

John H. Brown

A
History,
ANTIQUARIAN & STATISTICAL,
OF
THE PARISH OF
GREAT TOTHAM,
IN THE COUNTY OF
ESSEX.

BY GEORGE W. JOHNSON,
F. L. S., Z. S. AND H. S.

TOTHAM:
PRINTED, FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY,
BY CHARLES CLARK.

COLGATE 6

C43

J64

H5

1831

AMERICAN & FOREIGN

THE PATENT

GREEN PAPER

IN THE

OFFICE

BY GEORGE J. COLLIER

N. Y. & N. J.

TO BE

PRINTED FOR THE

BY

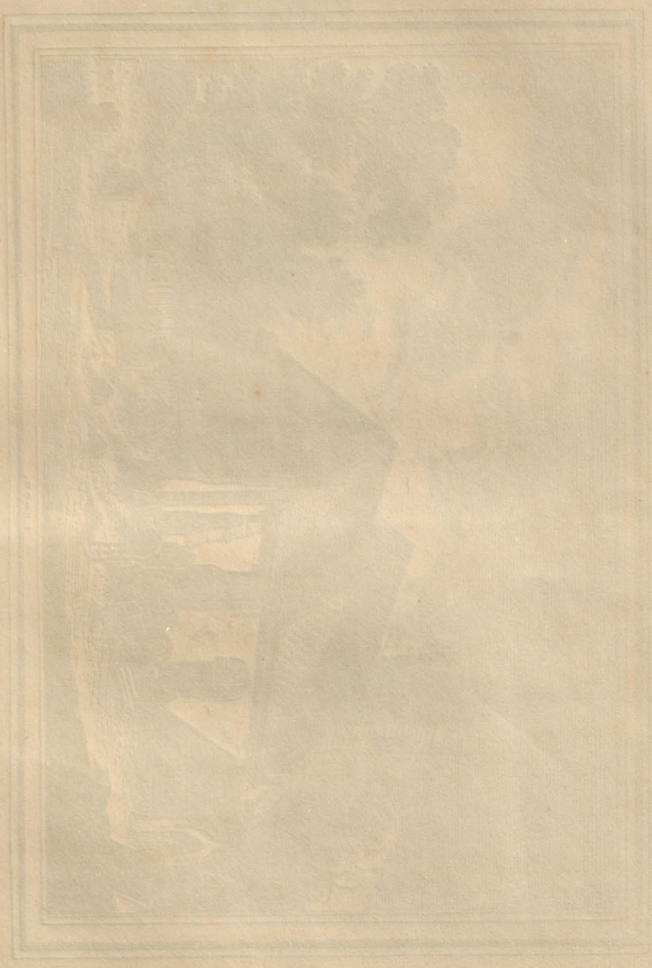
GREEN

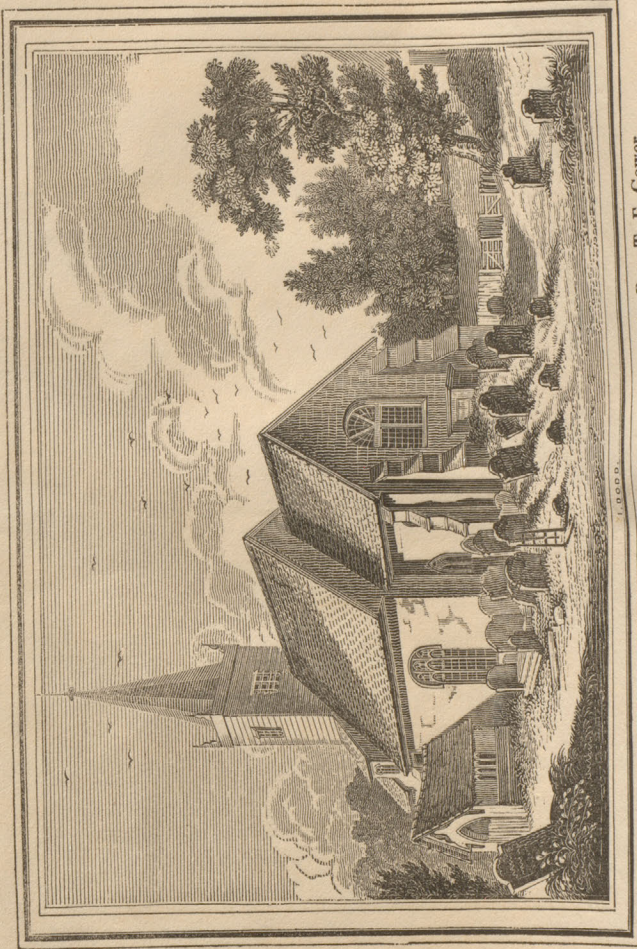
2
p

[over

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

View of the interior of the Church of the Holy Trinity, St. Petersburg.





From a Drawing by Miss Hayter, in the possession of the Rev. T. F. Gower.

GREAT TOTHAM CHURCH.

[c. c.]

A
History,
ANTIQUARIAN & STATISTICAL,
OF
THE PARISH OF
GREAT TOTHAM,
IN THE COUNTY OF
ESSEX.

BY GEORGE W. JOHNSON,
F. L. S., Z. S. AND H. S.

GREAT TOTHAM:
PRINTED, FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY,
BY CHARLES CLARK,

1831.

A

History

ANTHROPOLOGICAL & STATISTICAL

OF

THE PARISH OF

GREAT TOTHAM,

IN THE COUNTY OF

ESSEX.

BY GEORGE W. JOHNSON,

F. R. S., F. S. AND H. S.

GREAT TOTHAM:

PRINTED FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY,

BY CHARLES CLARK.

1831.

PREFACE,

EXPLANATORY & DEDICATORY.

TO THE REV. THOMAS FFOOTE GOWER,

RECTOR OF SNOREHAM AND CURATE OF

GREAT TOTHAM. *

MY DEAR SIR,

The following pages have been arranged, as you are aware, with the desire of having for myself and friends as much information as is extant respecting a Parish with which we have all for many years been happily connected. It is true that I had at one time a more extended purpose, but the experience I have gained in collecting materials for this History has taught me, the unwillingly-learnt lesson, that I have not leisure sufficient for Topographical Studies. This, then, shall be solely a tribute of friendship to friendship, and I shall have a sufficient recompense if it affords the village friends with whom I have mingled, freely and happily, for eighteen years, as much pleasure in the perusal as I have enjoyed during its collection.

I would not have my friends imagine that I claim the merit of entire originality; those who refer to Morant's History of Essex will find how very much I am indebted to him as a guide; but, on the other hand, I have to ask for the minor commendation of diligence,

* subsequently Rector of Great Totham

when I assure them that, in every instance, except where I quote from his work direct, I have referred to the original authorities.

To several of my friends I am much indebted, but you, my dear Sir, have been my chief living Bibliotheca of local knowledge.

I am sure you will agree with me that no one, ignorant of the fact, would believe that the typography of this work has been the unassisted labour of a private individual: Mr. Charles Clark has rendered this in a still more particular sense a local work by printing it with his own Press at our manorial Hall, and entirely at his own cost.

This produce of a Parish over which you have presided for so many years I dedicate, my dear Sir, to you. It should be wished with the Spaniards, if it could avail, that you may live a thousand years, but with more sincerity it is earnestly hoped that you may for many years preside over those parishioners, to whose happiness and welfare you have ever laboured to contribute, by him, my dear Sir, who is one of them, and

Your sincere and obliged friend,

G. W. JOHNSON.

Great Totham, Essex,
Sept. 1831.

HISTORY OF TOTHAM.

HISTORY OF TOTNAM.

THE HISTORY OF THE
PARISH OF GREAT TOTHAM.

THE Parish of GREAT TOTHAM is part of the Hundred of Thurstable. Its boundary parishes are Heybridge to the S., Little Totham to the S.-E., Beckingham to the E., Inworth to the N.-E., Great Braxted to the N., Little Braxted to the N.-W., Wickham Bishops to the W., and Langford to the S.-W. It lies about mid-way between Maldon and Witham, its nearest boundaries being nearly three miles distant from each of those towns, which are respectively about 38 miles from London.

Whence the name of this Parish was derived is uncertain. Morant derives it from *Tote*, a man's name, and *Ham*, the Saxon for a house or dwelling; but in the absence of all evidence we can only say it may be so. I am rather inclined to derive it from *Top*, the Saxon for summit, and *Ham*, as translated above; for though the Anglo-Saxons might not be aware that the highest ground in the County is in this Parish, yet from time immemorial, until within these few years, a Beacon existed upon this hill. The corruption from *Top* to *Tot* is easy, which requires no other illustration than that *Robert de Totham*, who lived in the time of Henry the 2nd, is often called by old writers *Robert de Topham*.

EXTENT.—No actual survey of the parish existing, I am unable to state accurately the number of Acres it contains. An approximation is afforded by the knowledge that Tithe is paid for 2,444 Acres. There are more than 200 Acres of Tithe-free Land in the Parish, and if, as is usual, 10 Acres are added to every 100 as a fair addition to Tenants measure, Wastes, Farm-yards &c., it cannot be very erroneous to consider the area of the Parish as 3,000 Acres.

INHABITANTS.—The male population appears to have been exactly equal in the time of Edward the Confessor

(A. D. 1042—1066) and at the period when the Domesday Book was compiled in the reign of William the Norman, A. D. 1086. At the first-mentioned time there were 10 Villains, 16 Borders, 12 Serfs, and 8 Freed-men; at the second period there were 9 Villains, 16 Borders, 13 Serfs, and 8 Freed-men.

Villains (Villani) are believed to have been tenants of a superior degree to Serfs, yet very servile, and their persons, as well as their property, at the disposal of the Lord upon whose estate they resided. They were either *regardant*, that is, annexed to the Soil; or in *gross*, that is, annexed to the person of the Lord; they all held small plots of Land, but the latter class were entirely at the disposal of their master: their slavery was called *pure Villainage*, and from them are descended our Copyhold Tenures.

Borders (Bordarii) derived their names from the *Bord*, or Cottage, each inhabited. They appear to have been drudges for the performance of Threshing, Cutting Wood, &c.*

Serfs (Servi) were much the same as Villains in Gross, but their occupation seems to have been more connected with household work.

Free Men (Liberi Homines) were either tenants of the King *in capite*, or freeholders of Land under some nobleman, owing him nothing but military service, from which even some purchased exemption, and were called *Novi Feoffati*. Many were knighted by the monarchs, but as this honour brought with it many expenses, those who had scanty fees compounded with the king to avoid it. "They were the only men of honour, faith, trust, and reputation in the kingdom;" † a character many are inclined still to confine to their congeners, the middle classes of later days. There were more Freemen in this County, with Suffolk and Norfolk, than in all England besides. ‡

* Howard, p. 204. † Brady's Glossary &c. ‡ Kelham's Domesday Book, p. 133.

In the year 1692 there were 109 persons resident in the Parish liable to the Poll tax, and as this included servants and children, the only exemptions were the paupers, which other documents prove in those days to have been very few. The document which affords the above information is in the Parish Books, and thus entitled:—

“ July the 18th, 1692.

A Rate made for the second quarterly payment of the Pool Tax. Granted to their Majesties by a late Act of Parliament for carrying on a vigorous War against Franse.”

Edmund Wyld, Esq. was rated “for half a Horse,” 10 shillings; Nathan Wright, Esq. and his Wife 22 shillings; and the Guardians of Mr. Aylett's estates 10 shillings, but all other persons, including servants and children, paid one shilling each.

In 1801 the Population amounted to 528.*

In 1821 it had increased to 580.

For the following Table of the annual increase of the Population from that year, inclusive, I am indebted to the Rev. T. F. Gower:—

YEARS.	BAPTISMS.			BURIALS.			MARRIAGES.
	M	F	T	M	F	T	
1821	12	15	27	7	11	18	6
1822	16	14	30	8	7	15	5
1823	17	11	28	8	3	11	5
1824	10	10	20	2	4	6	6
1825	16	21	37	4	13	17	3
1826	11	21	32	8	4	12	2
1827	11	14	25	7	8	15	1
1828	16	17	33	9	4	13	6
1829	11	10	21	10	9	19	4
1830	16	10	26	6	8	14	6
TOTAL	136	143	279	69	71	140	44

From the foregoing Table it appears there was at the termination of 1830 an excess of Births, when compared with the Deaths, of 139; these added to my knowledge

* Carlisle's Topographical Dictionary of England.

of the increase of settlers in the Parish, justifies an estimate of the number of its present inhabitants at full 730. The above Table does not afford correct data whereby to judge of the ratio at which population increases, for almost each year has seen fresh houses erected, and new settlers in the Parish.

Great Totham is an exception to the rule of Population which has been ascertained to apply to England, viz, that there are 209 males born for every 200 females; for the average of the ten years gives only $191\frac{1}{4}$ males to 200 females. The deaths in all England have been found to be 199 males to 200 females; in this parish from the above Table they appear to be scarcely more than $194\frac{3}{4}$ to 200. When the deaths which occur in our Navy and Army are taken into account, of which no returns are made in the official Records of Mortality, and the numbers in those Professions thereby incapable of entering into a settled life, it appears the amount of each sex resident in England at the same time whom circumstances permit to marry are as nearly as possible equal: a fact, in the absence of all reasoning, or authority, which subverts the Mahomedan morality of Polygamy.

SOIL—GEOLOGY.—The land situated upon the most elevated district of the Parish is very light, as is apparent from the following analysis of an average specimen of its soil:—

Stones, chiefly siliceous	27, 0	
Vegetable Fibres . . .	1, 5	28, 5
Soluble Matters, chiefly vegetable extract		3,
Carbonates of Lime and Magnesia . . .		18,
Oxide of Iron		4,
Animal and Vegetable Matters		1,
Alumina (Clay)		4, 5
Silica (Flint)		40,
Loss		1,
		<hr/>
		100

The soil of the lower district of the Parish is richer, and contains more Alumina; but, with the exception of a few small veins of Clay, the whole surface-soil rests upon Gravel, which has been found in places to reach a

depth of between 40 and 50 feet. In boring for water at the May-Pole, Public-house, which stands on the edge of the Parish adjoining Heybridge, about 30 feet of Gravel were succeeded by 200 feet of greyish Clay, with occasional mixtures of Siliceous Sand, at which depth a rock intervened which the Borers did not penetrate.

With such a porous substratum, and with a Soil so readily permitting evaporation, no Summer can be well too wet for the Agriculturists of this Parish.

Consisting, as is apparent, entirely of Diluvial deposits, it promises little that is new to the Geologist. Petrified Wood, Echini, much mutilated, and some few other testimonies of this mass of Gravel having been subject to movement by some mighty Waters occur in the Gravel of this Parish. I have found many Fossils of the Chalk Formation in the surface Soil, but these, doubtless, were imported from the coast of Kent in the Chalk fetched thence as a manure.

