

NOTICES OF HASTINGS,

AND ITS MUNICIPAL RIGHTS.

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Some recent excavations, and some further search among the public records of the town and at the Record Office, enable us to give many particulars of Old Hastings, which are of local and general interest.

The volumes of our society contain notices of British and other remains found on the East Hill;¹ of the descent of the Rape and Castle;² of the colleges in the Town and Castle;³ of the mediæval pottery;⁴ and of the town itself in the years 1657 and 1746.⁵ The present paper will supply information not printed in our volumes.

The term "barons," as applied to the freemen of the Cinque Ports, points to a Roman origin of the municipal rights; and evidences of Roman occupation remain in other towns of these Ports. Owing to a cause, to which we shall refer hereafter, there have been no such evidences discovered in this place; but after the severe storm of the 3rd October, 1857, a gold coin of Theodosius Magnus (elected 379, ob.

¹ Vol. ix., p. 366; xiii, p. 308.

² Vol. ii., p. 161.

³ Vol. xiii., p. 132.

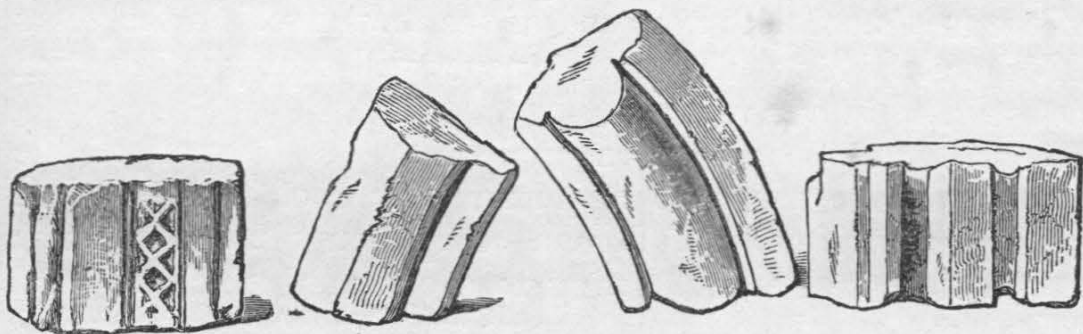
⁴ Vol. xi., p. 229.

⁵ Vol. xii, p. 196.

395), was washed up under the east cliff, near Ecclesbourne. Hastings itself possessed a mint from the Saxon time of Athelstan, to the Norman time of William Rufus, and though the name appears in several varieties of spelling on the coins of Canute, Edward the Confessor, and Harold, yet in the life of St. Edward the Confessor, published under the sanction of the Master of the Rolls, the following absurd origin is given to the name. After describing the landing of William the writer (l. 4333) says—

The Duke fortifies and rebuilds a tower,
Which he calls *Hastings*,
Because it was *hastily* fortified,
And therefore was so called.

Of the *Norman* period no traces could be found, save at the Castle, where in the custodian's room a Norman capital or two may be seen, as well as Norman herring-bone work in the staircase turret of the church, and in the remains of a postern in the higher ground near the Dyke; whilst on one of the reveals of the postern is a mason's mark, common in Norman and early English work.⁶ During the last year, however, the ruins of a Norman crypt, belonging to a chapel or grange, were uncovered on the south-east side of the High-street, opposite the Town Hall, in that part of the town which belonged to the Abbey of Fécamp. The stones were carefully preserved, and we give a cut of the shaft and of the arch, which is light and of good workmanship.



At the time of the Domesday survey the notice of Hastings is, that four burgesses held of the abbey as part of the manor

⁶ *Builder*, Oct. 1859. The postern shows that the gates were secured by a strong bar, which, when not in use,

was pushed back into a space left for it in the thickness of the wall.



OLD TOWN HALL, AND COURT HOUSE STREET.



REMAINS OF HOSPITAL.

of Ramelie, in which Brede was included, and as the tenements belonging to the Abbey are still within the manor of Brede and pay free rent to the Lord, we can readily trace the possessions of the Abbey. They extended from the old Town Hall, southward along Bourne Street, thence northward of John Street to the corner of High Street; thence by the "Maidenhead Inn," now Mr. Amoores, to the Swan Lane;⁷ then by Church Street to the pathway from the Croft to High Street; and then taking in the south-east side of that street, along Court House Street to the old Town Hall. St. Clement's church was built on the Abbot's land in 1286, and the old Town Hall on the other part. The first of our views shews Court House Street, from the Town Hall to the church, being the principal Street on the Abbot's property.

At our meeting at Rye two pages⁸ of the illuminated chartulary were exhibited containing charters dated from Burton 23rd April, 1190 (1, Rich. I.), exempting the men and possessions of the Abbey of St. Mary at Fécamp from all toll, pontage, frontage, stallage, lastage, and all other dues by land and by sea; and another charter, dated from Long Capum 10th September following, the king receiving into his own hands and under his own protection the monks, and all their possessions and lands, together with all that belonged to their house. On 28th March, 1200 (1st John), a like charter was dated from Doncaster, with the addition that they should be sued only in the King's Courts, as was witnessed in the charter of Henry II. The exemptions were confirmed by another charter dated at London. Both charters were also renewed by Henry III.

Besides the houses in St. Clement, the Abbey held the Totty lands, about 90a., part of which is now the reservoir for the old waterworks, the Grange, about 20 a., the Great Meadow on the Minnis Rock, and the Chequers, now the Cinque Port Arms, in All Saints; and Brookland, near the old watermill in the Castle parish.⁹

⁷ No. 41, High Street, Mr. Ticehurst's house, pays to Yelding 11s. 7d., and to Lord Ashburnham 4s.

⁸ The charters were numbered 38 to 42, and the pages were given in 1786, to

Henry George Oldfield, by Richard Julius. They now belong to W.D.C.

⁹ They had also 28a. in Fairlight, late Stephen's, now the Countess of Waldegrave's.

The following is a list of the tenants and tenements holden of the Manor of Brede, as they stood in 1847:—

William Amoore	The <i>Maidenhead</i> House, in High Street, late Carley's.
Henry Bishop	Tenement, formerly Tourle's, late Lintott's.
William Brigg	Late Wickham's, since Evenden's; and also late Wickham's, and late . . . Farncombe, Esq.
George Phillips	House and Garden in St. Clement's, formerly Tebay's, late Breeds'.
Joseph Brown	Late Wickham's.
— Phipps	Formerly Wickham's, late Hamp's, and part of the Great Meadow, in All Saints.
William Ditch	Late Wickham's.
Henry Eaton	House, &c., in St. Clement's.
Henry Enefer.....	Messuage and Brewhouse, called the <i>King's Head</i> , formerly Sargent's, late Bean's.
Edward Fermor.....	Late Wickham's.
Rev. J. G. Foyster	Two Houses and Gardens in St. Clement, late Thorpe's.
Miss M. A. Gordon	Totty Lands, in All Saints.
Corporation of Hastings ...	The Free Rent there of 5s., ¹⁰ and also the New Gaol (late Old Town Hall) 1½d.
Richard Harman	Two parts of a Tenement, formerly Pollard's, and since Tolhurst's.
Philip Kent	Formerly Wickham's, late Harper's, part of the Great Meadow; and also formerly Wickham's, afterwards Nash's, and late Peirce's.
George Jackson.....	Formerly Wickham's, late William Boys', and since Routledge's.
C. J. Jeudwine	Part of a Tenement in All Saints, late Mrs. Arrow's, deceased, and since Perry's.
George Smith.....	The other part of the above Tenement.
Joseph Kaye	Land adjoining the <i>Grange</i> , part of 7a., late Fk. North's.
Horace Martin	Formerly Wickham's.
Countess of Waldegrave ...	Part of Totty Lands, in All Saints, containing 30a., late Collier's, and before Austen's; a piece of Land heretofore called Cumbersome Hill; Agnes Bournefield, parcel of <i>Totty</i> ; fourteen acres in St. Clement, late John Collier's; Brookland near the Watermill, in Castle Parish; Tenement, late Lucy's, before Purple's; the Stone House, in St. Clement; part of Cliffe House Lands, in All Saints, late Carswell's.
F. North.....	Lands called the <i>Grange</i> , containing 8a., in All Saints; and Land adjoining thereto part of 7a.
Com ^{ns.} of Hastings	2a. of Land in All Saints, late Edward Ward's; part of <i>Totty</i> Lands, now Reservoir for <i>Water works</i> .
Laura Robinson.....	Formerly Wickham's, late James Winter's.
T. Breeds' Trustees	Tenement near the Bourne, in St. Clement, late Tutt's, formerly Meadows'; and Land in All Saints, formerly Wickham's.
C. J. Pears.....	House, &c., in Court House Lane, called <i>Wood-house</i> , late Grace Deeprose.
William Scrivens	Formerly the <i>Three Partridges</i> , late Winifred Cossum's.
Rev. — Sheepshanks	22a. of Land, late Ward's, part of <i>Totty</i> Lands, in All Saints Parish.
Thomas Simmons.....	Part of <i>Chequer</i> Tenement, late Dean's.

¹⁰ In the chamberlain's accounts for 1645-6, the entry is "To the Lord of Bread for the manor of Syon, 5s."

Brede having then belonged to Syon Monastery.

Mary Thatcher	House and Garden in St. Clement, and a Tenement in <i>Fisher Street</i> .
Widow of W. B. Wallis ...	Late Wickham's, part of the <i>Great Meadow</i> , containing 18a. on the <i>Minnis Rock</i> .
Henry Wickham	Land in All Saints.
Maria Wilmot, widow	Formerly Humphrey's, afterwards Hall's, then Cossum's and late Dr. Wilmot's.
John Wimble.....	House and Garden in All Saints, late Geo. Robinson's.
George Wingfield	Formerly Wickham's, late Ed. Wenham's.
Judith Wood.....	Part of the <i>Chequer</i> , now the <i>Cinque Port Arms</i> .
Robert Weston ...	Part of the <i>Chequer</i> , in All Saints, late James Nash's.

The castle contains several remains of *Early English* work, being no doubt part of the work done by Henry III.¹¹ In the district of St. Mary in the Castle there lately existed the ruins of the chapel belonging to the *hospital* of *St. Mary*, in the parish of St. Margaret, which was existing prior to the 22nd Edward I. (1290), when Petronilla de Cham augmented it by a grant, to the brethren and sisters, of 5a. The 5a. abutted to land then of Wm. Waldern, bailiff, and other land of the brethren and sisters on the E., to land of Gilbert of Gensing on the W., to other land of her own on the S., and other land of the brethren and sisters on the N.¹² Of this hospital the bailiff was visitor, and the brethren and sisters were (as we shall see by the custumal), nominated by him and the commonalty.

We give an engraving of this chapel as it stood in 1820.

On some recent excavations the centre of the building was found full of bones, but there were no signs of any coffin, except along the northern wall, where coffin handles were found with the bones.¹³ It was in this vicinity that the mediæval pottery, noticed in Vol. XI., existed.

The hospital was disused as early as 1604, when (18th August) it was agreed to let the house, barn, and lands to James Hunt.¹⁴

The district has recently been called St. Mary Magdalen, and the first trace of that name as a parish which we have found is in the Corporation Books of the 12th May, 1656, when

¹¹ In the liberate Roll 11th, Henry III. (1227), p. 2, m. 10, is the entry of the payment on 26th March of 10 marcs to Robert de Aubeville, the last portion of his salary of 20 marcs per annum for his salary as keeper of this castle.

¹² In the Court Rolls of the manor of Gensing, it appears that the Hospital

paid 6d. for 12a. called Lydelynk and Rawdeland.

¹³ The labourers stated that bodies had been found where the tenant had previously excavated.

¹⁴ On 18th Dec., 1629, they were leased to Thomas Dann.

the out-parishes lying within the liberty—i.e., St. Mary of the Castle, the Holy Trinity, St. Mary Magdalen, and St. Michael, were directed to contribute towards the relief of the poor of St. Clement; inasmuch as the inhabitants had of “long continuance repaired to St. Clement’s church, and had married, baptised, and been buried there.”¹⁵ In Bishop Praty’s register (fol. 43), 1440, it is stated that the parishes of St. Andrew, St. Leonard, St. Michael, and St. Margaret, had been destroyed by the sea or depopulated,¹⁶ and no presentations are found to any (except to St. Leonard). The earliest to St. Leonard is 1400 in Rede’s register (fol. 77); one appears in 1502 (Story’s register, fol. 13b), the patrons being the College of the blessed Mary of Winchester at Oxford, and in 1548 the crown presented John Keyme.¹⁷

These evidences of inundations, coupled with the distinct finding on the inquisition taken in April, 1236 (14th Edw. I.),¹⁸ that the old church of St. Clement had been broken and destroyed by the force of the sea, added to the fact that All Saints Church, in the will of Richard Meeching, 1436, is called the New Church, seem to us conclusive proof that the old part of the town stood sea-ward of the present streets, and that hence is to be found the reason why so few remains have been brought to light.

The royal yacht of Henry I., built here, has been noticed by Mr. Blaauw,¹⁹ and in the earliest extant Pipe roll, we find that in 1139 Robert de Hastings rendered an account of the lastage of this town and of Rye. For more than a century and a half we find no other mention of the ships. In 1294, however, there is a petition for payment for three ships²⁰ employed in the service of the king’s brother to Gascony.

SHIP.	NAME OF MASTER.	CONSTABLE.	NO. OF MEN.
LA BAYADE	Stephen Sprot.	Simon le Bole.	40
LE ROSETTE	Robert Lefeter.	Robert Homas.	38
ST. ANNE	Simon de la Haghe.	Richard Mileward. ²¹	28

¹⁵ In 1667, the parish or chapelry of St. Leonard, was also named for contribution.

¹⁶ On 7th Feb., 1205, John presented Simon de Waltham, to the church of St. Margaret, *Rot : Chart :*; and in the next year the King presented the same clerk to the church of St. Andrew, *Rot : Lit : Pat.*

¹⁷ *Rot : Pat :* 2, Edw. vi., part 2.

¹⁸ Horsfield, vol. 1., p. 454 n.

¹⁹ *Suss : Arch : Coll.* vol. iv., p. 106.

²⁰ *Misc : Record Office, H.C.H.*, 3,580.

²¹ The Milewards were also at Winchelsea, and Pevensey, where Edw. Mileward was in 1632, Capt. of the trained band.

They served 73 days, ending 3rd May, being 58 days beyond the customary time. The pay was 6d. a day for each master and constable, and 3d. for every seaman.

In 1306 the *GODEBYTE*, Robert Moody, master, and John Allyn and William Knoder, constables, was the Hastings ship furnished for the war in Scotland.²² In the lists of 1335 (9, Edw. III.), no ship of Hastings is named.

The reign of Edward III. was very eventful in the annals of the Cinque Ports. In 1335 they furnished 30 ships for the king's service, and at the siege of Calais, in 1347, Hastings furnished 5 ships and 99 mariners.²³

The king's requirements for the public service during his wars with France, rendered necessary a careful supervision of the taxation of the country, and we have on record the returns made by most towns and parishes; but the Cinque Ports were exempt from ordinary on account of their extraordinary burdens; and at the time of the Nonce Roll the following names of 49 freemen and other exempt persons of Hastings were returned, pursuant to a writ, dated 6th Nov., 15th Edward III., (1341).

Walter Gauncer	Ralph Hardyngs	Robert GoldeWyne
John Rede	William Bakere	Stephen Rede
Henry Walderne	Alice Colfiz	John atte Havene
William Somenor	William Serjaunt	Philipp atte Dikere
Gilbert Averay	Gilbert Gabbe	James Colfiz
William Pulhem	Mabile HorseWater	Robert Tottege
Robert atte Clyve	William Chetham	William GoldeWyne
Geoffry de Clare, clerk	John Squirel	John Petervon
William atte Clyve	Matilda Garland	John Hykelyng
John atte Glynde	Petronilla atte Crouche	John Beneyt
Geoffry Visther	Gilbert Homes	William Zellesbein
Gilbert Colfiz	John Mafote	Richard GoldeWyne
John Witberd	John Urie	John Skonyn
John Goldewyn	Alice Austyn	John Wodegrove
John Colard	Richard Wycher	Thomas Beneit
Edward Colfiz	Dionisia Colfiz	John de Knolle
John Rochel		

This evidently does not include any fishermen.

A few only of the names will be recognized among the families now resident in the town; that of Tottege remains in the "Totty lands" already mentioned.

It was during this reign that the Lord Warden required a return from each Cinque Port of its custumal, and thus we

²² MS., Cat., lately at Carlton Ho.
Bide—*Navy*.

²³ Arch., vol. vi., p. 213.

have the means of knowing the municipal privileges as they had existed from the Conquest. The custumal of Hastings was in the town in 1736, when the right of Henry Moore as eldest son, born after his father was free, to be admitted to the freedom, was established before Lord Hardwicke,²⁴ but it has never since been seen.²⁵ Nothing was known of its contents, save the few lines given in evidence. It was, however, usual for the different ports to take copies of the custumals of other ports, and we give the translation of a Norman-French copy found amongst the records of Rye.

CUSTUMAL.

These are the usages of Hastings used time out of mind, compiled in the time of John Reade, at that time bailiff, in the 30th year of Edward 3rd, A. D. 1356.

1.—*Choice of Bailiff.*—Thus, in the first place, every year, on the Sunday next after the day which is called Hock day,²⁶ all the people of the commonalty shall assemble in a certain place called Hundred place, and then, by all the commonalty shall be chosen a bailiff, who, in the first place, shall swear to the king and commonalty in manner as follows:—

2.—I will bear faith to our sovereign the King of England and the commonalty of Hastings, and the franchise and the usages of the same rightfully will maintain and the common profit will keep, and to rich and poor will do right so far as I can, So help me God and the saints, &c.

3.—And in case the bailiff, who is chosen, is not present to accept the charge, the bailiff that was before shall not be discharged from his office until the other be charged by his predecessor, and if the said bailiff, who is elected, be absent or will not accept the charge, all the commons shall go and beat down his chief tenement. And in case the bailiff die before the day of election, the remaining jurats shall sound the horn,²⁷ whatsoever time of the year it be, to assemble the commons to elect another bailiff, which bailiff then elected shall hold the office until the day of election, and in that case the bailiff shall be charged by one of the principal of the jurats; and if none be elected to be jurat, the bailiff shall incur the pain aforesaid.

4.—Also the bailiff shall choose on the same day twelve jurats of the most wise of the same town, which jurats shall swear to the king as the bailiff hath sworn.

5.—*Choice of Clerk.*²⁸—Also, on the same day and place, the aforesaid bailiff and jurats assembled there, with the assent of the whole of the said commonalty, shall elect a clerk, who shall swear to the said bailiff and commonalty that he will bear faith to the bailiff and commonalty, and true process will make and faithfully their counsel will keep, &c.

