

Staffordshire Record Society

COLLECTIONS

FOR A

HISTORY

OF

STAFFORDSHIRE

EDITED BY

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

VOL. IV.

1883.

LONDON:
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Staffordshire County Studies

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

GENERAL MEETING, 15TH OCTOBER, 1883.

At the General Meeting of the above Society held at the William Salt Library, Stafford, on the 15th October, 1883, the Lord Lieutenant of the County in the chair, the following report of the Editorial Committee was read to the Meeting by the Honorary Secretary, and was ordered to be printed, together with the Balance Sheet for 1882, in the Appendix to the next volume.

The Editorial Committee have to report that the third volume of Collections for a History of Staffordshire was issued to the subscribers in the early part of this year. The printing of Volume IV. is about half completed, and it is expected the volume will be in the hands of the subscribers early in the ensuing year. Its contents consist of the Plea Rolls *temp.* Henry III., the Final Concords for the same reign, the Warwickshire Final Concords affecting Staffordshire tenants from the earliest period up to the end of the reign of Henry III.; and an abstract of the contents of the Ranton Chartulary. These comprise Part I. of the volume, which has been edited by the Honorary Secretary.

Part II. of the volume will contain the History of Church Eaton and its members, by the Hon. and Rev. Canon Bridgeman.

In pursuance of a resolution passed at the last General Meeting, the President of the Society wrote to the Marquis of Anglesey, forwarding a copy of the resolution in question, and requesting his Lordship's favourable consideration of the proposal contained in it, to the effect that the Burton Chartulary might be lodged for a stated period in the William Salt Library, for the purpose of making an abstract

of its contents, to be printed subsequently by the Society. A reply has been received from Lord Anglesey's Agent, stating that the Chartulary had been lent to the late Mr. Molyneux, and it was believed had not been returned to the muniment room at Beaudesert; but he would have a search made for it, and that Lord Anglesey would be happy to forward the objects of the Society in every way in his power.¹

With reference to the question which has been mooted of printing the Records in English in place of Latin, the Committee have to explain, that as the late Mr. Eyton required in all cases the original Latin record, they had no option left to them in the matter during his lifetime, but as very few of the subscribers care to peruse Latin Records, and the Plea Rolls now in progress of publication contain much that is of interest to the general reader, they have decided in future to translate all the Records into English, with the exception of ancient Charters.

In the case of early Charters, the form of feoffment, the language, and even the orthography affect so materially the question of the date and authenticity of the deed, it would not be advisable to print them in any other but their original form.

The Plea Rolls *temp.* Richard I. and King John, which were printed verbatim in the Latin text in the last volume issued, were copied from the Rolls in the Record Office by Mr. Mc Donagh, a professional palæographer, who is much employed on similar work at the Record Office; but it was found that the labour of revising the MS., comparing it with the original Rolls, expanding the Latin text, and adding to it the suits of other counties to which Staffordshire tenants were parties, was far greater than would have been involved by making the transcripts direct from the Rolls in the first instance; and as these portions of the work could only be performed by a person with local knowledge, and acquainted with the Staffordshire tenures of the period in question, the labour of the revision and the necessary additions fell entirely upon the Honorary Secretary. It was determined therefore in the new volume to dispense with the services of a professional palæographer, and the Plea Rolls of the reign of Henry III. have been translated from the originals into English by the Honorary Secretary. The proof sheets of

¹ The Chartulary has since been found and sent to the William Salt Library.

these will be laid on the table for the inspection of the General Meeting ; and as it is proposed to continue the Plea Rolls of the later reigns in the same manner, the members will have an opportunity of making any suggestions on the subject which may occur to them, and which will receive careful consideration.

Staffordshire County Studies
Sample

Stamfordshire County Studies

William Salt Archaeological Society.

BALANCE SHEET OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1882.

(In respect of Vols. I., II., and III.)

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Dr.
Balance from previous years		37 3 5	
Vol. I. Arrears due to Vol. I. as per last account ..	£ s. d. 4 4 0		June, 1881, to Jan., 1882. To Mr. McDonagh, for copying the Plea Rolls of Richard I. and King John October, 1882. To Mr. de Mazzinghi, Honorarium awarded for the year 1882
Deduct (1) No copy issued	1 1 0		21 0 0
(1) Copy returned	1 1 0		15 15 0
(2) Still in arrears	2 2 0		October, 1882. To Mr. Eliab Breton, for clerical assistance
	4 4 0	0 0 0	2 2 0
Three (3) Subscriptions to Vol. I. since last account	3 3 0		December, 1882. To Messrs. Wright, bill for stationery
* Deduct two (2) subscriptions credited in error to Erskine and Lawson	2 2 0	1 1 0	3 16 0
Payment by Manchester Corporation Free Library for copy of Vol. I. previously paid for by Colonel Chester	1 1 0		December, 1882. To Mr. de Mazzinghi, postage and petty expenses
Vol. II. Arrears due to Vol. II. as per last account	34 13 0		December, 1882. To Mr. Fowler Carter, clerks' time in compiling catalogue of Part I. of Vol. III.
Deduct still unpaid, 15th Sept., 1883	15 15 0		2 2 0
	18 18 0		February 1883. To Mr. Soane, for engraving arms and inscriptions for Vol. III.
Six (6) Subscriptions to Vol. II. since last account	6 6 0		48 10 0
Vol. III. Subscriptions of 230 recorded subscribers	241 10 0		March, 1883. To Messrs. Harrison, printing Part I., Vol. III.
Less 20 unpaid 15th Sept., 1883	21 0 0		96 5 9
	220 10 0		April, 1883. To Messrs. Mitchell and Hughes, printing Part I., Vol. III.
Additional subscription from Mr. Cockayne for second copy	1 1 0		79 3 6
	220 10 0		15th July, 1883. Balance credit on Vols. I. II. and III.
Total	£286 0 5		14 10 2
			Total
			£286 0 5

(Signed) GEORGE WROTTESEY, MAJOR-GENERAL,
Hon. Secretary.

* A subscription paid by Mr. S. F. Gosling on 4th January, 1881, was erroneously entered in the Bank account under the name of Erskine, and a like sum paid in by the Rev. E. Samson on 23rd April, 1880, was entered as paid by Lawson. Messrs. Erskine and Lawson were treated as new subscribers, and their subscriptions credited to Vol. I. Meanwhile Messrs. Gosling and Samson paid their subsequent subscriptions regularly, the sum in each case being credited to the volume previous to that for which it was intended. This error has now been cleared up, and the subscriptions wrongly standing to the credit of Vol. I. in the names of Erskine and Lawson have been debited against the balance belonging to that volume. Mr. Gosling's guinea has been credited in the present account to Vol. V., and Mr. Samson's to Vol. IV.

COMPARISON WITH BANK ACCOUNT AS BALANCED
15th SEPTEMBER, 1883.

	£	s.	d.
Balance as above on Vols. I., II., III.	14	10	2
Subscriptions to Vol. IV. received between 15th Sept., 1882, and 15th Sept., 1883. Old subscribers 146, new ditto, 12	165	18	0
Subscriptions paid in advance to Vol. IV. before 15th Sept., 1882	7	7	0
Subscriptions paid in advance to Vol. V., 15th Sept., 1882, to 15th Sept., 1883	5	5	0
Subscription of Rev. E. Samson to Vol. IV.; see note on other side	1	1	0
Subscription of S. F. Godling to Vol. V.; see note on other side	1	1	0
Two sums paid in error and since returned. Davis £1 1s. and Manley 10s. 6d.	1	11	6
	<u>166</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>
Deduct refund as above to Davis and Manley	1	11	6
„ payment to Parker for work done for future volumes	1	2	0
	<u>2</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>6</u>
Balance agreeing with that shown in Bank account, 15th Sept., 1883	194	0	2

VII

Examined and found correct,
(Signed) W. CONGREVE,
Auditor.

The William Salt Archaeological Society.

1883.

COUNCIL.

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¹ Nominated to fill up the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Molyneux.

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A NOTE ON THE STAFFORDSHIRE CHARTULARY,
VOLUME III. OF STAFFORDSHIRE COLLECTIONS.

BY EDMOND CHESTER WATERS, ESQ.

- Page 181.*—Croc was a Norman by descent. Croc, son of Erchembald, a Norman Vicecomes, figures with his brother in the Cartulary of St. Trinity de Rouen long before the conquest of England. You will find an early pedigree of this family, who were foresters of Hampshire, in the "Herald and Genealogist."
- Page 183.*—William, Baron of Halton, who died shortly before 1153, Constable of Chester, was not William fitz Nigel the Constable of Domesday, but his successor, William fitz Nigel; but I agree with you in doubting whether the witness was the Constable of Chester.
- Page 187.*—It was not the first Earl Ralph who was drowned in the "Blanche Neuf" but Earl Richard.
- Page 188.*—The date of Richard fitz Gilbert's death was 1136, not 1131. Giraldus Cambrensis expressly says that he was slain "shortly after the death of Henry I."
- Page 192.*—Ralph II., Earl of Chester held the Earldom from 1128, not from 1121.
- Page 203.*—Henry de Montfort was the son of Thurstan by Juliana Murdac, daughter of Geoffrey Murdac. Henry survived the accession of King John, and his widow's name was Pose; she was a widow with children in 1213.
- Page 202.*—Corbucion was one of the local Chamberlains of William of Normandy; he had at least four sons: Maurice was the eldest and his heir in Normandy; Robert, William, and Peter settled in England.
- Page 191.*—Fulk de Lisours, grandson of Richard Engaine, was still Forester in 1166, although his name is bungled in Hearne's "Liber Niger," p. 214. It seems from the Chronicle of Peterborough that Richard Engaine, the ancestor of the Barons of that name, was his brother, or half brother.

E. C. W.

**New Subscribers to the William Salt Archæological Society,
who have joined since date of last Report and printed
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ERRATA ET CORRIGENDA.

PART I., VOLUME IV.

Page 26, line 6, *for Arley read Yarlett.*
,, 66, note, *for Alissa read Alina.*
,, 277, ,, ,, *Ellastone read Ellerton.*

INTRODUCTION.

THE preface to the Plea Rolls in Volume III. of these Collections gives a sketch of the judicial system of the country to the end of the reign of King John. It will now be necessary to describe the changes made in the administration of the law by the Great Charter, which forms an important stage in legal history.

First comes the famous provision which ordains, "*Communia placita non sequantur curiam nostram, sed teneantur in aliquo certo loco.*"¹ This established the Court of Common Pleas at Westminster.

