his will dated September 10th, 1708, with codicil February 7th, 1710, and proved September 5th, 1711, he left Rachel under the guardianship of his trustees and executors—Denzil Onslow, Edward Lisle, Francis Goddard, and Robert—

¹ Tropenell MS. flyleaf, p. 978.

² Hutchins' *Dorset*, *ibid.*

³ *Chalfield Magna*.—No plate is entered for "Chawfilde Magna" in the returns for 1553, only two bells. The present service was given in the latter half of the 17th century. It consists of a chalice, 8in. in height, with its paten cover; this vessel is quite plain without knot on the stem, and has a spreading base. The paten measures 9in. in diameter, and rests on a foot, on which is engraved the sacred monogram. The hall-marks are for 1680, the maker's being R L with a fleur-de-lys beneath, enclosed within a heart-shaped shield. Both pieces are inscribed "Deo et ecclesiæ," surmounted by a shield of arms with elaborate mantling—*Three poleaxes*, for Hall, impaling, *Barry of ten* for Thynne.—*The Church Plate of the County of Wilts*, by J. E. Nightingale, F.S.A., 1891.

afterwards Sir Robert—Eyre, to whom also he gave all his property, in trust for “Rachel Bayntun, daughter of Thomas Bayntun, of Little Chalfield, Esq., and of his now wife,” till her death or marriage. Her husband, not being a peer of the realm or a peer’s eldest son, was to take the surname of Hall. His trustees were to have the custody and education of the said Rachel till her marriage or coming of age, and she was not to marry without their consent. A mystery seems to have been attaching to her parentage.¹ She was baptized at Great Chalfield, April 14th, 1695, as the “daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Baynton,” and in such case was, in point of fact, Hall’s connection through his wife, Elizabeth Thynne, whose sister, Stuart Thynne, had been married to Sir Edward Baynton, of Bromham; their second son being Thomas Baynton, of Little Chalfield, the father of Rachel. Nevertheless, suspicions existed.² A special Act of Parliament was obtained for the purpose of settling Hall’s estates on Lord Kingston and Rachel Baynton, in which no mention is made of any relationship with Hall. The Act was obtained with difficulty, owing to much opposition from the next of kin and otherwise; but the royal assent was given to the Bill May 16th, 1711, a rider being added to the effect that no countenance was given to any articles or supposed articles of agreement made, or pretended to be made, between the Lord Marquis of Dorchester and the late John Hall, concerning the marriage of “the said Mrs. Baynton with the said William Pierrepont, Esq., commonly called Lord Kingston.”³

¹ She was said to have been Hall’s own daughter by the wife of Thomas Baynton, of Little Chalfield.—Mr. Waldron’s MS., quoted by Walker, p. 30.

² The Peerage of 1717, which fully mentions the death of Lord Kingston, makes no reference to his marriage. Others give his wife’s name as simply Rachel; others, giving the name Rachel Baynton, do not venture to say who she was; but Cokayne (1892) describes her as daughter of Thomas Baynton, of Little Charfield, by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir George Willoughby, of Bishopston.

³ Canon Jones, in *Wills Arch. Mag.*, v. 360 (q.v.)

XXII. Rachel Baynton was 16 years of age when she married William Pierrepoint, Lord Kingston. He was son and heir to Evelyn, fifth Earl of Kingston-upon-Hull, created Marquis of Dorchester December 23rd, 1706, and Duke of Kingston on August 10th, 1715. William was born October 28th, 1692, and died in the lifetime of his father, July 1st, 1713, aged 21. We find Lord Kingston presenting to Great Chalfield in 1711 and again in 1712.

XXIII. The property next passed to his son, Evelyn Pierrepoint, second and last Duke of Kingston, who succeeded his grandfather March 5th, 1726, in the title, which became extinct with his own death, September 23rd, 1773. He presented to Great Chalfield in 1761, and sold the estate in 1770 to the next.

XXIV. Robert Neale, Esq., of Shaw House, who added to and partly rebuilt the church, and was otherwise a benefactor to the parish (*see* below, p. 245, &c.). He died suddenly at Shaw House, July 3rd, 1776.

XXV. On the death of the last, Great Chalfield came to his eldest daughter and co-heir, Grace Elizabeth Neale, who, by special license, was married at Lord Bridport's house, Harley Street, on April 15th, 1795, to Sir Harry Burrard, Bart., of Wallhampton, Hants. On this Sir Harry assumed, by sign-manual, the arms and surname of Neale, with a grant of supporters. Sir Harry presented to the living, in 1809, the Rev. Richard Warner, who was already known in the literary world, and who held the incumbency till his death in 1857. Sir A. B. Neale died without issue February 7th, 1840, and was succeeded in the title by his brother.

XXVI. The Rev. Sir George Burrard, who was born in 1769, married, firstly, September 1st, 1804, Elizabeth Anne Coppel, who dying in 1815, he married, secondly, May 1st, 1816, Emma, daughter of Admiral Joseph Bingham. Sir George purchased from Lady Neale, who lived till 1853,¹

¹ Information from the late Rev. Edward Kingston, Rector of Great Chalfield.

her interest in Great Chalfield. On the death of Sir George Burrard, on May 17th, 1856, the manor became the property of his widow for life, at whose decease it was to be sold and the proceeds given to her children.

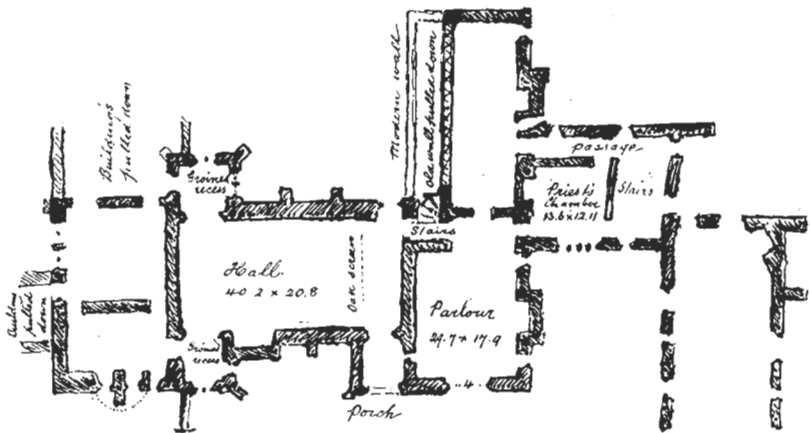
XXVII. Emma Lady Burrard, widow of Sir George, held the manor from 1856. She presented to the living in 1857, and again in 1867 and 1878. Shortly before her death, in 1879, Great Chalfield was sold with the consent of her son and others interested in the property.