²⁴ State Trials, vol. 17, p. 899

²⁵ In Oct., 1598, the following entry appears in the Corporation Records:—Memorand: "That the old French Custumall of Hasting, and an ancyeut Towne Booke of Records of Hasting in E. 4. tyme were sent to London to Mr. John Mynge, of Romney Jurate, when he was chosen of the solicitors for the ports in the sute wth London in the case of Wythernam."

²⁶ Hock-day is the second Tuesday after Easter.

²⁷ The horn was the common mode of calling an assembly, and was put in use some few years since, when the Gaol was broken open to release women and boys imprisoned for selling fish on the stade contrary to the New Market Act.

²⁸ In the case of *Milward v. Thatcher* (2 Term. Rep. 8), it was held that the offices of Jurat and Town Clerk were incompatible, and that, on the acceptance of the second office, tho' not of superior rank or value, the former office became vacant.

6.—*Of the Officer of the Bailiff.*—Also, on the same day, the bailiff shall choose his sergeant, who shall make his oath in manner following:—"I will bear faith to the bailiff and commonalty, and duly will do execution as appertaineth after the usages used in the commonalty in times past, So help me God and the saints, &c."

7.—*Of the Coroner and his Office.*—Also, in case a man be found dead within the franchise by misadventure or by the deed of any by land or water, the bailiff shall have sight of the body as coroner, and the sergeant shall cause a county to come, and the bailiff shall take inquest of the death of the body, and if any be indicted of the death by the inquest, presently the bailiff, as coroner, shall command the sergeant to attach the indicted if he can find him, and if he be found he shall remain in custody of the sergeant within the franchise; but if it be that the indicted, after imprisonment, can find sufficient main-prize for to be at the law, the bailiff shall let him go until a hundred be ordained by the bailiff aforesaid and his jurats, to which hundred the indicted shall come and be arraigned of the felony; and proclamation shall be made by the bailiff and jurats that if none will come to pursue in due form against the indicted, he shall return to the place he was before until proclamation be made in the same manner at two hundreds, and then the indicted shall go quit of his indictment; and be it known that no hundred shall be held after the other less than fifteen days, &c.

8.—*Appeal of Life and Member.*—And be it known that when any one ought to be acquitted by thirty-six men, that first the names of the thirty-six freemen be by the appealed plainly written, and they ought to be called by their names; of whom, if any of them when called be not present or do not answer, the appealed shall be delivered to death. But if all should answer when their names are called, then, as is accustomed, of the king's grace, by his bailiff, shall be put aside twelve men of the aforesaid thirty-six, and of the grace of the bailiff and jurats twelve men; so that the bailiff shall chuse twelve of the men who shall be willing to swear with him that is appealed that he is not guilty of what is charged against him, and so it is that who is appealed shall first swear upon the book that he is not guilty, so help him all the saints and kissing the book. Afterwards are called twelve who are chosen to swear, and those named as they are called shall swear every one by himself that the oath which the appealed has then made is good and true, and that he that is appealed is not guilty of anything charged against him, so help him all the saints, taking and kissing the book; which, if they do, the appealed shall go quit. And if anyone of them withdraw himself from the book, he that is appealed shall be delivered to death; and if he be acquit, the appelor is attached and all his goods at the will of our lord the king, &c.

9.—*Execution of Felons.*—But all who are condemned in such a case ought to be cast beyond a certain water course called "Stordisdale," on the western part of the town towards "Bolewarheth."²⁹ Also, it is accustomed within the liberty aforesaid that all pleas of the crown of life and member shall be laid before the bailiff and jurats each according to its nature, except the appeals upon false coin of our lord the king, and counterfeiting the king's seal, and treason against our lord the king or the queen, which appertain to the Court of Shepway; and it is accustomed that these pleas of life and member be held in full hundred, &c.

10.—*Appeals of Life and Member.*—When anyone appealeth (accuseth) another of any plea of life or member, the bailiff ought to attach the body of the defendant, taking in the first place pledges of the appellant to prosecute his appeal, and if so be that his appeal be such that therein it lieth the losing of life, then the bailiff must attach and sequester all the moveable goods of him that is appealed upon the view of the bailiff and any of the jurats; but he shall not alien any of the goods; but if he be convicted, then all his goods shall be forfeited to our lord the king, and his houses and all rents within the liberty to our lord the king for one year and one day, and afterward to the heir of the appealed, and if he have no heir, then to the lord of the fee, &c.

²⁹ The use of a gallows was not granted till the license of Edw. IV., *Egglestone's return*, temp. Eliz. Record office. In the chamberlains accounts for 1645-6, are charges for 25 feet of timber, and for

work done for setting up the gallows, and for a halter and ladder, and for four men on guard, and for 20s. for the executioner "for executing the woman."

Also when the appellant and appealed have come before the bailiff and jurats in the aforesaid place, the bailiff's serjeant holding the appellant bound, shall call on him to answer immediately, and the bailiff ought to take the cause of the arrest, and the appellant shall appeal to the appealed as to his knowledge and it ought not to be that an appeal should be defective for want of form. And if the accused shall contradict the appellant, and shall say that he is not guilty of that which the appellant has charged upon him, and desires to be acquitted according to the custom of the liberty, it shall be adjudged him that on a certain day, which shall be assigned him, he have thirty-six good and true men, who shall be willing to swear with him that he is not guilty; and such day ought to be assigned to him, because he may be from distant parts, that he may be able to send a summons to his own port, if he shall be from a distance; and no one shall deny this acquittal, whether he be a denizen or from a distance, provided he is proved true and faithful.

11.—*Appeal of Theft and Goods.*—And if in an appeal of theft or robbery anyone be taken, having the thing stolen in his possession, it is necessary that he should demand the warranty of him who delivered the thing to him. And a certain day shall be assigned to him on which, if the accused have it not, he cannot acquit himself; but if any one comes and claims the thing as his own, or says that he delivered it to the accused, the former is acquitted, and the latter stands in his place, and puts himself upon the Common Law. And this in every case where anyone calls for a warranty he, who is undeservedly accused of the theft, says that the thing was his, and had been for such a time his own true chattel; and that he is not guilty of that which is charged against him, and is able to acquit himself by thirty-six men, as the former acquitted himself and that chattel, &c.

12.—*Sanctuary.*—If any man flee to the Holy Church, the bailiff as coroner shall go to him to arraign him of the cause of his flight, and if he will confess felony, his cognizance shall be enrolled and anon he shall lose all his goods and chattels as forfeited, which the bailiff shall render to the king; and he shall remain if he will forty days in the Church, and at the end of the forty days he shall forswear the land upon the steps of the cemetery—even before the bailiff—and he shall chuse the port for his passage; and if he will make abjuration within the forty days it shall be accepted. And anon after his abjuration he shall take the Cross and the bailiff shall make proclamation in the King's name that no man on pain of life and member shall do him harm or molestation all the while he keepeth the King's High-way towards the port which he hath chosen, &c.

13.—*Of cutting a Purse.*—Also when any man is found cutting a purse,³⁰ or with money taken out of a purse in the Market place or elsewhere, at the suit of the appellant, one of his ears shall be cut off, and then the thief thus maimed shall be taken and led to one of the extremities of the town, and shall forswear the town that never he shall enter it again under the pain of losing the other ear. If it be that anyone be found a second time cutting a purse or anything of that nature, and it shall appear that he has before lost one ear, or that he shall bear any sign whereby a thief may be known, he shall lose the other ear, and shall forswear the town under the pain of losing his life. And if a third time he be thief, he shall suffer judgment, whether that he be first marked in this town or elsewhere, &c.

14.—*Suspicion of Felony.*—And be it known that if any theft or harm be done within the town in the port, or elsewhere as well by sea as by land, and if any one be suspected thereof; or when any one coming within the town bears evil fame in the foreign, the bailiff is accustomed to attach such person and to deliver him unto the serjeant unto the prison, for the serjeant is accustomed to receive attachments of this kind from the hands of the bailiff, and to deliver them when their case is considered. And he that is attached, when some shall proceed against him on account of his bad fame, shall remain in prison, and afterwards he shall be delivered by pledges that well and truly he shall govern himself afterwards, and if he cannot find pledges he shall forswear the town until he can, &c.

15.—*No attachment without suit.*—And be it known, that though the bailiff have any one suspected in any case, he cannot without suit attach him, unless by the assent of the jurats; nor can he imprison him unless by their consent, &c.

16.—*Attachment by a Felon Foreigner.*—Also when any man, whether free or

³⁰ The purse was attached to the girdle, and easily taken.

stranger, for any felony or trespass in foreign suit or for anything else in the foreign, shall flee to the said town for the sake of refuge, he shall not be attached there without suit—so long as he well and faithfully behave himself within the aforesaid liberty, unless the Warden of the Cinque Ports, assigning the cause, shall command him to be attached; and if he can find six bail, who are willing to undertake for his body when it shall be demanded within the aforesaid liberty, if any one shall prosecute against him, he shall be delivered to them out of Prison.

17.—*Felon fled.*—When any man of the aforesaid liberty, or a stranger, commits any felony within the aforesaid liberty and flies for the same; the bailiff may demand him, in whatsoever lordship or liberty he shall be in the Realm of England, except the liberty of the Holy Church or Sanctuary of the Church, and he shall be delivered to him according to the usages or liberties of the said town to which he is rendered, and he shall receive punishment for his crimes according to the custom of the town in which he is received, and so it hath been accustomed of old time, &c.

18.—*Of bloodshed.*—The bailiff of Hastings may attach without suit, if he shall see a man draw blood of another with violence, but he cannot put him in prison, unless he that is hurt will pursue; but he may put him to pledge for to keep the peace. And if any one attached for the shedding of blood will not be suited and resisteth the bailiff, the jurats ought to help him, when required, firmly on the King's behalf, and so the bailiff and every jurat may do the like when they see any man striking or in any way disturbing the peace of our Lord the King, &c.

19.—*True man's goods seized.*—Also, whensoever the goods of any true man be arrested among the goods of a felon, which goods the felon had by borrowing, then the owner may prove the goods to be his, if the felon doth not voluntarily deny the challenge that the goods are his; for a thief may not forfeit another man's goods. If however the felon will avow the goods to be his own, and will appeal him of his felony, then he loseth his goods; but when he that is appealed by the appellant's suit be judged to death, the appellant shall have his goods, which he challenged in his appeal of which the appealed was seized, &c.

20.—*Assize, weight and measure.*—Also the bailiff may with his jurats have all assize of all bread and ale, &c., from old time, to maintain the standard of the king and to mark all measures with the common sign, and amerce all delinquents, which shall be assessed by the bailiff and jurats and levied by the sergeant.

21.—*Freeman.*—Also may the bailiff and jurats make men free of the freedom in this manner, that if any stranger shall come to Hastings and inhabiteth there using some honest craft and being of good conversation for one year and one day, and desires to be of the franchise, he shall come before the bailiff and jurats in open court praying the franchise, upon which it shall be awarded how much he shall pay to the commonalty to have the franchise, which award being made, his name shall be entered on the common roll, and afterwards he shall make his oath in manner following:—“I will bear faith and loyalty to the King of England and the commonalty of Hastings from this day forward; and the estate of the franchise, to my power I will maintain; and I will bear scott and lot of my goods and chattels, so help me God, &c.” And then on kissing the bailiff's right cheek³¹ he shall be accepted into the franchise.³²

22.—*Form of Enrolment.*—Memorandum.—That in open hundred court held at Hasting, that is to say, on the Sunday next before the feast of the annunciation of the blessed Virgin Mary, in the 30th year of King Edward the 3rd (A.D. 1356), from the conquest, before the bailiff and the whole commonalty W. de T. and J. his son are received into the freedom of Hasting, and they satisfied the bailiff and commonalty with one cask of wine, &c.³³

23.—*Of taking Recognizances.*—Also the bailiff and jurats may have before them

³¹ This was observed till the corporation amendment act by all freemen on their admission.

³² This was the only passage referred to by the corporation on the mandamus to admit Moore, and then it was not quoted from the original, but a short paraphrase in English was used.

³³ The cask of wine was an ordinary, present from merchants and wealthy men. It was paid 36th Ewd. 3, by William de Bourn, and John his son, on their admission. *State trials*, vol. 17, p. 899.

recognizance in this manner:—That if any man and his wife have any tenements or rents within the franchise, and wish to give or sell the said lands to any person, of which the said wife by way of inheritance or purchase, or by any other means, was enfeoffed or seized of, or of the reversion of any tenement rent or possession after the death of any other belonging to her—the said wife shall come before the bailiff and any of the jurats, and shall be by them examined in the absence of her husband, whether she is well prepared to give or sell or not, and the deed shall be then read in English by them before the said wife; and if she says that she is well prepared and is in no manner constrained by her husband, but being of good memory by her good will she is willing to do it, the said recognizance shall be entered on the common roll according to the form that is accustomed; and after the recognizance is thus made, the said woman, or her heirs, shall have no claim to the said tenements or possessions or reversions, but shall be foreclosed for all time to come. Also recognizance may be taken before the bailiff and any of the jurats in their court in case the said woman be in good and full health, and can come personally; but if the wife of any man be ill or feeble, through which feebleness she cannot come to the court, and wishes to make such recognizance, she shall send to the bailiff and any of the jurats to come to hear her will and to examine her in the manner aforesaid; if she consents freely, the said recognizance shall be effectual for all time to come, &c.

24.—*Baron and femme jointly seized.*—Also, if the wife of any man makes recognizance in case of condition that she and her husband shall be again enfeoffed jointly to them and their heirs, or to the husband or to the wife and to the heirs of the husband or to the heirs of the wife, or in any other manner, the bailiff and jurats shall regard and notify the said condition, so that by no means the feoffment of the baron and his wife, by covin, or by her will, be made otherwise than was enjoyed by them in the presence of the said bailiff and jurats, and it be nowise suffered for the right and equity to be had and used in the said franchise, &c.

25.—*Grants in mortmain without licence from the Crown.*—Also may the bailiff and the commonalty grant and confirm the mortification of lands, tenements, and rents, and other possessions, being within the franchise, as well to a chantry of masses as to the sustentation of hospitals or in honor of holy church, that is to say, to St. Clement and St. Michael and All Saints,³⁴ without licence from the king or other lord, &c.

26.—*Of Sureties of the Peace.*—Also, if a man do demand security of the peace of another man, the bailiff will give him the peace; and if he afterwards break the peace, all those who hold fealty to the king may attach him and take him to the prison, and he shall remain for forty days and he shall be asked to give bail to keep the peace and if he do not he shall be fined.

27.—*Receiving Pleas.*—Also, the bailiff or his sergeant shall receive all manner of complaints, as well of strangers as of residents, according to their nature, and shall make attachment and summons, and whether the plaintiff or defendant be a stranger, the plea shall be held from fifteen days to fifteen days, if it be not a plea of law or of the crown; and if both parties be resident, their plea shall be holden in the Court-house of our sovereign lord the king; (except of law, life, and member, which shall be holden in the Hundred).

28.—*Attachment for Assault or Bloodshed.*—Also, in case of trespass of battery, bloodshed, hamsoken, or mayhem, the defendant shall be attached by his body and even to prison, and shall remain in prison on the charge of the party if he shall not be able to find sufficient pledges to appear at the next court, and so until he be justified to answer the party; for in such cases there shall be no delay in the court.

29.—*Plea of Debt and Covenant.*—Also, in plea of debt and covenant broken, and chattels detained, whether the defendant be a denizen or of the franchise of the Cinque Ports, he shall be summoned to the next court, and if he come not to that court, he shall be distrained, and at the second court there shall be an alias attachment; and if he come not to the third court, there shall be a pluries, and for such default there shall be an amerciamment to the king, and the things distrained shall be given into the charge of the bailiff; and if he do not justify by the distresses, he shall be given to bail to be at the next court, and the pledges shall produce his

³⁴ The three Churches in the eastern part of the town were thus dedicated.

body at the next court or answer for him. And if the defendant be a foreigner, whether the plaintiff be a freeman or stranger, and the defendant have nothing for distraint of goods and chattels within the franchise, he shall be given to two bail to answer at the next court; and if both parties be strangers, or if the one party will have a court holden according to the law merchant, and if the plaintiff shall prove no specialty the case shall be tried by lawful men upon sight and hearing, and if the defendant shall place himself under the law, enquiry shall be made upon oath, and if the defendant prove not his case on oath of view and hearing, the defendant should be acquitted.

30.—*Proceedings with Heirs and Executors.*—Also, in case that heirs and executors be impleaded and the plaintiff shall have no specialty, it is necessary that he should prove his debt by credible persons, two or three, of sight and hearing, &c.

31.—*Arresting goods of a Foreign Debtor.*—Also, if a freeman see his foreign debtor buying or dealing in goods within the franchise, he may arrest the goods of his debtor within the franchise, going immediately to the bailiff for him to commit the said arrest, and no deliverance shall be made in the absence of the bailiff; and at the deliverance both shall be amerced to the king.

32.—*Imprisonment after judgment.*—Also, in all manner of pleas where the man has judgment against him, whether he be a foreigner or denizen, the bailiff shall detain him in court till he make agreement with the party. In case of damages recorded in the court, they shall be assessed by the bailiff and jurats, if the party condemned shall demand it, according to the nature of the plea, &c.

33.—*A Freeman to have summons against a Freeman.*—Also, in case one freeman complains against another freeman and comes into court there without summons or attachment, and if the party demands the debt, he that is unpleaded may declare for a delay of the day by these words: "Sir Bailiff,—Please you to know that I am a freeman, and am not bound anon to answer the party by reason that I am not warned by summons or attachment before this day to be and appear at this court; wherefore, sir, I demand my free summons and a delay as a freeman ought to have in this court, &c."

34.—*A married woman summoned.*—If a femme covert de baron be impleaded in a plea of debt, covenant broken, or chattels detained, and she be bound for merchandise, she shall answer only in the presence of her husband, &c.

35.—*Plea of Law.*—Every plea of law shall be holden in the place called "Hundred Place." Such pleas cannot be held without the presence of the bailiff, and must be holden from fourteen days to fourteen days, whether it be between a stranger or a freeman, or between two strangers or two freemen, of all lands, rents, or tenements within the franchise; and all manner of pleas of lands, rents, and tenements within the franchise must be tried there by simple pleas without the writ of our sovereign lord the king, save the writ of right called Droit patent, in which case he shall say that if a man do not, the Sheriff of Sussex shall inform the Warden of the Cinque Ports, &c.; and all manner of writs ought to be pleaded in the same manner as in the king's courts, save that in some writs there are many delays as in Mort Ancestor, and others less; and after the delay of the writs, the parties having come into the court pleading their pleas by themselves or by their counsel, the bailiff shall record the pleas of both parties; and, according to the nature of the process, the said bailiff and jurats shall proceed to judgment, the which judgment shall be delivered by the mouth of the bailiff in open court. And in case there shall be any difficulty in such judgment, the said bailiff and jurats may have a speaking together (or conference) with the combarons of the Cinque Ports how and in what manner they shall do right to the parties according to the plea before them pleaded, which judgment shall be delayed to the next court ensuing.