The importance of this provision will be best estimated by taking one of the pleas detailed in Vol. III. of these Collections, and collating the proceedings with the published itinerary of King John: it will be seen that the unfortunate suitors either in person or by essoin, followed the Curia Regis from one end of the kingdom to the other.

The Charter then directs that assizes of novel disseisin, and of mordancestor shall not be taken out of their shires. This provision however was so far modified in practice that suits which the Justices Itinerant could not determine on the spot, from such causes as defect of a jury, or non-appearance of one of the parties, were adjourned to another day and place in the same circuit. Staffordshire Pleas therefore are to be found on the Assize Rolls of any of the following counties, viz. : Salop, Hereford, Warwick, Hunts, Bucks, Oxon, Gloucester, Cambridge, Lincoln, Derby, Notts, Northampton, Berks, or Worcester.

The original Charter of King John contained a provision that two justices should be sent into every county four times in each year, who, with the aid of four knights to be chosen by the county

¹ The Charter here quoted is not the original Charter of King John, but the amended Charter issued in 9 H. III.

PLEA ROLLS OF THE REIGN OF HENRY III.

ROLL No. 1.

Headed, "*Placita apud Westm: de termino Sancti Michaelis, anno regni Regis Henrici, filii Regis Johannis, tertio, incipiente quarto*"¹ [October, 1219.]

Salop. The Sheriff is commanded to give seisin to Bertram, son of Bertram (de Burgo),² of two carucates of land in Legh, which the said Bertram recovered by a verdict in the Curia Regis, against Alice, the widow of Philip fitz Bishop, and into which Helis, mother and *custos* of Bertram, had complained that Ralph de Picheford had intruded himself after Bertram had recovered seisin of the land, Ralph to be attached to answer at the Octaves of St. Martin respecting the said intrusion. *m. 5.*

Staff. A day is given to William de Parlis, plaintiff, and to Richard fitz William, tenant, to hear the election (of a jury) at the Octaves of St. Hillary, in consequence of default of electors;asmuch as Nicholas le Urs only appeared, Gerome de Curzun essoined himself, and William de Kileby and Roger de Mulewic did not appear. *m. 11, dorso.*

Staff. vel Warwic. The King sent word to the Justices in Banco that Albreda Marmigun attorney in her place *coram Rege* William de Canvill, or Walter de Arderne, in the suit between her and Henry de Aldidileg. *m. 15.*

Warw. William de Coleville (Canville) sue Albreda Marmigun (*sic*), his mother, to warrant to him half a knight's fee in Mo-weye (Arrow), which he claimed to hold of her, and for which Robert Marmigun (Marmigun), the capital lord, distrained him for the service of three parts of a knight's fee. *m. 16.*

Salop. Robert de Glaushall, the essoner of Helisane, mother and *custos* of Bertram fitz Bertram, appeared on the fourth day against Ralph de Picheford, for intruding himself into two carucates of land in Lecha, which the said Bertram had recovered by a judgment against Alice, who had been the wife of Philip fitz Bishop; Ralph did not appear, and was ordered to be attached to answer at three weeks from St. Hillary. *m. 18, dorso.*

ROLL No. 2.

Headed, "*Placita apud Westm: de termino Sancti Michaelis, anno regni R. Henrici, filii Regis J., tertio, incipiente quarto, coram M. de Pateshull et sociis suis, in Octabis Sancti Michaelis.*" [6th October, 1219.]

The suit of William de Parles *versus* Richard fitz William, repeated as on last roll, with the addition of the words, "*de terrâ de Sandwell.*" *m. 6, dorso.*

¹ As the regnal year of Henry III. began on the 28th October, the proceedings of Michaelmas Term fall always into two years of this reign.

² Bertram de Burgo, a Staffordshire tenant, holding land in Ronton and elsewhere.

Staff. et Warw. The King sent word to the Justices that Albreda Marmiun attorned before him John Ruffus *versus* Leuca de Canvill, in a plea of dower, and Walter de Arderne *versus* Walter (*sic*) de Canvill, in a plea of warranty of Charter. *m.* 21.

Warw. William de Colevill (Camvill) sues Albreda Marmiun, his mother, to warrant to him half a knight's fee in Harewe (Arrow) (etc. as before).

Albreda by her attorney asks for another day, and a day is given to them at the Quinzaine of St. Hillary.

ROLL No. 3.

Headed, "*Placita apud Westm: in Octabis Sancti Hillarii.* [20th January 1220.]

Oxon. Alina, who had been the wife of Nigel de Newinton,¹ sues Eustace Purcel for one-third of a virgate of land in Newenton as her dower, and Eustace called to warranty Richard, son and heir of Nigel, who came and acknowledged the charter of Nigel his father. Alina to recover seisin of the land, or Eustace to give her land in exchange of equal value. *m.* 6.

Staff. Assize of last presentation to the Church of Clifton, the advowson of which Albreda Marmiun claimed against Henry de Alditheleg, who pleaded that an assize ought not to be taken in the matter, because Albreda held nothing in the vill, either in demesne or in services.

Albreda, by her attorney, pleaded that this ought not to prejudice her, because owing to her weakness and her great age,² she had committed the custody of her lands to her son Geoffrey de Canvill, and he held them in his custody all his life; and Henry had no ingress in them except by an intrusion he made after the death of her son Geoffrey; as it appeared that Albreda was suing Henry in the *Curia Regis* the assize is to remain until the other suit is terminated. *m.* 8.

Staff. Henry de Aldithelega was summoned to answer to Albreda Marmiun by what warrant he held the manor of Clifton, which she claimed as her right and inheritance, and which she had delivered into the custody of Geoffrey de Canvill her son, who is dead.

Henry stated that he held the land in custody with the heir of the said Geoffrey de Canvill, who held it in fee, and not as bailee of the said Albreda, because he had done homage for it to the Earl of Chester, his lord, and had died seized of it as of fee.

Albreda appeared by her attorney, and stated that Geoffrey had no custody of the land except as her bailee, and that she had sufficient evidence of this, and put herself upon a jury. A jury is to be called for fifteen days from Easter, and John Baghot, Robert de la Mare, Robert de Pendeford, Ralph de Whitmere, Henry de Hamerwic, to be summoned. The same day is given to Leuca, the widow of Geoffrey de Canvill, who claimed her dower in the same land against the said Henry. *m.* 8, *dorso*.

Warw. Leuca, the widow of Geoffrey de Chanvill, sues William de Chanvill for one-third of the Manor of Arewe as her dower. William prayed a view of the land; and a day is given to them at a month from Easter, the view to be made in the interim. *m.* 10, *dorso*.

¹ Newington, in Oxfordshire, was held under the Purcells of Shareshill.

² Albreda Marmiun occurs in the "*Liber Niger*" of A.D. 1166, as heiress of Clifton-Campville, forty-six years before this date.

and was convicted of felony, and lost his manor. Thomas, Isabella, and Dionisia acknowledged this to be true, and are therefore *in misericordiâ* for a false claim.

The assize of mordancestor between the same Isabella, and Thomas and Dionisia, concerning the manor of Hulle,¹ *remanet* for the same reason. *m. 5.*

Staff. An assize came, &c., if Edmund, son of Godwyn, brother of William, was seised, &c., of half a virgate of land in Balebroc (Bilbrook) on the day he set out for Jerusalem, which land Gervase de Bulebroc holds. Gervase did not appear, and is to be re summoned for the advent of the Justices. *m. 5.*

Staff. Richard, son of Richard, and Agnes his mother, who arraigned an assize of novel disseisin against Ralph, son of Ralph, respecting a tenement in Riston (Ryton), withdrew their suit, and therefore they and their sureties for the prosecution, viz., Alexander de Ruston and Philip de Ruston, are *in misericordiâ*. *m. 5.*

Staff. An assize, &c., if Gilbert Wudegrym, father of Ralph, was seised, &c., of a bovate of land in Ilum, when he died, which land Henry Wudegrym holds; who appeared and pleaded an assize should not be taken, because William, the elder brother of Ralph, held the land for eighteen years after the death of his father. Ralph is therefore *in misericordiâ* for a false claim. *m. 5.*

ROLL No. 27.

*Headed, "Placita apud Westm: anno R. R. Henrici, filii Regis
Johannis, undecimo a die Paschæ in XV dies."* [25th April,
1227.]

m. 9. "Placita de Octabis Sancte Trinitatis anno undecimo."
[13th June, 1227.]

Staff. An assize of last presentation to the Church of Elleford, the advowson of which Roger de Monhaut (Montalto) claimed against Philip de Oreby; who came by his attorney, and stated an assize ought not to be taken, because Ralph de Monhaut presented William de Haya, who last died parson of the Church; but after that presentation the said Ralph gave the manor to Roger de Monhaut his brother, who held the manor all his life; and after his death the manor descended to Leuca, his daughter, and from Leuca to Agnes, daughter of Leuca, who is in ward to the said Philip by gift of Roger de Monhaut the capital lord; and he produced the deed of the said Roger, which showed he had given 100 marks to the said Roger for the wardship of Agnes, daughter of Leuca, and of her inheritance, which descended to her from Roger, her father, in Elleford, and in Cassingland; and inasmuch as Ralph gave the land without excepting the advowson of the Church, and the Church had not since been vacant, he asked for judgment of the Court if the said Roger had any claim to the advowson, inasmuch as the advowson pertains to the manor.

And Roger by his attorney appeared and pleaded that Ralph, his ancestor, had made the last presentation, and that Roger had never been in seisin of the advowson, neither had Leuca his daughter, nor Agnes; and as Philip admitted the seisin of Ralph, he asked for seisin; and being questioned if Ralph had given the manor, *cum pertinentiis*, answered he did not know; but

¹ The Pipe Rolls in Vol. II., p. 34, show that the lands of Richard de Aluredeston in Hulle were in the King's hands as an escheat, *s.d.* 1193-1194.

was Leuca's. Roger de Monhaut afterwards wife of Philip de Oreby? now, I think I do a year he was agent and owner.

acknowledged the deed which he made to the said Philip of the land with its appurtenances.

And because both parties acknowledge that Ralph, after the last presentation, had given the manor with appurtenances to the said Roger, and Roger could not show that the advowson had been excepted, nor produced any evidence, nor any charter, and had besides acknowledged that Roger died seised of the manor with appurtenances, and Leuca likewise in the same manner, "it is considered that Philip should recover seisin by reason of his custody of the said Acres, saving the right of Roger, if he should wish to *inde loqui*." And Roger is *in misericordia*.¹ m. 9.