XXVIII. And in 1878 the manor passed by purchase to George Pargiter Fuller, Esq., of Neston Park, the present proprietor.

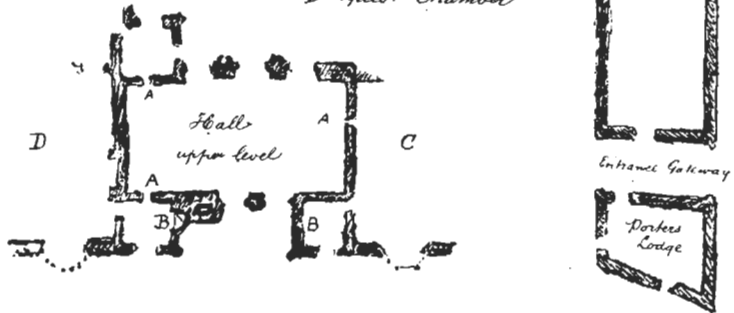
III.

The Manor-house and church stand close together in an ample area, and were protected on the north or front side by a couple of bastions with connecting curtain running east to west, as may still be seen (*see* illustration¹ and plan from Ordnance Survey), which possibly represented the defence of the earlier house. The site was further defended by a moat, which partly still exists. On the eastern side is, or rather was till lately, the corn-mill spoken of in *Domesday*, which has now given place to cottages. The church stands somewhat to the north-east of the main body of the house, and the west wall of its diminutive cemetery, running north and south, touches the moat at its northern extremity, its southern end joining the wall of a small close at the east end of the house. The principal or north front of the house forms the narrower and south side of a parallelogram, of which the churchyard and close wall just spoken of form the eastern side; while opposite, from the western angle of the house, a substantial range of buildings containing stables

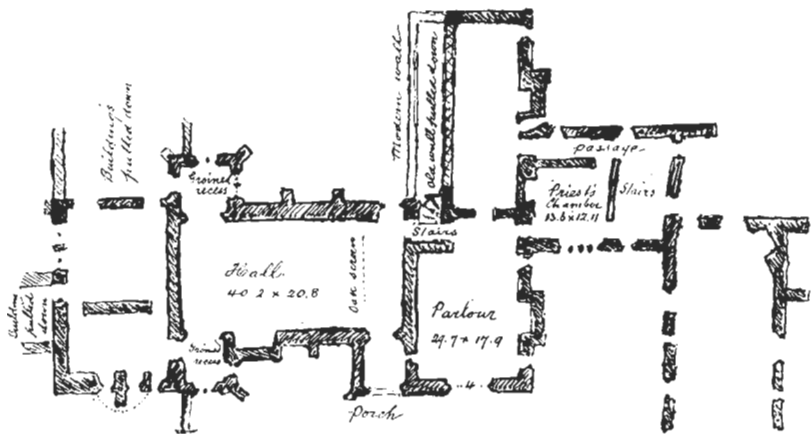
¹ The illustration, which is from the *Gent. Mag.*, July, 1834, shows the house as it was before the alterations, with the entrance to the front court through the building to the right. The photograph gives the house as it is at present. The subject is a favourite one, and there is a beautiful picture of the old Manor-house in Elyard's *Old Wiltshire Homes*.



- AAA Squire's
- B.B Kneel stairs to roof
- C Best bed chamber
- D Guest chamber



GREAT CHALFIELD MANOR HOUSE. GROUND PLAN.

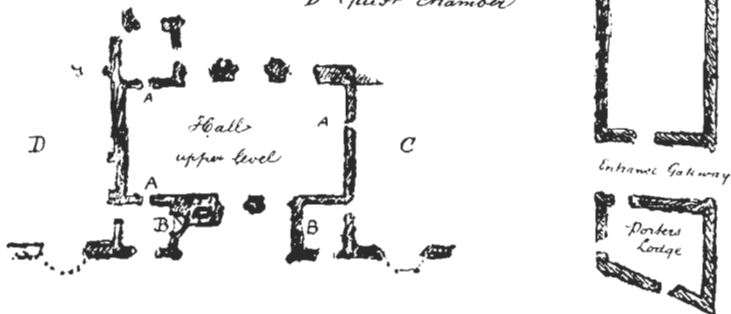


AAA Squirrels

B.B. Travel stairs to roof

C Best bed chamber

D Guest chamber



GREAT CHALFIELD MANOR HOUSE. GROUND PLAN.

GREAT CHALFIELD, CHURCH AND MANOR HOUSE, IN 1834.





GREAT CHALFIELD, CHURCH AND MANOR HOUSE.

Photo. by C. F. Perren, Bath.

and other offices, partly original but chiefly reconstructions possibly of the Eyre occupation, runs at right angles, nearly touching the moat on the north. These limits included the principal or front court, the only entrance to which was by an arched passage (shown on plan and in engraving) through the buildings just mentioned, and towards the north-west of the court. A bridge across the moat led directly into an outer court in which were the farm buildings, the arched entrance to the principal or front court being almost immediately to the left. On the south, or further, side of the whole included space are extensive remains of the moat; two fishponds, also in connection, existed till quite recently (*see* plan).

The chief, or north, elevation of the Manor-house is still very beautiful. The photograph does it scant justice, as in order to include the church the picture is somewhat in profile, and a portion of the house on the west has been cut short. The building is symmetrical, the general plan being a central hall with principal chambers on either side, contained in wings each exhibiting two gables, the outermost or more important gable on each side displaying a handsome oriel; that on the left of the picture, belonging to the now destroyed guest chamber, being of uncommon design. The octagonal oriel of the right wing is surmounted by the Tropenell arms and crest (a griffin), with griffins arranged as supporters. This heraldic device is said by Walker to have been apparently of later date. The numerous gables of the house were, and still partly are, adorned with figures of men-at-arms with swords or other weapons, while the smaller gables were surmounted with griffins, some bearing the Tropenell arms.