36.—*Strepe and waste, and distress for rent.*—If any man hold a free tenement by any free rent payable to another, and shall strepe (or waste) or permit the land or tenement to become ruinous, so that the man who ought to receive the rent thereof shall have none therefrom, nor shall find there any thing on which distress can be made to the value, when the rent shall be in arrear a year and a day let them come in the pleyne (or full) hundred before the bailiff and jurats, and let them there complain thereof. The said bailiff and jurats shall grant him full power of distress by which he shall pay himself; and if he shall not find it before the next hundred, let him there prove what has been done, and it shall be adjudged to him that he shall go to the said tenement or land, wherever it may be, and solemnly, in the

presence of true and lawful men, shall take the door or gate and place it on one side, and if nobody come within a year and day, then it shall be adjudged to him that he shall drive piles into the ground, upon which proclamation shall be made, that if any man or woman claims any right in the said lands or tenements, he or she must come within a year and a day from this proclamation and satisfy the person demanding the rent of his arrears, and that according to the custom and liberty of the said town this must be done, or cause be shewn why he ought not so do, under the penalty of losing the said tenement or land. If no person come within such year and a day to satisfy the demand or to shew cause to the contrary, then, in the next hundred following, it shall be adjudged that the seizin of that land or tenement shall be given to him who thus claims the said rent thence due. If any one within the said year and a day before judgment given shall come and pay or secure what is due, he shall save that land or tenement. If also he shall come and say he does not claim that land or tenement by the tenure stated, nor does he owe any rent, it is necessary that they should plead this, and in that case the person claiming cannot recover his rent, &c. (except by plea).

37.—*Waste by tenant for life.*—Also, if any person, man or woman, who holds any house within the liberty for his whole life, with reversion to another, shall commit waste or strepe, the bailiff and jurats, on the prosecution of him to whom the reversion belongs, shall compel him reasonably to repair and support the said tenement, and to sustain it sufficiently; and if it be not sufficiently done, then the bailiff and jurats shall assign what is necessary in their judgment to be done, and if that be not then sufficiently done, and the party in that case be not willing to do it, he shall be ejected from the said messuage, &c.

38.—*Withernam and process.*—Also, the bailiff and jurats may and ought to take withernam of all Londoners and others, where they may decree that this is required for anything done against the liberty; and they may and ought to take withernam for many causes: such as if any freeman of the said town come to the bailiff and jurats and ask for letters under the bailiff's seal, or under the common seal, to pray for him to the said citizens or burgesses, or others, either on this side the sea or beyond seas, that he may make plaint to recover a debt against another man there, in which debt he is bound to the said combaron and co-freeman of Hastings aforesaid, as he saith; and if on the first letter nothing shall be done, and if they do not write back, a second letter shall be sent; and if it shall not then be done as prayed, a third letter shall be sent on the part of the whole commonalty, under the common seal; and if, after such third letter, nothing be done as prayed, and the pursuer come before the bailiff and the jurats and swearing upon the Evangelists that he into such a city, borough, or town, such letters after his freedom and right had sent, and swears that he required immediate execution thereof, then it shall be adjudged that the whole of that commonalty shall be condemned in the said debt by default of justice, and they shall be distrained for the whole of the debt aforesaid. Provided, however, that it shall appear to the said bailiff and jurats by good and sufficient proof that the said debt is true and certain. And, moreover, if the men of the said city condemned for the said debt shall fly the said town and port, and shall go to any other port, then the bailiff and jurats of Hastings shall send by their letters to the said ports, as the Cinque Ports ought to do, the pleas and judgment, and they shall according to the custom make distraint and final execution according to the record and process, which the bailiff and jurats of Hastings shall send to them, &c.

39.—*Buying and selling in foreign, and distraining a portman.*—Also, if the freemen of Hastings, or any of them, are hindered from buying or selling their merchandise in the city of London, or elsewhere, in the ports of England, France, Scotland, or elsewhere, as they have been accustomed, or if distress shall be unjustly taken of them, or any custom or toll shall be exacted from them contrary to their liberties, or any damage shall be done to the said men by land or by sea by any commonalty, for which the injured parties shall write their names; and if upon the common letters aforesaid sent by two or three freemen, the town complained of shall neither conform to the demands in the letters nor write back any reasonable ground wherefore they do it not, it shall be adjudged that withernam shall be taken of all the commonalty aforesaid, and it shall always be taken and held until the said commonalty shall set right that trespass in due form, together with all damages and expences sustained by the detention. And be it known that if any lord distrain

any merchant of Hastings for pickage and stallage in his land, and he shall be required by the bailiff by his letters to release the distress; and if he refuse, it is customary to take withernam of him and all his tenants. The freemen of Hastings ought also and are accustomed to be dealers in all merchandise wherever they may be, at the buying or the selling, whether the seller or buyer may be a co-freeman or a foreigner, unless he shall be able to allege anything calumnatory against him whereby he is not worthy of claiming any part thereof: as that he has been convicted of perjury; or if it shall have been adjudged that he should have no part because he had fled to the town from our lord the king's service, or from war, and had not returned on the day assigned to him; or if he shall have done anything against the liberty of Hastings, and it shall have been adjudged that he should forfeit his lawful liberty, or if he shall have been condemned for having refused to pay for merchandise on any former dealing. But no foreigner is capable of being a partner with those who are free against his free will, &c.

40.—And because the men of the Cinque Ports were accustomed to be chiefly opposed in their liberties in Irish ports, our lord King Edward III. confirmed them by a certain charter, the tenor of which is, that “we grant to the same barons for us and our heirs that in all lawful matters and in merchandizing no one shall be partners of theirs nor with them, against the will of the same barons, &c.

41.—*Brewers may make and sell ale in foreign.*—Be it known that if any brewer who is a freeman make ale and sell it in foreign in the autumn, and the lord of the fee or the borough distrain upon him for such selling against his liberty, it is customary for him to make complaint to the bailiff, and the bailiff shall command by his letters under his seal that the said distress shall be given up; because the barons of Hastings are free to buy and sell throughout the whole realm of England; and if in consequence of such letters nothing be done, there shall be taken withernam of all the men of the lordship, &c.

42.—*Complaints by freemen against freemen absent from the town.*—Also, in case any man of the said town shall make complaint against any other man of the town in any other place than in the said town, he shall be punished for the despite (or disregard) of the commonalty, if it be not in the defence of the rights of the said commonalty, and then the matter shall be tried before the warden at Shepway, and not elsewhere, &c.

43.—*Lands bound by recognizance.*—Also, in case any stranger or freeman have lands, rents, or tenements within the said franchise, and binds the said lands, rents, or tenements to any stranger or freeman, he may have execution to levy the said debt, without plea, out of the said lands, rents, or tenements, provided it be by recognizance, &c.

44.—*A Freeman may claim a share of merchandise sold.*—Also, if any merchant, denizen, or stranger do put to sale any merchandise at Hastings, all those of the same town who shall be present at the purchase of the said merchandise, and those of the franchise who are absent shall have their part, and that part ought to be claimed by those present, whether the said merchandise be sold in gross or divided into parts, &c.

45.—*Division of merchandise.*—Also, if any stranger purchase any merchandise within the franchise in the absence of those of the franchise, they shall have half of the merchandise against the stranger if they choose to demand it.

46.—*Wardship.*—Also, if a man or woman die, and the heir be under age, the bailiff shall have view of the infant, and of all his goods and chattels, tenements and rents, or lands; and the infant, by the bailiff and jurats, shall be put to ward to the nearest of his blood to whom his heritage cannot possibly descend, and all his goods and chattels shall be delivered to such guardian by an indenture made of them between him and the said bailiff and jurats, and by him held until the full age of the infant; and one part of the said indenture shall be delivered into the common treasury. And if there shall be none of the blood living, the bailiff shall deliver to bail the said goods and chattels to a sufficient man of the said commonalty, to be restored to the infant at his full age, in the manner as is above said, &c.

47.—*The Bailiff visitor of the Hospital.*—Also, the bailiff shall have the visitation of the hospital of St. Mary Magdalen, of Hastings, that is to say, once every year; and there shall be in the said hospital brethren and sisters, sometimes more and sometimes less; but no brother or sister shall be received into the aforesaid hospital except by the assent of the bailiff and the commonalty. And the rules of the afore-

said hospital shall be read before the bailiff at the time of the visitation, at which he shall demand and enquire whether they be well kept or not; and if no brother or sister shall have behaved in such a manner that he is unworthy of the house, the bailiff shall enquire into the life of all the brethren and sisters examined, and if any of them shall be attainted, the bailiff may remove him if he will. And the bailiff, by the assent of his fellows, if he shall find a man in the aforesaid commonalty infirm, and who has conducted himself in accordance with the usages of the ports for all time, and who shall be impoverished in his goods and chattels, and have not wherewith to live on them, may put such into the said hospital to partake of the sustenance of the brethren and sisters without paying anything to the said hospital.

48.—*Proceedings in actions and making special acts for the town.*—Also, in all cases and articles, whether pleas of realty or of personalty, whereof no mention is here made, the bailiff, when the bailiff is the judge, as in the aforesaid place (Hastings), with his fellows, the jurats (or in a town where the mayor is judge, the mayor with his jurats) shall have recourse to the oaths of the inhabitants; and with them all laws and customs consonant with the laws (of the realm) shall originate and proceed.

In Lyon's "Dover," the custumals of Dover, Hythe, Sandwich, Rye, and Winchelsea are printed. It will be seen that the custumal of Hastings most closely resembles that of Winchelsea. The document now translated is clearly a copy of the original produced in evidence by the corporation on the trial of the mandamus before Lord Hardwicke, in 1736, and which custumal was immediately afterwards missing. The custumal of Pevensey was printed in the 4th vol. of our Sussex Arch: Coll: p. 209—18, and is of the same year.

The privileges of this town were supposed to be infringed by the issue of a crown office writ, in the case of the celebrated Titus Otes, to remove the indictment to the King's Bench. The corporation records contain an entry on 30th August, 1675. "This assembly are agreed that Mr. Maivr shall be advised by the ports Counsell (at the public charge of this corporacon), whether his ma^{ties} writ out of the Crowne Office in the King's Bench, proceeded at the suite of Titus Otes, clarke, to remove thither the indictment of purjurie, late preferred in Session against him by Francis Norwood, and served at the last Session, shall be defended or returned." The writ was obeyed and the indictment returned.

In 1377, the French, finding this town almost empty (the inhabitants having doubtless gone to the aid of Winchelsea), burnt it; and about the feast of St. Laurence, 10th August, 1380, Stow states that the French again burnt it.

The corporation records, now in the town chest, do not commence till 1596. In the public records we find something of the state of the town in the intermediate period.

The Cheyneys were a family of note in this district, but lost their estates during the wars of the Roses. On 28th May, 1484, Richard III. granted to Robert Brakynbury, Esquire of his body, in tail male, in consideration of his services against the rebels, the lands forfeited by John, Robert, and Humphrey Chene, in the town and parish of Hastings.³⁵

The town was only partially protected by walls. It had, however, 4 gates, viz., Newgate; the Sea Gate by the Bourne's mouth; the Drawbridge Gate, at the east end of George Street, the remains of which were found in draining the town; and the Water Gate, adjoining the Court Hall. Payments for the fortifications and walls appear as lately as 1628, and the town wall in 1667.

On the right of our first woodcut is represented all that remained of the old Town Hall³⁶ after March, 1702, when all that was over the Bourne was directed to be pulled down, and also the roof of that part which was once the prison and duck house which was to be pulled down to the Court Hall floor. The door way shews that it was in the perpendicular style, and so built after the attacks of the French. It had a bell.

The commissioners for the subsidy, dated 20th Feb., 1514 (5 Henry VIII.), were Robert Hall, (whose family owned Gensing and Halland, in East Hoathly); John Levet, of the Grove, in Hollington; and Henry Benevere. This John Levet had, in 25 Hen. VIII., settled his lands in Hollington, the blessed Mary in the Castle of Hastings, and St. Leonards, in tail male, on his son John, and in default of heirs, on his brother Richard. His daughter Mary married Francis Chaloner, of Little Horsted; and their son Thomas succeeded under the will of John Levet, to a messuage and land in the Priory of St. Michael, in Hastings, another in Bulverhithe, in the occupation, in 1586, of Thomas Hawke, and lands in Cats-

³⁵ Pat. 1, Rich: III. No. 72.

³⁶ On 7th April, 1615, it was agreed at the common charge to build a new room, with a garret for a store house, on the north side of the *Court Hall*, on

the *Bourne*, to contain twelve feet broad and fourteen feet long, as Mr. Mayor and his brethren should conclude and agree with workmen, &c.

field.³⁷ This is the Thomas Chaloner mentioned in Philip Henslowe's diary, in 1592 (p. 71), and in 1603 (p. 252). His son Francis is mentioned in Alleyne's memoirs (p. 63), as having borrowed £10 of the wife of Edward Alleyne, the actor. In editing Henslowe's diary, Mr. Collier says there is reason to believe that the family were of Sussex. Philip was, in fact, fourth son of Edmund Hensley or Henslow, of Lindfield, master of the game in Ashdowne Forest and Broil Park, in 1539, by his wife Margaret Ridge, a Sussex lady.³⁸

The benevolence return of 36 Henry VIII. (1544), gives us the names of the principal inhabitants at that time, with the amount of their contributions.³⁹

THE TWONE OF HASTINGE.

Edmund Jakelyn, alias Bocher, baylyf there	£4	Thomas Standen	20s.
Jamys Hobson, gent.	£6 13s.	John Lowle	20s.
Richard Bysshop	40s.	Agnes Durraunte	20s.
John Isted	£3	Edward Wood	20s.
William Egilden	£6	Markes Tofte	20s.
John Taylor, thelder	20s.	Robert Morys	24s.
Thomas Cowper, thelder	20s.	John Walles	20s.
William Benett	20s.	John Brygden	20s.
John Gylle	20s.	Thomas Awcke, the mercer	20s.
Thomas Noke	24s.	John Barber	26s. 8d.
Thomas Horsseye	26s. 8d.	Marten Brabone	£3
Roger Forman	24s.	Thomas Wolley	20s.
Richard Tofte	20s.	John Shewe	20s.
John Wylson	20s.	Roberte Boyes	40s.
Thomas Frankewell	33s.	Willm. Pensegill	20s.
Thomas Wake of Clym House	26s. 8d.	Markes Lokett	20s.
Richarde Standen	24s.	Jefferye Gawen	20s.
John Love thelder	20s.	Sr. Roberte Crete, clerk	4s. 2d.
Edward Durraunte	20s.	Sr. William Longford, parson of All Hallowses, there	30s.
William Thomas	20s.	Sr. Robert Symkyn, parson of Seynt Clementes, there	30s.
Thomas Poppe	20s.	Sr. Thomas Scott, clerke	20s.
John Waller	20s.	Sr. Thomas Lowcke, clerke	20s.
Richard Pensegill	20s.	Sr. John White, clerke	4s. 2d.
Robert Waye	20s.		
William Medelton	20s.		
Total			£67 7s. 8d.

It was early in the reign of Elizabeth, that the danger of the *pier* or *harbour* became patent, and that proposals were brought forward for making a more commodious haven. The first step was taken by Edward Durrant, the Mayor,

³⁷ Proceedings in chancery, temp. Eliz. Two bills filed in 1586.

³⁸ Harl. M.S. No. 1562, fol. 114 b.

Cal. Duc. Lanc. See also ante, p. 47 in Mr. Turner's paper on Ashdown.

³⁹ M.S. Record Off. J. E. G., 18, 881.

whose name appears in the above subsidy, and whose father John had been bailiff from Hastings to Yarmouth, in 1518, and bailiff of the town in 1525, 1526, and 1540. Edward Durrant availed himself of the aid of the Lord Warden, and procured from him the following letter to Secretary Cecil⁴⁰ in favor of a new harbour.

S^r

The bearer hereof, Edward Durand, is an inhabitant of the towne of Hastings. And because he hath lately been here wth me, to shewe me of his industry and travaile for the making of an harbrough fo y^t towne, and is able both by divers resons and by demonstracons by platt (map) or otherwise to infourm you how it may be brought to effect: I am therefore bold to comend him unto yow, and to pray yow to vousafe to heare his opinion.

The townshipp is disposed by a common contribution to beare the cheife charge: so as it shall he litle or no charge unto the Quenes ma^{tie} onlesse it may please her highnes to consider them w^t some ayde toward al. If therefore it may appere unto yow y^t it is suitable to any such meet purpose and good effect as he reporteth it may be; my request unto yow is y^t y^{eo} will further his sute and y^t (if it so may lik yow) to helpe him w^t the Quenes ma^{ties} special comission for the provision of such stuffe laborers and artificers as shall be meit to comence those works. And thus taking my leave, I pray God allwayes to kepe yow in long helth and felicit. From Cobham, this xth of Aprile, 1562.

Allwayes youres,

W. COBHAM.

To the right honorable S^r Will^m Cecill, knight, the Quenes ma^{ts} principall secretarye.

No effectual steps were taken, and the town became very much deserted, whilst the storms continued to render the pier less and less stable. Representations were made to the queen, and she issued in October, 1578, the following proclamation:—

⁴⁰ M.S.S. State Record Off. Dom. 1562.