“From the few opportunities I have had of examining the Geology of Great Totham I conclude it is entirely composed of diluvial deposit. It is more than probable that it rests on the Plastic Clay formation, but of this I am not quite certain—it may be the London Clay; yet if it be allowed that these two divisions are but parts of one great Formation, of which I am convinced, this will be a matter of no consequence. When I was in the neighbourhood, I had neither the opportunity or the instruments by which I could determine the relative height of the elevation on which you stand; nor was it possible, owing to the thickness of the Diluvium around, to determine from the position of the Strata, whether that elevation was formed by a Fault, or the scooping out of the Valley which intervenes between the chief elevation of Great Totham and the opposite hills. The Diluvium itself is chiefly composed of rounded Pebbles and angular Flints belonging to the Chalk formation. The fossils of this deposit are chiefly Flint-casts of the

Inoceramus mytaloides, *Terrebratula plicata*, and the *Conulus albogalerus*; they are, however, comparatively scarce, if I can judge from the few opportunities that I have had of exploring it. There is, however, another species of Diluvium in Great Totham, which I may perhaps call the *Diluvian Clay*—it is a dry friable Clay, containing a few Pebbles, and remarkable for the abundance of *Gryphæa incurva* which are found in it. Excepting a solitary specimen of *Dicotyledonous Wood*, the *Gryphæa* was the only Fossil I found. This singular deposit abounds in almost all parts of Essex: it is not at all improbable the upper green Sand is in its immediate neighbourhood.”*

Observation enables me to confirm Mr. Higgins in his belief that the Substratum of Great Totham is Plastic Clay.

Judging from the position of the valleys which traverse this and neighbouring parishes, the progress of the Deluge waters appears to have been from the S.-W. towards its opposite point. This is confirmed by the fact that the chief masses of rounded Pebbles (Gravel) occur on the southern faces of the elevations, and appear to have been stopped in their progress by the elevations of Plastic Clay upon which they rest.

A very large surface of this Parish was formerly unenclosed, forming part of Tiptree Heath, a wild district, on which within the memory of man, but few houses occurred between Heybridge and Colchester, a distance of 15 miles. With an inclination to the East, and varied with stagnant waters, whose evaporation tendered constantly to reduce the temperature, this district became the provincial illustration of desolation, and “Cold Tiptree Heath” was considered as the abode of Disease and Wretchedness—Ague and Poverty. This opprobrium is now removed from Great Totham, the last enclosure Act in the 44th of the reign of George the 3rd

* From a communication by Mr. W. M. Higgins, F. G. S.

having reduced the waste land of the Parish to a very trifling remainder; whilst the enclosed land may be quoted in general as specimens of as good agricultural management as can be exhibited in this most agricultural of all the English districts, and consequently of the world.

ELEVATION.— I am unable to state the altitude of the Beacon Hill in this Parish, which the eye pronounces to be the greatest elevation in the County. I hoped to have obtained correct information on this point from the Ordnance Office, but a communication from thence informs me that the instrument used in 1799 by Colonel Mudge in triangulating this part of England was not accurate in obtaining vertical angles, consequently the altitude of the Beacon Hill is undetermined. The same authority, however, informs me that Laindon Hill is 620 feet above low water, and the Beacon Hill is apparently of rather superior altitude.

CLIMATE.—Winds from Easterly points are very frequent, consequently the air is dry and injurious to persons with weak Lungs. The most powerful winds are from the N.-W., as indicated by the usual inclination of the Trees to the contrary quarter.

I have no doubt that the average temperature of the high grounds of this Parish is full six degrees lower than that of the surrounding valleys. The greatest degree of cold I ever noticed in this Parish was in January 1820; it then reached 10 degrees below zero, and froze Rum and other spirits exposed to its influence. The annual fall of Rain is as small as in any part of England—not averaging 20 inches.

NATURAL PRODUCTIONS.— The Zoology of the Parish offers little subject for comment. Of Quadrupeds we have the usual species. The Badger is now, however, almost extinct, and the Fox of much rarer occurrence than it was half a century ago. Up to the year 1751, and even a few years later, as appears in the Parish Books, rewards were held out for the destruction

of this animal. Its ravages must have been considerable when the Parish was content to pay 6s. 8d. for every bitch Fox, and half that sum for a male of the same species.

Of Birds there are no peculiar frequenters. An Eagle was seen a few months since in one of the adjacent woods, which is not a solitary instance, since it is upon record that in Mr. Wilde's woods in this Parish one was killed in 1684 whose wings were 9 feet in expanse.* The Quail was formerly very frequently found in this and other parts of Essex, but its occurrence now is very rare.

In Entomology this Parish is richer; and perhaps there are few British Insects that are not to be found within its limits.

Of Plants I know of none particularly rare that occur. The Lesser Perriwinkle (*Vinca minor*) is the only one which is of less frequent occurrence in England. The Parish is, however, abounding in the usual floral beauties of our country, and will seldom suffer by comparison with any scenery—any combination of wood and water and varied surface, variously decked, that can elsewhere be found in our parent-land.

CHURCH.—This Parish is a discharged Vicarage, in the Archdeaconry of Colchester, Deanry of Thurstable, and Diocese of London. Its value in the King's Books is £10, but its actual value in 1654 was £50;† and at present the Vicarial Tithes produce £91 12 9 at the rate of ninepence per acre.

Newcourt gives as follows:—

ONERA HUIUS VICARIÆ.

Primitiæ £10. Decimæ £1. Proc. Episc. R. 4s 6d. V. 4s 6d
Pr. Archid. 6s 8d. Synodalia 2s 8d.

The Church, dedicated to St. Peter,‡ is a neat edifice of brick, whitened, and tiled; of one pace with the Chancel. It has a boarded Belfry, and shingled Spire. The

* Ray's Philosophical Letters, p. 269. † Landsdowne MSS in the British Museum. ‡ Newcourt's Repertorium.

two Bells are most discordant and inharmonious. One of them is very much cracked: it has, in old English characters, this inscription—

“SANCTE ANDREA ORA PRO NOBIS,”*

with “I. S.” the initials of the Caster, and the impression of a Coin, of whose inscription the letters “C. I.” only are distinguishable. The three Pellets in each quarter of the shield, and the inscription, induce me to consider it as a coin of Edward the 1st or Edward the 2nd, which are very difficult to be distinguished from each other. Coinages in those reigns (1272—1327) were made at York, the inscription being—EBORACI CIVT.

The other Bell, in similar characters, with several Crosses fleury, has the inscription—

“AVE GRACIA PLENA,”†

which is not only bad spelling, but false Latin. Morant says in his time (1768) there were three Bells, and there are evident signs in the Belfry of there having been that number.

The interior of the Church is simple: the hangings and decorations of the Communion Table, Desk, and Pulpit were the work and gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Gower, sister of the present Curate. This gentleman, the Rev. Thomas Ffoote Gower, of Brazennose College, Oxford, has been a very liberal benefactor of the Church: it was much improved and enlarged in 1826, chiefly at his expense.

Mrs. Frances Lee, of Maldon, gave the present Altar Piece, (the worship of the Magi,) which I am told came from a Chapel attached to Messing House. The previous Altar Piece is now boarded over, being a wretched representation of “the Last Supper,” by David Ogborne, formerly of Chelmsford. In it, besides the old false accompaniment of a glory, he gives our Saviour the additional distinction of one more than the usual number of fingers upon his left hand.

* Holy Andrew pray for us. † Hail, full of Grace.

The only Monumental Effigies in the Church are in the pavement of the Chancel, consisting of two female Figures of Brass, each surmounted by the family shield, and with the following inscription beneath:—

“Here lyeth ELIZABETH COKE, late wife of Richard Coke, Esquier, daughter of John Pilborough sometime one of the Barons of the Corte of Eschquer, and of Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Rooper, Esquier, and of Jane his wife, wch. Richard Coke and Elizabeth his wife had issue onely one Daugh. Elizabeth married to Thomas Wilde Esquier.

Viva memor mortis, moriens solatia sensit
En timulata jacet celo fructura per evum.

Que obiit 24 die Decembris anno Dni. 1606.”

In the church-yard there are no memorials worthy of notice here, except the two following. The first I copy because it really is a superior composition to those usually found in Country Church-yards; and the second because it affords the oportunity of appending a good impromptu.

“Beneath this humble Stone lies ESTHER HALE,
To all the little village dear;
Yon Bell exacted, as it told the tale,
From age—from infancy a tear.

When the last trump shall change this earthly scene,
And Souls their long-lost bodies join,
Thousands shall wish their lives below had been
Immaculate and pure as thine.”

“The following,” says Mr. Charles Clark, the typographer of these pages, “you may find in any Church-yard—I send it you that I may add a clever reply that Luttrell once wrote to it, when rambling in a Country Church-yard in which it attracted his attention.”

“Stop Reader here as you pass by,
As you are now so once was I;
As I am now so you must be,
Therefore prepare TO FOLLOW ME.”

To which Mr. Luttrell replied—

“To follow you I’m not content
Unless I knew which way you went!”

When the Church was first erected we have no documents to prove. It was in existence before the year 1222, when Sir Hugh de Nevyl died, for he gave this

Church "cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, et advocacionem ipsius Ecclesie" to the Nunnery of Clerkenwell in Middlesex.* At the time this gift of the Great or Rectorial Tithes was appropriated to the Nunnery by the Bishop of London a Vicarage was ordained.†

The Vicarage was augmented in 1719 by Bishop Robinson with £200, to which were added £200 of Queen Anne's Bounty, and an estate purchased with the amount.‡ This estate is in the Parish of Ingatestone.

For the following list of Vicars, and the Patrons who presented, I am indebted chiefly to Newcourt.

VICARS.

↪ The names in the smaller type are the Patrons.

Thomas de Stapleford, prid. Id. Aug. 1332.
Prioress and Nuns of Clerkenwell, who possessed it till 1539.

Reginald Smith.

Peter Chikyn, pr. 6 Kal. Feb. 1362, per res. Smith.

Roger Sabridgesword, cap. 3 Kal. Dec. 1370, per res. Chikyn.

John Barrēt, pr. 29 Jan. 1389, per mort. Rogeri.

John Whityng.

———— Matherby, 19 Jan. 1426, per res. Whityng.

———— Wyld, pr. 7 Oct. 1427, per res. Matherby.

Rob. Norton, pr. 10 Jan. 1429.

Tho. Pygeon, pr. 26 Mar. 1432, per res. Norton.

———— Lucas, pr. 15 July 1434, per res. Pygeon.

Hugo Harshand, pr. 5 Dec. 1435, per res. Lucas.

John Harton, pr. 27 Oct. 1437, per res. Harshand.

Tho. Spynkyll, pr. 22 Nov. 1441, per res. Harton.

Joh. Mansfeld, pr. 16 ——— 1451, per res. Spynkyll.

Wm. Gawnton, pr. 2 Jan. 1458, per res. Mansfeld.

Rob. Styward.

Joh. Robynson, pr. ult. Feb. 1480, per mort Styward.

* Regist. de Clerkenwell. Cotton MSS. in Brit. Museum. Faust B. ii. fol. 17 b. † Stokesley, 118. Newcourt's Repertorium, ii. 609.

‡ Morant's History of Essex, ii. 385.

———— Shercliffe, *alias* Smith, pr. 4 Jan. 1487, per mort Robynson.

Rog. Wolfe.

Maur. Hayes.

Jac. Robinson, 22 Aug. 1527, per mort Hayes.

Rob. Mery, A. M. 22 Feb. 1530, per res. Robinson.

Walt. Williams, pr. 11 Dec. 1531, per res. Mery.

Ant. Dogett, 19 Apl. 1532.

On the 9th of September 1539 the Nunnery of Clerkewell was suppressed, and the right of presentation seems to have devolved to the King; the Incumbent, however, remained for life, for the next presentation was on the death of Mr. Dogett. The patronage appears to have been sold to two joint impropiators.

Tho. Caly, cl. 11 Mar. 1540, per mort Dogett.

Sim. Coston & R. Johnson, pro hac vice.

Laur. Agar, cl. 7 Mar. 1559, per mort Caly.

J. Moon, gent. jure uxoris.

Geo. Clarke, A. M. 17 Feb. 1579, per mort Agar.

Wm. Laurence, gent.

Edwd. Goldingham, cl. 15 Sept. 1582.

Bishop of London, per laps.

Wm. Tunstall, cl. 15 Feb. 1583.

Nic. Clerk, gent.

Franc. Fryer, A. M. 8 Aug. 1587, per priv. Tunstall.

Rob. Middleton, gent.

Wm. Tunstall, A. M. 4 July 1598, per mort Fryer.

Tho. Aylett.

Tho. Serle, pr. 18 Dec. 1608, per res. Tunstall.

Tho. Aylett.

Amb. Westrope, cl. 29 Nov. 1616.

Tho. Aylett.

Ste. Brewer, cl. 8 Oct. 1663, per mort Westrope.

Wm. Gladwyn, G.

Joh. Gey, cl. 17 Oct. 1674, per cess. Brewer.

King Carl. 2nd, per laps.

———— Casse, A. M. 10 Feb. 1675.

M. Freshwater, V.

Hen. Blany, A. M. 1 Apl. 1680, per res. Casse.

Wm. Aylett, G.

Sam. Henderson, A. M. 19 Dec. 1682, per res. Blany.

Wm. Aylett, G.

*Ant. Dogett. Bish. of Durham died Nov. 27
1559 — viz. of this incumbents name is still noted
and whether any relation being indicated 1583.*

* Joh. Marinus, A. M. 15 Nov. 1690, per cess. Henderson
Edm. Percival, Ar.

Wm. Harris, B. A. 5 May 1711, per mort Marinus.
Queen Anne.

_____ Speed, per mort Harris.
Queen Anne.

Griffith Williams, 13 Mar. 1753, per mort Speed.
Susanna Foster, Widow.

† Joseph Venables, 5 Feb. 1765, per mort Williams.
Susanna Foster, Widow.

How Mr. Moon came possessed of the right of presentation through his wife in 1559 I am unable to determine, unless he married the heiress of William Morrice, or Edmund Isaack, to whom Edward VI, on the 8th of July 1550, granted the patronage.‡

The present Vicar, the Rev. George Townley^x, succeeded upon the resignation of the Rev. Joseph Venables, April 19th 1777. *Geo. Stepmey Townley*

During the Usurpation, the Parliament appointed a Committee to enquire into the conduct of the Clergymen of the several Parishes throughout England. Their mode of proceeding may be learned from the following title-page of a pamphlet in the British Museum, published in 1648:— “The Division of the County of SX into several Classes, together with the name of the Ministers & others fit to be of each Classes; certified by the standing Committee of that County, and approved of by the Committee of Lords and Commons appointed by ordinance of both Houses of Parliament for judging of Scandall, and approving the Classes in the several Counties of England.” In this classification the 14th contained Thurstable, Winstree, Witham, and Colchester; but in it Wickham only had a named minister, Mr. Enoch Gray, and two Elders, Josiah Walking and Robert Plum, Gents. Totham and the other parishes are without any specified clergymen.— In the Lansdowne

* Newcourt's Repertorium, ii, 610. † Morant's Essex, i, 385.

‡ Letts. Patent. Edward 6. anno 4.

x Rev. Geo. Stepmey Townley, son of the Rev. Jas. Townley, made head master of Merchant Taylors School in 1760. of whom, Mr Garrick had so high an opinion "that he submitted all his works to his correction. He was the author of "High Life below Stairs" an excellent farce commonly attributed to Garrick" see Clares life of Sam^l Bishop who succeeded Townley as Head Master in 1783.