The hall of the mansion, about 40 ft. 2 ins. by 20 ft. 2 ins. and 20 ft. high, was entered through a groined porch, the archway of which, flush with the wall, is seen in the picture. Immediately to the left a good open oak screen (figured in Walker's book), now removed, formed a passage through the hall into the open on the south side, and supported a min-

strels' gallery. The hall was lighted on the north by a couple of two-light windows with transoms, and by three similar windows on the south. On the north side, towards the east end, a large fireplace occupied the space of one window, and beyond this (*see* plan) was a somewhat low-groined recess or bay, lighted in front by a two-light window, and having a door on its east side communicating with what was described in 1834¹ as a gloomy vaulted room lighted by four loops, which again opened on a room to the south with a four-light window facing east, and beyond this, southward, were other buildings which had been destroyed. On the south side of the hall was a corresponding groined bay, which also on its east side led into buildings long pulled down. The hall ceiling was nearly flat, or slightly elliptical, divided into eight large compartments by the heavier timbers, each compartment being subdivided into four panels; the framework was throughout ornamented with bosses of larger and smaller size, bearing the arms of Tropenell, Ludlow, Tropenell impaling Ludlow, and the Tropenell badge—the ox-yoke and the motto (*le joug*) “*tyra belement*”—*i.e.* (the yoke) “drew well.” The word for “yoke” is, however, never expressed, but always represented by the figure, as on the tomb at Corsham. At the west end of the hall, high up over the minstrels' gallery, was a curious squint from the state bedroom, concealed by a perforated mask in the wall of the hall, by which what was going on below could be seen and heard; and a similar peep-hole existed in each of the small chambers, to be described further on, over the groined bays of the hall. One of these squints—that in the west wall—still exists, though turned into a curiously-shaped cupboard, narrowing towards the back; the other two are either destroyed or concealed in modern work.

Continuing on the ground floor, immediately to the west of the hall was the parlour, about 29 ft. 7 ins. by 17 ft. 9 ins., having a squint into the porch. The south-east corner of

¹ *Gent. Mag.*, 1834, (July), p. 36.

the room opened upon a staircase now existing. Opposite to this, at the south-west corner, a door led into what was called the "priest's room," 13 ft. 6 ins. by 12 ft. 11 ins., which had a four-light window in front and two exits—one leading into the open westwards through what Mr. Walker supposed to be space for a staircase; and the other into a passage on the south, running right and left, which led into a long apartment, stretching south, contiguous to the parlour and opening from it (*see* plan).

On the floor above, at the west end, over the parlour was a bedroom of the same dimensions and plan, except that in its north wall it had the oriel window seen on the right-hand of the picture, and in its east wall one of those curious peep-holes into the hall (marked A on the plan) already mentioned. At the north-east corner a small room or closet was entered, having a two-light window in its north wall under the gable to the left of the oriel and over the porch entrance. From this closet a spiral staircase (marked B) in its east wall led to the roof over the hall ceiling, and formed a communication, through a corresponding newel (also marked B) eastward, with the other wing of the house. The rest of the plan of this wing is similar to that of the floor below, and need not be further described.

Passing to the east wing, over the two groined recesses in the hall were two small chambers, each having a squint or peep-hole (A) into the hall, as above described. The chamber to the north-east was 8 ft. 6 ins. by 8 ft. 3 ins. (that on the other side was rather larger), and had in its west wall the newel staircase (B) leading to the roof, as explained above of a corresponding staircase, and communicating with the west wing. Under the gable, in its north wall, is a two-light window, and on the east an entrance to the guest chamber, 30 ft. by 18 ft. 10 in. This room, now demolished with the exception of its north wall, which still contains the beautiful oriel to be described presently, opened as the room below upon buildings to the south long since pulled down;

and it seems to have had a small building, perhaps a withdrawing-room, abutting on the east side. The fireplace of this room had been encased in a lofty and elaborate work of Elizabethan character; but the chief ornament of the apartment must have been its original and remarkable oriel window. This is a composition, semi-circular in plan with bold projection, supported by an external pier, from each side of which springs a bracketing of fan-tracery resting on two corbel heads, one each side of the pilaster—a male and a female. The elevation of the window is in nine principal bays or compartments in three tiers, formed by perpendicular mullions cut by transoms, each compartment being subdivided into two lights or panels, the lower range not being pierced. The whole is crowned by a bold and elaborate cornice of foliage. Internally the soffit is of rich fan-tracery with pendants.

Little need be added on the alterations from the original work since 1834. They are more extensive than an outside view of the building would suggest. The object was to construct within the old walls a commodious house. This has been done, and every possible alteration has been made within. The interior of the hall has been converted into rooms on two floors, and most of its features have been destroyed. Some of the vaulting work, however, remains, and the ancient roof is believed to be intact above the bedroom ceilings; in the rest of the house also there are several points of interest remaining. The outside still appears in much of its original beauty, in spite of what has been done. The alteration in the hall windows has been already noticed; and below the oriel, on the right-hand of the picture, immediately underneath the label of the ancient window of the "parlour," the Burrard arms and crests are displayed on three shields—an insertion, no doubt, at the time of the general transformation.

The church, dedicated to All Saints,¹ consisted originally of a nave, 24 ft. 6 ins. by 12 ft. 11 ins., and chancel 16 ft. 7 ins. by 12 ft. 11 ins., still existing in their original proportions. In the latter half of the fifteenth century the Tropenell chapel was added by the builder of the Manor-house, and probably at the same time. The annex or chancel aisle, eastward of the chapel, was added by Robert Neale, Esq., the owner of the property, in 1775, and bears his initials and date over the south doorway. He also rebuilt the chancel at the same time.

The west gable of the nave carries a bell cot of good design, rectangular in plan, with octagonal crocketed turret. The bell² has the date 1622, with the royal arms, and the initials "R.P.," those of Roger Purdue, of the celebrated firm of bell-founders³ at Closworth, Somerset. The west wall is pierced by a three-light Perpendicular window, beneath which is the entrance to the church, covered by a hoodwork or porch of panelled tracery, not uncommon in

¹ This dedication appears in the Bishop's register (*see* below, list of rectors) in 1525, and in the original Parish Register of 1545. This surely is conclusive. At the same time authorities, from Browne Willis (1733) down to Canon Jackson and Miss Arnold-Forster, give the dedication as S. Catherine, and this, which so persistently occurs, has to be accounted for. At first I was inclined to suggest an old confusion with the dedication of Little Chalfield; but as (*see* page 197) the dedication of that church or chapel is now known to have been to St. John the Baptist, the "S. Catherine" remains to be accounted for in relation to Great Chalfield. Mr. A. Story-Maskelyne, of the P.R.O., to whom I am otherwise indebted, is inclined to think either that there was a chapel as well as a church at Great Chalfield, or else a chantry in the church with which the church has changed names. The only building, however, at all suggestive is the Tropenell chapel attached to the church itself. There is no evidence of any chantry having been founded there: still, it must have had a dedication which is now unknown; nor is there anything, I believe, remaining to indicate it. It *may* then have been S. Catherine; but judging from the dedication of Tropenell's chapel at Corsham, which was to B.V.M., one would suspect the chapel at Great Chalfield to have been under the same name.