BY THE QUEEN.—An Exemplification of her Maiesties Letters Patent concerning her Highnesse Towne and Port of Hasting, in the countie of Sussex.⁴¹

Elizabeth, by the grace of God, Queene of England, Fraunce and Ireland, defender of the fayth, &c. To all people to whom these our letters patent shal come, greeting. Where of our owne knowledge and certeine science we doe understande that our Towne and Port of Hasting, in our countie of Sussex, being the auncient Towne of our Cinque Portes, is scituated upon the maine sea, verie neere the midst of a great Bay or open place, lying betweene two points of the land, which stretche fourth farre into the Sea, called the Beachy, and the Nasse, distant eache from the other thirtie miles, right opposite to the Realme of Fraunce, the auncient enemie of our countrey: as we are credibly enfourmed, the same Towne hath of long time bene a place not onely very well inhabited with warlike people, and greatly replenished with good Mariners and other men meete and serviceable for our Navy, well stored with shippes, barkes, crayers, and boates, but also sufficiently furnished with armour, and artillery of all sortes, both for sea and land: also very meete and commodious for fishing, and the Bay plenteously abounding with all sorts of fish, according to the severall seasons of the yere: by reason whereof the same Towne hath of long time bene by the inhabitants thereof, in time of warres, manfully defended against the sundry invasions and attempts of the French Nation, our coaste therabouts lying very open against the French, by them often kept from spoile. Our marchants and loving subiects, and other travellers sayling along the coast, have often times by their shippes, and often times by their harborough bene saved and rescued from the furie of the enemies and the tyrannie of pirates: our navy, and the navy of sundry our noble progenitors, kinges of this realme, the better appointed by reason of their skilfull mariners, and cunning seamen. Also our household, our Citizens of London, and ouer countreys to the said Port adjoyning, greatly benefited by their fishing. And where our said Towne hath of long time had a peere or harborough made of timber and other things set and placed in the sea, for the succour of the seamen, and defence of their shippes, barkes, crayers, and boates, against the great rage and furie of the sea, which hath bin alwaies mainteyned at the great and importable charges of the inhabitants of our said Towne of Hasting, until of late time the same peere or harborough was at a sudden, by the great violence and extreme rage of the sea, broken downe and caried awaie. Sithence which time the Towne is much decayed, the traffique of marchants thither forsaken, the fishing, by reason of the dangerous landing but little vsed, the riche and wealthy men gone thence, and the poore men yet remaining would gladly doe the like, if without offence of our lawes they might be elsewhere received, whereby our people are likely to perishe, and our saide port likely to be subuerted and become desolate, or els the people there by necessite driven to commit great and heynous offences, to the great hinderance of the publique weale, unlesse some speedie remedie be for them provided. And where we be enformed by diuers of our priuie counsell and nobilitie, and by diuers artificers verie cunning and skilfull in that kinde of facultie, that a very good hauen or rhoade, for the arriuing and sauegard of shippes, barkes, crayers, and boates, may nere unto the said Porte with no great charge be made, to the great reliefe of the inhabitants and of all marchants and travellers sayling along the narrowe seas, and to the strength of our said coaste, and that the inhabitants of our saide porte be ready and willing to bestowe their landes, goodes, and labours to the uttermost of their power, to accomplish the same: notwithstanding of themselves very unable to finish so great a worke, likely as it is thought to amounte unto the summe of foure thousand poundes, we therefore considering the premisses, and minding to prouide for the preservation of our people, the maintenance of our Navy and Towne, for the defence of our coaste and of marchants and travellers, and that the provision of our household, our citie and countrey be not diminished, at the humble suite of our bailiff, jurates, and comminialtie of our saide Towne of Hasting, do by these our letters patents not onely giue and graunt unto

⁴¹ Proclamation Grenville library 179.

our said bailiff, jurates, and comminialtie, full power and authoritie, to make newe and finish our haven in such place or places nere unto our saide Towne and Port, as to them shall seeme most convenient, and to the finishing and accomplishing thereof, yeeld our royall assent and consent: but also for the furtherance and better helping forth of the same, we do commend the same good and laudable intent and purpose, to the charitable and liberall contribucion and benevolence of all and singular our loving subiects dwelling within any of our realmes and dominions, that the rather for our recommendation the more liberall contribucion of our sayde subiects may be yeelded to the finishing of the said hauen, a worke tending much to the defence of our realmes, and to the profite of the common wealth of the same, and which wille cause to auoide manie great inconueniences that may insue by the neglecting thereof: and also be an evident declaration of the forward and willing mindes of all our louing subiects, to augment the prosperitie of our realmes and countreys. We of our speciall grace, certaine knowledge, and meere mocion, have giuen and graunted, and by these our letters patent, doe give and graunt full licence, permission and authoritie to our faithfull and welbeloved subiects, Richard Calvey and John Jefferey, jurates of our saide Town of Hasting; and William Relfe of Ore gentleman, and to euery of them and to all and euery other person or persons that shall be thereunto deputed and assigned by them, or by any two of them, by writing under the common seale of our saide Towne of Hasting, to aske, receive, collect, and take of all maner of persons whatsoever, spirituall or temporall, Englishe borne or straungers in all places, as well within liberties as without exempt or not exempt, our citizeins of London or elsewhere, within our realmes, cities and dominions wheresoever Christian contribucion and beneuolence of all our saide louing subiectes, that it may or shall please God to moue or stirre them to giue, contribute, yeelde, and paye towards the new making of the saide hauen.

Then follow the usual directions to mayors, vicars, &c., throughout the kingdom to collect the money which was to be paid to Thomas Smith, Esq., one of the Customers of London, John Heynes, Esq., Sergeant of the Catry, and William Heynes, Gent, the Queen's purveyor of sea fish to be deposited in a chest with three keys, one to be kept by each of them and to be from time to time handed over on demand to Anthy, Visct. Montague, K.G., Wm. Lord Cobham, Lord Warden, Thos. Lord Buckhurst, who was Lord Lieutenant of Sussex, and the sd R. Calverly, John Jefferey, and Wm. Relfe, or any three of them, of whom the right honorables aforesaid, or his sufficient Deputy, was to be one; and they were appointed with the three commissioners, surveyors of the works.

Witnessse our selfe at Cheynis, the one and thirtieth day of October, in the twentieth yere of our raigne, 1578.

William Relf of Ore was the projector. Camden notices this contribution, and states that the money "was quickly converted into private purses, and the public good neglected." The principal defaulter may have been one of the commissioners, John Jeffery, one of the Jurats, since on 22nd July, 1581, Sir Wm. Brooke and Lord Cobham (the Lord Warden), issued their warrant to the bailiff and jurats of Hastings to arrest him "for certain contempts," and to answer the complaints of Robert Threele: to which warrant the bailiff and jurats made a return on 7th August, that he was not to be found in this town.

In the mean time, whilst the town was without sufficient protection from a pier, the threatened invasion of this country by the Spanish Armada took place; and we have in the State

Paper Office a return made in 1586 in contemplation of that event, of the names of the ships of this town, with the names of their masters, and of the whole of the able-bodied mariners in the place, which is not only very curious as showing the names then taken for the fishing boats, but also for the names of the masters and of the able-bodied men; amongst them we have a vast number of names which are still represented by the fishermen and the townsmen: thus, among the masters—Way, Taught, Farrant, Combes, Joy, and Cossum. And among the mariners are found—Woods, Butlers, Bennets, Staces, Hoddens, Daniels, Meadows, Taughts, Hydes, Palmers, Trotts, Bossums, Kings, Winkfields, Aylesburys, Fishers, Joys, Sweetmans, Hollyars, Fauteleys, Holmans, Lotts, Boys, Midmores, Masons, and Whites (we here give the modern spellings); together with some others, such as Stanbynorth, Thistlethwait, and Lyherbead no longer found amongst us.

A trewe certificate of all such Barkes, Shippes, and other vessayles, togetheres wth theyre severall names and burdenes, and where they now remayne; as also the severall of all the able masteers and marynerers belonging to the Towne and Porte of Hasting, taken the fyfthe day of February, Ano. Dni. 1586.

The names of all the barkes, shippes, and vessells within the Towne and Porte of Hasting.	The burden of the sayd shippes, barkes, and vessayles.	Where the sayd barkes, shippes, and vessells now remayne.	The names of the hable masters.
The Ane Wye.....	50 tonnes.	Wychelsey	Robt. Waye.
The John	42 "	Hasting	John Conny.
The Guifte of God.....	42 "	Hasting	Mychaell Dollery.
The Peter Paulmeres.....	36 "	Hasting	Henry Tought.
The Elizabeth	36 "	Lyne	Markes Tariant.
The Guifte of Good Boodyss	36 "	Hasting	Rychard Penbuckle.
The Mathewe Cawenns	31 "	Peavensey	John Chawene.
The Mathewe Penbuckles	30 "	Hasting	William Coumbes.
The Mary and John Lowes.....	30 "	Peavinsey	Robt. Beavor.
The Maye Flower	30 "	Peavensey	John Barry.
The Newe Yere	25 "	Rye	Markes Joye.
The Peter	22 "	Hasting	Thomas Rowland.
The Mary and John	22 "	Rye	Dyonesse Duffate.
The James	20 "	Hasting	Dyonesse Duffate.
The Peter	20 "	Hasting	Henry Cossam.

The number of barkes and other vessells, 15. ⁴²

⁴² The return for Rye is 45 ships, 36 masters, and 149 maryners. Sandwich had 43 ships, the largest of which was 100 tons; and Hythe 10 ships and 38 mariners.

Able mene to take charge of y^e barkes and vessayles afore-named.

Markes Barry	Thomas Shelter	Nycholas Penbuckle
Edmund Looote	John Lacy	Rychard Joye
John Wood	Anthony Wilthews	Thomas Nicholas
Thomas Rogerson	John Kinge	Robert Tought
William Chawen	Willm. Bowner	Markes Shriant, ju.
Symon Butler	Edmund Smyth	Robert Shriant
John Bennet	Rychard Winkefeld	Shurwell Rennet
William Barker	Wilton Aylesbury	John Fautelay
Isaacke Stace	Thomas Moons	Robert Smyth
Stemson Aborne	Robert Prentyse	Phillippe Holman
Markes Luchete	William Bossume	John Aymes
John Huddar	Henry Bossume	Symonne Lotte
Markes Hyde	William Lucket	Robert Mydmore
Edward Turner	Rychard Bossume	Robert Pynner
John Stanbynorth, sen.	John Tyler	John Baylyffe, ju.
Richard Wayles, sen.	William Woode	Robert Lylherberd
Robert Dannyoll	Henry Buull	John Kittye
John Meddowe	Thomas Rows	John Buckpooh
Robert Tought, sen.	Rychard Edborowe	Thomas Joye
John Hyde	William Fyssher	Thomas Dorney
Thomas Paulmer	John Batman	John Boyes, ju.
Willm. Ryppes	Robert Paulmer	John Ellice
John Arthur	John Joye	Xpofer Chevel
John Rytchine	Henry Winkefeld	John Holman
John Bayly, sen.	Edward Churnet	Markes Mason
Edward Trotte	John Reade	Henry Whyles
Edward Howlet	Rychard Whyles, ju.	Thomas Thishelthayghte
Markes Tought	Robert Rogerson	Richard Bossume
John Steanan, jun.	John Sweteman	Markes Whyte
John Steanan, sen.	John Stanbynorth ju.	Stemson Chever
John Bosume, ju.	Stre. Streate,	Crombald Stanbynorth
Mathewe Browne	Henry Stanbynorth	John Walkure
Martyne Lyhwes	William Crosske	John Clark
James Wheler	Jeffray Hollyar	John Madden
Robert Frogebok	Xrofer Skotte	Thomas Rogerson, jun.
Henry Tynes		

The number of hable maryneres is 106 in the Towne and Porte of Hastings.

In the year of the Armada itself, the largest of these ships "the Ane Wye," is not mentioned. The number of all the Hastings ships was 20, of a burden from 12 to 42 tons, having 32 masters and 326 mariners.⁴³

In March, 1595, an attempt was made by men from the Cobbe of Lyme to rebuild the pier. The first winter storm however broke it away: and another work was began.

The corporation books contain several entries relating to

⁴³ Rye had 32 ships, from 15 up to 80 tons, with 34 masters, 291 mariners. Having a harbour, it would of course have the vessels of a larger tonnage. At this time there was not a single vessel of more than 80 tons in Sussex, Kent, or the Cinque Ports. Under 80 tons, Sussex had 65 ships, with 70 masters, 371 mariners, and 122

fishermen; Kent. 95 ships and 243 mariners; and the Cinque Ports together, 220 ships, with 200 masters, 604 mariners, and 148 fishermen. *Cotton M.S.S. Otho ix. p. 142.* The preparations made by this county with its 7,522 able-bodied men, are set out in the *Royal M.S. Brit. Mus. 18, c. xxi.*

the rebuilding. Thus on 31st May, 1596, those who had benevolently contributed were to bring in their monies, and those who refused to contribute were to be assessed by the mayor and two jurats before Midsummer, yet on 25th July, all had been expended, and the town being in debt, borrowed £20 of All Saints' parish, and all able men were ordered to work at the pier or to forfeit six pence every time they were required. On 13th August, the work was directed to continue on so much of the new pier as was "yet standing and remaining;" whilst the whole of the shares of the Yarmouth fishery was appropriated towards payment of the debts and charges; and if those shares, together with the contribution money of the county, would not suffice, the balance was to be borne by a common charge on the town. A sum of £195 13s. 3d. was expended by Mr. Richard Lyfe, the mayor, being £27 17s. 3d. more than the receipts. Half a share of the Scarborough fishery was granted, and a shot not exceeding £50 imposed. Nevertheless in June, 1597, the town stood indebted to the workmen "in divers great somes, and £20 parcel of Richard Porter's purchase money of the Mynnews," was set apart towards the payment, and on 28th August, the work of the pier was committed to Mr. Ferrys, till All Hallow tide with an allowance of £1 6s. 8d.

But the new work was overthrown in less than an hour on the very day that Ferrys' appointment expired. i.e. 1st November, (All Saint's day) 1597.⁴⁴ The town was left £200 in debt: and on 6th March, 1598, the corporation directed the Cliffe and other lands, called "concealed lands," which, as we shall see, had been granted to them in the preceding month to be sold, and the Mayor's usual allowance of £6 13s. 4d. a year was abolished, in regard whereof the Mayors were discharged of "the supper on their election day, and the breakfast on Christmas day morning theretofore accustomed." In the same year the Cliffe or Clyve lands, which are situate between the old London road and the Fishpond farm in All Saints' parish, were sold to James Hobson, the then tenant, for £160.⁴⁵

⁴⁴ Corporation records.

⁴⁵ In 1656 Mr. Dunmoll paid 6s. a year for part of these lands, and Mr. Milward 5s. for the other part. The portion, 60 a., belonging to Mr. Dunmoll passed to the

Mercers and then to the Durrants, by whom it was sold in 1832, to John Samworth, Esq.; it has been re-sold this year to the Freehold Land Society,

There does not appear to have been much done to repair the damage made by the storm of 1597, until at an assembly held 14th April, 1611, when "it was ordered that the *peere* be presently repayed in the great ruynes and breaches thereof, (to avoyd great hazard and loss of stade, shippes, and barks, very lykely to ensue) by the peeres stock, so farr as the same will extend, and the reste wanting to be supplied by order of a common assembly," and Richard Waller was to prosecute the work. On 9th June it was agreed that Walter Fawteley should be the "surveyor and master workman of the woorke for the repairs of the *peere*." On 19th June, 100 tons of timber for the pier, at 12s. 6d. a ton, were ordered; and a shot of £50 was assessed on all the inhabitants, after their abilities. And on 7th August, it was ordered that "every inhabitant of this towne, not coming upon Mr. Mayor and his brethren's commandment, readely to labor at the *peere* as hath byn accustomed, having no sufficient and allowable excuse therefore, every house wherein such person so fayling to come doth dwell, shall forfeit and paie twelve pence toties quoties to the towne's vse."

In July, 1613, Sir Thomas Glover, Knt., having purposed to be a suitor to the King, to grant his assent to the making of a *haven* for this town; and that being obtained, to proceed to the further finishing thereof (God willing), at his own charge; a survey was agreed to, which was not to exceed £20. Again there was no good result. On 12th July, 1615, the decree of 10th July, 1575, confirmed on 18th August, 1577, for a toll of 4d. a ton on all iron exported, was re-established, and the produce applied towards maintenance of the pier. On 27th April, 1617, the corporation on the motion of the fishermen, applied the quarter share of the fishery (which was doubled for that year) towards the reparation of the pier; and on 26th May following, a charge of 12d. was imposed upon every tun of beer drawn, one half of which was also appropriated for the same object.

At an assembly held on 24th June, 1618, the Mayor and Mr. Lyfe were nominated to travel with Mr. Nicholas Eversfield to the Lord Warden, to procure his aid towards obtaining fresh letters patent towards re-edifying the pier.

On 16th March, 1620, there was a proclamation of fresh Letters Patent for collections to be made for the fortifying, repair-

ing, and furnishing the pier and haven of Hastings.⁴⁶ We know from the account book of John Everenden of Sedlescombe, that the brief was collected : and from the corporation records that on 12th June, Mr. Nathaniel Lasher, jurat, was ordered to ride up to London with the three patents then lately granted by His Majesty to this town, concerning the pier, there to cause briefs to be printed, and to receive instructions with Mr. Eversfield, Mr. Saunders, Capt. Lasher, the counsel for the town and others, for the better carriage and ordering of the patents, and to be allowed 2s. 6d. per day and his horse hire. To meet the then expenses of the pier, £40 were subscribed, viz., £10 by Mr. Waller, mayor, and £5 each by Wm. Byshop, Thomas Palmer, John Baylif, John Rygat, Wm. Lovell, and John Fawtley, jurats, and ordered to be repaid them by a scot or the letters patent. And in July following, Silvester Guilham was ordered to travel as deputy to the corporation, in Essex, Middlesex, and Herts, with an allowance of 5s. a day. And on 7th November, £20 were ordered to be paid to Mr. John Butler for his pains and charges, travelling Hants, Wilts, Dorset, Cornwall, Devon, and Somerset.

The work was commenced, but stopped for want of funds.

On 29th July, 1621, (19 James)—It was agreed “that the worke of the *peere* shall cease for this yer so soone as the carpenters have fixed the head, which is already framed, unto that newe woorke which is sett downe; and thereupon the workmen to be dismissed. And that now betwene this and Michaelmas next such provision of more tymber shall be brought home as in the discretion of the Treasurer and surveyors of the *peere* shall be thereunto thought fitt; to the intent that with the first of the next Spring the carpenters and other workmen may proceed to a further supply, and finishing of the wholl *peere* to God’s good pleasure.” In July, in the following year, a kind of advertisement was published for borrowing more money for the finishing of the pier, to be repaid out of the sums collected under the patents, or by a general shott on the inhabitants of the town.

A last attempt was made in 1635, under the advice of an eminent Dutch engineer, Henrich Cranhalls, to make a fresh haven at the Priory stream. The entries in the corporation books are:—

22nd January, 1636.—“This assemblie being called to consider of the decaie of the *peere* of this towne, and haveing conceaved some hopes, through God’s blessing, that by suite to his Majestie meanes maie be gotten for the making a haven att the *Priorie*, where tis hoped it will prove a convenient place for that purpose, and to proceed upon the better ground. It is granted that an able surveyor, and undertaker be procured to come downe to viewe the place, and upon his report thereof this assemblie resolve further to proceede to make suite to his Majestie, or otherwise for obeyning meanes to make the said haven if it be approved and adjudged feasible

⁴⁶ Procl : Soc : Ant.

by the said surveyor. And this assemblie hath granted the sum of £10 for the said surveyor's charge in coming downe, viz., six pounds from the peeres stock and fower pounds from the chamberlain's, and have nominated, entreated, and authorised Thomas Rainolds, towne clerke, solicitor in this business, to procure the said surveyor to come downe, and further, as the occasion shall require; whose reasonable charges shall be considered and allowed by this corporation, whoe shall be commissioned and authorised under the common seale or seale of maioraltie as shall be fittest in this behalfe." And on 15th February, it was reported "that Thomas Rainolds had accordingly (by God's blessing) performed, brought one *Henrich Cranhalls*, a Dutch ingener, whoe upon serious survey thereof dooth give his opinion and judgement that a very good haven maie there be made, and hath promised to undertake the same, and to attend the towne's suite and petition in that behalfe whenever he shall be required. And, therefore, this present assemblie is resolved to essaie to get his Majestie's favour in this behalfe to procure means for performing so good a worke, and doe grant the sum of £10 out of the peeres stock and £10 more out of the towne's scott towards the charges in that suite to his Majestie; and also have authorised and appointed Mr. Nicholas Savile and the said Thomas Rainolds to sollicite the same on the towne's behalfe, whose charges in that case shall be allowed upon reasonable accompt; and they do further grant that such other monies as the service shall necessarilie require shall be supplied, &c.; and the said Thomas Rainolds hath given in his bill of expenses about getting downe the said ingenier which is approved and allowed by this present assemblie."