MSS there is one which contains more information, evidently drawn up for the guidance of the Committee. Mr. Ellis ascribes to it the date of 1654. According to it the spiritual welfare of this district was in very bad guardianship. This parish and Little Totham were each without clergymen; whilst Mr. Gyll of Tolleshunt Major, and Mr. Gilbert of Tollesbury were "*scandalous*," and Mr. How of Goldhanger was "*unfit*." Mr. Gray of Wickham has no characteristic assigned.

The Rectory in the time of Henry VIII. was valued at £6 13 8d.* At present it produces to the impropiators, the executors of the late W. P. Honeywood Esq., about £650 annually; the Rectorial Tithe averaging five shillings and sixpence per acre.

CHURCH REGISTERS.—The oldest extant in England extend no further back I believe than the year 1538, at least the importance of such documents for the purpose of securing the rights of property first induced this remedy in that year. "That great politician, Thomas Cromwell, (afterwards Earl of Essex) being the King's Vicar General, he in the year 1538 ordered it to the clergy throughout England that in their respective parishes a public Register should be kept of Births, Marriages, Burials &c; and this order was continued in the several Injunctions of King Edward VI., Queen Elizabeth, and James I., particularly in that of Elizabeth, every minister at institution was, among other things, to subscribe to this protestation:—'I shall keep the Register Booke according to the Queen's majestie's injunction.'"[†]

The Registers of this parish commence with the year 1557, proceeding with various hiatus to the year 1669, from which period they continue without deficiency to the present time. The oldest Register Book is declared to be "A Transcript," and every folio is signed "Wil-

* Rolls in Augmentation Office. † Ralph Bigland's Observations on Parochial Registers, p. 2.

liam Tunstall," who from the preceding list appears as Vicar of this parish in 1583 and 1598.

The Vicarage House was rebuilt in 1757, chiefly at the expense of the Rev. Griffith Williams.* It has been greatly enlarged and improved, as well as the Garden about it (which is the only piece of Glebe with which the Vicarage is endowed) created, by the present Curate, the Rev. Thomas Ffoote Gower.

BENEFACTION.—Morant says that *John Goddeshalfe* gave a house and lands of about eight pounds a year, out of which ten shillings are paid for Lord's Rent, and twenty pence to the King, the remainder for reparation of the Church of this parish.† The land to which Morant alludes is situated in the parish of Little Braxted, and its rental continues to be appropriated as he states. The estate now consists of but *seventeen* acres, though at one time it was comprised of *thirty-five* acres,(¹) as appears from the following entry in the *Parish Books*, bearing date the 15th of January 1738-9:—

"Resolved at a Vestry,— That John Westwood, on behalf of the parish, shall on Wednesday the 17th instant, go to the Lord High Chancellor's Office at London to enquire whether, and for what charge, we may be admitted to take the benefit of a Commission, said to be at hand for Kelvedon School, to examine what is become of one half of our Church Lands since the year 1716, containing then thirty-five acres, as by an old Lease, but now about seventeen."

In the British Museum there is a Will, dated the 3rd of March, 1504, made by *Thomas Agoddishalfe* (not John Goddeshalfe) of Much Totham. It begins:—"Imprimis, I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, our Lady St. Mary, and all the saints in Heaven. My body to be buried in the Church-yard of Much Totham. I bequeath to Johan my wife all my moveable goods" &c.

* Church Register of that period. † History of Essex, i. 384.

&c. It then proceeds to devise to the Churchwardens of Much Totham all his land called "Goddyshalfes," situated in Little Braxted, to be infeoffed, to the intent that the Churchwardens should have for 100 years, two annual obits, by paying the Vicar for the celebration of Mass.

It appears to have been tried in the Court of Exchequer, whether the above estate did not lapse to the Crown by the Statute I. Edward 6th, c. 14, for Sir Roger Manwood, Chief Baron of that Court in Queen Mary's reign, determined that it did not. He determined, however, that the feoffment ceased at the end of 100 years.*

VESTRY ROOM.—No vestige remains of this building, but that one was erected exactly a Century ago is certain, from the following entry in the Parish Books:—

1731.

April 14 || Charges in building y^e Vestry Room, || £8 5 6

*Harleian MSS. Codex 4136. p. 96. This MS. bears the date of 1541.

HISTORY OF THE CHIEF PROPRIETORS AND ESTATES.

THE MANOR OF GREAT TOTHAM.

THE first notice that we have of this Parish is afforded by Domesday Book, which, as already stated, was composed in the year 1086. The following is a literal translation of its relating passages. The original contracted Latin is given in the Note.

“The Land of Hamo Dapifer. Hundred of Thurstable. Richard de Hamon holds Totham, which Turbert held for one Manor, and for 5 Hides in the time of King Edward. Then there were 10 Villains, now 9. There have always been 16 Borders. Then there were 12 Serfs, now 13. Then there were 4 Carucates in demesne (at the absolute disposal of the Lord,) now 3. There have always been 5 Carucates (Chief Tenants—Homines) Wood Pasterage for 100 Swine, 16 acres of Pasture, [and] 2 Salt Works. There have always been 20 neat Cattle, and 40 Swine. Then there were 5 Draught Horses, now 2. Then 100 Sheep, now 150. Always 40 Goats. Then and since it was valued at 100 shillings, now at £6. In the same 8 Freemen possess 1 Hide and a half, which Richard also holds. There have always been 2 Carucates and 3 acres of Pasture, value 20 shillings.”*

* Terr. Hamon Dapif.—Hund. de Turestapla.—Toteham tenet Ricard de Hamone qd. tennit Turbt. p. uno man. 7. p. 5. hid. t. r. e. Tc. 10 uill. m. 9. Sep. 16 bord. Tc. 12 serv. m. 13. Tc. 4 car. in dmio. m. 3. Sep. 5 car. hominu. Siln. 100 pore. 16 ac. pti. 2 Salina. Sep. 20 an. 7. 40 pore. Tc. 7 p. ual. 100 sol. m. 6 lib. In ead. tener. 8 libi. hoer. 1 hid. 7 dini. qd. tenet. ide Ricard. Sep. 2 car. 3 ac. pti. Val. 20 sol. †

Domesday Book, v. ii. p. 55 & 56.

† SOL, was a shilling equal in weight to rather more than three of ours. The Norman pound consisting of 20 of them, was worth 62 shillings of our money.—Ruding’s Coinage of Gt. Britain.

Of Turbert who was Lord of this district in the time of Edward the Confessor, I have been able to gain no information.

Hamo, who was similarly the superior here in 1086, received his second designation, '*Dapifer*,' from being Seneschal, Sewer, or Steward of the King's Household,* which office he filled in Normandy. He was descended from Duke Rollo of Normandy, and himself a Baron of that Dukedom by the title of Lord Astremerville.† He was the son of Haimon Dentatus, Earl of Corboil,‡ and nephew of William the Conqueror, whom he accompanied into England.§ *Hamo Dapifer* had the greatest part of fifteen Parishes in Essex, forming portions of the Hundreds of Barstable, Witham, Harlow, Dunmow, Winstree, Clavering, Hinckford, Dengie, Ongar, and Thurstable. The date of his death is unknown to me, but he died without issue, and the manor of Great Totham, with his other estates, came to his brother

Robert Fitz-Hamon, Lord of Cardiff, Tewksbury, and Gloucester. This Robert also obtained immense possessions in Wales, for being invited to assist in a rebellion against Prince Rhys ap Tewdwr, Robert turned his arms against that Prince and killed him in battle, and then divided the Country [Glamorganshire] among the twelve knights who assisted him; their tenure being Military Service at his Castle of Cardiff, and Civil Service in his Court of Justice there.¶ Robert was a great favourite of William Rufus, and is said, by William of Malmsbury, to have warned that monarch not to hunt in the New Forest on the day he met his death there. The same Chronicler says that he did so in consequence of a monk's dream,|| but such pretended revelation probably concealed a less doubtful knowledge of

* Houard Sur les Contumes Anglo-Normandes, i. p. 204. † Monasticon Anglicanum, i. p. 154. ‡ Gibson's Camden, p. 609. § Leeland's Itin. vi. p. 85, ed. 1744. ¶ Gibson's Camden's Britannia, p. 609. || Fleming's Chronicles, p. 26.

a conspiracy, of which Sir Walter Tyrell was the agent. Robert Fitz-Hamon died in 1107 from a wound he received in taking Falaize in Normandy: William of Malmsbury says the blow was upon his head, and produced mania. In the Charters which he granted he is termed—"Sir Robert Fitz-Hamon, Prince of Glamorgan, Earl of Corboile, Baron of Thorigny and Granville, Lord of Gloucester, Bristol, Tewksbury, and Cardiff, Conqueror of Wales, near kinsman to the King, and General of his Highnesses army in France."* He was buried in the Chapter House of Tewksbury Abbey, which he had greatly improved.† Mr. Bennett says the tomb is still remaining. By his wife, Sybil, daughter of Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, he had four daughters, who were his coheireses—Mabel, Hawise, Cicely, and Amice. Henry I. looked with a covetous eye upon the great possessions to which they were entitled, and resolved to deprive them, making as his excuse that they were unable to do the military service the tenures required. He, however, provided for them, making Hawise Abbess of Winchester—Cicely Abbess of Shaftesbury—and marrying Amice to the Earl of Brittany; whilst in 1109 he united Mabel (or Sybil) to his own bastard son Robert, whom he ennobled by the title of Consul and Earl of Gloucester. The portion he gave with her to the Earl was the Honor of Gloucester, a large estate in Normandy, and the entire estates of her uncle Hamo Dapifer,‡ of which, as we have seen, Totham was part. Peter Langtoft, out of Robert of Gloucester's Chronicle, gives the following account of the King wooing Mabel for his son:—

"This gentille damycelle seide nay, that it were not fittyngge to mary suche a man, that bare no name but only Robard. Then the Kyng seide, that his son schulde haue a name. And because her name was

* Bennett's History of Tewksbury, p. 73. †William of Malmsbury.

‡ Leland, vi. 85, ed. 1744.—William of Gloucester, 306.

Maboly le Fizhaym, his name schulde be Robert le Fizroy. Nay, quoth she, what name shall oure children bere betweene him and me? Par ma fey, seide the Kyng, then he shalle haue a name, his name shalbe, Robert Erle of Gloucester, and I geve hym the Erledome for thy sake, and to hym and to your bothe's heires. Then this damycelle thankede hym, and then the mariage was done. And this was the first Erle of Gloucester,"

He who thus became the owner of Totham, had for his mother, Nesta, daughter of Prince Rhys ap Twdwr, already mentioned. He was born about the year 1090. When, upon the death of his father, Henry I., Stephen seized the throne of England, Robert of Gloucester became one of his most strenuous adversaries, and supporter of the rights of his half-sister Matilda through every reverse of fortune that attended her. He was a star in a dark age—brave, virtuous, and learned. William of Malmsbury dedicated to him his Chronicle. I cannot sum up his character so well as is done by Lord Lyttleton:—

"He had no inconsiderable tincture of learning, and was the patron of all who excelled in it; qualities rare at all times in a nobleman of his high rank, but particularly in an age when knowledge and valour were thought incompatible, and not to be able to read was a mark of nobility. He was unquestionably the wisest man of those times; and his virtue was such that even those times could not corrupt it."*

He died of an ague on the 31st of October 1147, and was buried at Bristol in the choir of the Virgin Mary's Chapel in St. James's Priory, now St. James's Church. He left four sons and one daughter; the eldest of the former, William, succeeded him in his title and chief part of his estates, among them he inherited the manor of Great Totham. He died in 1173, and was buried in

* Lyttleton's Life of Henry II.

the Abbey of Keynsham in Somersetshire, of which Abbey he was the founder.* Previous to his death he gave this manor to

Sir Richard de Lucy, one of the most distinguished men of his times. He was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1156, and Chief Justice of England in 1162. In 1166, when Henry II. went to Normandy, Sir Richard was appointed Lieutenant of England, to hold the office during the monarch's absence, which continued until 1174. During his holding such high office it was no sinecure, for Robert, Earl of Leicester, rebelling against his sovereign, Sir Richard de Lucy after undertaking several expeditions against the Earl, finally met him between Fornham and Bury in Suffolk, and there took him prisoner, after destroying his army. This was in 1173.† In 1179 he resigned his office of Chief Justice, and becoming a Canon in the Abbey of Westwood or Lesnes in Kent, of which he was the founder, he died there the same year.‡ He had two sons, Geoffrey and Herbert, and two daughters, Rohais and Maud. Geoffrey the eldest died during his father's life, but left issue a son

Richard de Lucy.§ He was probably the next holder of this manor, but dying without issue, he was succeeded by his uncle

Herbert de Lucy, who also dying without offspring, his estates were divided between his two sisters. Of these

Maud de Lucy was given in marriage by King John in 1213 to

Richard de Rivers, *Redvers*, or *Ripariis*, who held this manor in her right.¶ She survived him, for upon her death in 1242,

Richard de Rivers, her grandson, then four years old, was found to be her heir.||

This minor requiring a guardian, the King sold the

* Bennett's Hist. of Tewksbury, p. 75. † Roger Hoveden's Chronicle. ‡ Fleming's Chronicles, p. 103. § Morant's Essex, i. 128. ¶ Ditto, i. 383 & ii. 115. Testa de Nevill, 33. || Inq. Henry III.

wardship to Philip Basset for 1,000 marks,* who doubtless took care amply to repay himself under the shelter of such a warrant for iniquity.

Of the Rivers family this manor was held by the Nevylls or Nevilles.

Hugh de Nevill held it in 1210 of the Honor of Gloucester, it then obtaining the service of 3 Knight's fees.† This Nevill was a retainer of King Richard I.'s, as we learn from Matthew Paris, and accompanied that monarch in 1190 on his crusade to Palestine. He there distinguished himself by destroying a Lion that attacked him.‡ This exploit was the subject of the old Leonine verse

Viribus Hugonis vires periere Leonis,

which Morant paraphrases thus:—

The strength of Hugh
A strong Lion slew.

It is emblazoned also in his seal, where an armed man is fighting with a Lion, with this motto—" *Sigillum Hugonis Nevil*.§ He was Chief Forester and Justice of the Forests of England, Treasurer to the King &c.¶ He died about the year 1222, and was buried in the Abbey of Waltham Holy Cross.|| His third son

John de Nevill held this manor in 1281 by the service of one Knight's fee.** He succeeded his father in the office of Justice of the King's Forests, in 1235, but being accused in 1244 of several neglects and trespasses, he was turned out of office, disgraced, and fined £2,000, which so sensibly affected him that he died in the following year, and was buried in Waltham Abbey.‡

In 1335 it was still held of the Honor of Gloucester, for in that year

* Charters & Patents. Henry III., anno. 27, m. 2. † Liber ruber.

‡ Fuller's Church History, p. 41. § Gibson's Camden, 358. ¶ Patents 4, 5, 10, & 15 of John, and 8 & 19 of Henry III. || Weever, Matthew Paris, & Monast. Angl. in Morant's Hist. of Essex, ii 371.