² There appear to have been two bells in 1553. (*Walcot's Inventory of Church Goods in Wilts Arch. Mag.*, xiii., p. 356.)

³ For notices of these, *see* N. and Q., Index 3rd series.

later secular work, carried out boldly from a pilaster on each side of the doorway. In the north wall of the nave towards the east is a single-light, in that of the chancel a two-light window. The east window is of three lights, as is also that of the annex; a small door is constructed in the south wall of the latter.

The Tropenell chapel, measuring about 12 ft. square, was originally shut off from the nave by the stone screen, which now stands beneath the chancel arch, where it was probably placed in 1775. This screen, about 11 ft. wide including central doorway, 2 ft. 6 in. wide, consists of three bays or panels in two tiers on each side, the upper tier being open. Above the tracery of the open part of the screen is a vine-leaf moulding, upon which are the following five shields or arms, referred to and more fully explained above (pp. 201, 203, 204):—Beginning from the left, we have (1) Tropenell impaling Percy; (2) the same impaling Rous; (3) in the middle Tropenell; (4) the same impaling Ludlow, and (5) impaling Roche. The whole is surmounted by an embattled cornice carrying a bold crest-work of foliage. The roof or ceiling is timber framed and of barrel form in sixteen panels, ornamented at the intersections with shields bearing the arms of Tropenell, Tropenell and Ludlow impaled, and other devices. The eastern wall has been almost entirely removed, and the plate of the roof cut into, by the insertion of the archway into the modern annex. The south wall has a three-light window. The chapel was formerly adorned with wall paintings.

The furniture of the church appears to date from the Neale restoration in 1775, or from a few years earlier (*see* further on). There are, however, in the chancel three good poppyheads of ancient work remaining. At the same period, no doubt, a piscina, probably removed from the chancel when it was rebuilt, was placed, where it is now, in the south wall of the Neale annex. Remains of a piscina cut off also exists in the Tropenell chapel. The font appears

to be of Early English date; it is a massive circular bowl, devoid of ornament, opening out from one thick stem.

From the Register, which commences in 1545, we obtain the following data as to repairs which are all given together on folio 18:—In 1719 the church was “set in good repair;” the roof was new laid, a large buttress set up on the north side, and the body of the church new ceiled. In 1722 the chancel was set in good repair at a cost of £3 5s. 8d.; and again in 1747 at a cost of £4 4s. 8d. In 1765 the floor of the church was raised “one foot eight inches,” and new laid, new “forms were set up, and the whole church white limed,” and a “canopy” placed over the pulpit. In the same year the chancel was again repaired: viz., the roof new laid and ceiled, the floor raised one foot three inches, and seats painted; cost £15 14s. 1d.

In reference to any provision for the parson or rector, the “copy of a terrier” of the emoluments of the parsonage supplied from the Salisbury Episcopal Register to the Rev. Richard Warner, then rector, is of interest; it exhibits the singular carelessness of the earlier incumbents in not looking after their property. The terrier¹ is dated 1674. “First, we returne that there is noo house or outhouses within our pish of Chaldfield magna, that belongeth to the Parsonage, save only one chamber in the Mannor-house, which is commonly called the minister’s chamber. But antient men have reported, that they have heard from other antient men that were before them, that said that there was a Parsonage-House, which stood on a ground near the Mannor-House called Parsonage Close als Pen Close.

“Alsoe, We returne, that, uppon the Report of Antiant Men, long since dead, there have ben Glebe Lands belonging to the Parsonage of Chaldfield Magna. But that any of this Incumbant’s predecess^{rs}, for many ages past, did ever possess or enjoy them, we never heard, neither is there any Terrier to be found thereof, albeit diligent search have ben

¹ Walker’s *Great Chalfield*, p. 35; *Gent. Mag.*, 1838 (March), p. 252.

made in the Courts at London and elsewhere by the incumbent.

“Also, We have heard that one Mr. Bradshaw, who was Parson of our said pish before the Present Incumbent, had his dyett, the keeping of a horse, and Sixteen Pounds p Annum, of the owners of the said Mannor of Chaldfield magna, in Lieu of his Tythes, due out of the said Mannor, for the space of forty years, and that the p^rsent Incumbent hath had, for the space of forty yeares, a composition of two and thirty Pounds yearly, paid him by the owners of the said Mannor in Lieu of his Tythes, and the keeping of a Horse and besides exempted and discharged from all taxes and payments whatsoever (except the Tenthes payable to the King’s Ma^{ty}, and procroacons to the Lord Bishop).

“Alsoe, the p^rsent Incumbent hath the Tythes of a Farme called Moxham’s Farme, lying within the said pish, worth to him five Pounds ʒ annum, and the Tyth of a Ground lying within the same pish, called Bowood, worth ten shillings ʒ annum.

“Alsoe, the present Incumbent hath received forty shillings by the yeare from the owners of West Chaldfield, which do usually come to his church.

“JOHN WILTON, Rector.

“CHRISTOPHER MOXHAM.”

“Magna Chalfield.—There is now only paid from the tenant of John Hall, Esq., whose name is John Sartain, the sum annually of thirty-two Pounds. Of Christopher Moxham is received annually, four Pounds. Witness o^r Hands, May 21, 1705.

“JOHN DEACON, Rector.

“CHRISTOPHER MOXHAM, Churchwarden.”

From the same source we have a terrier of the emoluments of the Rectory, dated July 14, 1783, and signed Clement Glynn, Rector; James Fricker, Churchwarden; from which

we learn, in addition to there being no parsonage house or glebe, that the then present incumbent received a composition of £50 per annum in lieu of tithe from the manor; that he received £3 10s. in lieu of great and small tithe from certain lands in the parish belonging to John Blagden, of Gray's Inn, and in occupation of farmer John Reynolds; that he had tithe of hay, wool, and lamb, for lands belonging to James Moxham, of London, sugar refiner; that he had 19s. per annum in lieu of tithe from Bowood field; and that the rectory had been augmented by £400, namely, £200 from the governors of Queen Anne's Bounty, and £200 benefaction of the late Robert Neale, of Corsham, Esq., the interest being £8 per annum.

IV.