Parer. John le Eir sued Robert de Offewurth and Elizabeth his wife, Leonard de Bodelesdon and Basilia his wife, and Henry the Falkoner, for a rent of 12d. and for reasonable estover in the wood of Morton, which he claimed by a fine levied in the reign of King Henry, grandfather of the King, before the Justices Itinerant at Coventry, between Ralph de Mara, the father of the said Elizabeth, Basilia, and William Bagot, and Richard, son of Ernald, the grandfather of the said John, whose heir he is; and Robert and Elizabeth did not appear, but essoined themselves; and an essoin will not lie, because they first essoined themselves before the Justices Itinerant as is recorded. The Sheriff therefore to have their bodies at the octaves of Michaelmas; and the same day is given to Leonard and Basilia and to Henry le Fauconer, named in the writ, who did not wish to answer without their co-parceners; and William Bagot, who was named in the writ, had license from the Justices of receding, until the suit should be terminated. m. 10.

STAFFORDSHIRE ASSIZE ROLL OF 12 H. III.

Headed, "Placita et Assise apud Stafford in crastino animarum, coram Thoma de Muleton, H. de Gant R. de Lexinton, et R. Musard, anno R. R. H. XII. [7th November, 1227.]

Robert de Legha, John Saucheverel, Ralph de Dulverne, William de Stafford, four knights summoned to elect twelve, &c., to make the great assize &c., between the Prior of Tutebiri, plaintiff, and Luke de Buterton the tenant of eight and a half acres of land and half a mill in Tutebiri, &c., came and elected Robert de Stantun, Milo de Verdun, Ralph de Muttun, Hugh Baggot, William Pantun, Robert fitz Pagan, William Rufus, John de Salt, Robert de Knihteale, John de Actun, Roger de Melewik, Robert de Leya, John de Saucheverel, William de Stafford, Ralph de Dulverne, and Henry de Verdun. A concord was made, by which Luke acknowledged the land, &c. (to be the right of the Prior), and for which the Prior gave him five marks. m. 1.

Ralph de Dulverne, John de Actun, Robert de Knihteale, Henry de Verdun, four knights summoned to elect twelve, &c., between Adam de Wilbrihton, plaintiff, and Henry de Wyverston, tenant of eight acres of wood in Befecote, elected William Pantun, Robert de Esenington, Nicholas Urs, Adam de Bremtun, Ralph de Bremtun, Ralph de Mutton, Philip de Lottele, Richard de Evenefeld, Robert de Mere, Robert de Lea, Robert fitz Pagan, John de Saut, Roger de Mulewaz, Ralph de Dulverne, Henry de Verdun, John de Actun, Robert de Knihteale. Adam came afterwards, and gave 20s. for license of concord, by which Adam remitted all his claim for two and a half marks.²

¹ This suit shows the pedigree of Montalt in Ormerod's "Cheshire" to be incorrect in some particulars.

² See fine No. 42, levied at Lichfield 12th November, 1227.

PLEAS OF THE CROWN.¹

"*Placita de Coronâ apud Lichesfend de Itinere Justiciorum, anno XII^o.*"

Hundred of Tatemanslawe.

Henry de Tene, taken on suspicion of robbery, acknowledged himself to be a robber before many witnesses, and appealed Stephen de Maddelegh and Robert his brother, as his associates, and afterwards withdrew his appeal. Evidence was given (*testatum est*) that he is a robber, and it is therefore considered that he should be hanged. (*Et ideo consideratum est quod suspendatur*).

Stephen de Maddelegh, taken on the appeal of the said Henry, denied the consort and robbery, and put himself on the country. The jury² say he is not guilty, and he is released. His sureties are William de Stafford and Richard de Draicote.

Hundred of Offelawe.

William Ingolf, taken for robbery, denied it, and put himself on the country. The jury say they do not believe him to be guilty. He is therefore released,³ and to be in frank pledge as before. (*Turatores dicunt quod non intelligunt ipsum esse culpabilem, et ideo quietus, et sic sub francplegio suo sicut prius.*)

Hundred of Seisduna.

Richard le Mascun and Richard, the Clerk of Terbebigge, were crushed under the wall of the Church of Terbebigge, so that they died. John Datus was the first finder, and is not suspected. No Engleschery was presented. *Ideo murdrum.*⁴

In this county presentment of Engleschery is made by one on the part of the father, and another on the part of the mother, or by two on the part of the father.

Alice, the daughter of Hugh de Wibaldestun, was found drowned in a well of the garden of her father. Hugh, the father, was the first finder and is not suspected, nor is anyone else. Judgment: Misadventure (*Infortunium*).

Some unknown malefactors came to the house of William de Wibaldestun, and killed his wife, and fled. It is not known who they were, *ideo nichil*.

Nicholas, son of William de Aka (Oaken), through madness, fell on the wheel of a mill, so that he died. Henry, the miller, was the first finder, and is not suspected, nor is anyone else. Henry did not appear, therefore his sureties are *in misericordiâ*, viz., Richard of the Grene, and Thomas de Perry (*Peario*). They were fined half a mark. The value of the wheel is *xiid.*, which they paid (as deodand).

The Church of Kenefare is of the gift of the Lord the King. Gilbert de Lacy holds it by gift of King Richard.

Nicholas de Sumery is in ward to the Earl of Chester, by gift of the King. His land in this Hundred is worth 15*l*.

¹ A selection from the Pleas and Presentments only is given, viz., such as possess an intrinsic interest, or illustrate the procedure of the Court.

² This is the first instance of a jury in Staffordshire in a criminal trial.

³ It will be perceived the jury speak from their own knowledge, and not from the evidence of witnesses.

⁴ *Murdrum* means the fine, not the crime.

The Church and Deanery of Wulvrenehamtun is of the King's gift. Giles de Ardingtun holds it by the gift of the present King.

The Church of Tatenhale is of the King's gift. Walter de Brakele holds it by gift of the Lord the King.

Ralph de Pertun holds by sergeanty of the Lord the King in Pertun, and it is worth 40s., and he ought to serve in the King's army with two horses and with a hauberk, and he receives 8d. per diem from the King's purse. Henry de Oxelea is *in misericordiâ* for default (*i.e.*, of appearance).

Arleg was Adam de Port's, and is an escheat of the Lord the King. H. de Bugh holds it by the King's gift, and it is worth 12l.

Thomas Bracur (Brewer), of Wulvrenehamtun, was accused of larceny, and put himself on a jury, and the neighbouring vills, viz., the Deanery of Hampton, Seggeslegh, Pattenhall, and Wodnesfeld. The jury say he is a robber, and has committed various larcenies: *ideo suspendatur*. His chattles are worth 6s. 6d., for which the town of Wulvrenehamtun answers.

The manor of Swineford appeared by six (jurors).

John, son of Nicholas de Prestwude, was found dead in the fields of Prestwude, and Nicholas his father was the first finder, and is not suspected, nor is anyone else. Judgment: *ins adventure*. No Engleschery was presented, *ideo murdrum*.

The manor of Wulvrenehamtun, on the part of the Lord the King, appeared by six, and the Dean's part did not appear with them as is the custom. It is therefore *in misericordiâ*, and it (*i.e.*, the manor) answers by twelve in common.

Roger, son of Henry, on the occasion of the strife between the men of Wulvrenehamtun and the men of Seggeslegh, was struck by an arrow, so that he died; and Nicholas de Mashall is suspected of having caused his death; and he was of the household (*manupostu*) of Roger de Mushull his father. Roger is therefore *in misericordiâ* for not producing him. The same (*i.e.*, Nicholas) was afterwards accused of the crime (*retractus*) at the house of his father in the manor of Seggeslegh. The vill is therefore *in misericordiâ*. The said Nicholas to be outlawed, and his father to be arrested, and Henry the Clerk withdrew himself because he had been present, and is not suspected of being privy to the death. Therefore he may return if he wishes.

The men of the Lord the King of Bilestun complain that Juliana, the widow of Roger de Benetlega, and her son, had erected buildings in the wood of the Lord the King at Benetlega, and destroyed the wood, where the aforesaid men were accustomed to have husbote and heybote and other necessaries by the view of the Forester, and the said Juliana and her son did not permit them now to enter the said wood.

The manor of Erlegh (Arley) appeared by six. Some unknown malefactor came by night to the house of Osbert de Hehstal, and broke into the house and killed him and all his family. And Thomas, son of Alexander, a groom (*garcio*) was in the house at the time, and escaped, and is not suspected. Henry Yek and Robert de Bildewas are suspected, and they have fled. Judgment: To be outlawed. They were received in the vill of Erleg, which is therefore *in misericordiâ*. No Engleschery was presented, *ideo murdrum*.

The manor of Kenefare appeared by twelve. William of the Hulle was struck by his own knife whilst wrestling with William the Turnur so that he died, and William le Turnur was apprehended for his death, and put into gaol at Stafford, and afterwards admitted to bail by the Justices; and William did not appear, and therefore all his sureties are *in misericordiâ*, viz., John fitz Philip, Ralph de Hethcote, Andrew of the same, Thomas de Bukenhull, Adam de Sturtun, John de Sturtun, Robert de Whitintun, William, son

of Hugh Nicholas de Kenefare, Richard Beneit, of New Town (*novo burgo*), William de Kenefare, and Robert, son of William de Cumptun. The said William is not suspected, because William de la Hulle before his death acknowledged that he fell upon his own sword. Afterwards Ralph de Hethcote appeared, and was fined for himself and all the others, one mark, by the surety of Andrew de Hethcote.

The manor of Tatenhale (Tettenhall) came by twelve.

The manor of Tatenhale, is the demesne of the Lord the King. William de Ganages holds it by gift of King John, and it is worth 60s.

Hundred of Offelawe. m. 11.

Robert, son of Thomas de Mortun, was found dead in the fields of Mortun. Thomas his father was the first finder, and is not suspected, nor is anyone else. Judgment: Misadventure.

Some unknown malefactors came to the house of Juliana de Brokhull at night, and robbed the house (*burgaverunt*), and the vill made no pursuit of the malefactors. It is the crime *in misericordia*.

Hugh le Vachir was burnt in the *vacheria* (cowhouse) of Ralph Basset of Draitun. Ralph, son of William, was the first finder, and is not suspected, nor is anyone else. Judgment: Misadventure.

Agnes, daughter of Hamon, was crushed by a load of firewood in a certain house, so that she died. Matilda de Rideware was with her; no one is suspected. Judgment: Misadventure. *m. 11, verso.*

Thomas the Miller, of Burton, and Richard his son, were drowned whilst conveying turf in a boat on the water of Trante. Henry, son of Ralph, was the first finder. Nobody is suspected. Judgment: Misadventure.