His estimate, including the cost of the pier, was no less than £220,000.

Accordingly in March, 1636, the following petition⁴⁷ to the king, was presented from the corporation. The petition "most humbly supplicateth your most gracious Majesty to consider, that whereas in antient times, the said towne hath been an eminent port for sea service to the kings and queenes of this realm by their warlike ships and men, and for trade and merchandize, and also for the supply of sea fish, to your Highness bord, the cities of London and Westminster, and the countrie; but of later times for want of a harbour the said towne is become poor, and unable to bear her charge and sustaine itself, and is thereby daily the more deserted; and especially now most like to be sodainely undone by great decay of the peere there, which cannot long endure, and every storme is greatly feared will be carried away, and then their fishing (the only livily hood of the said towne) is gone, and a great nursery of maryners and able seamen for your Majesty's royal navy lost; which poor trade of fishing (likewise) in times of warre is greatly hindered. They therefore in most humble wise beseech your Majesty (commiserating their unavoidable misery) to give your royal grant for a haven to be made at your Highness said towne and port, which was formerly intended by queen Elizabeth (as appears by her high-

⁴⁷ Addl: M.S.S. Brit. Mus. 5705, fol. 158.

nes letters patent ready to be shewn) and for raising the money to accomplish the work, your petitioners most humbly offer unto your highness consideration, the particulars annexed; which honorable design, as it is generally approved by able artificers feasible and most commodious, so (by God's help) it will prove a great increase of shipping, &c., and advantageous for your honor, strength, defence, and profit, of your Highness, the state, and country, and to save a multitude of shippes and your Majesty's subjects, who are yearely cast away for want of a haven there.

And all your said poor petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray."

Annexed are "motives and reasons considerable for making a haven at Hastings."

1.—The place by many able artificers, and more especially of late by one (excellent) named, Henrick Kranhalls, a Dutch engineer, exactly surveyed and approved to be a place very fitting in every respect to make a very good haven to harbour ships of 400 tons and better, and of extent sufficient to receive 200 sail and more, who (if he be recognised) will undertake the worke; for which said haven Queen Elizabeth granted letters patents, and thereupon it was begonne, but failed for want of supply.

2.—The port of Hasting of ancient time hath been the chief and eminentest of the ports for shipping, tradeing, &c., and have atchieved many great, honorable, and acceptable services to the prince and states against the French (to whom they lie open and dangerous) and against other common enemies, suppressing of pirates, &c., but now of a long time destitute of a good harbour and become poor ignoble and unable; yet (by God's blessing) this haven being made, will be thereby soone restored to her auncient dignitie and ability for the honor, good defence, and profit of her King and country.

3.—The said haven will be a place where many good shippes of force may be in a readiness to encounter a foraign fleet and sodaine attempt of any enemy at sea.

4.—A very hopefull nursery of mariners, seamen, and warlike people, for better safeguard of that dangerous coast, and supply to his Majesty's navy; there being already in that town (by God's good providence) some 3 or 400 able seamen to beginne.

5.—A place of great safety and preservation of many thousand Christian lives, and the shipping and merchandize to uncomputable value, which by reason of the two dangerous points thereof, Beachie and the Nesse, in stress of weather, are in unavoidable danger of losse, for those places there are extremely perillous by reason of those Imbaves, &c., as daily is too woefully experienced by such lamentable wrecks, &c.

6.—A place most likely of great resort of shipping, as well for safety as trade and merchandize, because it stands in all respects most commodious for succour, and to invite as well the trade of France as of other countries, and so an increase of merchants and able inhabitants in those weak and dangerous parts.

7.—A meanes of defence, of profit and enrichment to the kingdom, the King (in augmentation of his customs) the country, the lands, and all inhabitants thereabouts, increase of shipping, &c.

8.—Many shippes will put in there for safeguard, which, if they once pass the said two points of danger, touch no part of England; and by that means will follow a vent of commodities, and thereby extraordinary increase of customs and other profits; also the bringing in of strangers prizes there rather than to hazard the losing them and themselves in carrying them by the said 2 points so farr home; will be a means of increase of the said customs, profits, &c.

9.—A place most eminent for the speediest despatch of ambassadors, posts, messengers, &c., as being the nearest port to the courts of England and France, lying just opposite to Diep.

10.—An increase of the craft of fishing, and thereby a more plentiful supply of sea fish to his Majesty's boards, the City of London, the country and other places.

“Reasons necessarily requiring the said haven.”

11.—No good harbour for succour all along that coast (of all most dangerous) from Portsmouth to Dover or the Downs.

12.—For want whereof there very often happen innumerable, invaluable, and most miserable losses of men, ships, goods, and merchandizes, cast away on either side upon those points every year; this winter already 20 or 30 sail, whereof 18 in one night.

13.—Those places and coasts there, for want of a haven, are destitute of shippes and other helps to defend in time of attempts (those parts most likely for attempt and most open to danger) and for want of trade and traffique are of all the country weakest and poorest inhabited, and being places of most danger and far more subject to charge than the inland parts, are every day more and more deserted; and thence the kingdom less guarded and secured.

14.—The said poor towne of Hasting most likely to be utterly undone and lost by decay of the peere there, which cannot stand long, but is greatly feared may go away every stormy tide.

15.—The saide towne cannot subsist in time of warre, when their only trade (of fishing) their only livelyhood will be totally hindred, and all the inhabitants thereby soon undone.

On the 28th March, upon relation of Mr. Savile and Thomas Rainolds of the success of the suit concerning the haven; “This present assemblee doe thereupon conceive good hopes to obtaine the said suite. And whereas his Majestie hath given his gracious reference for grant thereof to the lords of his Majestie's most honorable privie counsell, it is now resolved that a hearing thereof be accordingly attended at the bord by the forenamed solicitors, whose former paines therein is approved, and their charges granted to be allowed, and their bills audited by the general auditors; and it is further granted that what monies shall be requisit to accomplish this busines shall be supplied from time to time; and if the chamberlain's stock afford not sufficient supplie, then it shall be elsewhere taken up and borrowed, and the assembly grant the same to be repaid by scott or other usual course, and what shall be so further expended, the one-half thereof shall be disbursed by the peere wardens, and to them allowed upon their accompts.”

At the court at St. James, 30th March, 1636, his majesty referred the petition to the Privy council, and on a paper subjoined to the petition is written:—

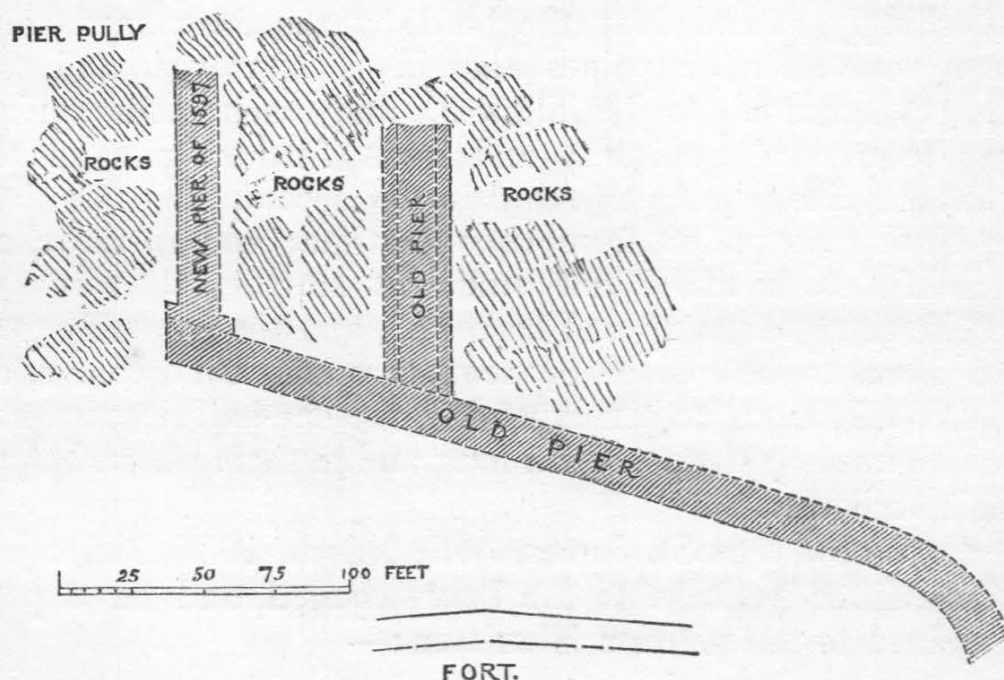
“A general collection throughout England and Wales to beginne the work;

And one pennie a tonne of all such ships passing by the port of Hasting, as shall arrive at London and Hasting, or any port or place between them; and all the duties of the haven to be granted for maintenance thereof.”

And here the matter ended. The times were disturbed: the money to prosecute the reference was not forthcoming: and at length we have the matter disposed of on 11th April, 1637.

“For the further prosecuting of the suit to obtaine a hearing before his Majesties most honble Privie Counsell (to whom his gracious Majestie hath referred it) about our suite of the haven begon according to a late decree &c. & the rather because kind letters from Sir Thos. Culpepper Lieut of Dovor Castle granting his best helpe & furtherance therein now read This Assemblie doe grant one Scott of £30 to be made fourthwith, to be assessed by the common assessors, & collected by the two Sargents of the mace. And Mr. Savile & Mr. Rainolds are hereby further intreated & authorized to prosecute the said suite as the said Sir Thos. Culpepper shall direct &c. Md that most of the Lords of the Counsell, our Lord Warden and others weere privatlie solicited & prepared before hand, consented to & approved of the business & promised their consent. The Lord Keeper satisfied how money should be raised, the Mayors of the Trinity Howse the Custom Howse & Farmers approved & promised their aide &c. *Sir John Baker* (who owns the priorie Lands where the Haven must be) impounded before his Majestie to give £2000 free lie, the Companie of Fishmongers of London £300 & to furnish & lend £3000 more till monie came in. Dr. Rives the Kings Majesties Advocate (who solicited with us) promised to take nothing for his pains nor fees & to give £10. Divers other Gents Yeomen Farmers & others to contribute free lie & helpe in the worke. And all these proceedings & hopes lost for want of a supplie of about £20 to carrie on the suite. A great remissnes & neglect &c.”

The accompanying woodcut shows the old harbour, and the new work of 1597: as they existed in 1832.



In the beach book of the Cinque ports we have a return of the Hastings fishing boats engaged in the Yarmouth fishery in 1641.

Hastings. Right worshippl. and our verie loving brother, com-
baron, and friend, wee comend us kindly unto you, and
Under the seale of office of Maioraltie there, 6 (according to antient use) wee certifie you as well the
daie Sept., anno 1641. names of such masters and barques, wth. their burden
and number of their men and boyes, as go on fishing to Yarmouth
from this towne, this present yeare, as alsoe the names of the
inquestmen for this yeare, thither returned from this towne; and
soe wishing you good successe in your journey and affaires, wee
comitt you to God.

Maisters.	Barques.	Tonns.	Men.	Boyes.
Mr. Thomas Palmer . . .	The Thomas . . .	30	12	3
John Heede . . .	The John . . .	26	10	2
Michell Clayden . . .	The Mary . . .	30	12	2
John Bailey . . .	The Gift of God . . .	25	10	2
Henry Bossom . . .	The Peter . . .	26	10	2
William Ball . . .	The Willing Mind . . .	30	12	3
Robte. Winckfeild . . .	The Abigall . . .	26	10	2
Mark Moore . . .	The Grace . . .	26	10	2
Lonewell Lockett . . .	The Alse . . .	30	12	3
Nicholas Meadow . . .	The Margery . . .	26	10	2
Mark Printes . . .	The Great Joane . . .	30	12	3
Thomas Joye . . .	The Blessing . . .	24	10	2
James Pym . . .	The Great Elizabeth . . .	30	12	2
Thomas Kitchin . . .	The Sheeremould . . .	25	10	2
Robte. Winckfeild . . .	The Ellen . . .	30	12	3
Robte. Heede . . .	The Hopewell . . .	30	12	3
Mark Ball . . .	The Little Elizabeth . . .	25	10	2
Nicholas Danyell . . .	The Charles . . .	30	11	2
Thomas Lockett . . .	The Little Joane . . .	20	10	2
Andrew Skeeck . . .	The Andrew . . .	30	12	3
William Fermor . . .	The Mary and John . . .	30	12	2
John Howsy . . .	The George . . .	22	10	2
John Sergeant . . .	The Middle Elizabeth . . .	28	11	3
Robte. Sergeant . . .	The Speedwell . . .	26	10	2
Robte. Bartholomew . . .	The Francis . . .	30	12	2
Thomas Sergeant . . .	The Thomas . . .	30	12	2
Richard Sergeant . . .	The William . . .	30	12	2
Richard Wheeler . . .	The Clement . . .	26	11	2
Robte. Phillip . . .	The Desire . . .	25	10	2
William Stevenson . . .	The Care Not . . .	25	10	2
Thomas Stide . . .	The Luzom & Elizabeth . . .	30	12	3
John Phillip . . .	The Delight . . .	30	12	2
Robte. Palmer . . .	The Alice . . .	25	10	2
		946	363	76

Questmen } WILLIAM DIGHTON }
 } THOMAS BYDDENDEN }

Your verie loving Brethren, Combarons, and Friends The Maior
and Jurates of the Towne and Porte of Hasting.

To the right worshipfull our verie loving Brother, Combaron, and
Friend, Richard Mills, Jurate of the Ancient towne of Rye, and
one of the Bailiffes electe and admitted to Great Yarmouth.

A storm at the close of 1656, seems to have washed away all that remained of the pier, for on 27th January, 1656-7, it was decreed that notice be given by "the common crier that all persons who have saved any of the *peeres tymbers, planks, or bolts* that they do not hack cutt sell or embezzle same but bring the same unto the Peere Wardens and for their salvage shall have content and satisfaction, penalty, &c.," and several payments appear in the town accounts for saving the piers planks and placing down a capstan.

Before the reformation there existed in this town, Salerne's chantry, Gawthren's chantry, and Salter's chantry;⁴⁸ a stipendiary at Jesus Altar, in St. Clement's Church; and a stipendiary of All Saint's Parish: but no particulars of the property have been printed.

To a special commission dated 25th November, 1570, (13th Elizabeth) there is a return of a tenement called Wanninge, in All Saints, given for an obit, and worth 3s. 4d. a year.

On 6th July, 1578, Wm. Weston petitioned Lord Burghley to have the farming of the land and houses here part of the chantry lands: yet the bulk was concealed. In the return to another special commission, we have the "particuler examinacions of divers persones under the handes and seales of Lawrence Levytt, Edmonde Coppinger, and John Asheburnham, Esquires, delyvered for evidence unto John Barley, th elder, and the reste of the inqueste at Hastinge, the xvth daye of Januarye, anno domini 1581."

The depositions of the undernamed persons are given: Richard Calverley, of Hastinge, aged 61; Thomas Love, of Hastinge, aged 62; Robert Osborne, mason, aged 50; William Fawtley, aged 40; John Hollandes, aged 35; and Edmond Saunders, aged 67.

SUSSEX.⁴⁹—The presentment of John Barley, senior, Roger Whyte, John Smyth, Edmond Saunder, Thomas Davye, Thomas Townrowe, Richard Godfrey, John Joye, John Howlbirt, Willyan Coombes, Thomas Burman, Thomas Chatfield, Robert Jynkyne, John Austen als Ryponder, senior, and Edward Trott, deliveryd at Hastinge the xvth daye of Januarye, a^o dⁿⁱ. 1581, unto Lawrence Levytt, Esquire, Edmond Coppinger, Esquire, and John Ashebornham, Esquire, amonge others comissionated by vertue of her Majesties comission unto them directyd being hereunto affixed, wherunto also are anexed all such particuler examynacions as under

⁴⁸ Here and at Brede. Index of a return, No. 49.

⁴⁹ Special commissions, Sussex, 24 Eliz., No. 38.

thandes and seales of the sayd comyssoners was for evidences delyveryd unto the sayde John Barley and the rest of thinquest.

HASTINGE Ss.—IMPRIMIS they answer and saye as before hath byn sayd in a certeyne presentment made and exhibited bearinge date the viijth daye of September a^o dⁿⁱ. 1570 and more then that recyted in the sayd presentment they cane not saye.

ITEM they doe presente saye and fynde one yearlye rente of eight shillinges issuinge out of the howse nowe in the tenure and occupacion of one John Horssey which dyd apperteyne to the stypende in the parishe of ALL SAINTES in Hastinge which hath byne conceallyd and kept backe from our Sovereigne Ladye the queens Majesty and her noble progenitors from and sythens the fyrst yeare of our late lord Kyng Edward the syxte. And also they doe finde and lykewise presente fowar gardeins conteynge by estimacion one roode of lande more or less, the which allwayes apperteyned and belongyd to the tenements at BULLOCKES HYLL duryng these twentye yeares; and hath byn conseallyd and kepte backe by one Willyam Benett, late of the towne of Hastinge deceassyd and one Richard Calverley nowe of the sayde towne of Hastinge, whoe sayth that he payeth rente for the same to one Mr. Byrde of London his landlord.

ITEM they doe fynde and lykewise presente one lytle gardeyn plott adjoynge to the tenementes and gardeyns affore sayde againste the sowth and is in the tenure of Thomas Barley, (the nowe farmor or tenante is one Luke Johnstone) worth yerlye aboute xx^d; and hath byn conseallyd ever sythens the fyrst yere of the reign of Kyng Edward the syxt.

ITEM they doe fynde and lykewise presente one lytle gardeyn plott lyeinge and adjoynge to the PALMTREE HOWSE nowe in the occupacion of one Thomas Lasher which gardeyn plott ys and doth belonge to her Ma^{tie} for the which the sayd Tho: Lasher payeth rente yearlye viij^d (as he sayth) By what means they saye they knowe not; which gardeyn hath byne in his occupacion the space of fyve years of which tyme he hath payde rente three years to one Bartholmewe Garawaye, so remeyneth unpaid the rente for two years as he hath enformyd us and also doth belonge to the sayd Palmtre howse.

ITEM they do presente and saye that they sawe in thandes of their forman (viz John Barley) one dede indentyd concerninge one pece of grownd lyinge in the parishe of ST. CLEMENTES some tyme parcell of GAUTRONS CHAUNTRY, which dede bearith date the last daye of June a^o regni Henr: 6 xiiij^o and doth concerne the yerlie rent of viijs^s viij^d issuinge out of EFFLICKSFELD, which dede was read perused and sene and by the sayd Jurors delyveryd to the handes of the comissioners; and also one dede indentyd in thandes of Mr. Lyff now bayllif of Hastinge concerninge the yearlye rente of iiij^s yearlye out of one pece of lande lyeinge in the parishe of ALL SAYNTES made by Sr Thomas Scott, some tymes parson of SALTERNS CHAUNTRY to one Regles of the sayd towne deceassyd, the true effect of which deed doth concerne the sayd yerlye rente of iiij^s; the sayd parcell of lande is nowe in the occupacion of John Lunsforde of Hastinge.