Thomas Tropenell, the builder of the Manor-house, lies buried at Corsham Church with Margaret his second wife, second daughter of William Ludlow, of Hill Deverell, under an altar-tomb within the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the east end of the north aisle of the church—formerly called the Tropenell, and subsequently the Hanham, but now the Fuller Chapel. This was provided for in his lifetime. By will dated November 5th, 1487, and proved at Lambeth on February 16th following, administration being granted to his son Christopher, he desired that his body should be buried at Corsham in the tomb made for himself and his wife Margaret, who, as we know otherwise, had predeceased him. He leaves to the chapel a set of red velvet vestments with the S in gold, and with his own arms embroidered on them (*unum par rubrorum vestimentorum de rubro velewet cum le S. deaurat. et armis meis impositis*). He leaves also a Pax of silver gilt, a pair of cruets, and two candelabra of the same material: also a missal covered with red chyverell (kid), a Portifory, and a silver chalice. Also two other sets of vestments with his arms on them, for the greater and minor festivals. Also two suits of silk altar-cloths (*duas*

sectas pannorum de serico pro altari). He then leaves a couple of oxen and a couple of cows in perpetuity towards the support of the chapel. And provides for one priest to celebrate in the chapel as long as the bones of Margaret and of himself should be there, and charges his manors with the stipend of £6 13s. 4d. annually for the same: the priest being directed especially to pray for the souls of Thomas Tropenell and Margaret his wife, for the souls of Walter and Robert, late Lords Hungerford, and for Margaret, late Lady Hungerford and Botreaux, and for Sir Thomas Hungerford, Knt. He also provided for masses elsewhere: but makes no mention of the parish church of Great Chalfield. It is more than probable that Tropenall built¹ the chapel, under the arch of which on the south side, dividing it from the chancel, his wife and he lie buried. The tomb is of large size, measuring about 9 ft. long by 4 ft. 9 ins. in breadth, and the same in height. It is of good panel and tracery work,² bearing on each of its long sides three shields, displaying Tropenell, Tropenell impaling Ludlow, and Ludlow; at each end are the Tropenell and Ludlow shields. In a moulding carried on every side above the panel-work, the badge of the family—the ox-yoke and the motto “tyra belement” (as at Great Chalfield)—are, or rather were, constantly and alternately repeated between pateræ. How long they have disappeared we cannot say, but the ox-yoke and motto are gone. Children or idle persons had no doubt defaced the tomb, as they are doing now, and repeated washings and scrapings have cleaned off every vestige of the original legend, which may have been only painted. Above this, along the cornice, the following prayer is repeated, the ox-yoke marking the beginning and end of the sentence each time—and the inscription is still to be made out, when otherwise known, owing to the letters having been incised and

¹ See extract from will (below, p. 251). The arms of Tropenell and of Ludlow (originals) have been inserted on the right-hand side of the east window of this (restored) chapel.

² Figured in Walker's *Great Chalfield*.

filled in with some hard material—"Jesus Christus Nazareus filius David filius Marie Virginis salvet nos."

At the north-east corner of the same chantry is the only other tomb of the Tropenells, and its identification has not, I believe, hitherto been established. It is that of Christopher (son of the above) and of his wife Anne, second daughter of Nicholas Carewe and Margaret his wife. This Margaret was daughter of Edward Langford, and formerly wife of John (?) Carant, and after the death of Carewe, of John (?) Twynyhoo. This lady, after her triple experience of matrimony, retired from the world as a religious of the Cistercian nunnery of Tarant, Dorset; and in her will, bearing date July 21st, 1500, and proved March 4th, 1501, after arranging for her own burial at the Grey Friars, Reading, near the tomb which she made there over her father and mother, and providing masses, etc., for all her husbands, makes mention of Nicholas Carewe, her son, and of Ann Tropenell, her daughter, to whom she bequeaths "my coler of goold with panyers and flowers, my grettest herneys of goold, and my next best primer."

The arms of Carewe are: "Or, three lions passant in pale, sable, armed and langued, gules"; and these are to be seen on the tomb, which may be thus shortly described. It is of smaller size than that of Thomas Tropenell, about 6 ft. long, but of the same character, and being in the angle of the building only two sides are visible. On the south or long side are three shields, namely: (1) Tropenell, (2) Tropenell impaling Carewe, (3) Carewe. At the west is the shield of Carewe alone.

The identification of the tomb is further established from the following wills:—Christopher Tropenell, of Great Chalfield, etc., whose will is dated March 5th, 16 H. VII. (1501), but which is without probate certificate—he died soon after September 29th, 1503,—directed his body to be buried at Corsham, "in my father's chamber of our Lady in the north side of the chapel forth yent¹ my father's tomb, in a tomb of marble, if that I die within 24 miles of Corsham, and of none

¹ The spelling is otherwise modernised.

infectious disease." There may be a little uncertainty as to whether he did die within the limits, and was buried here in the first instance. For in the will of "dame" Anne Tropenell, widow, late wife of Christopher Tropenell, Esq., deceased, dated December 19th, 6 H. VIII (1514), and proved October 23rd, 9 H. VIII. (1517), after providing for her own burial, "in the parish church of Corsham in the N. end of the altar in our Lady's chapel wherein the body of Thomas Tropenell father of the said Christopher lieth buried," towards the end she arranged for masses in the church, where the bones of her said husband "be or shall be buried, for his soul, my soul," etc. This clause, as also that giving directions for her own burial, may seem to indicate that the body of Christopher was not at Corsham when she made her will, and to contemplate a removal from some other church. However this may be, we can scarcely doubt that the remains of both Christopher and of dame Anne his widow were deposited under this second tomb.

LIST¹ OF PATRONS AND INCUMBENTS OF GREAT AND LITTLE CHALFIELD.

CAPELLA VEL ECCLESIA.	PATRONS.	CLERICUS.
[E. de Chaldefeld Magna		Thomas ²]
1308 Capell. Chaldefeld	Walterus de Chaldefeld	Wms. de Cumbe
Capell. Chaldefeld	Walterus de Chaldefeld	Robertus ² de Broghton
1316 Capel. Chaldefeld Magna	Rogerus de Percy	Johannes de Mere
1338 Cap. Chaldefeld Magna	Henricus le Percy	Johannes ³ de Chaldfeld Magna
1338 Capel. Chaldefeld Magna	Henricus de Percy, Dominus de Chaldfeld Magna	Henricus de Lodyngton
1341 Capel. Chaldefeld	Henricus Percy	Johannes Pilk
1348 Capel. Est Chaldefeld	Henricus Percy, Miles	Johannes Gore, p. m. Johannis Pilk
1349 E. Chaldefeld Magna	Henricus Percy, Miles	Johannes Pacy, p. r. Johannis Gore
1354 E. Chaldefeld Magna	Henricus de Percy, Miles	Ricardus Trymenet, p. r. Johannis Spacy
1361 ⁴ E. Chaldfeld Magna	Philippus Fitz-Waryn, Miles	Thomas Alayn (qui resignavit Chaldefeld Parva)
1362 E. Chaldefeld Parva	Prior de Worspring, ob minor. ætatem Johannis filii Thomæ Perci ⁵	Johannes Wilde, p. m. Reginaldi de Berleigh ⁶
1388 E. Chaldefeld Parva	Johannes Percy de Chalfeld	Philippus Lye ⁷ , p. r. Johannis Wilde
1404 E. Chaldefeld Magna	Constantia, nuper uxor Henrici de la Ryver	Johannes Mascal ⁸

¹ This list down to 1809 (with the exception of the notes and what is put in brackets) is from Sir Thomas Philipps' "Wiltshire Institutions," from the episcopal registers.