Geoffrey del Wal, who appealed Robert de Wal, his lord, and Nicholas de Stowe, of robbery and a breach of the King's peace, did not appear. He is therefore to be apprehended, and his sureties are *in misericordia*, viz., Robert de Chasterfeld and Roger de Walle, of Mora; and it is shown that the said Robert and Nicholas are not guilty, and Geoffrey was amerced 20s. His sureties are Henry de Erdington, Simon de Walle, Robert de Cestrepend, and Roger de Mora.

Some unknown malefactors came to the house of St. John of Tamewurth, and killed three of the brethren there. It is not known who they were. Robert, son of Robert, was in the house at the time, and is not suspected. No Engleschery; therefore *murdrum* on the vill of Tamewurth.

The Church of Walesale is of the gift of the Lord the King. Magister Serlo holds it by gift of King John.

Nicholas Duredent had obstructed the road between Lichefeld and Tamewurth, to the injury of all the country; and the Sheriff is commanded therefore, &c. (*sic*, left unfinished).

Thomas Corbet holds the manor of Bromlega of the Lord the King. It is worth 8*l.* per annum, and he renders 4*l.* to the Treasury. He has not yet rendered fealty to the King.

Alan fitz Herbert the Priest was accused of larceny, and stated he was a *Clericus*; and Brother Peter, the Chaplain of the Lord of Coventry (*i.e.*, the Bishop), attorned in his place *ad hoc*, claimed a Court Christian. Let him have it, and do with him what is just. It was afterwards testified that he was not guilty.

John, son of Walter de Handesacre, accused of larceny, put himself on the country. The jury say he is not guilty. *Ideo quietus.*

BANCO ROLL No. 9, TOWER RECORDS.

Headed, "*Placita apud Sanctum Brigidam Londonii, de termino Sanctæ Trinitatis, anno R. Henrici, filii Regis Johannis, XXIII.*" [May and June, 1239.]

Staff. Hervey, son of Hervey de Stafford, sued Henry de Aldidelegh to hold to a fine levied in the Court of the King at Lichfield between the said Hervey complainant, and Hervey, the father of Hervey, tenant, respecting the manor of Horton;¹ and he complained that whereas by that fine the whole of the manor should remain to the said Hervey saving 2*l.* of rent, the said Hervey had deforced him of nearly three hundred acres of wood, and had built upon the land and devastated the wood, so that he was damaged to the extent of 20*l.* and he produced the chirograph of the fine in Court, by which Hervey his father acknowledged all the aforesaid manor to be the right of the said Henry, to be held of the said Hervey and his heirs by the service of 10*s.*, and for which acknowledgment, &c., the same Henry gave to Hervey all the land which he held in Norton under Kevrement, viz., ten librates of land.

And Henry appeared in Court and acknowledged the fine, and denied he had deforced Hervey of any wood belonging to the land of Norton, which had remained to his father by the fine. The Sheriff is commanded to summon sixteen Knights and others of the vicinage of Norton, to be in Court at fifteen days from Michaelmas, to make recognition as to the amount of wood which pertained to Norton in the twelfth year of the present King when the said fine was levied, and if the said Henry against the tenor of the fine had raised buildings in the wood belonging to the said land of Norton, &c. *m. 3, dorso.*

Staff. Robert Marescall appeared against Ralph Purcel in a plea that he had sued him in Court Christian &c., and Ralph did not appear, and the Sheriff returned he was a *Clericus* and held no lay fee by which, &c., the Archdeacon of Stafford is therefore commanded to produce him at fifteen days from Michaelmas. *m. 4.*

Staff. Richard de Herleg and John, son of Richard de Huhtesden, were attached to answer the complaint of Henry Round, that they had deforced him of his common of pasture in Kingeston, pertaining to his free tenement in Huhtesdon (Hixon), and which he ought to have according to the purports of charters which he held of Geoffrey de Greseleg and the ancestors of Geoffrey, and which charters the said Geoffrey had acknowledged before the Justices Itinerant at Lichfield.

Richard and John appeared, and Richard stated that he held the tenement in which Henry claimed common of pasture of Geoffrey de Greseleg, and he called the said Geoffrey to warranty. Geoffrey to be summoned at fifteen days from Michaelmas. John stated he could not plead to the writ because he was a villain of the said Geoffrey; he is therefore dismissed from the suit.

The same Henry sued Geoffrey de Greseleg for deforcing him of common of pasture in Kingeston, belonging to his free tenement in Huhtesdon; and Geoffrey did not appear, and was attached by Gilbert de Morton and Geoffrey le Franceis. He is therefore to be attached by better sureties to appear at the same term. *m. 6, dorso.*

Staff. Alditha de Sandon sued Richard Meverel for five bovates of land in Herdewik; and Richard prayed a view. A day is given to the parties at three weeks from Michaelmas. *m. 7.*

Warw. Fraricus de Dicheford was attached to answer the complaint of Vivian de Standon, that he did not hold to the fine levied in the Court of

¹ See fine No. 72, dated Lichfield, 27th November, 1227.

King Henry, the grandfather of the King, before the Justices Itinerant at Oxford, between Adam de Standon, the grandfather of Vivian, whose heir he is, and Robert de Dicheford, the father of the said Fraricus, whose heir he is, respecting half the manor of Dicheford. And the said Vivian complained that whereas the said manor should remain to the said Robert, father of Fraricus, and his heirs for the service of a knight's fee and 4s. yearly, the said Fraricus had detained the service of half the fee, viz., four marks and 40*d.* of divers sc. tages.

Fraricus acknowledged the fine, and conceded the service demanded, and arrears from the time that the castle of Bedford had been besieged.¹ *m.* 14.

Stat. John Marescall appeared on the fourth day against William de Aldithelme and Clemence his wife, in a plea that they should declare by what right they claimed common of pasture in the land of the said John in Stanton, when he had no common of pasture in the land of William at Blore; nor did William and Clemence perform any service to him by which they could claim common in his land. William and Clemence did not appear, and are to be attached for the morrow of St. Martin. *m.* 22.

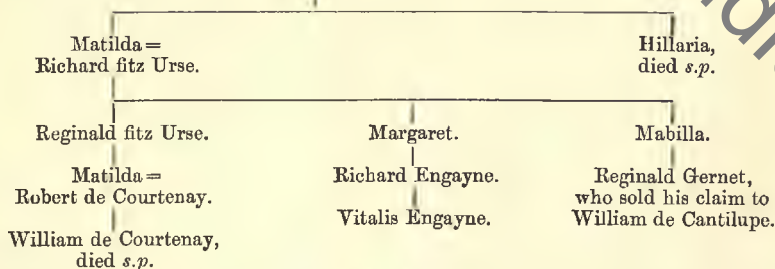
POLL No. 53.

Headed, "*Placita coram Domino Rege in Octabis Sancti Hillarii, anno regis ejusdem XXV.*" [26th January, 1241.]

M. 7. "*Placita in Crastino clausi Paschæ, anno XXV.*" [8th April, 1241.]

Salop. A long and interesting suit, in which Vitalis Engayne and Roger Gernet claim the Honor of Montgomery, as descendants of the first wife of Baldwin de Bullers, living *temp.* Henry I.; and Giles de Erdington claimed it on account of a grant made to his father Thomas by Stephen de Stanton, a descendant of Baldwin by a second wife. William de Cantilupe derived his claim by a grant from Reginald Gernet, one of the co-heirs. The pleadings give the following pedigrees:—

Baldwin de Bollers, to whom Henry I. gave the Honor of Montgomery with Sibilla de la Faleyse, the niece (*nepotem*) of the King.



¹ *i.e.*, from A.D. 1224, Falk de Bréauté had seized and imprisoned one of the King's Justiciars in the castle of Bedford, and refused to release him. The King raised an armed force, took the castle after two months' siege, and hanged all the knights and men-at-arms which had formed the garrison. Falk was not present, but afterwards surrendered himself, and was banished from the kingdom.

following, but had not done so. Robert appeared by attorney, and stated that he had never bought a horse from William; and as William produced no proofs, it is considered that Robert should be dismissed from the suit, and William is *in misericordia*.

ROLLS Nos. 111, 112, 113, 114, and 115 contain no Staffordshire suits.

ROLL No. 116.

Headed, "*Adhue de Assisis captis apud Waleford*" (Hillary Term, 45 H. III.) [January, 1261.]

Leye. An assize of right presentation to the Church of Raggedale (Rakedale), the advowson of which Ralph Basset of Drayton claimed against Beatrice de Coleville and the Prior of Kanewell; Ralph stated that Ralph Basset his grandfather had presented his Clerk Richard to the Church, who had been instituted, and had lately died Parson of it. Beatrice admitted this, but stated that Ralph Basset had assigned to her the manor of Raggedale in dower, after the death of Ralph his father. The Prior withdrew his claim. A postscript states a verdict was given for Ralph by a jury summoned at Windsor.¹ m. 1.

ROLLS Nos. 117 and 118 contain no Staffordshire suits.

BANCO ROLL No. 16.

Headed, "*Placita apud Westm: coram G. de Preston et . . . in Octabis Sancti Michaelis, anno regni Regis H., filii Johannis, XLV., incipiente XLVI.*" [6th October, 1261.]

Oxon. The Abbot of Hales sued Baldwyne de Insula to warrant to him 100s. of rent, and forty acres of wood in Horeburn, which Giles de Erdington claimed of the said Prior by an assize of mordancestor in the King's Court; and the Sheriff had been commanded to summon him for this day, and had done nothing therein, but returned that he had notified the Bailiff of the Liberty of Boulogne, who had done nothing. The Sheriff is therefore commanded to summon the Bailiff to be in Court at three weeks from Hillary; and the same day is given to Giles de Erdington in Banco. m. 12.