ITEM they doe fynde the yearlye rente of xx^d due unto her Majesty issuinge out of the two gardeyns late Willyam A James of Hastinge deceassyd, nowe in th occupacion of Thomas Weekes of Hastinge, abuttinge the one head to a certeyne stone wall of the sayd gardeyn east, to the gardeyn of the heires of Thomas Brett againste the sowth, and to the queens highwaye againste the west, and to the tenement of Willyam Sloman againste the north.

ITEM they doe present one lytle plott of waste grounde, wher upon hath stande some tymes one lytle shopp late in the occupacion of one Willyam Creassye; which shopp aboute fower or fyve years past was drawn from the said plote of grounde by the sayd Creassye, after y^t he had bought the same of Mr. Hutton, lyenge to the MAYNE ROCKE against the north, and to the gardeyn of the sayd Cressy against the west and to the queens high waye leadinge from Hastinge to the pryorye against the sowth, worth by the yere aboute— and sold by the said Hutton unto the sayd Cressey for the value of xij^s iiij^d or ther aboutes.

ITEM the two houses in the former presentment in thoccupacion of Robert Tyherst and Willyam Marshall were at that tyme by them supposyd to be worth twenty poundes the repayringe and now at this present unrepayrable: how be it they estimate the tyles, tymber, stone, and other stuff to be worth aboute fowar pwndes.

ITEM they doe presente that Richard Westone hath pulled down one tenement in the parish of ALL SAINTES late one Standens, out of the which tenement her

Majestie was seised of one yearlie rente of x^s But by what auctoritye he pullyd the same downe they say they know not, yet y^t notwithstandinge the sayd Westone sayd he pulled the same downe in hys owne right and to his owne use; the value whereof they suppose to be six poundes xiiij^s iiij^d.

ITEM they doe present one tenement late in thoccupacyon of Robert Wryte in the parish of ALL SAINTES in Hastinge is fallen downe in default of repayringe and the tymber thereof utterlye consumyd burnt and caryed awaye, by whome they saye they knowe not; they value the tymber therof accordinge to their former presentment at ij^s. The howse plote and the gardeyn ther unto adjoyninge is and hath byne in the ocupacion of one Thomas Rowes the space of two years or ther aboutes by thassignement of Bartholmewe Garawaye (as he sayth), and farther sayth he hath payde no rente for the same as yet, which they doe esteme to be worthe aboute xij^d yearly.

ITEM they say that whereas in the former presentement they did suppose that xv^{li} would repayre the PALMTRE HOWSE at that tyme, nowe they do present and saye that the sayd howse is so ruynouse and sore decayed that they suppose it to be unrepayrable; and they value the slate, tyle, stone, tymber, and other stuff of the said howse to be worth vj^{li} xiiij^s iiij^d or ther aboutes.

ITEM they doe present that John Durrant of Hastinge hath pullyd downe parte of the tymber of one tenement lyinge over againste the Palmtre howse in the parish of S^t. CLEMENTES in Hastinge, but by what auctoritye they saye they knowe not; But they saye the sayd Durrant dyd saye unto them he boughte the same of Mr. Fitzwillyams; and they doe value the same at xvj^s accordinge to the former presentement.

ITEM they doe present that the tenementes nowe the heires of Huckles and nowe in the ocupacion of Richard Westone rentithe yearlye xij^d to her Majestie.

ITEM they doe present that all the tenementes and shoppes standinge at BULLOCKS-HYLL conteyned in number syxe, and one shopp were all pullyd downe taken convertyd and caryed awaye by Mr. Lyff nowe bayllif of Hastinge, But by what auctoritye he hath done the same they knowe not; And they value the same at twelve poundes according to their former presentement.

ITEM they doe presente that the tenementes shoppes chambers and garrattes in the parish of SAINT CLEMENTES in Hastinge nowe callyd the BUTCHERY and verye muche in decaye in tymber, tylinge, walinge, and other reparacions, so that as they do suppose that thirtye poundes will not sufficientlye repayre them.

ITEM they doe presente the yearly rente of j^d by yere payable unto her Majestie out of one parcell of lande late in the ocupacion of one William Benett and nowe in the ocupacion of one Richard Calverley conteyninge by estimacion in bredth tene foote of assyse lyeinge to the north ende of a gardeyn belonginge to her Majesty late belonginge to GAUTRONS CHANTRY in the parish of S^t CLEMENTES in Hastinge.

ITEM they doe presente and saye that of their owne knowledge they doe not knowe wheather the tenement in S^t CLEMENTES nowe in the ocupacion of one Thomas Love and late Richard Almon of Rye ought to pay ij^s rente by the yere unto the sayd churche of S^t Clementes otherwyse then he hymself hath deposed.

ITEM they doe presente that Richard Westone hath received the rente of x^s yearlye by thandes of one Willyam Mychell for the space of one whole yere and more for her Majesties shoppes in the parishe of S^t CLEMENTES in Hastinge.

ITEM they doe presente that Mr. Lyff nowe Bayllif of Hastinge and Mr. John Jeffrey late Baillif ther hath receyved rente for the queens Majestys shoppes in the parishe of S^t CLEMENTES in Hastinge afforesayd at sundrye fayres ther holden.

LAURENCE LEVYTT. EDM. COPINGER. ASSHEBURNEHAM.

By her charter, dated 14th February, 1588-9, the Queen granted to the corporation "All that our late chantry called *Salerne's* chauntrye, in Hastynge aforesaid;" and "all that our late chantry, called *Gawthorns* or *Gauthorne's* chauntry, in Hastynge aforesaid." And all messuages, &c, and appurtenances to the said late chantries, or to either of them

belonging. “ And also all our lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, rents, reversions, woods, underwoods, and hereditaments whatsoever, with the appurtenances in Hastynge aforesaid; to the late stipendiary at the *altar of Jesus*, within the church of *Saint Clement* aforesaid, in Hastynge, being heretofore given or appointed. And also all those lands in Bexhill, in the same county of Sussex, extending to the yearly rent or value of 5s., to the same late stipendiary heretofore in like manner, being given or appointed. And all our lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, and hereditaments, with the appurtenances, in Hastynge aforesaid to the late *stipendiary* within the parish of *All Saints*, in Hastynge aforesaid being heretofore given or appointed. And also all those, our 2 closes of land, called *Bexley closes*, with the appurtenances, containing by estimation 4a., lying and being in Hastynge aforesaid, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Lord Buckhurst, or his assigns, of the yearly rent of 12s. And all the yearly rent of 3s. 4d.; and all our yearly rent of 3s. 4d., issuing out of the lands of the church of *All Saints*, in Hastynge aforesaid; and the yearly rent of 6s. 8d., yearly issuing out of the lands called *Sharpes*, in Hastynge aforesaid; and the yearly rent of 20d. by the year, issuing out of a tenement called *Church-houise*, in Hastynge aforesaid, being given, limited, appointed, or applied to the late Obit, Lamp, Light, and such like, in Hastynge aforesaid.” And also, “ all that our parcel of land, and our hereditaments, called *the Stone Beache*, with the appurtenances, in Hastynge aforesaid;” and all “ messuages, houses, edifices, and buildings whatsoever, with the appurtenances in and upon the aforesaid parcel of land, called *Stone Beache*, now or lately being erected, built, or constructed. And all those our lands and hereditaments, called *Cliffe Lands*, with the appurtenances, and all other our lands, tenements, and hereditaments, lying and being in Hastynge aforesaid, or elsewhere in our said county of Sussex; being heretofore given or appointed by one Jenetta a Clyve, otherwise Clyff,⁵⁰ or by some one or some others, for the maintenance of an obit in the churches of *All Saints*, in Hastynge aforesaid, and *Westham*, in our

⁵⁰ For notice of the Atte Clyve's see ante p. 71. John Atte Clyve was bailiff in 1453.

said county of Sussex, or in one of them; and all those our lands, tenements, and pastures, called *Sharpe Lands*, with the appurtenances. And all lands within Hastinge aforesaid, or the liberties of the same, now or late in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Colgate, or his assigns. And all our lands, tenements, and hereditaments, called *Magdalen's Lands* and *Churchefields*, with the appurtenances, situate and being in Hastinge aforesaid, or within the liberties of the same. And all those our fresh and salt marshes, and other our lands, tenements, tithes, rents, and hereditaments whatsoever, in Hastinge aforesaid, with the appurtenances, or within the liberties of the same, now or not long since concealed subtracted, or unjustly detained from us, or from our progenitors; and all the issues, rents, and yearly profits of all and singular the premises, so from us or from our progenitors subtracted or unjustly detained, from the time that the same premises came to, or ought to have come to our hands, hitherto coming or growing. And also the advowson, donation, free disposition, and right of patronage of the rectory and church of *the blessed Mary in the Castle*, of Hastinge aforesaid, commonly called or known as *the Castle parish* and *St. Andrew*, or by the name of one of them, with all their rights and appurtenances." To hold by fealty only in free and common soccage, and not in chief nor by knights' service, paying yearly £25.

The first Mayor named by the charter was Thomas Hay, gentleman (then bailiff), and the jurats also named were George Porter, Richard Lyffe, James Breham, Thomas Lake, Richard Calverley, Roger Ferreis, Richard Francke, James Lasher, Richard Frenche, Thomas Love, John Lunsforde, and Richard Istedd.⁵¹

These were the names of most influential men. *Thomas Hay* was founder of the family at Glyndbourne, being eldest son of William Hay, of Robertsbridge; his mother was a Tufton, of Northiam. *Richard Lyffe* was member for the town in this year; he had sat in the parliaments of 1562 and 1571, and was again returned in 1592, 1597, 1601, 1603; and on 4th August, 1604, this corporation of their own free gift bestowed

⁵¹ No correct translation of the charter has been printed: and the names have been placed incorrectly.

on him £5, viz. : £3 10s. from this town, from Pevensey 20s., and from Seaford 10s., in regard of his service and pains in parliament, and in full payment for all fees and riding charges, by him disbursed: "And this the rather, for that he hath wholly referred himself to their good wills in this behalf, acknowledging that he ought not to have challenged any fee or wages therefor, but to have served gratis, &c., and of this, here present, he hath accepted."⁵² The diary of *Thomas Lake*, bailiff to Yarmouth, in the year of the charter we have already printed,⁵³ and after his death, on Sunday, 11th October, 1606, the following appears in the margin of the corporation records.⁵⁴ "This man was captaine of one of ye shippes of ye portes under ye *Earle of Essex*, at ye sacking of *Cales*, where he foughte manfully with mony great Spanish shippes and galleyes to his great renowne. And that monument hanging in the southe chancell of St. Clement's church he brought from thence out of one of ye Spanish shippes." The trophy has perished, but we preserve the record. *Richard Calverley* had been active in promoting the new harbour plan, and his family remained at Hellingly, whilst a park at Tunbridge Wells still preserves the name. *Richard Francke* was fourth son of John F., of Fairlight, by Joan d. and sole heir of John Mapwell, of Battle. *James Lasher* was captain of the trained band of the town in 1619, and M.P. in the following year with Samuel Moore, who was elected on the nomination of the Lord Warden, though not a freeman, and unknown to the town.⁵⁵ *John Lunsford* was afterwards knighted, and was eldest son of John Lunsford, of East Hoathly, and descended on the female side from the Sackvilles, Trevors, and Pelhams. The exploits of his grandson, Sir Thomas L., have been noted in our last Vol. (p. 221).

⁵² Corporation records.

⁵³ Suss: Arch: Coll: xii. p. 159.

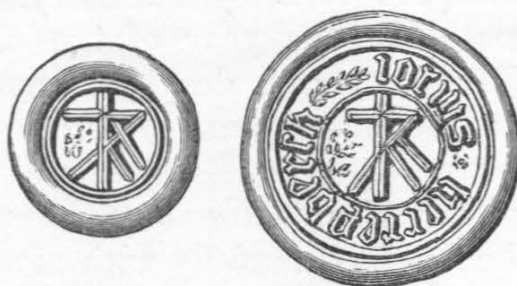
⁵⁴ Vol. i. p. 116.

⁵⁵ Hastings did not invariably accept this nomination, for in 1626, though "the Lord Warden wrote a very kind letter, entreating the election of Walter Montague, Esq., son to the Lord President of the Council, yet the freemen refused him by means made to some of

them by Mr. Eversfield, for this knight (Sir Thomas Parker) whenever requesting it." *Local Records*. The last member returned on the Lord Warden's nomination for Hastings was Sir Dennis Ashburnham, who was named by James II. himself, when he held the Lord Warden-ship in his own hands; the royal warrant being dated 13th March, 1684-5. See *Law Magazine*, No. 96, p. 63.

And *Richard Isted* was of the family settled at Morehouse, in Mayfield, and was related to Thomas Hay, the mayor, whose wife was d. of John Baker of Battle, by Elizabeth d. of Richard Isted. Of the others we have no certain knowledge.

We give engravings of two merchants' marks found in this town.



Some 30 years after the charter was granted (6th May, 1618-9), we have a return to Lord Zouch, Lord Warden, of the musters in the town,⁵⁶ which gives us the list of able men in James I. time, and is worth printing in these days of volunteers (Artillery and Rifles), as a means of comparison after a lapse of two centuries and a quarter.

TRAINED BAND.

James Lasher, gent., Capten.
Nathaniel Lasher, Leivetenant.
Thomas Briane, Ensigne.
Thomas Smyth } Sargeants.
Richard Keet }

Melchior Rainolds, [town] Clarke.
Sabb. Stevenson, droom.
John Huit, fyfe.
James Bacheller, surgeon.
Captaine and Officers only.

CORSLETTS.

John Bryant, with Richard Wythenis,
Mayor's.
George Oliver, with William Bishop's,⁵⁷
Jurate.
William Burton, with Thomas Younges,
Jur.
John Grevett, with Jeremy Bricham's,
Jur.
Anthony Pretty, with Lawrence Pierse's,⁵⁸

Richard Partrich, with Michael Stunte's,
Thomas Mannington, with Willm. Gold-
ham's.
James Lowll, with John Bailey's.
Henry Harwood, with Rawlin's.
Richard Birchett, with Richard Porter's.
Nicholas Reynoldes, with Ansel Nuttley's,
gent.
Richard Amyat, with Thomas Bridgen's.

⁵⁶ Record Off. Dom. James I. vol. 107, art. ii.

⁵⁷ William Byshop was one of the treasurers for the pier subscriptions in 1597, and his son lent the town £20 towards paying for the pier.

⁵⁸ Lawrence Piers was Lord of the Manors of Westfield and Gotely; he died 14th Dec., 1624, and was buried at Westfield. His ancestor, John Piers, of Westfield, was one of the owners of land above £20, 12th Henry VI.

Arthure Bread, with the said Lawrence Pierse's.	William Gallop, with the said Bridgen's.
Robert Lowen, with William Parker's, Clarke.	Thomas Shaw, with Thomas Briant's, gent.
James Knight, with Edward Bennettes, Clarke.	Thomas Fuller, with his owne. William White, with William Isted's.

Corsletts furnished 20.

CURETTS (Cuirasses).

Rychard Wyther's, Mayor.	Richard Waller, Jurate.
Martin Lyfe, Jurate.	Jeremy Briham, Jurate.
William Byshope, Jurate.	John Bailey.
Lawrence Peirse, Esq.	Thomas Barlow.
William Parker, Clarke.	<i>Cuirasses for x.</i>
James Bachellor.	

DRY PIKES.

Thomas Chowll.	George Smyth.	William Taylor, husb.
George Chambers.	Thomas Buck.	John Gryffin.
Frances Wenham.	Anthony Jarrett.	<i>Dry Pikes</i> furnished 10.
Richard Baker.	Nicholas Foster.	

MUSKETTS.

Thomas Tyherst, with Mr. Mayor's.	Benjamyn Brooke, with Mr. Boy's.
Richard Christfer, with Mr. Mayor's.	Harbert Pelham, ⁵⁹ gent., with his father's.
Richard Gerey, with James Lasher's, Capten.	George Easton, with Lawrence Peirse's. ²
James Shingleton, with Martin Lyfe's, Jur.	George Freham, with Mr. Pierse's,
Abraham Mannington, with William Byshop's, Jur.	Edward Harman, with Nicholas Lopdell's.
Henry Dowll, with Thomas Younges, Jur.	Owen Freeman, with Nathaniel Lasher's.
James Hunt, with Richard Waller's, Jur.	Michael Lasher's, with his mother's, widow.
George Clapham, with Mr. Waller's.	Thomas Dyer, with Jonas Burdocke's.
William Grevett, with Jeremy Briham's, Jur.	William Young, with John Barley's.
John Love, with Richard Boy's, Jur.	George Porter, with Richard Porter's.
	John Staplus, with Ansel Nateley's, gent.
	Tho. Stevenson, Senr. with widdow Sole's.
	James Knight, with widdow Lunsford's.
	Dooegood Fuller, with Thomas Fuller's.
	Thomas Pilcher, with widdow Michell's.

WITH THEIR OWN.

Thomas Wynter.	John Rygate. ⁶⁰	John Luck.
Richard Staplus.	Steven Taylor.	Richard Keet.
Mathew Rolfe.	Martin Brabon.	William Goldhan.
Richard Atherall.	Thomas Gregory.	Thomas Gerey.
Edward Stace.	Thomas Streat.	Thomas Smyth.
Nicholas Staplus.	Richard Peck.	Thomas Couchman.
John Gerey.	George Fletcher.	John Tamplyn.
William Turpin.	William Barker.	Humfry Blinkerne.
George Wattle, gent.	William Lovell.	Henry Lasher.
John Olive.	Richard Downe.	John Randall.
James Long.	Michaell Stunt.	<i>Muskettes</i> 59.
James Shusmyth.	John Fyssenden.	

⁵⁹ See post.

⁶⁰ Estate sequestered for marine of-

fence. Vide Royalist Composition Papers,
vol. 53.

GENERAL BAND.

The names of the rere or general band within the said towne certified as aforesaid, viz. :—

Ansel Nately, gent., Capten.	Thomas Reinolds [town] clarke.
Rychard Stolyon, Lewetenaunt.	Thomas Streat, Droom.
Richard Wheeler, Ensigne.	<i>Captaine and officers, 6.</i>
Marke Sergeant, and Willm Lovell, Sarjeants.	

CORSLETTS.

Thomas Palmer, with his owne.	Richard French, with Thomas Gawen's.
John Venables, with John Baylye's.	<i>Corslettes for 3.</i>

CURETTS.

With their owne, Robert Milles.	John Harrys.
Richard Porter.	John Crabb, with Tho. Fuller's.
	<i>Cuirasses 4.</i>

DRY PYKES.