** Inquisitiones, Edward I. anno 10. † Matthew Paris, 652, 661 and 710.—Morant, ii. p. 371.

Sir Hugh Neville held this manor jointly with his wife *Ida of Elizabeth de Burgh*, Lady of Clare (a descendant of the Earl of Gloucester) by the service of one Knight's fee. He similarly held the same without any mention of his wife in 1330.* *Sir Hugh* died in 1335, and was succeeded by his son and heir

Sir John Nevill, who dying without issue, on the 25th of July 1358, left this manor, with several others, after his wife *Alice's* death, to *William de Bohun*, Earl of Northampton.

Lady Alice Nevill survived until 1394.† She was the last of the illustrious family whose name she bore who held lands in this Parish, which from their ownership acquired the name of *Totham Nevill*.

The family of the *Nevilles* is one of the oldest and most illustrious in England. It can trace its descent in this country from *Waltheof*, Earl of Northumberland, who died in 979. Eight branches of this family were ennobled as *Lord Neville of Raby*, Earl of Westmorland, Earl of Salisbury, Lord Oversley, Lord Latimer, Lord Montacute, Earl of Northumberland, and Lord Abergavenny. Nine *Nevilles* have been Knights and Companions of the Garter—3 Lord High Chancellors of England—1 Lord High President of the Council—1 Earl Marshall of England, and he was the first that had the honour granted him to bear and carry a gold staff as the badge of his office, all previous carrying one of wood—3 Lord High Admirals of England, one of them being also Lord Great Chamberlain of England and Captain of Calais—Many of them Guardians of the Marches, Lords Warden of the Cinque Ports, Constables of Dover Castle, and Stewards of the Duchy of Lancaster. Four of them have been Chief Foresters of England. From *Lady Cecil Neville*, (Duchess of York) who was daughter of *Ralph*, Lord *Neville of Raby*,

* Tenures in Essex. Edward 3, anno 7. Landsdowne MSS. No. 327 in the British Museum. † Inquisitiones Edward III. anno 9 32.

first Earl of Westmorland, descended 7 Kings of England—3 Queens of England—4 Princes of Wales—4 Kings of Scotland—2 Queens of Scotland—2 Queens of France—1 Queen of Spain—1 Queen of Bohemia, and an Elector Palatine of the Rhine.

The Nevilles of Billingshurn in right of birth quartered 52 honourable Coats upon their Arms.

On the death of Lady Neville in 1394, as already mentioned, this manor came to *Elleanor*, one of the two daughters and co-heiresses of William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton; for both that nobleman and his son died before Lady Neville.

Elleanor de Bohun brought this manor as her party to her husband

Thomas of Woodstock, sixth son of King Edward III. In right of his wife he was Earl of Essex and Northampton, and Constable of England. By creation in 1377 he became Earl of Buckingham, and in 1385 Duke of Gloucester. He was a man of strong mind and confirmed courage, and as such had no high opinion of his nephew King Richard II. Unfortunately for himself he was of too candid a disposition to conceal his opinion, and that unpopular monarch dreading the influence of his uncle over the people, and at the same time desirous of revenge, resolved upon his destruction, and basely entraped him. Fleming, in his Chronicle, from Richard Grafton, Froissart, and others, thus describes the transaction. The Duke was at his Castle of Pleshey in Essex, hither

“came the King with a competent number of men of armes, and a great companie of archers, riding into the base Court, his trumpets sounding before him. The Duke herewith came downe into the base Court hauing none other apparell upon him but his shirt (for it was early in the morning) and a cloke or mantell cast about his shoulders, and with humble reuerence said that his Grace was welcome, asking of the Lords how it chanced

they came so earlie, and sent him no word of their comming? The King herewith courteouslie requested him to go and make him readie, and appoint his horse to be saddled, for that he must needs ride with him a litle waie, and conferre with him on businesse. The Duke went up againe into his chamber to put upon him his clothes, and the King alighting from his horse, fell in talke with the Duchesse and hir ladies. The Earle of Huntingdon and diuerse other followed the Duke into the hall, and there staid for him, till he had put on his raiment. And within a while they came forth againe all together into the base Court, where the King was deliting with the Duchesse in pleasant talke, whom he willed now to returne to hir lodging againe, for he might staie no longer, and so tooke his horse againe, and the Duke likewise. But shortlie after that the King and all his companie were gone foorth of the gate of the base Court, he commanded the Earle Marshall to apprehend the Duke which incontinently was done."

It is needless to vituperate this cold-blooded transaction. The Duke was tried, and made a triumphant defence,* but innocence it was predetermined should not preserve him. He was privately conveyed to Calais, and secretly suffocated there.† This was in 1397. In the succeeding Parliament he was declared a traitor, and all his lands forfeited to the King,‡ but his widow, says Morant, up to the time of her death enjoyed them, as well as the perquisites of the office of High Constable of England.§ This, however, is not entirely correct, for I find that two years after his death (in the 22nd year of the Reign of Richard II.—1399) *John de Bourcher* held in this parish 3 Knight's fees "which Hugh de Nevyll did hold," for so I interpret the contracted Latin of the Record (et qu Hugo de Nevyll ten.)¶ In the following year, 1st of Henry IV., he held the ma-

*Parliam. Placit. pp. 378 379. †Ibid. v. ii. pp. 252 253. ‡Tyrell's History of England, iii. 961. §Inquisit. Henry IV. anno 1. ¶Tenures in Essex. Lansdowne MSS., No. 327.

nor of Great Totham, however, of the Earl of Stafford.*

Thomas of Woodstock had one son and three daughters, but death and devotion to religion having removed the others, the eldest daughter

Anne de Woodstock became possessed of the estates of her parents, and through her they were enjoyed by her three husbands. The first of these was Thomas, Earl of Stafford, who died without issue. In 1392 she married his brother Edmund, Earl of Stafford, who was killed at the battle of Shrewsbury in 1403. For her third husband she had William Bourchier, Earl of Eu, of whom she was likewise the survivor, he dying in 1420; whereas her death did not occur until 1438, or 1439. By her last husband she had two daughters—Eleanor married to the Duke of Norfolk, and Anne married first to the Earl of March, and then to the Duke of Exeter—and four sons:—Henry, Earl of Eu and Essex—William, Lord Fitz-warin—Thomas, Archbishop of Canterbury, and a Cardinal, and Sir John Bourcher, a Knight of the Garter. The *Sir John de Bourcher* who held this manor, as already mentioned, in 1399, was of another branch of the family. He was born in 1329; was one of the Lieutenants appointed by Edward III. to prosecute his right to the crown of France. In that country he spent a considerable part of his life, and acquired a high reputation, though Sir Robert Knolles, and some others of the officers with him, were charged with treason and peculation.† In 1385 he was appointed Governor of Flanders, and in the following year he was employed to fortify Calais. In all these employments he acquitted himself so much to the satisfaction of King Richard II., that he made him a Knight of the Garter. He sat as a Baron in the Parliament held in the 5th year of the above named monarch's reign, and in that of the 1st of Henry IV.‡

*Tenures in Essex. Landsdowne MSS. in British Museum, No. 327.

† Thomas of Walsingham's Chronicle. ‡ Dugdale's Baron.

He died on the 21st of May 1400, and was buried with his wife in Halstead Church, in this county. She was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Coggeshall. By her he had only one son,

Sir Bartholomew Bourcher, who was born in 1374. He had summons to Parliament from the 1st to the 10th of King Henry IV. He died on the 18th of May 1409, at which time he possessed this manor.* He was twice married; first to Margaret, widow of Sir John de Sutton, who died without issue, and secondly to *Idonea Lovey*, who had been twice a widow; her two previous husbands being Edmund de Brooksbarne and John Glevant.

Lady Idonea Bourcher, the above widow, had the whole of her husband's estates in dower. This manor she held of the King, as of the Honor of Bologne, by the service of half a Knight's fee, at the period of her death, the 12th of September 1410, as her husband did previously to his death.† *Sir Bartholomew and Lady Bourcher* had one daughter, who was their heir, *Elizabeth Bourcher*, who married, first

Sir Hugh Stafford, son of Hugh, Earl of Stafford, who through her held this manor in 1422 of the King as of the Honor of Bologne, by the service of half a Knight's fee.‡ He died in 1421. His widow married

Sir Lewis Robsart in 1429, and from her he possessed this manor by the same tenure.§ They were both summoned to Parliament by the title of Lord Bourcher.¶ *Sir Lewis* was a Knight of the Garter. He died in 1430.

The above husbands of *Lady Elizabeth Bourcher* were each of them distinguished warriors. When *Henry V.* was waging war in France in 1415, he was opposed in a narrow Pass near the town of Corby by some

* Inquis. Henry IV. anno 10. † Inquis. Henry IV. anno 11. Lansdowne MSS. in Brit. Museum. ‡ Inquis. Henry V. anno 9. Lansdowne MSS. § Ibid. Henry 6th, anno 8. ¶ Morant's Essex, ii 254.

French troops, "wherein," says Fleming, "Sir Hugh Stafford, Lord Bourghchier, cheefteine of a wing of the King under his Standard of Guien, and as then neerest to the enimic, though far inferior in number, yet with readie and valiant incounter received them."* The Chronicler then proceeds to state how "one John Bromley of Bromley in Staffordshire, a neere kinsman unto the Lord Bourghchier," distinguished himself in recovering the King's Standard; and gives a verbatim copy of the deed whereby his kinsman rewards him with a settlement of money and lands.

The other husband, Sir Lewis Robsart, has this assurance that he was a man of proven valour,—he was Standard-bearer to the victor of Agincourt. In 1419 I see the same monarch made him governor and captain of "Crulie" and "Cawdebecke" in Normandy.†

Lady Elizabeth Bourcher again held this manor upon the death of her last husband. At the time of her death on the 1st of July 1433, she held it of the Earl of Stafford.‡ Leaving no children by either of her husbands, her estates devolved to her nearest kinsman (a grandson of her paternal grandfather)

Henry Bourcher, Earl of Eu in Normandy, and Earl of Essex in England. He was born in 1404—made Viscount Bourcher in 1447—and a Knight of the Garter in 1452, for his military services. In 1454 he was appointed Lord Treasurer of England; and on the 30th of June 1461 he was advanced to the Earldom of Essex in right of his grandmother, eldest daughter (as we have seen) of Humfrey de Bohun, Earl of Essex, &c. He died on the 4th of April 1483, and was buried at Beleigh Abbey, near Maldon, as was his wife Isabel, sister of Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, and aunt consequently of King Edward IV. By her he had seven sons and one daughter. William, the eldest, died during

*Fleming's Chronicle, p. 551. †Ibid. p. 571 from Hall's Chron.

his father's life, but left by his second wife, Anne (sister and one of the co-heiresses of Richard Woodville, Earl Rivers) a daughter, Cecily, who married to John Devereux, Lord Ferrers of Chartley, and a son,

Henry Bourcher, who was much distinguished as a warrior, and as a man of powerful intellect. He attended Henry VII. and Henry VIII. in most of their expeditions. On the 13th of March 1540, when he was 77, he was killed by a fall from his horse. He was buried in Bourcher's Chapel, adjoining the Church of Little Easton. By his wife, Mary, one of the co-heirs of Sir William Say, to whom he was married in 1520, he left an only child,

Anne, who married in 1541 to Sir William Parr, Baron of Kendal, who in 1543 was created Earl of Essex, and in 1546 Marquis of Northampton. In her right he was possessed of this manor.* This was a most unhappy marriage, for she cohabited with a man named Hunt, or Huntley, by whom she had several children, who by Act of Parliament were declared illegitimate. In 1551 her marriage with the Marquis of Northampton was annulled by another Act, which also ratified the Marquis's marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Cobham, and legitimizing the offspring of this union. Two years subsequently, he was condemned as a traitor for espousing the interest of Lady Jane Grey. He was tried with the Duke of Northumberland and the Earl of Warwick before the Duke of Norfolk, Lord High Steward, on the 18th of August 1553. He pleaded that after the beginning of the tumults he took no part in any public office, but the facts were too completely proved against him, and he was found guilty.† He was the brother of Queen Catherine Parr, and by that or some other road to favour, he obtained the remission of the capital part of the sentence in the following December.‡

* Inquisitiones. Elizabeth, anno. 13. † Harleian MSS. Codex 284, p. 128. ‡ Stowe's Annals, 617.

He was restored in blood by Act of Parliament, but not to his honors, nor to his estates; this manor of Great Totham, however, and a few others, were granted to him for his maintenance.* He died without issue,† and this manor seems to have reverted to the Crown, for

William Beriff, Gent., at the time of his death, November the 21st 1594, held the manor of Great Totham, *alias* Totham Hall, with all its rights &c. of the Queen as of her manor of East Greenwich, by fealty only, in free Socage.‡ The Beriffs held several estates in Essex: their earliest and chief residence seems to have been a house called "Jacobs," in Brightlingsea, where they were as early as the year 1496.§ At the time of the decease of the above William Beriff, his son and heir,

William Beriff, was 48 years old.|| From him it came (I suppose by purchase) to

Thomas Wylde, Esq., who in the Parish Books is stiled of Heybridge. He held it at the time of his death, the 21st of June 1599.¶ He was succeeded by his son,

Thomas Wylde, who died on the 21st of June 1606.⊕ By his wife, Elizabeth Coke, whose mother, we have seen (p. 10) is buried in the Church chancel, he had

Edmund Wylde, who heired this manor. He either lived to a very advanced age, or a relative of the same name held the manor in July 1692.**

In 1728†† it was in the possession of

Thomas Martin, Esq., a London Banker, and how much earlier he had been in possession I cannot say. He died in 1764, and was succeeded by his son,

Joseph Martin, who sold this manor to

Filmer Honywood, Esq.

*Letters Patent, 5 & 6 of Philip and Mary. †Gibson's Camden's Britannia, 430. ‡Inquisit. 37 of Elizabeth. §Morant's History of Essex, ii. 450. ||Inquisit. 37 of Eliz. ¶Ibid. 44 Eliz. ⊕Ibid. 4th James 1st. **Papers in Parish Books. ††Ibid.

THE HONYWOOD FAMILY derives its name from a place called Henewood, otherwise Hunewood, situated in the Parish of Postling, and Hundred of Hene, in Kent. The family resided there soon after the invasion of William I.* *William de Honywood* resided there in the reign of Henry II. He had three sons—*Thomas*, *Richard*, and *John*; the first of whom was his heir. He had a son, *Edwin de Honywood*, who lived in the reigns of Henry III. and Edward I. He was a benefactor of Horton Priory, † near Postling, founded by Robert de Vere, Earl of Oxford. His wife was Amabilia, daughter and heir of Nicholas de Handlo, of an ancient and noble family in Kent, the capital seat of whose Barony was Bellerica, or Courtup Street in Allington, not far from Henewood, which by their means obtained the privilege of a market. This marriage brought several Lordships to the Honywood family. The issue of the marriage were *Ralph*, *Paine*, and *John*. The first and second were benefactors of Horton Priory, especially the latter, who gave the Monks lands—producing annually £9. *Ralph* died without issue, and was succeeded by *Paine*, who left a son, *Alan*, who dying in the reign of Richard II. left three sons, *William*, *Robert*, and *John*; the first of whom married Catherine de Casebourne, heiress of the ancient family who derived their name from Casebourne Castle, near Hythe, in Kent. By her he had *Alan*, whose son *Thomas de Honywood*, married first *Mary*, daughter of William Lovelace, Esq. of Bethersden in Kent, who died without issue. By his second wife he had five sons and two daughters—*John*, *Robert*, *Richard*, *Thomas*, *William*, *Alice* (married to — *Dalmington*) and *Joan*. He was one of the Cinque Ports Barons for Hythe in the Parliament that met at Westminster on the 20th of November 1459. He died in the reign of Edward IV. *John*, his eldest son, married first *Agnes*, daughter and heir of Henry Marten,

*Genealogy by Jo. Philipot. Her. †Register of Horton Priory.