Staff. Lecia, the widow of Richard de la More, sued William de Mere for one-third of two acres of land in Sibiton, and Robert le Marschall for one-third of one acre, and three others, for one-third of three small parcels of land

¹ Lower down on the same membrane the heading is as follows:—" *Assisæ captæ apud Windlesores, die Dominicâ proximâ post Festum Sancti Matheï, anno xlv., coram G. de Preston et G. de Leukenore.*" [27th February, 1261.] It is from this entry that the date of the Roll has been taken.

tenants in Clifton, for her dower, is adjourned to three weeks from St. Hillary. Geoffrey appeared in Court, and warranted their land to all the tenants who were first sued by Matilda. *m. 35, dorso.*

Staff. The Abbot of Roucestre sued Robert de Akoure and Margaret his wife, for entering his wood of Northull and destroying the herbage of it. Robert and Margaret did not appear, and are to be re-summoned for the Octaves of the Purification.¹ *m. 43, dorso.*

Staff. Petronilla, the widow of Thomas de Clayton, sued Ralph de Shepering and five others, for her dower out of tenements held by them in Newcastle-under-Lime, and Nicholas, son of Henry, for one-third of a messuage in Feld, as his dower. The defendants did not appear; and to be re-summoned for the Octaves of St. Hillary; and their tenements to be taken into the King's hands. *m. 45.*

Staff. Petronilla, the widow of Thomas de Cleyton, sued Adam de Lavendun, Nicholas, son of Thomas de Cleyton, and Simon de Pykestoke, for her dower out of tenements held by them in Newcastle-under-Lime. The defendants did not appear, and are to be re-summoned for fifteen days from St. Hillary; and the land to be taken into the King's hands. *m. 61.*

Staff. William le Mathur sued Geoffrey de Camvill in a plea that he should warrant to him a virgate of land in Clifton, for which he holds the charter of William de Camvill, the father of Geoffrey. Geoffrey did not appear; and to be attached for three weeks from St. Hillary. *m. 69.*

Staff. The Sheriff had been commanded to raise (*fieri faceret*) 10 marks out of the lands and chattel of Robert de Crendon, and bring them into Court on this day, in order to pay them to Alice, the widow of Roger Guncy, who had recovered that sum against the said Robert in Court as damages; and the Sheriff had done nothing, and returned the writ came too late to execute. The Sheriff is therefore commanded (as before), at three weeks from St. Hillary, and to appear in Court himself on that day. *m. 71, dorso.*

Staff. Reginald, the son of Roger de Sadington, sued Martin Matel and Sibilla his wife, for half of two messuages, and of two virgates of land and 20s. of rent, twenty acres of pasture, and twenty acres of wood in Slyheberi, as his right and reasonable purparty. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff certified the summons. The half of the said tenement therefore to be taken into the King's hands; and they are to be re-summoned for five weeks from Easter. *m. 76.*

Staff. Geoffrey de Kamwill appeared to answer the plea of William de Hundesacre, that he should warrant to him a third of two virgates of land in Clifton, which Matilda, the widow of Richard de Canvill, claimed against him as dower. William did not appear. The land is therefore to be taken into the King's hands, to the value of the said third part; and William to be summoned for the Octaves of St. Hillary. *m. 76, dorso.*

¹ This suit was concluded by a fine levied 3rd November, 1263. See Calendar of Fines, No. 58.

ROLL No. 33, TOWER RECORDS.

Headed, "*Placita de Comitatu Warw., coram Martino de Lutlebiru et sociis suis, Justiciariis Itinerantibus, in crastino Sanctæ Trinitatis, anno regni Regis Henrici, filii Regis Johannis, quadragesimo sexto.*" [5th June, 1262.]

Warw. Alan de Romely sued Hugh de Loges for a hyde of land in Cesterton, of which Alan his ancestor was seised, &c. in the time of King Richard I; and from Alan the right descended to Geoffrey his son and heir, and from Geoffrey, who died without issue, to Matthew his brother, and from Matthew to Alan, who now sues as son and heir. A concord was made. *m. 1, dorso.*

Warw. John de Somerville sued Thorald, son of Edwin, for half a virgate of land in Stakton, of which Walter his ancestor was seised, &c., in the reign of King Henry, the grandfather of the present King, and from Walter the right descended to Roger as son and heir, and from Roger to another Roger as son and heir, and from Roger to another Roger as son and heir, and from Roger to John, who now sues as son and heir. Thorald admitted that Walter was seised of the land as stated, but pleaded that he had enfeoffed Edwin his father of the land, and put himself on a Great Assize. A concord was afterwards made. *m. 2.*

Warw. An assize, &c., if Robert Bagod and Margaret his wife had unjustly disseised Muriel de Stretton of her free tenement in Stretton. Ralph Bagod, the Bailif of Robert, appeared for the defendants, and denied that Muriel ever was seised as of fee; but the jury find in her favour. *m. 4.*

Warw. William de Upton and Ralph Clevelaunce sue Robert, son of Henry de Westcote, for a messuage and fourteen pere of land and two acres of pasture in Herdewik, of which one Alice de Stafford, their ancestress, was seised as of fee, &c., in the reign of King Henry the grandfather of the present king; and from Alice the right descended to one Robert, her son and heir, and from Robert to another Robert as son and heir, and from Robert, who died without issue, to Fluria and Alice his sisters and heirs, and from Fluria the right of her purparty descended to William as her son and heir, and from Alice the right of her purparty descended to Ralph as her son and heir.

Robert appealed to a Great Assize, which found in favour of the plaintiffs. *m. 10, dorso.*

Warw. An assize, &c., if Edward, the eldest son of the King, Magister Thomas de Pywelesdon, and others, had unjustly disseised Robert, son of Robert de Stafford of his free tenement in Tysho, viz., of a carucate of land and 4 marks of rent. Geoffrey de Langele, the Bailiff of Prince Edward, appeared and pleaded the assize ought not to be taken, as he claimed nothing in the land either in demesne or in services; that Robert de Stafford died seised of it, and the custody of the lands and the heir of Robert fell to the King, who gave them to Prince Edward to hold till the full age of Nicholas, son and heir of Robert. Verdict for Prince Edward. *m. 11, dorso.*

Warw. Ralph Basset of Drayton was summoned to answer the complaint of Jordan de Whitacre that he detained Nicholas, son and heir of Ralph de Sekendon, the wardship of whom belonged to Jordan, inasmuch as his father Ralph had held a fourth of a Knight's fee of him in Sekendon. The jury say that after the death of Ralph de Sekendon, Jordan had seisin of his land as of his lawful custody, and Ralph Basset sent his men, together with Nicholas,

jun., Roger de Morteyn, and Roger Illari, on one side ; and on the other side, Henry Murdak, William de Cavereswall, Thomas de Clinton, John de Wyavill, William du Lay, Robert de Knightele, Robert de Wystan, Richard fitz Herbert, and Robert Silvey. *m. 33.*

Staff. Thomas de Ferrars sued Margaret, widow of William de Ferrars, Earl of Derby, for the manor of Cherteslega (Chartley), excepting the advowson of Stowe in the same manor. Margaret appeared by attorney, and prayed a view. A day is given to them at fifteen days from St. John the Baptist. *m. 40, dorso.*

Staff. William de Lay and Isabel his wife sue William de Morteuk for an illegal retention of chattels to the value of 40s. The defendant did not appear, and is to be attached for fifteen days after St. John. *m. 40, dorso.*

Staff. Robert de Ferrars¹ sued Margaret, the widow of William de Ferrars, Earl of Derby, in a plea of admeasurement of the dower of the said Margaret in Yoxhal, la Croiz (? Hoarcross) Weston, Stowe, Heywode, Ambricton (Amerton), and Cherteleg. Margaret did not appear. To be attached for fifteen days after St. John. *m. 41.*

Staff. The same Robert sued Margaret for waste and destruction made in the woods at Yoxhale and Cherteleg, which she held in dower of the inheritance of the said Robert ; and she did not appear. To be attached for the same day. *m. 41.*

Staff. Reginald, son of Roger de Sadinton, sued Martin Martell and Sibilla his wife, for half a messuage and forty-eight acres in Blithebiri. The defendants did not appear. To be summoned again for fifteen days from St. John. *m. 42, dorso.*

Staff. Alice, the widow of William de Pyrie, sued Ingelran, son of Alan le Rus, for half of half a virgate of land in Acton, and Alan, son of Elias, for half of half a virgate of land in the same vill. The defendants did not appear, and are to be re-summoned for fifteen days from St. John. *m. 42, dorso.*

Staff. Ralph Basset, of Drayton, was summoned by Philip Marmiun to surrender to him Giles, son and heir of Nicholas, son of Ralph, the wardship of whom belongs to him, inasmuch as Nicholas held his land of him by Knight's service, viz., Whitacre by the service of a Knight's fee. Ralph called to warrant Thomas de Clinton, who appeared and warranted the custody to him, and stated that the said Nicholas held a fourth of a Knight's fee of him in Glascote and Klingefelde ; and the ancestors of Nicholas were enfeoffed by his ancestors of the vills of Glascote and Klingefelde before the ancestors of Philip had enfeoffed them in Whitacre. Philip pleaded that the tenure of Glascote and Clyngefeld was a soccage tenure ; but a jury find in favour of Thomas.

Staff. Giles, son of Nicholas, was attached to answer the complaint of Philip Marmiun that he had come with others to the manor of Whitacre, which is in the custody of the said Philip, and had carried off the hay of the park of the said manor to the value of five marks, and had insulted and maltreated the servants of the said Philip, on the Monday before the Feast of Saint Cuberb (*sic*), in the forty-fifth year of the reign. Giles pleaded that the park in question belonged to him, because it was held in soccage of one James de la Launde, and it formed no part of the manor of Whytacre, but was of the "corpus" of the manor of La Lee, belonging to James de la Launde, and he appealed to a jury ; and because the park in question lies

¹ Robert de Ferrars, the last Earl of Derby of his line, who forfeited all his patrimony except Chartley and its members. The heirs of feudal earldoms were not styled earl until they had been formally invested by the King with the sword and belt.

forton for one-third of two virgates of land in Atton (Hatton) and Selfton (Shelton), and one-third of a rent of 8 marks in Chelle, which she claimed as dower. Roger did not appear, and had previously made default, and the Sheriff had been commanded to take the land into the King's hands, but had done nothing in the matter, returning that the writ reached him too late. He is therefore commanded to execute it as before, and to summon Roger for the Octaves of St. John the Baptist. *m. 6, dorso.*

Staff. Cecilia, the widow of William Cogan, sued Henry de Verdun for one-third of the manor of Chelle, which she claimed as dower. Henry did not appear. The Sheriff is therefore commanded to take the land into the King's hands, and to summon him for fifteen days after St. John the Baptist. *m. 12.*

Warr. Thomas, son of Roger de Budolf, sued Philip de Wileburne¹ to acquit him of the service which John de Verdun claimed of him for the free tenement which he holds of him in Bidolf, in co. Stafford, and in which Philip is *medius* between them, and ought to acquit him. Philip did not appear, and had previously made default. The Sheriff is ordered to distrain him by his lands, &c., and to produce him at three weeks from Michaelmas. *m. 13, dorso.*

Berks. Richard de Bathyalton and three other tenants of Westlaking sue Mabilla de Curcun, the *custos* of part of the lands of Stephen, son and heir of Stephen de Curcun, in co. Stafford, to warrant to them, together with William de Paveley, the *custos* of the body and lands of the same heir in Berks, the third part of their tenancies in Westlaking, which Agnes, the widow of Stephen de Curcun, claimed as dower against them; and as it was not known how much land he said Mabel held in custody in co. Stafford, nor how much the said William de Paveley held in custody in co. Berks, the Sheriffs of Staffordshire and Berkshire are commanded to make an extent, and to appraise all the lands which the said custodians held, and to return the extents at the Octaves of Trinity. *m. 16.*