² Deed undated, but tested by Sir Thomas, rector of Chaldefeld, Walter de Chaldefeld, George de Percy, Sir Robert, rector of Chaldefeld parva, &c. Another deed, happily dated—6 E. II. (1312)—gives as witnesses, Sir Thomas, rector of the church of Chaldefeld, George de Percy, Nicholas Boson, Walter Selyman, &c. Thomas then must have been rector of Great Chalfield before the commencement of the present episcopal register, i.e. before 1295; and Robert was the rector of Chalfield parva, whose appointment is given above. Walter de Chaldefeld is frequently spoken of as of West or Little Chaldefeld, and the two appointments of 1308 are doubtless to this latter place. This carries the two churches, especially that of Little Chalfield, further back than was supposed (MS., pp. 456, 457). On Walter de Chaldefeld, see also *Abbrev. Plac* on a plea out of exchange of lands in 1285 (p. 278). He was probably the son of William de Chaldefeld, mentioned in the *Testa de Nevill*, and the father of Margaret, Lady of Little Chalfield, who married George Pershay or Percy (see p. 197). The Little Chalfield property was held under the Prior of Worspring, hence his presentation in 1362 in behalf of John Percy, a minor, who was son of Thomas, and grandson of the John Pershay or Percy who married dame Constance (see above, page 208), he being a widower with a son when he married her. The Pedigree of the Percies and Tropenells in Harl. 888.1. is certainly in error in making these Percies or Pershays descendants of Constance.

³ Held also the chantry of Blessed Mary, Chyverley parva.

⁴ Entries in the register are lost from 1354 to 1361.

⁵ See end of note 2 above.

⁶ He must have been instituted in or before 1349 (see above, p. 206).

⁷ The name of this parson always occurs as Philip Powe (MS., pp. 45c—452).

⁸ Probably succeeded Alayn or Aleyn, but we do not hear of the latter after 1382 (p. 187).

CAPELLA VEL ECCLESIA.	PATRONS.	CLERICUS.
1410 E. Est Chaldefelde	Constantia quæ fuit uxor Henrici de la Ryver, militis	Walterus Wylmot, <i>vice</i> Johannis Mascal
1411 E. Est Chalvelde	Constantia, relicta H. de la Ryver, militis	Johannes Plebs, p. r. Walteri Wilmot
1411 E. Chaldefeld (Parva)	Johannes Rous ¹ de Im- mere, Armiger	Johannes Wyseman, <i>vice</i> Phillipi Lye ²
1417 E. Chaldefeld Magna	Constantia, relicta Hen- rici de la Ryver, Militis.	Johannes Plebs, permut. cum W ^{ms} . Beckebury.
1419 E. Est Chaldefeld	Constantia, Domina de Est Chaldefeld	Johannes Hillewyke.
1419 E. Est Chaldefeld	Constantia, nuper uxor Henrici de la Ryver	Radulfus Benet, p. m. Johannis Illewyk.
1425 E. Est Chaldefeld	W ^{ms} . Rous, Armiger	Thos. Broun.
1437 — West Chaldefeld	Johannes Boorne ³	Ricardus Beauchamp.
1445 E. Est Chaldefeld	Episcopus, per laps.	Robertus Benet.
1488 E. Chaldefeld Magna	Episcopus, per laps.	Thomas Langporte.
E. West Chalfeld	Episcopus, per laps.	Thomas Hedley.
1494 Capel, de West Chaldefeld	Episcopus, per laps.	Ricardus Norton, p. m. Thomas Sqwier.
1507 Capel, de Chaldfeld Parva <i>alias</i> West Chaldefeld	Johannes Westbury	Edwardus Huggyns, p. r. Ricardi Norton.
1518 E. Chaldefeld Magna <i>alius</i> Est Chaldefeld	Thomas Tropnell, Ar- miger.	Willielmus Haxe, p. m. Johannis Rede.
1525 E. Omnium Sanctorum Chaldfeld Magna	Thomas Træpnell, Ar- miger.	W ^{ms} . Haxe, permut. cum Johanne. Floke.
1526 E. Chaldfeld Magna	Johannes Tropnell, Ar- miger.	Johannes Jeffrey p. r. Johannis Floke.
1528 E. Chaldfeld Magna	Thomas Tropnell, Ar- miger.	Gulmi. Robynson, p. r. Johannis Jeffreys.
1535 E. Chaldfeld Magna	Thomas Tropnell, Ar- miger.	Thomas David, p. r. Gul ^{ms} . Robynson.
1537 Capella de Chalfeld Parva ⁴	W ^{ms} . Button, gen. ex concess. Haivisiæ de Westbury, Vid.	Johannes Thyn, p. m. Edwardi Higgons
1555 E. Chaldfeld Magna	Johannes Eyre & Anna uxor ejus	Radulphus Hyll, p. m. Thomæ Davys
1575 E. Chaldfield Magna	Johannes Eyre, Armiger	Johannes ap-Jones, p. r. Edwardi Procter

¹ It will be remembered that his illegitimate son, Richard Phillips or Rous (p. 211), married Alice Pershay, lady of Little Chalfield, who afterwards married John Bourne, who next presented.

² Philip Powe (*see* note above) resigned, and was living in 1426, when he appears in deeds given at Great Chalfield.

³ In right of his marriage with Alice Pershay or Percy (*see* above), daughter of John Percy, who was a minor in 1362, and who presented in 1388.