Esq. of Graveny in Kent, who brought a very large estate to the Honywood family. The issue of this marriage was John,* Benneta (married to John Dryland) Isabel (to Christopher Lachford,) Mary (to Vincent Boys, and Edmund Gayde) and Jane (to —Ferrers.) The second wife of this John Honywood was a daughter of — Barnes, Esq. of Wye in Kent, by whom he had two daughters—Benneta (married to John Turney and Walter Moyle) Margaret (to Edward Hales) and *Robert*. From this son descended the Essex branch of the Honywood family, and therefore I shall now only proceed with the genealogy of his descendants. He married Mary, a daughter and co-heir of Robert Attwater (or Waters) of Royton, near Lenham, in Kent. She brought him a large fortune, and a progeny that required it, for she bore him 16 children, namely:—Robert, the eldest and heir—Anthony—Arthur—Walter Isaac—and two other sons unnoticed. The daughters were,—Catherine (married to William Flete and William Henmarsh)—Priscilla (to Sir Thomas Ingeham) Mary (to George Morton)—Anne (to Sir Chas. Hales) Grace (to Michael Heneage)—Elizabeth (to George Woodward)—Susan (to —Rancham)—Benneta (to Henry Crooke) and Dorothy (to William Crooke.) The mother of this numerous family died at Marks-hall, near Coggeshall, in Essex, on the 16th of May 1620, in the 93rd year of her age. This remarkable woman continued 44 years a widow, and saw 367 individuals lawfully descended from her, viz—16 children—114 grand children—228 great grand-children, and 9 great-great grand-children.† Fuller relates the following remarkable story of her:— Being much harassed with fears respecting her spiritual state, many clergymen visited her, and among them Mr. John Fox, the Historian of the Martyrs. His observations to her were consolatory,

* A descendant of this son becoming the possessor of the Essex Estates, I shall hereafter have to state the line of his descendants.

† Gibson's Camden's Britannia, p. 218.

and spoke of hope, but in vain; and in mental anguish she exclaimed "*I am as surely damned as this glass is broken;*" saying which, she dashed the tumbler she held in her hand upon the floor; but the glass rebounded unbroken, and is still preserved in the family. She derived no comfort from this omen, "till at last," continues Fuller, "God suddenly shot comfort like lightning into her soul, which, once entered, ever remained therein." These particulars she told to Dr. Thomas Morton, Bishop of Durham, who related them to Dr. Fuller.* She appears to have been an amiable, philanthropic woman. In the days of persecution during the reign of Catholic Mary, she visited and relieved the imprisoned Protestants; and her enthusiasm carried her so far as to induce her to witness the burning of Mr. Bradford in West Smithfield, though the crowd was so extreme that her shoes were trodden off, and she walked thence barefoot to St. Martins-le-Grand, before she could obtain another pair. Her husband died in 1576, and was buried in Lenham church. His eldest son, *Robert*, succeeded him in his estates, and having purchased Mark's Hall in 1605, he came to reside there. He was twice married, but as it was through the issue of the first marriage that the Great Totham estate came to the family, I shall confine myself to that. His first wife was Dorothy, daughter of Dr. John Croke, by whom he had one son, *Robert*, to whom he gave the Kentish estate. He was knighted on the 7th of July 1625. His wife was a daughter of Sir Martin Barnham of Hollingborne, in Kent, and by her he had *twenty* children! His eldest son, who is stated to have been knighted before his father, namely on the 15th of June 1625, was also named *Robert*. He spent many years in the military service of the Palatinate, with the rank of Colonel, and being devotedly attached to the interests of Frederick, King of Bohemia, he sacrificed much of

* Fuller's Worthies of Kent, p. 86.

his fortune in his service. In the war between Charles I. and the Parliament, he sided with the latter; and by the interest of his half-brother, Sir Thomas Honywood, he was elected a Councillor of State about the 16th of May 1659. In the retirement of his later days, he translated from the Italian the "History of Baptista Nani," a Venetian of patrician birth; which translation was published at London in folio, in 1673. He married Frances, daughter of the elder Sir Henry Vane, Treasurer of the Household, and a Privy Councillor of Charles I. She bore him 16 children. *Charles Ludovic*, the eldest surviving son of these, had two sons, the eldest of which, *Robert*, upon the extinction of the Essex branch of the family, by the death of John la Motte Honywood, in 1693, succeeded to the estates in this County. This Robert Honywood was a deputy lieutenant of Essex, Colonel of a Regiment of Infantry, and Member for the County in the first and second Parliaments of George I. He died in January 1735. By his wife Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Sandford, Bart. he had Robert, who died young—*Richard*—Charles, who died in 1717—*John*—*Philip*—and Mary. Richard succeeded his father, but died in 1755, and his sons and the issue of the eldest dying, the next heir was his brother, Philip Honywood, last mentioned. He was in the Army, and distinguished himself at the Battle of Dettingen, where he was so severely wounded in the head, as to be obliged to guard the fracture constantly with a silver plate. He was again seriously wounded in 1746, when fighting against the Scottish Rebels at Clifton in Lancashire. At the time of his death, in his 75th year, February the 20th 1785, he was a Lieutenant-General, Governor of Kingston-upon-Hull, Colonel of the 3rd Dragoon Guards, and had been 31 years Member of Parliament for Appleby. Being without surviving issue,* he was succeeded by *Mr. Filmer*

* His only child, Philip, was an Ensign in the 1st Foot Guards. He died February 3rd 1779, aged 19.

Honywood, whose genealogy I will now proceed to detail.

John Honywood, the account of whose descendants was promised at p. 32, had a son and heir named also John, who was a Baron of the Cinque-Port of Hythe in the Parliament of the 26th of Elizabeth. By his wife, Mildred, daughter of Sir John Hales, a Baron of the Exchequer, he had three sons and four daughters. Thomas, the eldest, married Margaret, daughter of William Bedingfield, Esq. of Bellhaven in Kent, but having no male issue, he was succeeded by his brother John; he was married twice, but it was only by his second wife that he had male issue. She was Joane, daughter of — Perrey, Esq. of Chatham in Kent, and became the mother of one son, Thomas, and four daughters. This son was knighted. He married Jane, daughter of Edward Hales, Esq. of Tenterden in Kent, and had by her six sons and three daughters. His eldest son, John, was also knighted. He had two wives, but issue only by Mary, daughter of Thomas Godfry, Esq. of Lyd in Kent, who bore him three sons and three daughters. The eldest son was created a Baronet in 1660; he died in 1670, having issue by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Maynard, two sons and one daughter. Sir William, his eldest son, married Anna Christiana, daughter of Richard Newman, Esq. by whom he had two sons and four daughters. William, the eldest, died during his father's lifetime; leaving issue by his wife Frances, daughter of William Raleigh, Esq. three daughters and one son, John, who succeeded to the Baronetcy in 1748, upon the death of his grandfather. He died in 1781, aged 71. His first wife was Annabella, daughter of William Goodenough, Esq. and she dying in 1739, he married, in 1742, Dorothy, daughter of Sir Edward Filmer, Bart. and by her had issue *Filmer*, born in 1744, who succeeded to the Essex estates, as already mentioned—and John, born in 1745.

Filmer Honeywood was in Parliament the representative of Kent, with the exception of one Parliament, from about 1784 to 1806. He died unmarried June the 2nd 1809.* General Honeywood having closely entailed the property, it descended to

William Honeywood, a descendant from one of the younger brothers of the Robert Honeywood who succeeded to the Essex estates upon the death of John la Motte Honeywood (see p. 34.) This William Honeywood was in the Army, and in active service during the first American war. He retired upon the conclusion of the peace in 1783. His wife was Mary, third daughter of the Rev. Ralph Brackman; she bore him fourteen children, seven of which survived him. He was the representative of the County of Kent in two Parliaments. His death occurred on the 9th of February 1818, in his 59th year.† He was succeeded by his eldest son,

William Philip Honeywood, who in 1821 married a daughter of Charles Hanbury, Esq. of Halstead Essex, of the Firm of "Sparrow, Hanbury, & Co.," Bankers. The surviving issue of this marriage is three sons,—*William*, the eldest and heir—Robert—and —, and one daughter. This Mr. Honeywood now (in the language of Scripture) "sleeps with his fathers," having died at his seat, Marks Hall, near Coggeshall, on the 22nd of April 1831, in the 42nd year of his age. He was interred in the family Mausoleum at Marks Hall Church. He was educated at the University of Cambridge, where he was entered a Fellow-commoner of Jesus College, and regularly proceeded to the degree of M. A. Like many different members of his family, (as we have seen) he had the honour of sitting as one of the Senatorial representatives of the County of Kent. He was first elected in 1818, and retained his seat till the demise of his late Majesty, George IV., when the precarious state of his health demanded a retirement

* Epitaph in Marks Hall Church. † Ibid.

from the fatigues of public life. He was a magistrate, and Deputy-Lieutenant, for the Counties of Essex and Kent, and Provincial Grand Master of Masons for the County of Essex. Two of his brothers, Edward and Philip, and one sister, Mrs. Horatio Vachell, survive him; the rest of the family of fourteen, mentioned above, I believe, are dead. The Marks Hall, Totham, and other estates, are now in trust for the benefit of the family.

The house belonging to the capital manor, Great Totham Hall, is situated a few hundred yards to the North of the Church. In its early days it was probably a residence fitted for a family of consequence. It was surrounded by a moat, which is yet remaining on three of its sides and partly on the fourth. The bridgeway was on the western side. The olden form of the mansion can no longer be recognized, it having been modernised in 1825.—Mr. Martin was the last Lord of the manor who resided at it.

A farm called "The Parsonage" continued in this Parish until 1823, when it was incorporated with the Hall farm and with "Sawns." It was apparently the Rectorial Glebe. The house stood by the side of the western end of a bridle-way which leads from the Church to Broad-street Green road.

THE MANOR OF "GIBBECKRAKES," MODERNISED "GIBCRACKS."

This is a manor farm. "It was taken from the other capital Manor," says Morant, "but *when*, we do not exactly know: only we may guess by the following Record:— On, or about the year 1226, *Gilbert de Clare*, Earl of Gloucester, purchased of Sir John de Rivers, 3 Knight's Fees which Hugh de Nevyl held under him; and *this* unquestionably was one of those Knight's fees."*

* Morant's History of Essex, i. p. 384.

That this may be one of the Knight's fees so purchased and held I am not prepared to deny, but that *Roger de Mortimer*, Earl of March, held these Knight's fees in 1398, as Morant proceeds to state, I must consider to be erroneous, for the very authority he quotes (Inquisit. Richard II. Anno 22) I have given in a former page of this work; it states them to have been then held by John de Bourcher.

Another opinion may be entertained, namely, that this was alienated from the capital manor by Sir Bartholemew Bourcher between the years 1400 and 1409, for his father, at the time of his death in the first named year, held 3 Knight's fees in this Parish; but Sir Bartholemew when he died in the year last mentioned, held but 1 Knight's fee. If this is correct, he probably alienated it to

Sir William Marney, who died in 1414, at which time he held a manor called "Gippecrake," in Great and Little Totham, and Hebregge, [Heybridge] of the Bishop of London.

This gentleman was High Sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1402. By his wife, Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Richard Sergeaulx, he had one daughter, Anne, and three sons.

Sir Thomas Marney was his heir, and held this manor.* He died in 1417, leaving an only daughter, who died soon after, unmarried: her elder uncle, *Sir William Marney*, being also dead, the third brother,

Sir John Marney, succeeded to the estates. Dying in 1463,† his son,

Henry, afterwards *Lord Marney*, inherited this manor along with the other family estates. He held "Gippecrake's" of Henry, Earl of Essex, as of his manor of Totham Hall, by Fealty and Rent of 9s. 4d.‡ This

* Inquisition, Henry 5th, anno 2. † Ibid. Edward 4th, anno 2.

‡ Ibid. Henry 8th, anno 15.

Lord Marney was both a politician and a warrior. He was Privy Councillor to King Henry VII., and to his son, a Knight of the Garter, and Captain of the Guard. He attended the latter monarch in his war with France. On the 4th of February 1522, he was made Keeper of the Privy Seal, having previously been Vice-Chamberlain,* and on the 9th of the succeeding April he was raised to the Peerage. He died on the 24th of May 1523, and was buried in the chancel of Layer Marney Church, in which there is a very beautiful shrine to his memory. By his first wife, Thomasine, daughter of Sir John Arundel, he had two sons and one daughter; and by his second wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Nicholas Wifield, Lord Mayor of London in 1450, he had one daughter. He was succeeded in this manor by his eldest son,

John, Lord Marney, who held it at the time of his death, April 27th 1525.† He was twice married, but having no family by his second wife, his two daughters, the issue of his first marriage, were his co-heirs. His first wife was Christian, daughter of Sir John Newborough. His eldest daughter,

Catherine, married first George Ratcliff, and secondly Thomas, Lord Poynings. His second daughter,

Elizabeth, married Lord Thomas Howard, son of Thomas, Duke of Norfolk, created Lord Howard of Bindon.‡ These co-heirs of John, Lord Marney, sold this manor, and others left to them by their father, to

Sir Brian Tuke, a man of considerable eminence in that age. His literary attainments were considerable. He wrote Notes upon Chaucer, and a Chronicle controverting Polydore Virgil. He was appointed French Secretary to the King in 1522, and went in that capacity in 1529 to France with Bishop Tunstall to treat for Peace. He was also Treasurer of the King's Chamber,

* Baker's Chronicle, p. 289. † Inquisition, Henry 8th, anno 17.

‡ Morant's History of Essex, i. p. 406.

and Clerk of the Parliaments. He was Sheriff of this County in 1533.* He died on the 26th of October 1545, leaving two surviving sons, and three daughters; of these,

Charles Tuke, Esq., being his heir, held this manor at the time of his death, the 29th of March 1547.† Dying without issue, he was succeeded in the estates by his brother,

George Tuke, Esq., then in his 23rd year. By his wife, Margaret, daughter of William Morrice, Esq., of Chipping Ongar, he had three sons—Brian—Thomas—and Peter. My information from this period is defective. I presume that *Brian Tuke* succeeded to this manor upon the death of his father in 1573. He married a Pennant, but whether he had any issue I cannot determine. At all events, about this period the manor was sold to *Thomas Wylde, Esq.*, who held it in 1599, and it had previously been in the possession of *William Beriff*;‡ since then it has accompanied the capital manor in its changes of ownership, as already mentioned.