Staff. An assize came to make recognition if Thomas de Erdington, the father of Giles de Erdington, was seized &c., of 100s. of rent and forty acres of wood in Horeburn and Smythewyk when he died, which rent and wood the Abbot of Hales holds. The Abbot appeared by attorney, and called to warranty Isabella,² the sister and heir of Baldwin de Lisle. Sibin (*sic*) to be summoned in co. Northampton to appear on the morrow of All Souls. *m. 18, dorso.*

Staff. Robert de Blakeloue and Alditha his mother, sued Nicholas, son of Thomas de Cleyton, in a plea that he should hold to a convention made between them and Thomas, father of Nicholas, whose heir he is, respecting a messuage in Newcastle-under-Lime. Nicholas did not appear, and the Sheriff is commanded to distrain him, &c., and to produce him in a month from Michaelmas. *m. 25.*

¹ Philip was son of Felicia, the daughter and heiress of Dionisia, daughter and co-heir of Engenulf de Gresley, who married Alina, daughter and heiress of Robert fitz Orme; and Roger de Biddulph, descended from another son of Orme (Chetwynd's "Collection"). Orme, called also Ormus de Gulden, or Ormus de Marlston, was a King's Thane, holding large possessions in Staffordshire *temp.* H. I. After the death of Henry I., the greater part of Orme's fief appears to have been added to the Verdun Barony, and thus at this date John de Verdun occurs as the chief lord of one of the manors in Biddulph.

² The famous Isabella, Countess of Albemarle and Devon, and *Domina* of the Isle of Wight, which she inherited as heir of the last Baldwin de l'Isle. She governed the Isle of Wight as a petty sovereign.

ROLLS Nos. 122 and 123 contain no Staffordshire suits.

BANCO ROLL No. 25.

A fragment, headed, "Adhuc de quindena Paschæ." (Probably of Easter, 48 H. III.)

Staff. Isolda, the widow of Stephen le Fevre, appeared against Geoffrey le Knic in a plea that he had insulted her in the public road at Duddesleg, and bound her, and carried her bound (*ligatam*) to his house at Etingall against her will, and had there beaten and illtreated and imprisoned her. Stephen did not appear, and is to be attached by better pledges for the Octaves of St. John the Baptist. *m. 7, dorso.*

Warw. (sic). Gilbert (*sic*), son of Roger de Bydolf, appeared against Philip de Wylleburn in a plea that he should acquit him of the service which John de Verdon claimed from him for the free tenement which he holds of him in Bidolf, in co. Stafford, of which Philip, who is mesne tenant (*medius*) between them, ought to acquit him. Philip did not appear, and had made several defaults. The Sheriff is therefore ordered to distrain him, &c., and to produce him on the Octaves of Michaelmas. *m. 8.*

Staff. Petronilla, the widow of Robert de Melewys, sued Philip le Chapelayn for a third of fifteen acres of land in Melewyz, and John, the son of the Parson (fitz la Parson), for a third of fifteen acres in the same vill as her dower. The defendants appeared, and called to warranty Robert, son of Robert de Melewyz, who came to the summons and asked that it might be shown why he ought to warrant the tenements to them. The defendants state that they hold the tenement for a term of ten years by the demise of the said Robert, and after the term is expired the tenements revert to the said Robert and his heirs. Robert, with the permission of the Court, admitted the claim to dower. Petronilla therefore is to have seisin, and the defendants to hold the two parts of their tenements after the end of the term of ten years to the value of the third part they now lose. *m. 15.*

ROLL No. 124.

Headed, "Placita coram Domino Rege, in crastino Nativitatis Beatae Mariæ, anno R. R. H., filii Regis Johannis, XLIX." [9th September, 1265.]

Staff. The Abbot of Hilton sued the Prior of Stanes, Ralph de Braeles, and three others named, for entering his pasture in Normancote and carrying away 300 of his sheep to Stalington, where they were detained and impounded; and for beating and ill-treating Robert de Havecle, his shepherd. The defendants did not appear, and had previously made default, and the Sheriff had been commanded to distrain them, &c., and to produce them at this date; and the Sheriff had done nothing in the matter, but returned that he could not execute the mandate of the Lord the King on account of the war. The Sheriff is therefore commanded as before to distrain them by their lands, &c., and to produce them at the Octaves of St. Martin. *m. 2.*

Staff. The same Abbot appeared by his attorney against the Prior of Stanes, Robert le Mareschall, Roger son of Ivo, Thomas de Venables, Thomas de Pyrie, and Nicholas, the serjeant (*serviens*) of Stanlinton, in a plea, that whereas by a verdict of the Court of the Lord the King of Newcastle-under-Lyne, he had recovered full and peaceable seisin of the said land,¹ the defendants had entered it *vi et armis*, and cut down, and reaped, and devastated, and carried away his growing corn. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff had been commanded to distrain them, &c.; and the Sheriff had done nothing, but returned that in consequence of the war he could not execute the mandate of the Lord the King. He is therefore commanded as before to distrain them, and to produce them on the Octaves of St. Martin. *m. 2.*

Staff. Thomas de Arderne appeared by attorney against William de Hondesacre, in a plea that on the occasion of the late disturbances in the kingdom, he had taken and carried away his goods and chattels from Cherlton, he, Thomas, having faithfully and constantly adhered to the Lord the King and his son Edward. William did not appear, and the Sheriff is commanded to distrain him, &c., and to produce him at fifteen days from St. Martin. *m. 3, dorso.*

Staff. Hugh de Acoure appeared against John de Auldithelga, in a plea that on the occasion of the late disturbances in the kingdom, the said John had taken and carried away his goods and chattels from Acoure. And John did not appear, and the Sheriff had been commanded to distrain him, &c., and had done nothing in the matter. The Sheriff is therefore commanded as before, and to produce him at fifteen days from St. Martin.

The same Hugh sued Henry, the Parson of Blore, for preventing the restitution of the said goods and chattels, and he did not appear; and the Sheriff had been ordered to distrain him, and returned he held no lay fee. The Bishop of Coventry and Lic. field is therefore commanded to produce him at the said term. *m. 6, dorso.*

Derb. The same Hugh appeared against Alexander the Mercer, Robert Pirim, of Esseburn, and three others named, in a plea that on the occasion of the late disturbances in the kingdom, they had taken and carried away his goods and chattels from Acovere, Shene, and Sneyleston, and they did not appear, &c. (as before). The Sheriff is ordered to distrain them, and to produce them at fifteen days from St. Martin. Hugh puts in his place William de Acovere his brother. *m. 6, dorso.*

M. 8. "*Placita de tertiâ Septimanâ et mense Sancti Michaelis, coram R., apud Cantuariam, anno XLIX., incipiente quinquagesimo.*" [October, 1265.]

Salop. Odo de Hodinet appeared by attorney against William Trumwyne, Robert de Knyhte, Thomas de Onne, William de Knytele, Robert Pipe, Henry de Chaunes, Ralph Wasteney, Stephen de Wyreswell, John de Swynereston, Robert de Staundon, John de Clinton, Richard de Loges, Philip de Mutton, Philip Noel, Henry de Swynerston, Gilbert le Marescal, Henry de Verdun, and Stephen de Okle, in a plea that they with others had entered the manor of the said Odo, on the occasion of the disturbances in the kingdom, and had taken and carried away his goods and chattels. The defendants did not appear; and the Sheriff is commanded to distrain them, &c., and to produce them on the Octaves of Hillary. *m. 8.*

Staff. The Prior of Stanes sued Thomas de Venables and Nicholas, the serjeant of Stalington, for cutting down and carrying away his growing corn,

¹ No land named, but it probably refers to Normancote.

&c. (as before). Thomas and Nicholas plead that the Prior had not stated in his narration any vill in which the alleged trespass took place. As the Abbot could not deny this, the suit is dismissed, and the Abbot is *in misericordia* for a false claim. *m. 12.*

Staff. The Prior of Stanes and the other defendants appear to answer the complaint of the Abbot of Hilton (as before), and deny the trespass complained of. The Sheriff is ordered to summon a jury for the morrow of the Purification. *m. 13, dorso.*

ROLL No. 125.

Headed, A siscæ aptæ apud Northt : coram Domino Rege, in crastino Epiphaniæ Domini, anno L. [7th January, 1266.]

M. 2. "Placta"

Salop. Giles de Erdington appeared against James de Alditheleg in a plea that he (James), accompanied by a multitude of armed men, had come into his lands of Soubin, Wethiford, and Befford, and taken away or consumed his hay, oxen, and other cattle, and detained them at his castle of Redcastle, &c. James did not appear. The Sheriff is commanded to distrain him, and to produce him at three weeks from Easter. *m. 4.*

Staff. Adam de Arderne appeared against the Celerar of Stanes, Gilbert le Mareschal, Robert son of Elias, and Richard de Bromle, in a plea that whilst Adam was in prison for the King and Edward his son, they had come to his house at Cnotton, and taken away his goods and chattels to the value of 30 marks, and still detained them. The defendants did not appear; and the Sheriff was commanded to attach them for this day, and returned that the Celerar was attached by Roger Lenfant of Stokes, and William le Meke of the same, and Robert son of Elias by Elias his father, and William the clerk of Wytemore: they are therefore to be attached by better sureties to appear at a month from Easter. And as regards Gilbert le Mareschal and Richard de Bromle, the Sheriff returned that they were not to be found, and held nothing by which, &c. The Sheriff is therefore ordered to arrest them, if they can be found, and produce them at the same term. *m. 14.*

Staff. Thomas de Arderne's suit *versus* William de Handesacre, for trespass committed during the disturbances in the kingdom, comes up again. The Sheriff returned he had been unable to execute the writ, because all the lands of William had been given to James de Audedele, and he held nothing by which he could be distrained. The Sheriff is commanded therefore to arrest him, if he can be found, and to produce him at a month from Easter. *m. 16.*

Staff. Adam de Upton appeared against Hugh, son of Thomas, Henry de Fonte, William le Peleter, Adam de Lamden, Thomas, brother of the said Hugh, Richard le Roer, William de Crewer, Robert Walkere, William de Rottele, Roger de Crew, William le Forester, Roger de Snoton, Jordan de Swerkeston, John Muryel, and five others, to hear judgment in a plea of mayhem, robbery, and breaking of the King's peace, for which he had appealed them, and which had remained since Easter, 48 H. III., in consequence of the disturbances in the kingdom; and the Sheriff was commanded to produce the jury, viz., Robert de Badenhale, Geoffrey de Bromlegh, Robert de Rynkerdon, Geoffrey de Walton, Warin Brun of Heywode, William de Warylowe of

Grenlegh, Hugh de Blakelowe, Symon de Cherleton, Robert de Parco, of Offeleghe, William Meverel, of Standon, Robert, son of Robert de Wolselegh, Thomas Grym of Heywode, Robert, son of John de Acumdeston, and Roger de Beryhull. None of the jury appeared; and the Sheriff was ordered to produce them at fifteen days from Easter. *m. 12, dorso.*

Staff. The Sheriff was ordered to distrain the same defendants at the suit of the King for the assault and robbery upon Adam de Upton, and to produce them on the same day. *m. 12, dorso.*

Staff. Adam de Upton appears against Richard le Clerk, and thirty-one others named, to hear judgment in an appeal of mayhem and robbery, viz., for insulting and beating him in the highroad of the town of Newcastle-under-Lyme, and robbing him of 10 marks. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff is ordered to produce them at fifteen days from Easter. *m. 26.*

ROLL No. 126.