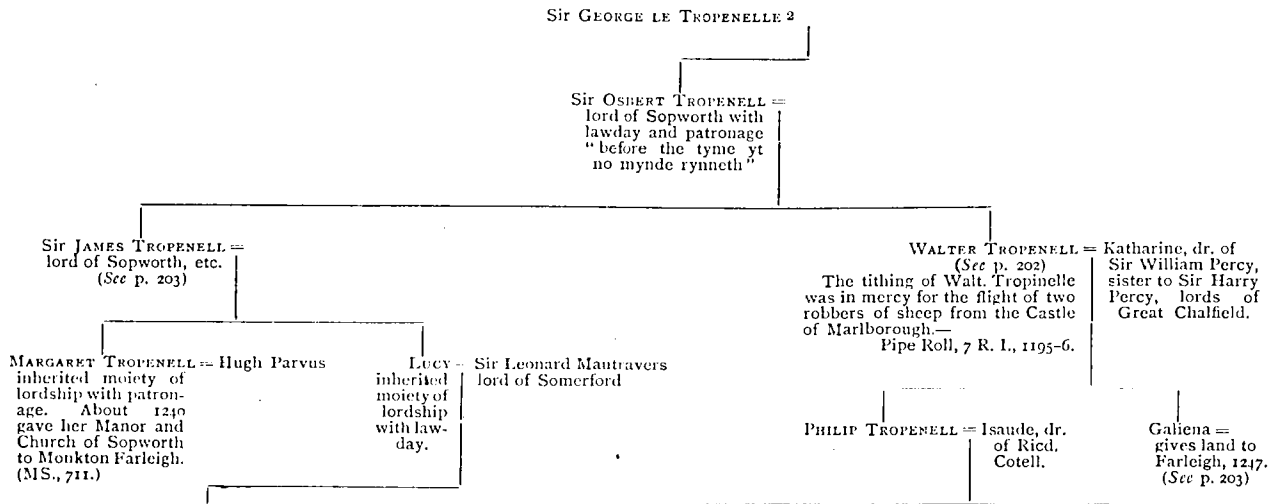
⁴ From *Wilt's N. and Q.*, June, 1900, p. 256 (Calendar of Feet of Fines for Wiltshire), we learn that Thomas Horton and Thomas Bamfylde, *arm.*, with Anna his wife who was d. and coheir of John Savary, *arm.*, joined in disposing of the advowson of the Free chapel of S. Blase in Chalfield in 36 H. VIII. (1544-5). This could be no other than the church or chapel of Little Chalfield, whose dedication in 1348, we saw above (p. 197), was to S. John Baptist. I am quite unable to account for this dedication to S. Blase or Blaise.

CAPELLA VEL ECCLESIA.	PATRONS.	CLERICUS.
1593 E. Chaldfield Magna	Regina, per lapsum	Nicholaus Lymbye
1598 E. Chaldfield	Wms. Eyre, Miles	Francis Staune
1603 E. Chaldfield Magna	Wms. Eyre, Miles, de Chaldfield	Robertus Bradshawe, p. d. Francis Staune
1629 E. Chaldfield Magna	Wms. Eyre, Miles	Johannes Wilton, p. m. Roberti Bradshaw
1678 E. Chaldfield Magna	Johannes Hall, Armiger	Michael Foulton, p. m. — Wilton
1689 E. Chawfield	Johannes Hall, Armiger	Johannes Deacon
1707 E. Chaldfield Magna	Johannes Hall, Armiger	Thomas Weeks, p. m. Johannis Deacon
1711 E. Chaldfield Magna	— Comes Kingston	Gulielmus Skammell p. m. Thomæ Weeks
1712 E. Chaldfield Magna	Wms. Comes Kingston	Johannes Lewis, p. r. Gulielmi Skamell
1761 E. Great Chalfield	Evelyn, Duke of Kingston	Clement Glyn, p. m. John Lewis
1809 E. Chaldfield Magna	Sir Harry Burrard Neale, of Walhampton, co. Hants, Bart.	Richard Warner, p. m. Clement Glyn
1857 E. Great Chalfield	Emma, lady Burrard widow of Rev. Sir George Barrard, Bart.	George Mullins
1867 E. Great Chalfield	Dowager Lady Burrard	Robert Parker Little
1878 E. Great Chalfield	Dowager Lady Burrard	Edward Kingston
1900 E. Great Chalfield	George Pargiter Fuller, Esq.	Edward Mortimer

TROPENELL OF SOPWORTH, SHERSTON, AND WHADDON.

"Pedegre of the name and blode of Tropenelles," within the Co. of Wilts, "long before the tyme that no mynde renneth, and before the Conquest,¹ unto the making of þis boke never chaunged."—MS., p. 711. [Chartulary, commenced 4 Ed. IV., 1464.]

Arms: Gules, a fesse engrailed arg. powdered with ermine, between three griffins' heads of the same erased—See Plate No. 2.



Sir JOHN MAUTRAVERS
 "which had the keeping of
 Ed. II. till his death," 1327.
 Gave part of his lands in
 Sopworth to Monkton
 Farleigh, keeping in his
 hands the lawday (p. 711).

ROGER TROPENELL = Christian, dr. of Sir John Rous,
 of Whaddon, &c. 3 lord of Imber, and
 1277, 1316 sister to Ricd. Rous, lord of half
 Imber; ancestor to Wm. Rous, who
 possessed Gt. Chalfield (MS., 342).

JOHN TROPENELL =
 of Sherston, &c.,
 1321-1343

JOHN TROPENELL = Agnes, dr. of James Lye
 1340-1343. lord of Landford
 "and many more
 children who died s.p."

JOHN TROPENELL =
 1366-1370

HENRY TROPENELL = Editha, dr. of Walter Roche
 (See p. 204)

JOHN TROPENELL = Matilda
 1423-1437

1st wife Agnes = THOMAS TROPENELL = 2nd wife Margaret
 widow of Thos. Bourton widow of John Eiley,
 (p. 46) dr. of William Ludlow
 of Hill Devereil (p. 204, &c.)

AGNES TROPENELL = Thomas Ive
 of Sherston

Humphrey Christopher Anne Mary
 "all alive atte makyng this boke" (MS., 313).

John Ive, otherwise TROPENELL Harry
 "alive atte inakyng of þis boke" (p. 343).

[Henry Tropinell
 (time of H. III.)
 grants shop in
 Exeter to the
 Cathedral for
 anniversary of
 Adam, late
 precentor there
 (Archæol. XVIII,
 404). Who was
 this?]

1 These four words are added as an afterthought over the line; they can hardly be correct as far as regards the present pedigree.

2 Father of Sir Osbert with whom the pedigree in the Chartulary commences. We know of Sir George by deed of his son, Sir Osbert, to his younger son, Walter (MS., 714).