In 1478, Joan, the wife of Sir John Mervye, and previously the widow of Robert Gifford, and of ——— Barrantyne, died possessed of the manor of “Gibcrake” in Essex,‡ but whether this was the manor so named in Great Totham, or in Purleigh, I cannot determine.

The first mention we have of the name of “Gibbercrakes” is in the *Inquisitio post mortem* of 1414. Whence the name was derived I am unable to surmise. It is remarkable that “Gibe” and “Crake” are each derivatives from Saxon words indicative of contemptuous pride. I need quote no authority better than Bigland that places anciently gave names to persons, and not the contrary;§ and in testimony that this holds good as relating to this manor, mention is made of a

* Morant's History of Essex, i. 117. † Inquisit. 1, Edward 4th.
 ‡ Harleian MSS. Codex 6684 & 6685. This BERIFFE, the same authority states, was once a resident in Oxfordshire. § Ralph Bigland's Observations on Parochial Registers, p. 3.

Robert *de Gybbe*crake in a Deed as ancient as the reign of Richard I. or John.*

The house belonging to this manor farm is about half a mile from Great Totham church, on the left of the road from it to Little Totham church.

FAVELLS, FREVILLS, OR COBBIS.

In 1353 *Thomas Fabell* died possessed of lands in Great Totham, &c; and had for his heir *John Fabell*, his son.†

Hugh de Naylinghurst, returned in 1433 by the Commissioners as one of the gentry of the County of Essex,‡ died on the 24th of June 1493,§ possessed, among other estates, of a tenement called "Favells," alias "Cobbis," held of the manor of Totham.

Clement, his son succeeded him, and died on the 20th of December 1499, aged 37.¶ His son,

James, succeeded him, and had three sons—*Ralph, Edward*—and *Richard*. The second of these was a lunatic, and held in 1551 a manor called "Frevills," lying in Great Totham, with lands and tenements in the two Tothams, Goldhanger, Tollesbury, Tolleshunt Darcy, and Tolleshunt Major. ||

By what name this manor or estate is at present known I cannot determine: no such name is now recognized in the Parish. I am not at all certain that the detached records I have united in the above statement all relate to the same estate; but we must be content with probabilities, since our information is so imperfect. It has probably been incorporated, by division, among the chief farms of the Parish, for that it was of considerable extent we have a detailing record. The lands and tenements of *Thomas Fabell* in the two Tothams and Heybridge contained 1 messuage, 440 acres of arable, 20 acres of meadow, 30 acres of pasture, and 28 acres of wood.**

* Morant's Essex, i. 384. † Inquisition. 27 Edw. 3. ‡ Fuller's Worthies, 338. § Inquisition. 8 Henry 7th. ¶ Ibid. 2 Henry 8th. || Ibid. 5 Edw. 6th. ** Ibid. 27 Edw. 3rd.

SAWNS, OR SAWINS,—MODERNISED SAINS.

One of the *Malcolms*, King of Scotland and Earl of Huntingdon, held this estate. Which of them it was I cannot determine; but as the first of that name who enjoyed the Earldom was in the reign of William the Conqueror, and the last in that of his son Henry, we are assured that it was in the period between the years 1070 and 1130. How either of the *Malcolms* became possessed of this estate we cannot ascertain: it is certain he granted it to *Robert*, son of *Sewin*, who gave it to the *Nuns of Clerkenwell*; it consisting of 140 acres of land in Hangre de Totham. He also gave them half a wood, and 4 dead trees in his wood of Totham; and pasturage for 10 hogs, upon condition of the *Nuns* paying to him one Silver Mark at Michaelmas.*

Part of the lands of this *Robert Fitz-Sewin*, I am inclined to think, constitute the present farm known as "Sains," and from him have since received their name.

In 1524 it was known as "Tothamstent," *alias* "Sawins," and was possessed by

Henry, the first *Lord Marney*, who has been already mentioned.†

It probably changed hands in the succession already detailed under the head "Gibbecrakes," and passed from the family of the *Tukes* to

John Church of *Maldon*, who held it in 1559.‡ From him it seems to have come to

William Aylett, Esq., who died in 1583,§ and then to

Thomas Beckingham, who possessed it in 1596;¶ on the 9th of October of which year he died. Whether the latter enjoyed it as the marriage portion of wife (if she was an *Aylett*) I cannot determine, but this farm seems to have been again in the possession of the *Ay-*

* Dugdale's *Monast. Anglic.* i. p. 430. † *Inquisit.* 15. *Henry* 8th. ‡ *Ibid.* 5. *Elizabeth.* § *Ibid.* 25 *Eliz.* ¶ *Ibid.* 38 *Elis.*

lett family, for in 1692 "The Guardians of Mr. Aylett's Estates" are charged "for half a horse" in the Poll Tax assessment.

From the Aylett family, who held it as late as 1749, it came by purchase made by Filmer Honywood, Esq. to the family of Honywood, and is now in trust for the family of the late William Philip Honywood, Esq.

Under the Will of Thomas Aylett, dated the 14th of March 1636, his estates in, and the Great Tithes of the Parish of Great Totham, are chargeable with the annual payment of £10 to the Master of Kelvedon School.

The House is situated on the right hand of the road passing by the Church of Great Totham to that of Little Totham, and about a quarter of a mile from the former.

LOFTS.

This messuage, which seems to have derived its name from the Saxon word, signifying an enclosure, I find first mentioned when belonging to *Anne Bouchier*, Marchioness of Northampton, in 1570. (see p. 29.) On the 26th of January in that year she died. It is described as a capital messuage called "Le Lofts," consisting of 40 acres of arable, 4 of meadow, 100 of pasture, and 10 of wood land in Great and Little Totham.*

It next is recorded to have belonged to *John Bullock, Esq.*, who died on the 10th of February 1595. He appears to have held part of it, at least, of the manors of Little Totham and Gibbecrakes.†

The Essex branch of the Bullock family appear to have made this their chief residence until Faulkborne Hall was purchased by Sir Edward Bullock in 1637. Previous to that period, the head of the family was always designated "of Lofts."

* Inquisit. 13 Elizabeth, No. 49. † Ibid. 43 Eliz. June 9.

The Bullock family is very ancient. Their pedigree is extremely defective: it seems to follow the order which is annexed:—

Richard Bullock, in the reign of Henry III. (1216—1272,) had a son and heir,

Gilbert Bullock, who was succeeded by his son

Robert, who lived in the reign of Edward I. (1272—1307.) He was succeeded by his son

Gilbert, who married Anne, daughter and heiress of Thomas Neville, Esq., of Barkham in Berkshire. From them appears to have descended

Robert Bullock, of Arbor-field, or Herburghfield in Berkshire, of which County, and Oxfordshire, he was High Sheriff in 1385. He died in 1405. His son

Thomas married Alice, daughter and heir of William Yeading, the issue of which marriage was

Robert, who had by Eleanor his wife,

Gilbert, who married to Margaret, daughter of William Norris, Esq. of Bray in Berkshire. By her he had two sons. The eldest,

Thomas, by Alice, daughter of John Kingsnill, Esq. had six sons and six daughters. Of these, William, the fifth son, married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Ralph Bellet, of Moreton in Cheshire, by whom he had five sons and two daughters. *John Bullock*, the eldest son, was the first of the family who settled in Essex, making his residence at Great Wigborough, where he died on the 10th of February 1595, and was buried in the Church chancel of that village. As already stated, he appears to have been the first of the family holding "Lofts." By Anne his wife, he had two sons.

Edward, the eldest, married Joane, daughter of John Collen of High Laver in this county. He died about the year 1601. His son and heir,

Edward, born about the year 1580, succeeded him. He was knighted by James I. on the 3rd of July 1609.

He died in 1644, and was buried in Faulkborne church. By his wife, who was the eldest daughter of Thomas Weld, or Wyld, Esq., of Glazely Hall, Shropshire, he had an only son,

Edward, who by his wife Mary, daughter of Sir William de Grey, of Marton Hall, in Norfolk, had

Edward, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of William Bolton, Esq. of Ullenhall, in Warwickshire, and by her had five sons and three daughters.

Edward, the eldest son, was a member of Trinity College, Cambridge, and of Gray's Inn, London. He was a Representative of this County in Parliament in 1698, and of Colchester in 1705; two years previously to which he was High-Sheriff of Essex.* It is not one of the meanest of memorials that he was an admired friend of John Ray, one of the best, and most philosophical of our countrymen. This Mr. Bullock died on the 6th of December 1705, and leaving five children, this estate was perhaps sold to provide the portions he devised them. At all events, in 1712 it belonged to *Sir Nathan Wright* of Cranham. From the Wright family it came into the possession of *Mrs. Lewis*, connected with them, and with the Lawleys of Canwell Hall, Staffordshire, for Margaret, the third daughter of Sir Thomas Lawley, Bart., had for her second husband Sir Nathan Wright, Bart., by whom she had two daughters. From Mrs. Lewis it came to Sir Robert Lawley, Bart., who sold it to Nicholas Wescomb, Esq. of Thrumpton, Nottinghamshire, and is now in the possession of his eldest son, John Emmerton Wescomb, Esq., who resides at Thrumpton.

The House at the time it was inhabited by the Bullock family, and even until within a few years past, was a mansion of considerable extent; the hall was particularly spacious. It was moated. A modern structure

* Morant's History of Essex, ii. p. 118.

has been lately erected, and is now a good farm house; it stands to the left of the road leading from this Parish to Maldon, over Broad-street Green.

FRENE, OR FRIANS.

This was probably once a residence of more than common respectability, as is testified by its being accompanied by a moat, the traces of which still remain.

The earliest possessor of whom we have notice is *Robert Mantell*, or *Martell*, the founder of Beleigh Abbey, and this farm formed part of the estates with which he endowed it. This was in 1180.* It was valued at a rental of £4 7 4d.† It came to the Crown when the Abbey was suppressed, being let for 41 years, from the 11th of July 1525, at the above rental to John Church.

This probably was granted to *Cardinal Wolsey* in 1525, under the designation of "The Manor of Great Totham."‡ If so, upon the Cardinal's disgrace and death in 1530, this estate would revert to the Crown; and in 1544 it is certain King Henry VIII. granted it to *William Butts*, and his issue, retaining a rental, still paid, of 20s. Whether this was any relative of Sir William Butts of Fulham, Physician to Henry, or whether it was the Doctor himself, I cannot determine. This William Butts, on the 22nd of March following, had license to alienate it to *John Page*. *John Alleyne, Esq.* held it *in capite* in 1556.§ *Richard Durant* possessed it in 1574, at which time he died, and was succeeded by his brother, *William Durant*.¶

It now belongs to the Rev. G. E. Howman.— The House is situated on the right hand of a road passing over Totham Hill from this parish to Beckingham.

* Morant's History of Essex, ii. p. 334. † Rolls in Augmentation Office, 28 th Henry 8. ‡ Letts. Patent, 17 Henry 8th. § "In capite," holding an estate directly of the King. ¶ Inquisit. 26 Elizabeth, no. 148.

MOUNTAINS.

No residence but this, surrounded by such fine timber, placed upon beautifully undulating ground, and commanding so extensive a view of Lake Scenery, is to be found in England, untenanted by a Gentleman's establishment.

Of its history I know scarcely anything. It probably is one of the Knight's fees separated from the original manor at the period "Gibbecrakes" was similarly alienated.—The greater part of it is Tithe free.

In 1729 it was possessed by Thomas Garrard, Esq.* It then came into the possession of a Mr. Firmin; and by marriage is now possessed by the Countess de Vande.

BARROW, OR BURROW, HILLS

Are situated upon some marsh land upon the bank of the Blackwater Bay, bounded on the west by Heybridge, and on the east by Little Totham. It has been disputed whether these are situated in Great Totham, but that they are is testified in the Parish Register of the year 1736, by the Rev. J. Speed, who states the Barrow Hill land is included in the Perambulations of the Parish then existing, as made in the years 1590, 1650, 1667, 1712, and 1732.†

This land evidently afforded the means of communication with Osey Island, which has never been disputed to belong to this Parish. The Barrow Hills and Barrow Marsh belonged in 1574 to *Richard Durant*, and then to his brother *William*.‡ They have since been in the hands of — Pigott, Esq. and have now passed by Will to Henry Cope, Esq.

The Windmill at Barrow Hills was erected about the year 1703.§ This mill was destroyed by a hurricane on the 30th of June last: it is now rebuilding.

* Parish Books. † I have seen the Perambulation of 1712, which certainly includes the Barrow Hills, the Landing Place, Mill, &c. Other Perambulations of this Parish were made partially or completely in 1713, 1755, 1761, 1778, 1786, 7191, 1811, and 1819.

‡ Inquisit. 26 Eliz. § Rev. J. Speed in Parish Register.

The Barrows, or Tumuli, from which these lands obtained their name, have nearly disappeared, the most prominent of them being levelled during the preparation of some of the lands for sun pans annexed to the Heybridge Salt Works. My brother was in attendance during their removal, but no antiquities were discovered.

They undoubtedly marked the burying places of the Saxons and Danes who fell in some one of the numerous conflicts which took place in this neighbourhood between those nations. I am inclined to consider it to have been that in which Brythnoth, Earldoman of Northumberland, and Governor of Essex, fell in 991. The Saxon Chronicle informs us he lived in the reigns of Edgar, Edward the Martyr, and Ethelred—"was the noblest and bravest of the Northumbrians—eloquent in speech—of robust strength—of commanding person—ever active against the enemies of his country—above measure disdaining danger and death—and above all honouring the holy Church and its ministers, and applying to their use the whole of his patrimony." The Danes having effected a secret landing at *Moldune*, he attacked them and nearly destroyed the whole of their force "upon a bridge across the river."* The Danes, however, returned in greater force, and challenged him to meet them again; he hastened with but few followers to attack them, "lest his delay should enable the invaders to occupy a single foot's breadth of the country." In this action, which the Poem describes, he fell. It tells us "the warriors stood by the side of an estuary; but the hosts could not engage with each other because of the water," for the tide had risen.† Brithnoth let the Danes pass over and then attacked them. "Thus," says the Poem, "did the son of Byrthelm (Brithnoth) shout across the cold river:—*Warriors, listen! Free space is allowed you. Come then speedily over to us.*

* Probably the old Saxon Bridge at Heybridge. † This estuary probably is that which runs up to the Salt Works from Barrow Hills Mill.

Advance as men to the Battle. God alone knows which of us is destined to remain masters of the field of slaughter." The battle then commenced. Two of the Danish Chieftains fell, one of them by the javelin of Brithnoth, but the latter immediately afterwards was slain. "Some one of the enemies let fly a dart from his hand, which transfix'd the noble Thane of Ethelred. There stood by his side a youth not fully grown, a boy in the field, the son of Wulfstan, Wulfmor the young. He eagerly plucked from the Chief the bloody weapon, and sent it to speed again on its destructive journey. The dart passed on till it laid on the earth him who had too surely reached his lord. Then a treacherous soldier approached the Earl, to plunder from the Chieftain his gems, his vestment, his rings, and his ornamented sword. But Brithnoth drew from its sheath his battle-axe, broad and brown of edge, and smote him on his corslet. Very eagerly the pirate left him when he felt the force of the Chieftain's arm. But at this moment his large hilted sword dropped to the earth. He could no longer hold his hand-glaive nor wield his weapon. Yet the hoary warrior still endeavoured to utter his commands. He bade the warlike youths, his brave companions, to march forwards, but he could no longer stand firmly upon his feet."* Some cheering addresses of his brother chieftains follow, and the fight was renewed, but the conclusion of the Poem being lost, the termination of the battle is not known. The whole is so naturally narrated, and the leading facts so substantiated by other testimonies, that I cordially agree with Mr. Conybeare in thinking this Poem is a detail of facts.