John Howlett	John Perigo	William Reynold
Henry Bosam	Robert Wright	John Norrys
Paul Standbynorth	Edward Sparrow	Samuel Gawen
Richard Hyde	John Bosam	Robert Ball
John Hyde	Christofer Bosam	James Chowll
Richard Penvokle	Thomas Winckfeild	John Coombes
John Huswyfe	Edward Palmer	John Whelpdale
Christofer Salter	Thomas Wright	Thomas Elmes
Robert Bayly	Edward White	John Wood
John Austin	John Sargeant, jun.	Robert Pundes
Marke White	Thomas Rowes	John Philip
Daniell Daniell	William Dighton	William Taylor, sailer
Robert Palmer	Henry Barham	John Ellys
John Boys	Robert Evernden	

MUSKETTS.

Thomas Brabon	Thomas Kitchin	John Michell
Thomas Stryde	Richard Barry	Nicholas Danyell
Mark Sargeant, sen.	Thomas Palmer, sen.	Marke Philip
Peter Winckfeild	Thomas Wales	Thomas Gawen
John Bailey, sen.	William Chapman	Marke Luckett, sen.
Thomas Wood, sailer	John Coombes	James Furner
John Sargeant, sen.	Dan Lacy Christofer Streater	William Philip
Willm Seale ats Gynner	Robert Philip	Peter Standbynorth
John Fawtley	Richard Wheeler	John Chowll
Robert Sargeant	Willm Gawen, jun.	John Meadow, jun.
Geffrey Gawen	James Wright	John Barry
John Bayly, jun.	John Ball	Marke Luckett, jun.
Thomas Wood, brewer	John Aynett	Edward Sargeant
Robert White	Marke Sargeant, jun.	John Sparrow
John Woodford, cal.	John Lovell, cal ;	Marke Barry, cal
	<i>Musketts furnished, 43 ; Calivers, 3.</i>	

HALBERTS, BILLS, HEAD PIECES, & SCULLS.

Steven Duk, hal.	Tho Stapley, hal,	Willm Gawen, hal.
Thom Haynes, hal.	John Michell, jun., hal.	Peter Grover, bill
John Randall, hal.	John Gibbons, bill	John Lucket, bill
Tho Downey, bil.	John Coosens	Robt Lovell
John Joye	John Pucksted	Willm Aperley
Christopher Joye	Henry Chepman	Richard Hayles

William Fawtley	Thomas Rowland	John Pretty
Erasmus Burges	Rafe Mills	John Virgo
John Furner	James Birchett	John Baker
Simon Boys	John Tampsett	Richd Coosens
John Shaw	Mathew Moore	Steven Bourne
Cutbert Chambers	John White	Robert Scott
Peter Bourne	Edward White	Henry Andrewes
Michael Wright	Robt Philip	Henry Lovell
William Alesbury	John Mabb	James Bosam
Henry Coombes	Simon Browne	Mark Wright
Edward Bartholomew	Robert Chepman	Rich : Chambers
Thomas Luckett	Robert Arthure	William Stace
Andrew Robins	Tho Bradwey	Christofer Marfoot
Christofer Fawtley	Tho Stedman	Willm Bound
Henry Stevens	John Franckwell, jun.	Tho Stevenson jun.
John Franckwell, sen.	Tho Palmer, jun.	Tho Day
Richard Dyer	John Myllward	Tho Seale als Gynner
William White	Richard Holmes	Richard White
Humfry Barrett	Anthony Mydwen	Andrewce
John Burt	William Black	Jeremy Syms
George Whyting	John Bartholomew	John Wheeler
William Norway	Tho Wattle	John Stevens
John Gallop	Tho Staker, hal.	

Halbertes & Hedpeeces, Bills and Sculls, 87.

Provision of Powder, Match, Lead, &c.—Gunne powder, 12 cwt. weight; Match 250lb. ; Lead and Bullets, 12 cwt.

CARRIAGES.

Richard Waller, jun., one teame; Tho Young, jun., one teame; Willm Tayler, one teame; James Turner, one teame; Edw Sheather, one teame.

The following extract from the local records is worth preserving, as showing the privileges of a broken down freeman of one port, and the mode in which the poor were licensed to collect alms among the Cinque Ports, two ancient towns and their members, for their own sustenance, before the Poor Law Act of Elizabeth. “Whereas this towne of Hasting, one of the Cinque Ports, hath byn of long tyme surcharged with many and ympotent and diseased poore people unable to labor; and deprived of all other meanes to live but only by devocion and almes of others; who daily do increase to the insupportable charge of this poore towne as not being able to minister to so many. In the number of whome this poore man, Richard Batop, the bearer hereof, being one; forasmuch as he being now old is become ympotent, decried in his sight, weake and lame of his lymys, and now no longer able to labor for his living as heretofore he hath painfully and honestly indevoured to doe, to his utter ympoverishment and

undoing: We therefore the maior and jurates of Hasting have thought mete to lycense the said Rich. Batop to aske gather and receive the charitable devocion and almes of well disposed people within the Cinq Ports, two auneyent townes Rye and Winchelsea, and their members, for one wholl yere now next insuing to indure: praying you and every of you to whom in this behalf it shall or may apperteine quietly to permit and suffer him so to doe within your several precincts and liberties (so as he use and behave himself honestly and decently) mynistering unto him your favourable aide and assistance, in your churches and elsewhere, even as wee doe and are alwaes redy to performe towards such as resort in lik manner from you unto us. Given under the seale of office of maioralty of Hastings this first daie of December in the 38th year of the reigne of our sovaraigne Lady Queene Elizabeth &c 1598.

To all Maiors Bailifs and other her majesties officers and ministers within the Cinq Ports, and the two auneyent Townes Rye and Winchelsea, and their members."

Very few of the old houses remain. All the Cinque Ports, with their members, were included in the Act of 33 Henry viii, c 36 (1541), for causing the owners of ground in certain towns where good houses had stood, which had fallen down, decayed, and remained "unre-edified," to rebuild their houses within two years after proclamation. We have seen that part of the chantry houses, which had been built of stone, slate and tile, had gone to decay: it was not, however, till 28th June, 1618, that thatching was prohibited, and it was ordered that thenceforth "no person shall thatch any new building within the precinct of this towne, but all such new buildings shall be ceiled with tile, stone, or slatt, upon pain of £10 to be forfeited by the owner of the building, to be recovered by action of debt before the mayor and jurats; and wherein no wager of law shall be allowed;" and as a *brick* tenement in Winding Lane is particularly mentioned in 1645 and 1656, it would seem that the use of brick was even then unusual.



FORMERLY AT EASTERN ENTRANCE OF TOWN.



PELHAM HOUSE, HIGH STREET.



MRS. SHOVEL'S HOUSE, ALL SAINTS' STREET.

We give an engraving of the largest of the old houses, which was situate in HIGH STREET, and was standing in 1815, when a sketch was taken by Mr. Prout, for the use of which the society is indebted to the kindness of John Pitman Shorter, Esq.

The oldest house still standing in the town, and having a date, is situated about the middle of the north-west side of the same street. It has the date of 1610, and the Pelham buckle. Edward Pelham was M.P. for the town in 1597, and Edmund Pelham resided here.⁶¹ He was admitted of Gray's Inn in 1563, called to the bar 24th Nov., 1579, was autumn reader 1588, second Lent reader 1601, serjeant in the same year, knighted and made Lord Chief Baron of the the Exchequer in Ireland, and died 4th July, 1606. His son Herbert, who was of Michelham Priory, was admitted student of Gray's Inn 18th August, 1588, but does not seem to have been called to the bar. It was his only son Herbert who bore his father's arms in the Hastings muster roll of 1619. He was born in 1601, and went to Massachusetts in 1638; he was a magistrate there in 1645, and was first treasurer of Harvard College; he returned to England in 1649, and died 1673.⁶² It was the house of this branch of the Pelhams, the sketch of which, made by Mr. Thomas Ross, Jun., will be equally interesting in New England as to ourselves.

The street now called HILL Street was formerly known as the CORNHILL, and being near the western side of St. Clement's church-yard, was on the usual site of market places. When the town drainage caused excavations to be made, large quantities of ox and sheep bones were found, indicating that this also was the site of the town shambles, and what in the Chantry return is described as the *Butchery*. At the east corner of Hill street formerly stood one of those

⁶¹ He was committed to the Fleet by the Council, on 25th April, 1582, for "boldness and offence," in defending before the Council the disallowed claim of his kinsman, Herbert Pelham, to be exempted from serving the office of sheriff of Sussex, because he was then inhabit-

ing at Winchelsea, within the liberty of the Cinque Ports.—*Murdin's State Papers*, p. 371.

⁶² Records of Gray's Inn: *Cotton Mather*, and *Governor Bradford's Journal*.

houses, constructed largely of wood, for which Hastings was noted: it was known as Salmon's house.



Passing to the East of All Saints' parish, is the spot called ST. GEORGE'S, of which no record has yet been printed. We find, however, in the proceedings in chancery, temp. Elizabeth, in a bill filed 25th June, 1579, that Thomas Lane, of Hellingly, yeoman, died seized of one messuage named St. George's, and lands and tenements containing 60a., called St. George's Hill, in the port of Hastings, worth £20 a year, as well as Longlands and Ticklers in this town, and by his will, dated 12th April, 1562, entailed the whole, after the death of his wife, Alice, on his sons Richard, Thomas, and William, successively, and that James Hobson, who has already been mentioned in the subsidy of 1544, and as purchaser of the Cliffe Lands, was the Trustee. For these St. George's Hills and for Besbridge's, Mr. Rainolds, in 1656, paid 9s. a year. The land would seem to have decreased in quantity owing to the fall of the cliff into the sea.

Other old houses are standing in ALL SAINTS street, of which we also give engravings. The first is from a drawing by the late John G. Shorter, Esq. The second is of historical interest, since it was the residence of the mother of Admiral



IN ALL SAINTS' STREET.



UTTINGSG.

IN ALL SAINTS' STREET.

Sir Cloudesley Shovel. It has been assumed that this gallant man,

From humble, but from honest parents sprung,

was a native of Hastings, and the name of Shovell fields points to the existence of a family so called. The Admiral was, however, born at Cockthorpe, near Clay, in Norfolk.⁶³ The mother's house was last occupied by Susan Hobden; it was partly pulled down in 1838; and No. 117, All Saints street occupies the site. In a consolatory letter to the Admiral's widow, by Gilbert Crockatt, it is stated that his mother was still alive and enjoyed "no contemptible competency," which "being, by her son redeemed from some incumbrances, was by his natural affection continued entire to her." She resided here; and in De la Pryme's diary⁶⁴ we have the following notice of the son's visit to her here:—He was employed in turning tarpauling, and from thence getting acquainted with the sea, he grew up to what he now is. I heard a gentleman say, who was in the ship with him about six years ago, that as they were sailing over against the town of Hastings, in Sussex, Sir Cloudesley called out, "Pilot, put near; I have a little business on shore." So he put near, and Sir Cloudesley and this gentleman went to shore in a small boat, and having walked about half a mile Sir Cloudesley came to a little house. "Come," says he, "my business is here; I came on purpose to see the good woman of this house." Upon this they knocked at the door, and out came a poor old woman, upon which Sir Cloudesley kissed her, and then falling down on his knees, begged her blessing, and calling her mother (who had removed out of Yorkshire hither). He was mightily kind to her, and she to him, and after that he had made his visit, he left her ten guineas, and took his leave with tears in his eyes, and departed to his ship. And in a funeral poem it is said—

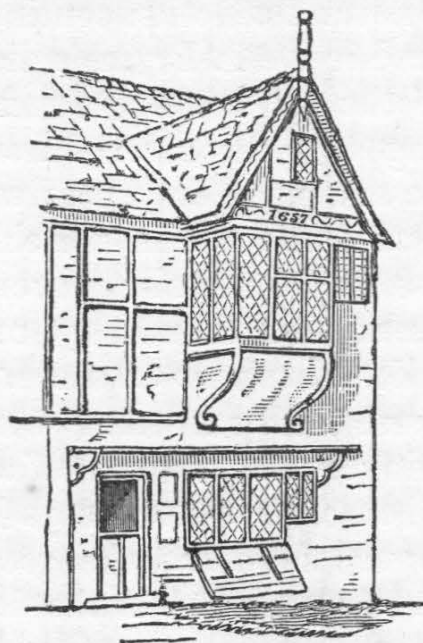
Such thy beginning, such thy glorious rise,
Unknown to the delusive baits of vice;
Foreign to what from foreigners we took,
The *chart* thy *tutor*, and the *sails* thy *book*;
Pitch, the *Pulvil*, perfum'd thy scented hair,
Tarpaulin the temptation for the fair.

⁶³ Notes and Queries, 1st series, xi., p. 184; xii., p. 134 and 395; Secret Memoirs of his Life, 1708.

⁶⁴ Quoted in Hunter's South Yorkshire, vol. i., p. 179.

The corporation books show that a person named Cloudesley occupied a house in All Saints Street in 1590; it is probable therefore that this was a relative of the mother, after whom, as Aikin states, the Admiral was named; and that the property in All Saints Street came to her, and was freed from mortgage by her son. Sir Cloudesley's daughter and coheir Elizabeth married Lord Romney.

After the loss of the pier and the decay of the haven, the houses westward of the west fort began to be erected; one of these which stood in GEORGE STREET, at first called SUBURB Street, was known as Mrs. Boadles' and bore the date of 1657.



In the corporation records it appears, that in 1674 the place for making and working ropes was from the west fort towards the Priory, under the Castle Cliffs; and in February 1657 it was ordered, under a fine of £20, that thenceforth no ships, barks, or other vessels should be built except beyond the west fort, under the Castle Cliffs, and the waste beach towards the Priory. In this spot the ship building continued till within the last few years.

Passing still further west, we come to GENSING, YIELDING, FILSHAM, and ST. MARY BULVERHITHE. To Fairlight, eastward, and to Pepsham, Bulverhithe and Bexhill, westward, the Hue and Cry used to be carried.

The manor of GENSING, as we have seen, has lands in St. Margaret, as it has also in St. Clement, St. Leonard, and Hollington. The first notice we have of it is in 1319, (13 Edw. II.) when John of Brittany, Earl of Richmond, died, seized of one fourth part of a knight's fee here.

It was subsequently held by a family bearing the same name, and had been Gilbert de Gensynges, and held by half a knight's fee. On 30th November, 1436, (15 Hen. VI.) the first court of John Godfrey was held, and at the court held 1st November, 1458, a distraint was made on the parson of the church or chapel of St. Leonard near Hasting.⁶⁵ In the reign of Edward IV., Henry Halle was Lord. In 1597, the name of Thomas Eversfield appears as owner of several tenements. On 4th October, 1604, the court of John Tilt was held, and on 10th December, 1613, Nicholas Eversfield held his first court, and in his descendants the manor still is.⁶⁶

The manor of YIELDING also extends into St. Clement. This manor was no doubt also held by a family of the name who held other property in the rape down to the restoration. Subsequently it was owned, together with the Grove in Hollington, by the Levets. John Levet⁶⁷ died in 1534, having enfeoffed Giles Fynes and others of this manor, for the benefit of his son,⁶⁸ and they held the court on 1st June, 1534: but on 11th September, 1548, his son John was seized.⁶⁹ He died, leaving his son Laurence under age, and the court was held on 30th May, 1556, by his guardian, Laurence Ashburnham, who married Eva or Joan, the widow of his father.⁷⁰ On coming of age, Laurence Levitt, on 16th June, 1565, levied a fine of this property, and on his death s. p., on 16th January, 1585, the estate came to his sister, Mary,⁷¹ who on 26th January, 1586, married Thomas Eversfield, Esq., of Uckfield; and their descendant is now the Lord.

⁶⁵ On the presentation in 1548 it is called the free chapel of St. Leonard, in the parish of Hollington.

⁶⁶ Ex. inf. W. B. Young, Esq., and John Phillips, Esq.

⁶⁷ Inq. p. m., 27 Hen. III.

⁶⁸ See ante, p. 81.

⁶⁹ Our thanks are due to Mr. Young, for the extracts from Court Rolls.

⁷⁰ She was daughter of Richard Adams, and sister and heiress of Stephen Adams, of Harrietsham, Kent.

⁷¹ Proc. in Chancery, temp. Eliz. E. c. 3.

The earliest notice of FILSHAM is in 1280, (8 Edw. I) when the manor was, with other possessions, of the honor of Richmond in the King's lands. John of Brittany, Earl of Richmond, granted to Sir Bertram Monboucher, Knight, and Johanna his wife, the manors of Hamerden⁷² and Filsham, and all his lands in Corley⁷³ and Crotleslyve,⁷⁴ in tail male by the service of a pair of golden spurs and foreign service; which grant was confirmed by the king's patent,⁷⁵ 18th July, 4 Edw. II. (1310); the witnesses were William de Echingham, John de Echingham, Henry de Wardedeu, John de St. Leger, Robert de Passelegh, Knt., Edward de Passelegh, John Filliol, John de Codyng, and many others. But on the death of the grantee it was seized into the king's hands, as the patent was contrary to the Statute, "Quia emptores terrarum" (18 Ewd. I.) Reginald, the son and heir, who was, in 1332, seventeen years old, was permitted to resume the property, and in 12th Rich. II. (1389), when Bertram his son, died, there were besides the manor 100^a of land, 200^a of pasture, 5^a of wood, 8^a of meadow, and £7 1s. 8d. rents of assize.⁷⁶ The estate remained in this family, and in (5 Henry V.) Bertram Monboucher held one moiety, and Isabella the wife of Robert Harbottle held the other: she was his heiress-at-law, and on his death s. p. in 1426, the whole estate came to her. She died the next year: and in 1462, Bertram Harbottle, her grand-son, died seized leaving Ralph his son and heir; who settled the Sussex property⁷⁷ by a conveyance to George Lord Fitzhugh and others as trustees in favor of his son Guichard or Wichard, when he married Johanna, daughter of Sir Henry Willoughby. In the inquisition taken 31st March, 1517, (8 Hen. VIII.), Guichard was found to have died in the September preceding, leaving George his son and heir, then aged 9 years,⁷⁸ and he died s. p. in 1528: when as, Leland states,⁷⁹ the Harbottle's descent ended in his sisters, the two

⁷² In Ticehurst.

⁷³ Or Morley, it is in Ewhurst, Brede, Sedlescombe, Beckley, Peasmarsch, and Northiam.

⁷⁴ In Guestling, Icklesham, Beckley, St. Michael Hastings, and Hollington.

⁷⁵ Rot. pat., part 1, m. 23.