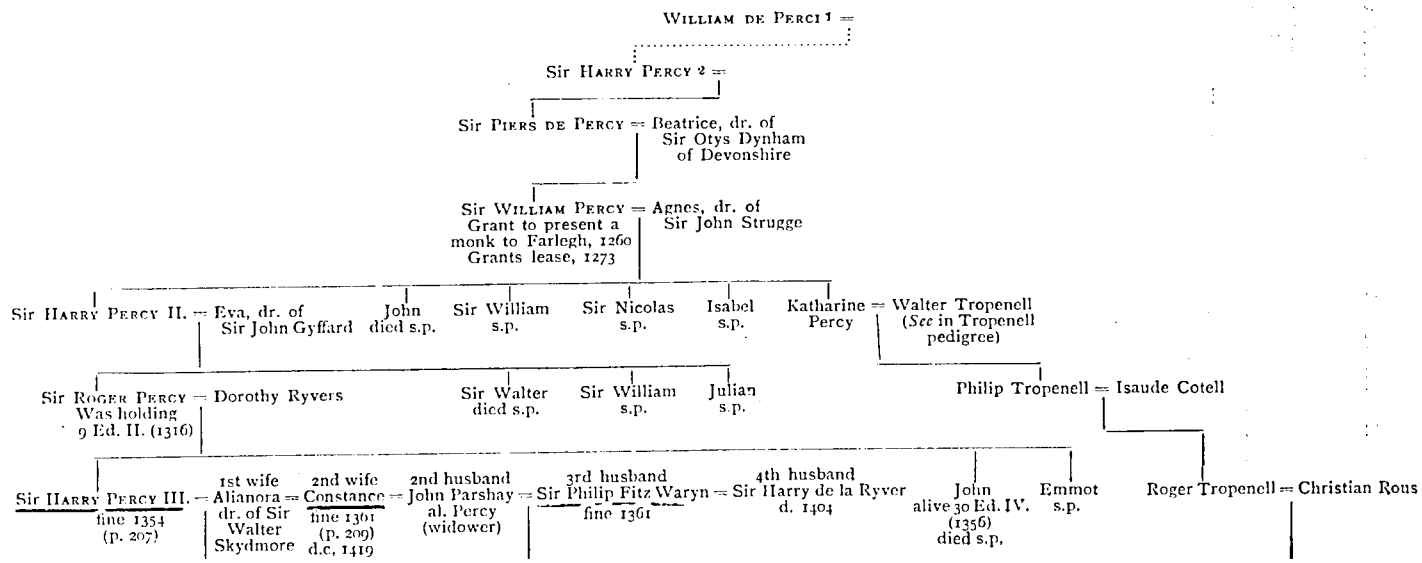
The dates are those of deeds in which the names occur.

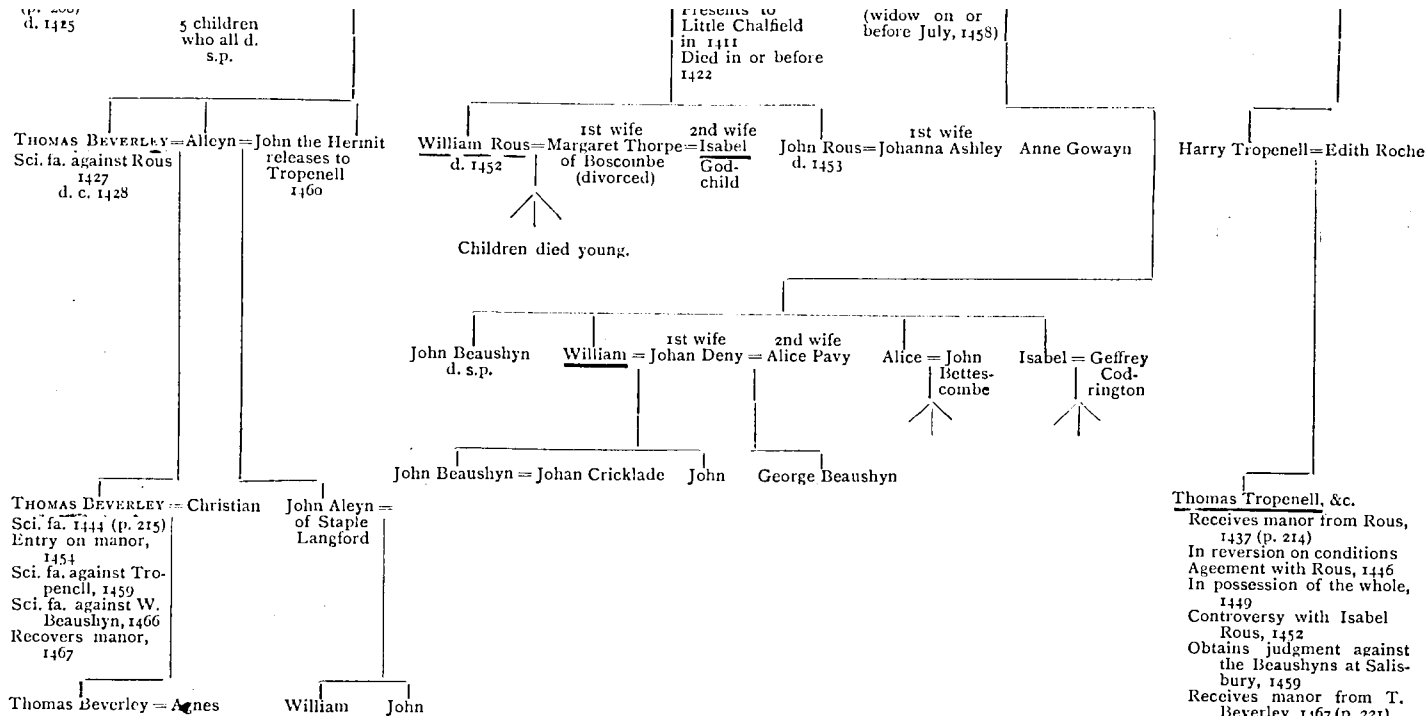
PERCY OF GREAT CHALFIELD,

WITH THE SUCCESSION TO THE ESTATE TO THE TIME OF THOMAS TROPENELL :

Derived from the Tropenell Chartulary, pp. 341 to 365.

Arms of Percy: "Azure, five fusils conjoined in fess, or."—See Plate No. 1.





¹ Supplied from Rot. Curiae Regis I., 245 (See above, p 201.)

² The pedigree in the Chartulary commences with this knight.

. The names underlined are those especially connected with the Great Chalfield litigations (1354—1467).

TROPENELL AND EYRE OF GREAT CHALFIELD.