OVESEY, OR OSEY, ISLAND.

In our oldest topographical record, the Domesday Book, this Island is called "Uvesia," a name apparently derived from the Latin, signifying moist or damp, an

* Conybeare's Illustrations of Anglo-Saxon Poetry, 87—96.

epithet it even now deserves, and must have still more merited before it was regularly embanked. That the Romans bestowed this name we have no reason to doubt; they certainly gave the name "Idumanum," to the river in which it is situated.

In the time of William the Conqueror, this Island formed part of the lands of Hamo Dapifer, as it previously had in the reign of Edward the Confessor belonged to Turbert. It was held as a manor and four hides. In the time of Turbert there resided in it 1 Border, but when Hamo held it there was not one. There have always been, continues the Domesday Book, 3 Serfs, 1 Fisherman—pasture for 60 Sheep; and its valuation is 60 shillings.*

Until sold to Mr. Wiseman, it appears to have followed the same change of owners as the manor of Great Totham, which have already been detailed, as is confirmed by the following particular notices. †

Bartholemew de Bouchier and his widow held it in 1410 and 1411.

Sir Hugh Stafford, who died in 1421, (see p. 27) and Elizabeth his wife, held the manor of "Oveseye" of the King as of the Honor of Bologne, by the service of half a Knight's fee. ‡ They also held a tenement called "Totham Omesey."

Ludovic Robbesart, and Elizabeth his wife, held it in 1431, and Anna, widow of Earl March, held it two years subsequently. §

Henry Bouchier, Earl of Essex, at the time of his death in 1483, (see p. 28) held this manor by a similar service. ¶

* Terra Hamonis Dapiferi. Uvesiam tenet idem quod tennit Turbertus, T. R. E., pro manerio et pro 4 hides. Tunc 1 bordarius; modo nullus. Semper 3 servi; 1 piscatura; pastura 60 ovis; val⁷ 60 solidos.—Domesday Book. † In a MS. in the British Museum, quoting an entry of the 33rd of Henry 8th, I found this manor of "Totham Magna cum Oseven, alias Ovessey," spoken of as having formerly (quondam) been held by Henry Maleche of the King as 1 Knight's fee. He lived in the time of Henry 2nd (1154—1189.) Harleian MSS. Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, &c. held it in 1315.—Inquis. 8 Edward 2. ‡ Ibid. 9 Henry 5. § Ibid. 9 Henry 6. ¶ Ibid. 1 Richard 3.

Anne Bourchier, Marchioness of Northampton, brought this to her husband, and at the time of her death in 1570, she held the manor and isle of "Ovesey," and 6 messuages, 2 cottages, 200 acres of arable land, 40 of meadow, 300 of pasture, and 200 of marsh; a free fishery, wreck of the sea, and free warren in "Ovesey," Great Totham, and Goldhanger.* When her husband had forfeited his estates for espousing the cause of Lady Jane Grey, this was one of the few which were granted him by Queen Mary, by a Letter Patent dated August 8th 1558, for his maintenance. The greater part of his estates were restored in the reign of Elizabeth.

On the death of the above Marchioness of Northampton, this manor descended to her heir-at-law, *Walter Devereux*, the first Earl of Essex of that name, but he appears by the Inquisition last quoted, to have received it, with many other of the Marchioness's estates, by a grant from the Queen, dated November the 25th 1570. He was the heir as being great grandson of Cecily Bourchier, by John Devereux, Lord Ferrers.

Walter Devereux was so admirable a man, and was so melancholy an instance of merit sacrificed to Court intrigue, that he deserves more than the foregoing brief notice. His father was Sir Richard Devereux, and his mother, Dorothy, daughter of George, Earl of Huntingdon. He was born about the year 1540, at the castle of his grand-father in Carmarthenshire. His education was excellent, and his improvement under it most satisfactory. He succeeded to the titles of Viscount Hereford, and Lord Ferrers of Chartley, when he was nineteen. Queen Elizabeth admired his attainments, and when in 1569, the desperate rebellion in the north broke out under the Earls of Westmorland and Northumberland, she made him Marshal of her army to oppose them. For his success in this enterprise, the Queen created him, in 1572, Earl of Essex, and a Knight of the Garter, with

* Inquisit. 13 Elizabeth.

every circumstance of honour. The Earl of Leicester assisted at the ceremony, and it was this atrocious hypocrite who plotted, and probably then was plotting, his downfall. At this time Ireland was in its accustomed state of revolt and discord, and his false friends, anxious to get him from the presence of his favouring monarch, and to expose him not only to the loss of his fortune but of his life, persuaded him to offer to undertake an expedition against the rebels at his own expense. To prevent offence to Sir William Fitz-William, then Lord-Deputy of Ireland, the Earl was directed to obtain a patent from him appointing him Governor of Ulster, in which province the rebellion was rife. He proceeded on his expedition in 1573, with many volunteers of distinction, but unforeseen difficulties arose, and he begged either for assistance or a recall. To this the Queen inclined, but the Earl of Leicester successfully opposed her intention. The Lord Deputy of Ireland threw every possible impediment in his way, yet still the Earl of Essex rose superior to every difficulty, and rapidly was effecting the suppression of the rebellion, when he was ordered in another direction; he then requested permission to conclude peace, but that permission was refused. He again successfully addressed himself to active warfare, but then in the midst of success he was peremptorily ordered to open a treaty; he obeyed, and having concluded a peace, he was advantageously employing himself against the Hebrideans, when he was ordered to resign his command and serve as captain of 300 men in the same army; he submitted to the disgrace without a murmur, and with a heavy heart sternly performed his subaltern duty. His letter to the Privy Council just previously to this time is such an outpouring of a manly heart that I shall give it verbatim:—

“MY GOOD LORDS,

“I have of late seen a letter signed by the Queen’s Majesty, and jointly endorsed to my Lord Deputy and me, concerning mine enterprize in the province of Ulster,

which, although it carry a show of a present proceeding therein, and of a consent to all my petitions, yet hath it brought forth none other effects but the present discharge of all that serve under me, and a final dissolving of my enterprise. Whereunto, what answer I have made to her Majesty may appear unto you by the copy of my letter herein enclosed; and although it became me to stand contented with anything that her Majesty shall signify to be her will, yet when I compare this conclusion to the course that hath been taken with me since my coming hither, I cannot but think the dealing very strange. First, I came with the good liking of all your Lordships, and with the allowance of the Council here, so as by the consents of both realms I took my journey, the matter being first thoroughly debated and so digested, as though no scruple should at any time arise. I had not been here three months but that it was given forth that the continuance of the enterprise was in question, and in that stay hath it remained ever since, till now, that in all appearance the proceeding therein is agreed upon, and all my petitions granted, and yet the same letter that so doth assure me of all this gracious favour, is a warrant to my Lord Deputy (as he taketh it) to overthrow the whole. My Lords, I humbly desire you to consider well of this matter: it is somewhat to me (although little to others) that my house should be overthrown, with suffering me to run myself out of breath with expenses. It is more, that in the word of the Queen, I have, as it were, undone, abused, and bewitched with fair promises Odonell Mac Mahon, and all others that pretend to be good subjects in Ulster. It is most, that the Queen's Majesty shall adventure this estate, or else subdue rebellion with intollerable charge. For will not all parts of this realm take hold of this dissolution? or can any in Ulster, or in any part of the realm, hope of defence hereafter? But to return to my own estate: let my life here, my good Lords, be examined by the strictest Commissioners that may be sent; I trust in examining

my faults they will allege this for the chief, that I have unseasonably told a plain, probable, honourable, and effectual way how to do the country good. For the rest they can say nothing of me, but witness my misery by plague, famine, sickness, continual toil, and continual wants of men, money, carriages, victuals, and all things meet for great attempts; and if any of these have grown by my default, then condemn me in the whole. I pray you, my Lords, pardon my earnestness, I think I have reason that I am thus amazed with an oversudden warning, that must take a discharge before I am acquainted with the matter; I think it had been a better course that I might have made some profitable peace with Tyrlanghe, which hath been sought at my hands, and not at one instant to lose my travail, my money, my credit, and, with the same, hazard the honour of her Majesty, and of the realm of England. I trust, my Lords, my plain dealing shall not do me hurt with you; for my own part, a solitary life is best for a disgraced person; but because there is none of you but hath professed favour towards me, and some of your Lordships are mixed with me in blood and alliance, I crave of you all, that as I have entered into this action with your good liking and advices, so now, the failing being no way to be laid upon me, you will all be means for me to her Majesty to deal well with me for my charge, as in honour, conscience, and justice, you shall think good." *

Essex returned to England, but Leicester artfully procured a command for his return to Ireland, with the high-sounding but powerless title of its Earl-Marshall. With hopes commensurate with the promises of support he received, he addressed himself to his task; but finding those promises as fallacious as the preceding ones, he became so enervated by continued agitation of mind, that it brought on a derangement of his digestive system, which proved fatal to him at Dublin on the 22nd of

* Sidney State Papers, i. 69.

September, 1576, he being then only in his 37th year. There were some justifications for a suspicion that he was poisoned, but a strict investigation produced only evidence negating such an idea.* The Bishop of St. Davids preached his funeral Sermon at Carmarthen, which with many other testimonies of the Earl's eminence as a man, a soldier, an antiquarian, a scholar, and a christian, are given in "Fleming's Chronicles of England," (pp. 1263—1267) and fully justify Queen Elizabeth's declaration when his death was announced to her,—“Then have I lost a rare jewel of my realm, and an ornament of my nobility.” He was the writer of a Poem entitled “The Complaynte of a Sinner,” printed in “The Paradise of Dainty Devices.”

To carry on his warfare in Ireland, he mortgaged and sold his estates in Essex, and “Ovesey Island” among the rest. It was purchased of him by *Thomas Wiseman, Esq.* of Great Waltham, who held it at the time of his decease, July the 15th, 1584, as one tenement, isle, or land surrounded by water, called “Awsey,” *alias* “Ovesey,” of the Queen, *in capite*, by Knight's service.† Dying without issue, he was succeeded by his two sisters, *Dorothy*, wife of — Mompesson, and *Elizabeth*, wife of Richard Jennyns. Like himself, they were the issue of Thomas Wiseman, Esq. of Northend in Great Waltham, by Dorothy, daughter of — Latten, Esq. of Grays Inn.

It came by purchase to Mr. Charles Coe of Maldon, and belonged to his heirs in 1768. It then came into the possession of the Piggott family, and is now the property of Henry Cope, Esq. of Maldon.—It contains, by admeasurement, 230 acres.

* For the above sketch of the Earl of Essex's life I am indebted to the fuller Histories of Hollinshed, Stowe, Fuller, Strype, and Camden. † Inquisit. 28 Elizabeth. The Wiseman family first came into the County about the 8th of Henry 6th, settling at Great Waltham.—Morant's History of Essex, ii. p. 88.

THE SMALL ESTATES.

There are several small Estates in this Parish, the chief of which are the following:—

“Blatchams” and “Taylors” now form one farm, and belong to Mrs. Harrison, widow. The first-named belonged to Beleigh Abbey, and still pays a Quit Rent of 6s. 8d. to that manor. In 1555 *John Sammes*, yeoman, held “Taylors,”* as also lands in the Parish called “Greyhow,” “Woodland,” “Squyers” and “Cooques,” *alias* “Dyxley,” “Garlands,” “Fabyans,” *alias* “Smiths” and “Howletts,” “Wheelers” and “Southfield,” “Cockrells,” and “Pynkys:”

In 1289 *Thomas de Weyland* held, for *Walter Peltindon*, land in Totham and Langham.†

In the Taxation of 1291, Stansgate Priory, which stands on the south bank of the Blackwater Bay, paid two shillings for its lands in Great Totham.‡

In 1558 part of the estates granted to the Marquis of Northampton for his maintenance (see p. 30) was a teneement in Great Totham called “Nokes.” This was perhaps “Knowes Hall,” now belonging to the Rev. G. E. Howman; it is situated on the right hand side of the road between the “Bull” and “Compasses” Inns.

—There are several other estates of which I know nothing but the names and those of their present possessors. These are:—“Chigboroughs,” belonging to Mrs. Carter, widow—“Brick House,” to Mr. James Clapton, tailor, of Maldon—“Finches,” “Catchpoles,” &c. to Mr. Isaac Foster—“Hoares Wood,”§ situated opposite to “Mountains,” and belonging to Peter Ducane, Esq.—“Crisps,” the property of the same gentleman. One of the fields belonging to this farm is known as the “Goat Lodge.” In a map of the Parish before the last enclo-

* Inquisit. 3 & 4 of Philip and Mary, No. 48. † Ibid. 17 Edward 1. ‡ Dugdale’s Monasticon. § “Horeswood” and “Horesland” belonged to Beleigh Abbey.—Lett. Pat. 32 Henry 8th.

sure, and within the memory of many persons still living, this field, then consisting of about four acres, was an enclosure entirely surrounded by heath, and evidently, from the timber in its hedge-rows, had been enclosed many years. We have seen that in the time of William the Conqueror, this Parish pastured many Goats, and its high-lying, heathy grounds rendered it particularly in accordance with their wandering habits. There can be little doubt that this enclosure was the night-pen and winter-shelter for his flock of some later Goat-Herd. One of my informants says his father remembered "Mountains" being empaled, when possessed by Mr. Wright, and that many Goats as well as Deer pastured in it — "Alleys" and "Applebys," possessed by Mrs. Emeritta Argent, widow. — "Yates" by William Pattisson, Esq., Solicitor, Witham. — "Rook Hall" by the Executors of Mr. Challis Carter. — "Paynes" and "Quilters" by Mr. William Brown. — "Slough House" belongs to the Parish of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, but how it became possessed of it I cannot discover. Suspicion is excited by their declining to give information! Glasgow College also has a small quantity of land in this Parish. — There is also a small plot known as "Hatfield Poor Lands," which was purchased with part of £100 bequeathed by Sir Edmund Alleyn, Bart. with the direction that the rent of it should be appropriated to the schooling and apprenticing of poor children, of the Parish of Hatfield Peverel, in the cloathing trade. The proper name of this is "Howletts," or "Wheelers," and belonged, as I have already noticed, to John Sammes in 1555. It is properly described in the bequest as two crofts of land and pasture, containing by estimation nine acres, situate in Much Totham, between the way leading from Maldon to Colchester on the one part, and upon the street or way there leading to Tottham Hill; together with a cottage erected upon part of the land.* — In 1594 William Beriffe held lands in this

* Morant's History of Essex, ii. 134.