No heading; but endorsed in old handwriting, Michaelmas Term, 50 H. III. [October 1266.]

Staff. William de Farnham appeared against the Dean and Chapter of Tamewurth in a plea that they should hold to a fine made between Philip Marmion and the Chapter respecting the advowson of the Church of Middilton, by which fine the Dean and Chapter conceded to the said William 10 marks to be paid yearly to him for his life. The defendants did not appear, and the Sheriff had been commanded to distrain them and produce them at this day, and had done nothing, and sent no writ. The Sheriff is therefore *in misericordia*, viz., Leon de Kynefare.

The Sheriff is commanded as before to distrain the Dean and Chapter, and to produce them at fifteen days from St. Martin, and to be present himself to hear judgment on his own default. *m. 3, dorso.*

Staff. Hugh de Boeles sued Robert de Grendon for a debt of 26 marks. Robert did not appear, and is to be attached for the Octaves of Hillary. *m. 3, dorso.*

Staff. Matilda, widow of Henry, son of Adam le Taylur, sued William le Sergeant, of Ernefeld, for one-third of a messuage and a carucate of land in Ernefeld, which she claimed as dower.

The same Matilda sued Roger de Cnotton for dower in Newcastle-under-Lyme (one-third of a messuage and two acres of land). The defendant did not appear, and to be summoned for the morrow of St. Martin, and the land to be taken into the King's hands. *m. 4, dorso.*

Staff. Emma, the widow of Hugh Attelitgate, sued Richard le Berkyr for one-third of a messuage and nine and a half acres of land in Little Aston, and Thomas le Wudeward of Alrewyk for one-third of a messuage in the same vill, which she claimed as dower. The defendants did not appear; to be re-summoned for fifteen days from Hillary, and the land to be taken into the King's hands. *m. 7, dorso.*

Staff. William, son of Mabel de Fosbrok and Avice his wife, sue Matilda de Huggeford, the Prior of Stanes, and four other tenants in Hildulveston for the dower of Avice. The defendants did not appear, and are to be re-summoned for the morrow of St. Martin; the land to be taken into the King's hands. *m. 9.*

Staff. Christiana, the widow of Geoffrey de Thykenton, recovers dower

The jury say that Geoffrey Griffyn holds this Hundred in fee of the King, and renders to the King 6½ marks yearly, and it is worth 20l.

Of Valets, they say that Geoffrey de Gresle, Thomas de Haleton, Hugh de Weston, William de Mere, William Bagot of Bromlegh, and Thomas Meverel of Gayton, hold entire Knight's fee, and are of full age, and are not yet Knights. They are therefore *in misericordia*. Likewise Nicholas, Baron of Stafford.

Some unknown malefactors came to the house of Richard le Despencer in Neuton and killed him. They straightway fled, and it is not known who they were, and the vills of Neuton, Dreycote, Leye, and Creswalle did not come to the inquest, and are *in misericordia*. m. 49.

Of Serjeanties, they say that Peter de Arderne, John de Uffeley (Offley), and Robert de Knotton hold the manor of Knotton by the serjeanty of finding three horsemen armed for the custody of the castle of Newcastle-under-Lyme for forty days, at their own cost, and the serjeanty is now commuted (*arentata*) at 4l. 6s. 6d.

The jury of the Liberty of Newcastle-under-Lyme stated that respecting encroachments (*purprestura*), Robert de Stafford fifteen years before had enclosed sixty acres of land of the soil of the *sokemannii Regis* in this manor, which used to be common to all the men of the King in this manor, both freemen as well as sokemen (*tam liberis quam sokemannis*), and Nicholas de Stafford now holds the same; and similarly James de Audeley had approved of the same common forty acres of land, and the land of the said James is now in the King's hands. The matter to be inquired into. m. 49, *dorso*.

* * * * *

The borough of Stafford came by twelve jurymen and stated that— William de Hecstal and Adam, son of William, were together in the house of William de Burges, and a contention arising between them out of an old hatred, the said Adam struck William with a knife in the stomach and killed him, and Adam straightway fled, and is suspected. Therefore he is to be put in the *exigent*, and to be outlawed. He has no chatels, and is in no thyting, because he is a Clerk. No Engleschey was presented, therefore judgment of murder against the Borough.

Respecting *prises (de prisis)*, they say that Roger Doget, the Constable of Certesleye (Chartley), took a *doleum* of wine from Richard Gilbert, who was carting wine from the cellars of St. Botolph, and forced him to carry it to the Castle of Certesleye to his own use, and the value of it was 5 marks, of which he paid nothing, and they say the same Roger takes prises in the vill of Stafford of bread, meat, fish, and other things against the will of those to whom the things belong and pays nothing for them. The Sheriff is ordered to produce him before the Court. m. 50.

The jury say that Ralph Wymer holds the King's vivary in the vill of Stafford, and renders to the King half a mark yearly, and it is worth 10s.

* * * * *

The Borough of Newcastle came by twelve jurymen.

Respecting encroachments, they stated that Nicholas, son of Henry, had made an encroachment in the Liberty of Newcastle on the high road three feet in width and fifteen in length, to the injury of the whole country, and Stephen Ergan had also made an encroachment in the same manner, and Thomas, lord of Tynteshovere (Tittensor), had made a ditch twenty feet in length and six feet in width upon the same road to the injury of the whole country. The Sheriff is ordered to remove the encroachments at the cost of the persons who made them. m. 50, *dorso*.

* * * * *

The Hundred of Offelawe appeared by twelve jurymen, and stated that—

William de Sutton, a monk of Canewall, had struck Roger de Hundesacre with a stick on the head, and Roger died five days afterwards, and William had fled, and is suspected; therefore he is to be put in the *exigent*, and outlawed. He had no chattels, and was in the *manupastu* of the Prior of Canewall. The Sheriff is ordered to produce the Prior, who came and was fined 1 mark, for which Ralph Basset of Drayton is surety. *m. 52.*

John de Pendeford and John le Mouner (miller) of Rideware Mauveysin, fell into contention on the high road between those villis, and John de Pendeford struck John the Miller on the head with a stick, and John the Miller struck again the said John in the stomach with a knife, so that he died on the following day; and John straightway fled and is suspected; therefore he is to be put in the *exigent*, and outlawed. His chattels are worth 18*d.*, for which the Sheriff answers, and he was received in the vill of Rideware Mauveysin out of his thything. It is therefore *in misericordiâ*, and the villis of Rideware Mauveysin, Rideware Hampstal, Little Rideware, and Blithburi did not appear at the inquest, and are *in misericordiâ*. *m. 52.*

John, son of Robert of Elford, fell from the drawbridge (*de ponte vertibile*) of William de Parles of Onesworth (Handsworth) into the water and was drowned. The first finder is dead, and is not suspected. Judgment, misadventure. The value of the bridge is 3*s.*, and the villis of Onesworth, Pyrie, Bromwyz, and Horburne appraised falsely the dead and. They are therefore *in misericordiâ*. *m. 52.*

Some unknown malefactors came to the house of Richard de la Ford in Bromle, and broke open the house and carried away all the goods they found in it to the wood of Hundesacre, when a dispute arising between them respecting the division of the goods, some of them wounded one of their companions and left him; and Robert de Okle, the Bailiff of John de Baskervill¹ at Hundesacre, Roger, the son of Robert, and Philip de Erdesle took him into custody, and on the third day afterwards they benefited him without view of the Coroner, or any assembly of the neighbours. They are therefore to be taken into custody. *m. 52, dorso.*

Agnes de Morton had fled through fear because she sheltered a certain strange woman.² And the jury do not suspect her. Therefore she may return if she pleases, but her chattels are confiscated for her flight. They are worth 8*s.*, for which the Sheriff answers; and William de Chand's had taken her chattels without warrant. He is therefore *in misericordiâ*.

Respecting defaulters, they say that the Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, William de Oddingseles, Robert de Dunes, John de Wauton, Ralph Basset of Drayton, the Abbot of Hales (who is infirm), Margaret, Countess of Ferras, Roger Cocus of Wychenoure, Richard, son of Richard of the same, and Jordan Skil of the same place, did not appear on the first day. They are therefore *in misericordiâ*. *m. 53.*

The jury present that this Hundred belongs to the King, and William de Parles holds it of the King for term of his life, and he renders for it 12 marks.

Respecting Valets, they say Geoffrey de Caunville, Thomas Corbet, Henry de Erdinton, and John de Herunville hold full Knight's fees, and are of full age, and are not yet Knights. They are therefore *in misericordiâ*.

Matilda, the widow of Robert de Rughleg (Rowley), appealed in the County Court William de Hundesacre, Robert de Blakegrave, Richard, son of Jordan de Barre, and Henry de Acton, for the death of her husband Robert, and she did not appear. She is therefore to be taken into custody. And

¹ John de Baskerville was probably in possession of Handsacre at this time, owing to the forfeiture of the Lord of Handsacre.

² A woman probably who had been "*waiviata*" or outlawed.