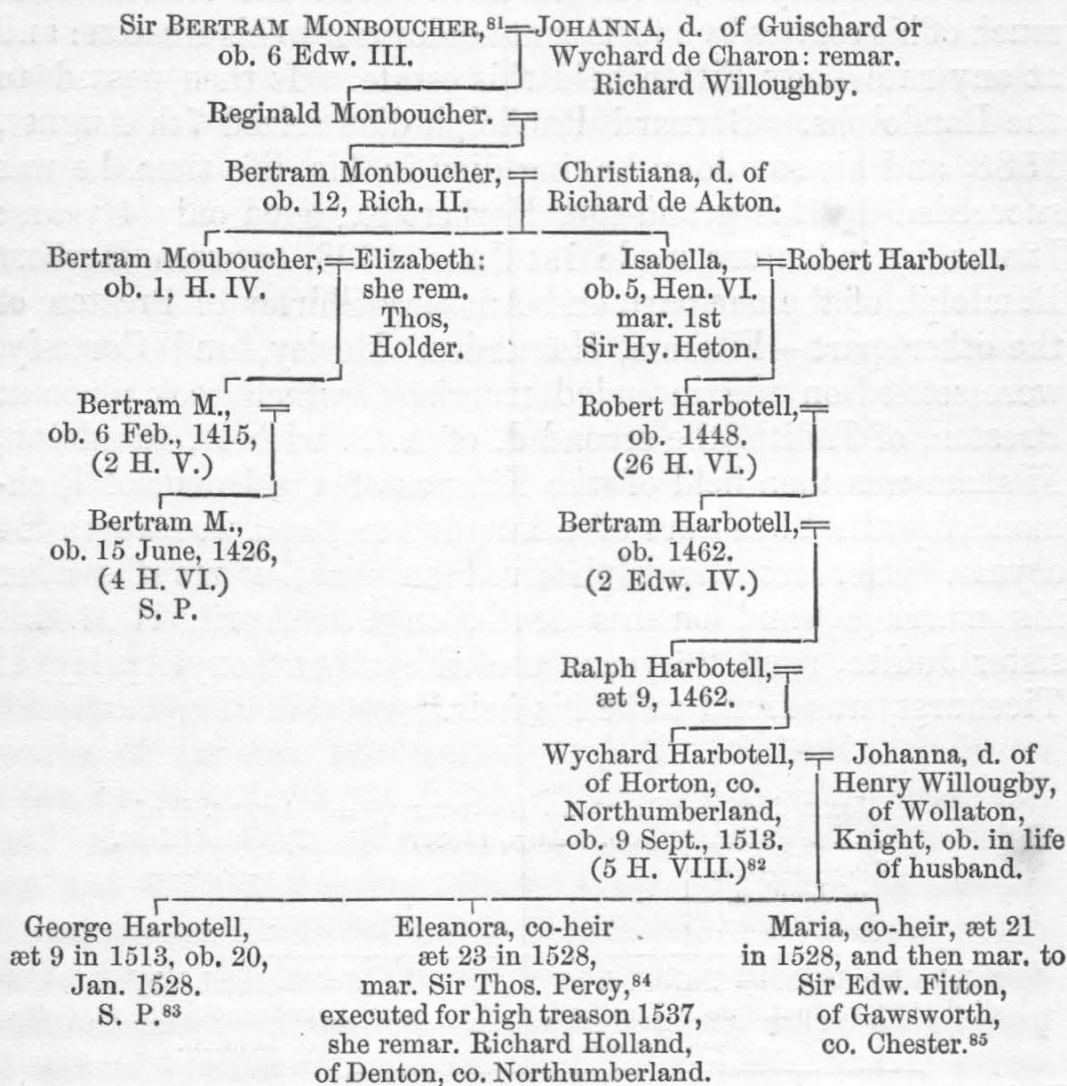
⁷⁶ Inq., p. m., No. 36.

⁷⁷ Inq. 6 Edw. III., No. 78; 8 Edw. III., No. 70; and Rot. Claus; 8 Edw. III., m. 3.

⁷⁸ Inq., p. m., 1517 and 1528.

⁷⁹ Leland's Iter, 113.

daughters of Guichard Harbottle; one of whom, Eleanor, married Sir Thos. Percy, who was executed for High Treason, 29 Hen. VIII., and the other, Maria, was married to Sir Edward Fitton, of Gawsworth, Cheshire.⁸⁰



The MONBOUCHER'S *arms* were—ar. 3 fusils in fesse gu. within a border sa. bezantée.

The HARBOTTLE'S were—or. 3 escallops gu.

During the times of the Monbouchers or Harbottles, an

⁸⁰ Ormerod's Cheshire, vol. iii., p. 292.

⁸¹ M.S.S. Col. arms *Vincent*, 61, p. 140, 195; *Notts*, 171; B 2, p. 298 b.

⁸² Inq. taken at Robertsbridge, 30th March, 1517, *Eschr. Records*.

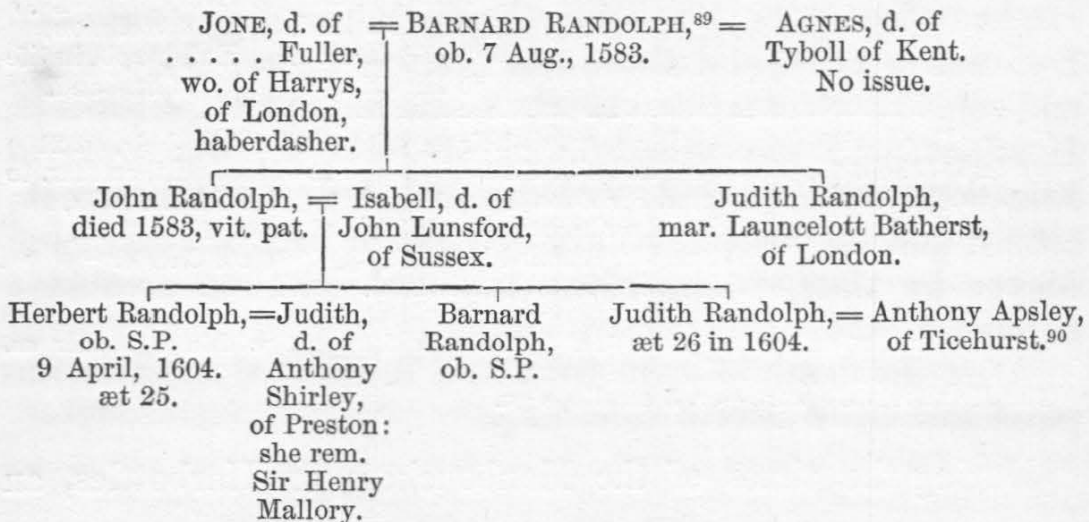
⁸³ Inq. taken at Hastings, 29 Oct., 1528, *Ib.*

⁸⁴ Their son was created Earl of Northumberland.

⁸⁵ For pedigree see Ormerod's Cheshire, iii., p. 292.

endowment for the College of Hastings was made out of this manor, for the rents issuing out of Filsham, and payable to the College, were granted⁸⁶ on 1st January, 1547, to Anthony Brown⁸⁷ and Elizabeth his wife.

Thomas Percy is stated to have saved the forfeiture of much of his estates by a feoffment made prior to his treason: and at any rate Lady Fitton held this estate. It then passed to the Randolphs. Barnard Randolph died seized 7th August, 1583, and his son John having died in his life time, he was succeeded by his grand-son, Herbert R., aged only 4 years: It was by indenture made 1st June, 1603, between Herbert Randolph of the one part, and Anthony Shirley of Preston, of the other part—Filsham, Hamerden, Morley, and Cortesly, were settled on the intended marriage, which took place at Preston, of Judith, the second d. of A. S. with H. Randolph, Filsham was then held of the King as of the Honor of Richmond, by the 29th part of a knight's fee, and was worth £4 a year. Herbert Randolph lived only a few months after his marriage, and on his death, on 9th April, 1604, his sister Judith, aged 26 years, the wife of Anthony Apsley, of Ticehurst, was found to be his heir.⁸⁸



⁸⁶ Rot. pat. 38, H. VIII., pt. 13.

⁸⁷ On 20th June, 1541, the rectories of St. Clement and All Saints had been granted to him.

⁸⁸ Inq. taken at East Grinstead, 28 Aug., 1604, 2 James, pt. 1, No. 71.

⁸⁹ Funeral certificate, I. 10, p. 44.

⁹⁰ In the subsidies of 1623 and 1628, Anthony Apsley was rated in the hundred of Shoyswell, i. e. Ticehurst parish for lands worth £5 a year.

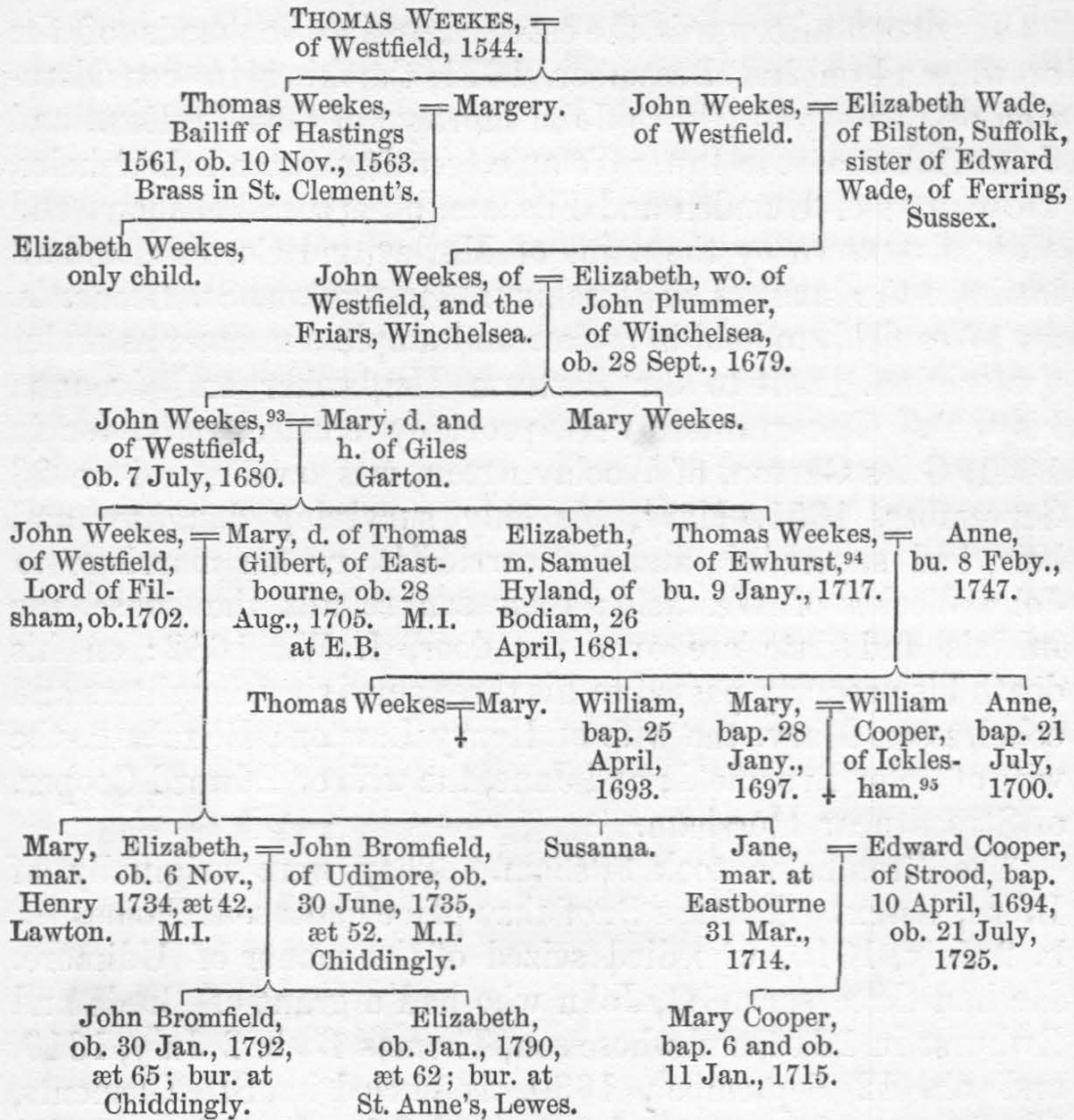
Very soon afterwards the estate was in the hands of the crown, and on 2nd December, 1614, the king in consideration of £120 granted⁹¹ to John Morley, of Glynde, Esq., and John Baker of the Inner Temple, gentleman, and their heirs, the manors of Hamden and Filsham, otherwise Felisham, and all lands known by the name of Morley and Cortesle, and all lands in the hamlets of Tisehurst, Hollington, St. Leonards, and Westfield, to hold in as free and ample a manner as under the original grant to Sir Bertram Monbocher and Johanna his wife. The grantees were probably trustees only, for in 1641, Giles Garton, of Woolavington, was owner, and on 23 September, 1651, Mary, his only surviving daughter and heir, had succeeded; and she carried it, on her marriage to John Weekes of Westfield; their son rebuilt the house, the initials and date are over the door, I. W., 1682: on his death his property passed to his three surviving daughters and coheiresses, Mary, the wife of Henry Lawton; Elizabeth, the wife of John Bromfield; and Jane, the wife of Edward Cooper, of Strood near Horsham.

The Bromfields took Filsham. They were originally of Ilford, Essex. Thomas B. of that place had a son Thomas B., b. 2 July, 1610, who died seized of the manor of Udimore. He had three sons, 1st, John who had a grant of Brede and Ewhurst in 1616, and whose son, Thomas B., b. 2 July, 1610, and ob. 12 September, 1690, is buried in St. Clements, Hastings, and was grand-father of John B., who married Elizabeth Weekes: 2nd, Robert; and 3rd, Sir Edward B., citizen and fishmonger, Sheriff of London in 1626, and Lord Mayor in 1637, whose eldest son was in 1660 created a baronet.⁹²

After the death of John Bromfield in 1792, this estate was purchased by Wastel Brisco, Esq.

⁹¹ Rot. pat. 12 James.

⁹² See also Aungier's Hist. of Isleworth.



The WEEKES bore the *arms* of WADE, of London and Bilston, Suffolk,⁹⁶ viz.,—az. on a saltier or. betw. four fleurs-de-lis or, five escallops az. *Crest*, a talbot passant ar.—(Seal among *Jeake's M.S.S.*)

The *arms* of BROMFIELD are—az., a lion passant or. *Crest*, a lion statant or. on a mount vert, wreathed or and az.

⁹³ Burrell M.S.S., 5679, p. 383. Visitation Sussex, 1634, c. 27, fol. 74 b, for WADE. In the subsidy of 1523 John Weekes was rated in Bexhill for £4 in goods: and in 1544 Thomas Weekes, Sen., and Jun., in the hundred of Gastrow (Udimore and Brede); in the subsidy of 1621 Thomas Weekes and John Weekes were rated in Baldslow (Westfield), and William Weekes in Netherfield hundred; and in the subsidy of 1628 John Weekes was rated for the

lands in Baldslow, and Richard Weekes for lands in Bexhill and Ninfield.

⁹⁴ Ewhurst registers.

⁹⁵ See ante, p. 82, for rating to subsidy of 1544. In the subsidy of 1621 William Cooper was rated for lands in Guestling hundred (Icklesham), and in 1628 William Cooper and John Cooper were also rated for lands there,

⁹⁶ Camden's, grant to William Wade, 8 Nov., 1604.

The district of **BULVERHITHE** is almost depopulated. *Bólver* or **BULVER** is one of the war titles of Odin: and it is the name also borne by one of the most famous of the Scandinavian Scalds, or warrior bards.

The prebendary of St. Mary, Bolewarheth (Bulverhide), which is a member of Hastings, formed part of the possessions of the Earls of Eu, which were in the hands of John, who presented Daniel, son of Richard Clerk, to this church⁹⁷ on 4th June, 1212. The church had been built by the Earls of Eu, and was originally Norman, with additions, as will be seen from the remains of a corbel and shaft, of Early English. The earliest mention of it in the local records is a return under the seal of the Bailiff, in 1372, of places of worship, and there it is called St. Mary the Virgin. The building has been ruins for centuries.

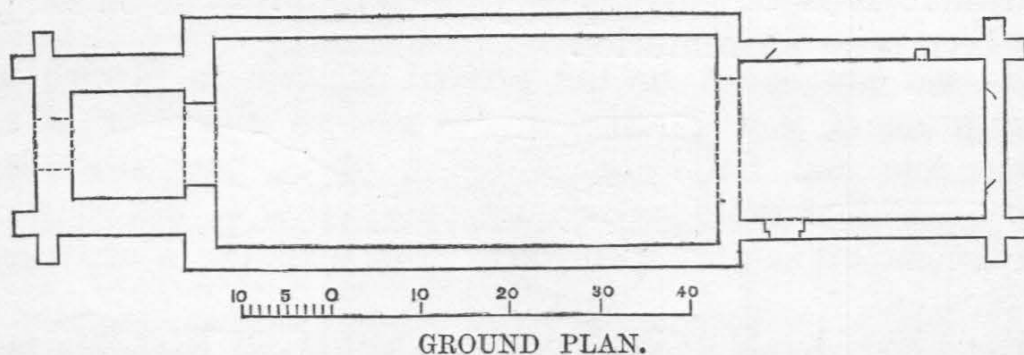


In an excavation made last year by Mr. T. Ross, with the permission of the Rev. S. B. Pigott, the ground plan could be traced, and by the heap of ruins, the tower seems to have stood longest, and to have fallen in one heap. The interior of the chancel was excavated to a depth of 6 feet, but nothing was found except some plain yellow paving tiles and the carved work. The tower, unlike the other portions of the Church, was faced with split flints of good workmanship. The groined roof of the belfrey had fallen almost entire, forming a mound 14 or 15 feet high; this was only partially excavated. The stone through which the bell rope passed was very much worn by the friction of the rope. The mouldings found among the débris appear to have belonged

⁹⁷ Rot. Lit. pat.

to the windows in the chancel. The piscina in the north wall was very plain. The door jam was flush with the walls and without ornamentation. Within the niche was the groove which received the wooden or stone shelf serving the purpose of a credence-table, the bason is gone, but the drain pipe conveying the water away was about 4 inches from the wall and appeared to have no outlet.. The position of the piscina in the north wall proves an early date, and is not of frequent occurrence in this country.

Length of the church within the walls, 101 ft.; length of nave, 57 ft. 8 in.; width of ditto, 23 ft. 6 in.; length of chancel, 25 ft.; width of ditto, 17 ft. 9 in.; the tower, 12 ft. 6 in. square.



The district is under the corporation. In the chamberlain's accounts 1652-3, the sum of 3s. 3d. was allowed to the grand jury for their drinking here; in 1656, Mr. John Eversfield paid to the corporation 5s. a year for lands at Bulverhide; and on 8th April, 1664, Thomas Ballard purchased of the corporation the public house, garden, and stable, subject to a free rent of 1s., payable at Michaelmas and Lady day; but the rent is not collected.

In early days this place was of more importance. In the 13th century the port of Bulverhithe is especially named: and in an assembly holden on 22 September, 1676, it was decreed that all "shallops and other outlandish vessels, which put into Bulverhide haven, or stretch a rope or line, and if any the maisters or men thereof doe come on shore wherever within the libertie of this towne, shall paie 12d. for everie vessell" to the pierwardens.