Parish called "Shinbornes," "Rose Shinbornès," "Oseye Lands," "Walcrofts," "Haywards," and Ongham's tē-
 nement near Totham Hall.* — In 1595 John Bullock, Esq., and in 1601, Edward Bullock, his son, held mes-
 suages and lands called "Inham," "Croshouse," and
 "Fouchers" in Great and Little Totham.†

LAND TAX. — In 1768 this Parish was rated to the
 Land Tax at £716 2s.,‡ and at present it is set at the
 value of £1337.

* Morant's History of Essex, i. p. 383. † Inquisit. 43, Eliz.

‡ Morant's Essex, i 385.

POPULATION

Comparative results of the Census of 1831 and 1831.

1831	1831
183	183
183	183
183	183

APPENDIX.

ADDITION TO PAGE 43, LINE 4.— From the Aylett family, who held it as late as 1749, it came by purchase to Samuel Shaen, Gent., who died on the 16th of November 1758, aged 52.* He left it to his daughter, married to Thomas Fenn, Esq., Banker, of Sudbury, from whom it was purchased by Filmer Honeywood, Esq.

THE CHURCH

CHURCH.

The Rev. Mr. Wix, F. R. S. &c., in a note now before me, made in October, 1829, says:—"Great Tot- ham Church is an ancient structure. The east window is modernised. In the south wall, near to the chancel, is an early English, or Norman window, divided by a shaft—I should say Norman, for it is not a long, nar- row, or round-headed window, though it has in the upper part (which is, I think, cinquefoil) an early Eng- lish ornament, containing, in coloured glass, roses. In the north wall, I observed a vestige of a long and nar- row window, approaching to the early English; but a- bout the period when these windows were employed the Norman and English styles ran so into each other that it is not very easy, accurately, to distinguish them. The south porch is a specimen of ancient wood work, more than cinquefoiled, and has a modern door-way, enter- ing the Church, with an arch somewhat of the Norman style, appropriate in a good degree to that of the Church, and creditable to my friend Gower, under whose orders it was erected."

* Epitaph in Church Chancel.

POPULATION.

Comparative results of the Census of 1821 and 1831.

	1821.	1831.
Inhabited Houses	92	136.
Families (chiefly Agricultural)	120	138.
Males	282	353.
Females	298	343.

Increase since 1821,— Inhabited Houses 44— Families 18—Males 71—Females 45—Gross Population in 1821 580—in 1831 696.

NAMES OF SOME OF THE SEVERAL PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN OCCUPIERS OF THE CHIEF ESTATES AT DIFFERENT PERIODS, &c.*

CAREFULLY COMPILED BY C. CLARK.

HALL.—1728, Thomas Martin, Esq. 38, John Fisher. 40, Richard Goodman. 59, James Carter. 81, Morgan Poole. 1807, Isaac Poole. 23, Robert Clark. 31, Ditto.—Rent in 1738, 90*l.*; in 59 80*l.*

SHEEPCOTE.—1728, Thomas Clements. 43, Samuel Clarke. 84, Mrs. Clarke. 87, Samuel Clarke. 91, Mark Clarke. 93, Robert Clarke. 1823, John Beadel. 31, Ditto.—Rent in 1732, 118*l.*; in 51, 123*l.*

GIBBECKRAKES.—1728, Robert Weaver. 64, John Weaver. 81, Edward Blythe. 1802, Dorcas Blythe. 22, John Green. 31, Honywood's Executors.—Rent in 1732, 65*l.*; in 52, 80*l.* 10*s.*

SAWNS.—1728, Thomas Guy. 38, William Guy, who at this period held "Baileys" also. 59, James Candler. 81, Thomas Challis. 88, James Carter. 1815, James Carter, Jun. 22, James Wood. 31, Ditto.

* The "Outdwellers" are distinguished by Italic.

LOFTS.—1738, Daniel Belsham. 59, John Belsham. 81, Thomas Challis. 88, James Carter. 1825, Joseph Pitt. 31, Mrs. Pitt.

PARSONAGE FARM.—1728, John Farrar. 38, John Westwood. 81, Thomas Mann. 1820, Robert Clarke. 23, Robert Clark. 31, Ditto.—This farm is now incorporated with the Hall farm and with "Sawns."

FRIANS.—1738, Widow Guy. 40, — Patisson. 59, William Brown. 1815, William Davey. 24, — Bowton. 27, Isaac Poole. 31, Ditto.

MOUNTAINS.—1728, Thomas Garret, Esq. 40, — Patisson. 59, William Wright, Esq. 92, John Humphreys. 1815, John Royce. 25, William Goodday. 31, Ditto.

OSEY ISLAND.—1728, Charles Coe. 43, John Coe. 81, Joseph Bygrave. 87, Daniel Harvey. 1831, Edward Hammond.

ROUND BUSH.—1738, David Polley, who held "Shinbornes" also at this period. 1807, William Davey. 1824, William Carter. 31, Ditto.

ROOK HALL.—1728, John Pettit. 38, John Fitch. 1815, Jeremiah Thedam. 31, Challis Carter's widow.

CHIGBOROUGH.—1728, Charles Coe. 59, John Francis. 89, Mrs. Francis. 90, Robert Patisson. 1807, James Carter. 23, Mrs. Carter. 31, Ditto.

GOAT LODGE.—1728, Matthew Oates. 38, Thomas Lee. 1814, Joseph Thurlow. 23, John Beard. 27, Joseph Higham. 31, Ditto. This plot is now incorporated with "Crisps."

LANTERNS.—1738, John French. 43, Thomas Lee. 82, Widow Bright. 85, William Bright. 88, John Giblin. 89, Joseph Brooks. 1831, Knight.

BLATCHAMS.—1728, Thomas Lee. 38, Jacob Watson. This plot has long been united with "Taylors."

TAYLORS.—1759, Thomas Carter. 1816, Harrison. 31, George Allaker.

KNOWES HALL.—1781, Abraham Davey. 1831, Charles Cottee.

HATFIELD POOR LANDS.—1738, John Trundle. 81, Mrs. Wright. 1831, Joseph Cottee.

WHITE CHIMNEYS.—1728, John Watson. 97, Thomas Lee.

YATES'S.—1759, William Pitt. 87, *John Banes*. 1823, Charles Eve. 31, Ditto.

SMALLSHOES.—1781, David Polley, from which period it has been held by the same persons as “Mountains,” it having been united with that farm.

☞ It will be observed that there are several Estates of importance in the Parish unnoticed in the above list; in explanation, the Compiler begs to say that the state of the Parish Books precluded the possibility of making it more complete.

PARISH CLERKS.

1730, Moses Matthews. 38, Francis Allen. 42, John Wakling. 70, John Taylor. 94, William Pitt. 1813, Joseph Beadle. 31, Ditto.

THE END.

GREAT TOTHAM: PRINTED BY CHARLES CLARK.

In the Brow

WILL OF M. J. WHITLOCKE

OF TOTTENHAM PARK - 1800.

(FROM THE HARRIS MANUSCRIPT, NO. 4138 - DATED 1853)

THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF MYDDIE JOHN
WHITLOCKE WHO DIED THIRTY YEARS PAST AT
THIS JANUARY 1833

In the name of God amen the xxiv of January year of our Lord
1800 I Myddie John Whitlocke of Tottenham Park in the County of
Essex being sick of the body but of full and sound memory do hereby
God make my last will and testament as follows to wit I do hereby
command my body and all things of heaven and my body to be buried
in the Church-yard of Tottenham parish. Now I give unto George
Whitlocke my first son a third part called Whitlocke and he to have
an equal part of the said third part to wit the one of xxi years age
and then I will that Henry Whitlocke his brother shall have the said
Whitlocke when he comes into the age of xxi years and the said
Henry his brother shall have the said third part when he comes into
the age of xxi years and the said Henry shall have the said third part
when he comes into the age of xxi years and the said Henry shall have
the said third part when he comes into the age of xxi years and the said
Henry shall have the said third part when he comes into the age of xxi
years. Now I give unto John Whitlocke my brother all the estate of
the said third part in fee simple and the said John shall have all my
part of that third part which is now in the Testament called Whitlocke and
all my part of the said third part. Now I give unto Thomas Whit-
locke all the estate of the said third part to wit the one of xxi years
age to wit a Whitlocke a Whitlocke the said xx. Now to John
Whitlocke my son the said xx. Now to Thomas Whitlocke my son the
said xx. Now to John Whitlocke and Thomas Whitlocke to each of
them the said xx. Now I give unto Thomas Whitlocke and George Whit-
locke the said third part to be equally divided amongst
them when they come to the age of xxi years and if it should come
them to die of themselves then the said third part to be divided
paid to him or them that live. Now I give unto Anne Whitlocke
my Goddaughter the said third part. Now I give unto John Noyes my Godson
the said third part. Now I give unto George Whitlocke my son the
said third part. Now I give unto every one of my God-
children above named xlii a piece. Now I give John Whitlocke
whenever he will. Now to Margaret Whitlocke widow the said xx. Now
to Jane Whitlocke my Goddaughter the said xx. Now I give unto John

**WILL OF M. J. WHITLOCKE,
OF TOTHAM PARK.—1500.**

(FROM THE HARLEIAN MANUSCRIPT, NO. 4136.—DATED 1583.)

**THE LAST WYLL AND TESTAMENT OF MYDDLE JOHN
WHYTLOCKE WHO DYED THIRTY YEARS PAST AT
THIS JANUARY 1583.**

IN the name of God amen the xxist of Januarie yeare of our Lorde 1500. I Myddell John Whitlocke of Totham Parke in the Countie of Essex beinge sick in the body but of hole and good Memorie thanked be God make my last Will and testamente in forme followinge. Ffirste I commende my soule unto Almighty of heaven and my body to be buried in the Church yearde of Totham aforesaid. *Item.* I geve unto George Badcocke my Godsonne my Copie lande called Stockwell and he to haue no profite of the saide lande untill he come to the age of xxi yeares age and then I will that Henry Badcocke his brother shall haue the said Stockwell when he cometh unto the age of xxi yeares and if the saide Henrie die er he come unto the age of xxi yeares then I will that Richard Skarlet the sonne of Thomas Skarlet shall haue the saide Stockwell to him and to the heires of his bodie lawfullie begotten when he cometh unto the age of xxi yeares and yf the saide Richarde die er he come unto the age of xxi yeares then I will that John Skarlet his brother shall haue the saide Stockwell when he cometh unto the age of xxi yeares. *Item.* I geve unto John Whitlocke my brother all my parte of the Cattell which is now in one of the farms of Totham Hall and all my parts of the Cattell which is now on the Tenement called Bartlotts and all my parte of the househole stuff. *Item.* I geve unto Thomas Whitlocke 4*s.* *Item.* to his wife 5*s.* *Item.* to John Whitlocke of — vis. viii*d.* *Item.* to Agnes Whitlocke a Bullocke iii*i*i Shepe and xs. *Item.* to Johan Whitlocke xs. *Item.* to Thomas Skarlet my godson vis. viii*d.* *Item.* to John Richard and Johan the Children and Thomas Skarlet to each of them iii*s.* iiiii*d.* *Item.* I geve unto Thomas Henrie and George the children of John Badcocke £vi viii*s.* iiiii*d.* to be equally divided amongst them when they come to the age of xxi yeares and yf it fortune any of them to die er they come unto that age then his or their parts to be payde unto him or them that liveth. *Item.* I geve unto Agnes Wylleis my goddaughter iii*s.* iiiii*d.* *Item.* I geve unto John Neles my godsonne vis. viii*d.* *Item.* I geve unto George Songer vis. viii*d.* *Item.* to John Sams my godsonne vis. viii*d.* *Item.* I geve unto every one of my God children above not named xi*i*d. a pece. *Item.* I geve Johan Bullocke widdowe vis. viii*d.* *Item.* to Margaret Bullocke widdow vis. viii*d.* *Item.* to Jane Bullocke my Goddaughter vis. viii*d.* *Item.* I geve unto John

Whitlocke of Dedham xls. *Item.* to Alis his sister xs. *Item.* to Robert Handfeld iiis. iiid. *Item.* to William Rofhe iiis. iiid. *Item.* to Cristean Knappe iiis. iiid. and a Bullocke and 11 Sheepe. *Item.* to Alis both a bullocke 11 sheepe and iiis. iiid. *Item.* to Alice Mandestone a sheepe. *Item.* to Katherine Barker a lambe. *Item.* I will that there shall be said vii Masses at my funriall with bread and beare and penie dole. *Item.* I geve x shirts and smokes to pore folks. *Item.* I geve to John Badcocke of Worningeforth a Bullocke and 11 Sheepe. *Item.* I ordayne and make William Whitlocke and Richard Whitlocke his brother my executors whom I will shall have all my goods moveable and unmoveable aboue not bequest and they to see my debts and legacies trulie payed and to see this my will truly fulfilled and me honestly buried as they shall make me aunswere afore the face of the highest judge Also I make Thomas Whitlocke and John Whitlocke my Supervisers.

In witsesse hereof those beinge present

THOMAS HODSUN, Priest
RICHARD SANKIN and
THOMAS SKARLET with others.

Whitlocke of Dedham xlv. West, to Ais the state xlv. West to Robert
Hande the first. West to William Hande the first. West to Captain
Knappe the first and a Ballcocke and II. West to Ais both a
Ballcocke II. West to Ais the first. West to Ais the first a shap.
West to Katherine Barker a hande. West. I will that there shall be said
vii. shasses of my hande with hande and hande the first. West. I
gave x shirte and smokes to John Barker. West. I gave to John Barker
of Womington a Ballcocke and II. West. I gave to John Barker
William Whitlocke and Richard Whitlocke the brother my executor
whom I will shall have the same hande and a notable shone
not peduce and try to see my hande and hande the first. West. I
see this my will truly fulfilled and no honesty hande shall make
me answerer above the face of the highest iudic. Also I make Thomas
Whitlocke and John Barker my executors.

In witness hereof these things present

THOMAS HODDIN, Priest
RICHARD BARKIN and
THOMAS SARETT with others

THOMAS HODDIN, Priest
RICHARD BARKIN and
THOMAS SARETT with others

CORRECTIONS.

- P 1—L 4 Omit "Inworth to the N.-E."
- 4 — 3 It will be seen by the Appendix (p. 60) that this estimate is erroneous. The cause of error must be the removal of some families whose places have been supplied by smaller ones.
- 6 — 30 For "tendered" read "tended."
- 17 — 5 (of note) After "40 pore.," insert "Te 5 runc. mo 11. Te. 100 ou. mo 150. Semp. 40 cap."
- 40 — 23 For "manon" read "manor."
- 47 — 4 (of note) For "7191" read "1791."
-

CORRECTIONS.

- P 1—E 4. Omit "laworth to the N. E."
- 4 — 3. It will be seen by the Appendix (p. 60) that this edit-
mate is erroneous. The cause of error must be the
removal of some families whose places have been
supplied by smaller ones.
- 8 — 30. For "tendered," read "tended."
- 17 — 5 (of note). After "40 page," insert "To 5 runs, and 11.
To 100 on no 150. 2 emp. 40 cap."
- 40 — 28. For "manner," read "manor."
- 47 — 4 (of note). For "7191," read "7191."

4065164