William now appeared and stated that Robert de Rughleg was a common robber, and he was looking for him and found him in Walesdale, and Robert fled and would not stand to the King's peace. Therefore they beheaded him and he appealed to a jury. The jury say that Robert was a robber, and had beheaded one of his companions at Walesdale, and William and others coming up, wished to apprehend him, and Robert defended himself and fled, and they had killed him in consequence; and they say that he was a robber, and was flying from the King's peace (*diffugiens de pace*). Therefore William and the others are acquitted; and they say that Matilda appealed the said William and the others named at the instigation of William de Mortheyn and Robert his brother. They are therefore to be taken into custody. *m. 53.*

Alice, the wife of William le Veynur of Rideware, appealed in the County Court, John, son of Thomas de Tamenhorne, and Richard le Rus, of Lichefeld, for the death of her husband; and they were outlawed at the suit of the said Alice, and the outlawry was promulgated against them at the fourth County Court, as is shown by the Rolls of Bertram de Burgo, Coroner, and of William de Chetelton, Coroner, and it was erased from the Roll of Robert Selweyn Coroner. Therefore the lands and tenements of the said Robert are to be taken into the King's hands, and Henry Selweyn his Clerk is to be committed to prison; and the chattels of Richard are worth 11s., for which the Sheriff answers, and he had a horse of which the year and waste belongs to the King, and is worth 9s., for which the Sheriff answers. John had no chattels. Afterwards Robert Selweyn came and fined for himself and Clerk 10 marks, for which William de Hordesacre, Bertram de Burgo, Hugh de Tymore, Henry Cocy, William de Offley, William de Rydeware, Roger de Rydeware, and John le Merluz, are sureties. *m. 53.*

William de la Lynde of Sheneston appeared in the County Court Richard de Thyckebrum, Simon his son, and Henry le Benneyfiver for wounding and robbing him, and he did not appear at the present time to prosecute his appeal. He is therefore to be taken into custody, and the jury say that the defendants are not guilty. *m. 53, verso.*

N.B.—The following towns appeared by juries of twelve each at the assizes, viz. :—

Liberties.

The Liberty of Alveton (Alton).
The Liberty of Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Burgus.

The Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme.
The Borough of Stafford.
The Liberty of Mere.
The Liberty of Penkeris.
The Liberty of Bradeleg.
The Liberty of Tetinhale.
The Liberty of Seggesleye.
The Liberty of Swyneford.
The Liberty of Kynefare.
The Borough of Tuttebiri.
The Liberty of Burton.
The Liberty of Lichefeld.
The Borough of Tamworth and Wyginton.
The Liberty of Wolvrenehampton.
The Borough of Eckeshale.
..... (*one illegible*).
The Manor of Alrewas.
The Manor of Brumle Regis.

CALENDAR

OF

FINAL CONCORDS, OR PEDES FINIUM

STAFFORDSHIRE,

TEMP. HEN. III.

INCLUDING THE FINAL CONCORDS OF MIXED COUNTIES IN
WHICH STAFFORDSHIRE TENANTS ARE PARTIES.

Official Number.	Date.	Complainant.	Tenant or Deforciant.
1	Westminster, 20th May, 1218.	Robert de Swinnerton	William, Prior of Kenilleworth...
2	Westminster, 13th October, 1218.	Milisent de Stafford	Hugh de la Rudingges
3	Westminster, 6th May, 1218.	Nicholas, son of Hagene (by Terric his brother put in his place).	Alan de Cumberford
4	Westminster, 13th October, 1218.	Melisant de Stafford	William, son of Matthew
5	Westminster, 13th October, 1218.	Milisent de Stafford	Peter de Hanle
6	Westminster, 13th October, 1218.	Melisant de Stafford	Ralph de Hintes
7	Westminster, 13th October, 1218.	Melisant de Stafford	Adam le Warner
8	Westminster, 13th October, 1218.	Melisant de Stafford	Robert, son of Matthew
9	Westminster, 13th October, 1218.	Swain, son of Adam and Gev, his wife.	Sampson, son of Henry
10	Westminster, 1st July, 1219.	Henry de Alditheleg	Thomas de Albomonasterio (Oswestry) and Margery his wife.
*1	Warwick, 14th January, 1222.	Henry de Birmingham	William de Birmingham
2	Lichfield, 29th October, 1221.	Walter, son of Geoffrey	Thomas de Dorlaeston
3	Lichfield, 29th October, 1221.	Walter, son of John de Cappella.	William, son of Hugh
4	Lichfield, 29th October, 1221.	Ralph, son of Ralph	Alexander the Priest (Presbyter)
5	Lichfield, 29th October, 1221.	Matilda, the widow of Geoffrey Witfinger.	Richard le Scinter
6	Warwick, 14th January, 1222.	William de Parles	Richard fitz William, (called to warranty by Prior of Sandwell).

The Fines levied at the Iters of the Justices have a different series of numbers from those levied at Westminster.

Subject of Fine, and Result.

- Advowson of the Church of Swinnerton. The Prior acknowledged the advowson to be the right of Robert, and the said Robert granted to the Church and Canons of Stanes two marks of silver to be received annually by the said Canons from the Parson of the Church of Swinnerton, and this agreement was made with the assent of William, Bishop of Coventry.
- Fourteen acres of land in Wotton. Milisent acknowledged the land to be the right of Hugh, to be held by Hugh and his heirs, of Milisent and her heirs for 42*d.* yearly.
- Ten virgates of land in Cumberford and Cestrefeud. Nicholas remits all claim, for which Alan gives him 6 marks of silver.
- Eight acres of land in Wotton. William and his heirs to hold the land of Melisent and her heirs for 27*d.* yearly.
- Three acres of land in Wotton. Peter and his heirs to hold the land of Melisent and her heirs for 9*d.* yearly.
- Twelve acres of land in Bradele. Ralph and his heirs to hold the land of Melisent and her heirs, together with the other land he holds of the said Melisent of the gift of Robert de Stafford, for the service of a sparrow hawk annually.
- Eleven acres of land in Bradele. Adam and his heirs to hold the land of Melisent and her heirs for 22*d.* yearly.
- Ten acres of land in Wotton. Robert and his heirs to hold the land of Melisent and her heirs for 12*d.* yearly.
- A messuage in Lichfield, claimed by Geva as dower. Swein and Geva remitted all claim, for which Sampson gave them 10*s.*
- Two carucates of land in Bradenhop and Mixne. Henry and his heirs to hold the land of Thomas and Margery and the heirs of Margery for a pair of white gloves annually. (*Endorsed*, "William de Harecurt for himself and his wife put in his claim to the land, which ought to descend to the heirs of his wife after the death of Margery, the mother of the wife of the said Thomas.")
- Two hides of land in Morf. Henry and his heirs to hold a moiety of William and his heirs for the service of one-fourth of a Knight's fee, and William grants that out of the first heritage which may fall to him or his heirs, he and his heirs shall make an exchange of equal value to the land which the said William retained for himself. Henry and his heirs to perform the service of half a Knight's fee for the whole.
- An acre of meadow in Bradele; and between the said Walter and Robert de Ho. tenant of half a hide of land in the same vill. Thomas and Robert acknowledge the land to be the right of Walter, and Walter grants a mark of silver to Thomas for the acre of meadow; and the said Walter grants all the said land to Robert, to be held of him and his heirs by Robert and his heirs for half a mark yearly.
- Two acres of land in Lichefeld. William and his heirs to hold the land of Walter and his heirs for 6*d.* and a pound of cumin yearly.
- Half a virgate of land in Wiggeton. Alexander and his assignee, and heirs of his assignee, to hold it of Ralph for a term of twenty years from the last Feast of St. Michael, for 38*d.* yearly.
- A messuage in Lichfield, claimed as dower by Matilda. Matilda remits her claim, for which Richard gave her 2 marks.
- Ten acres of land in Sandwell. William remits all claim, for which Richard gave him 10*s.*

Official Number.	Date.	Complainant.	Tenant or Deforciant.
7	Salop, 12th November, 1221	Magister William de Manecestre, Canon of Lichfield.	Nicholas, Clerk del Estowe (Stowe).
8	Salop, 12th November, 1221.	Magister Ralph de Maidestan, Canon of Lichfield.	William, son of Hugh and Mabilia his wife.
9	Lichfield, 29th October, 1221.	Adam de Shradevete	Milisent de Stafford
10	Lichfield, 20th October, 1221.	Avice and Benigna, daughters of Nicholas.	John de Acton
11	Lichfield, 13th October, 1221.	Walter Hose	Norman Pantolf
12	Lichfield, 13th October, 1221.	Richard, son of Adam de Onne	Adam, son of Nicholas
13	Lichfield, 20th October, 1221.	Roger Gine and Alice his wife	Agnes Bagot of Brunschulf Bramshall).
14	Lichfield, 20th October, 1221.	Osbert the Smith (Eubrum)	Adam de Northicote
15	Lichfield, 20th October, 1221.	Thomas de Staunton	Ralph, son of Simon (by William his brother put in his place).
16	Lichfield, 20th October, 1221.	John de Acton	William, son of Thomas de Brocton.
17	Lichfield, 20th October, 1221.	Philip de Erdington and Alice his wife.	Thomas Antecost and Matilda his wife.
18	Lichfield, 20th October, 1221.	Robert, son of Elias, and Philomena his wife.	Hugh, son of Gilbert
19	Lichfield, 20th October, 1221.	John Fitz Philip	Philip de Lutelega
20	Lichfield, 20th October, 1221.	Roger de Grai	Philip, Prior of St. Thomas the Martyr, of Stafford.
21	Lichfield, 20th October, 1221.	Robert de Becco	Magister Robert de Gloucester
22	Lichfield, 29th October, 1221.	William Cotel and Alice his wife, and Thomas de Gaham and Christiana his wife.	Sibilla, widow of Robert, son of Ketell.

Official Number.	Date.	Complainant.	Tenant or Deforciant.
37	Westminster, 3rd November, 1249.	David, Prior of Kenillewurth.	James de Aldithelegh, called to warranty by Bertrea his mother.
38	Westminster, 3rd February, 1251	William, Abbot of Deulacresse	Hugh le Despencer
39	Westminster, 20th January, 1251.	Robert, son of Vivian de Standon.	Robert de Stafford
40	Westminster, 13th October, 1251.	William de Curtenay and Joan his wife.	Henry de Lucton
41	Westminster, 6th October, 1251.	Ralph de Costerton	Robert Cludewan de Lynhulle ...
42	Westminster, 20th October, 1251.	Waryn, son of Waryn de Verton.	William de Curtenay and Joan his wife.
43	Westminster, 21st April, 1252.	Herwase, the widow of Thomas de Hamstede.	Thomas de Hamstede
159	Leicester, 9th June, 1253.	Ralph Basset	Robert de Stafford
44	Westminster, 20th January, 1253.	Roger le Marescall ...	Alexander de Curtlingestok and Isolda his wife.
45	St. Bride's, London, 25th November, 1254.	William de Caverswelle ...	Ralph de Deverne
160	Huntingdon, 22nd June, 1253.	Roger de Waletton ...	Ivo de Walton
Mixed and unknown Counties. Notts, Derby, Stafford.	Nottingham, 5th May, 1252.	Henry de Touk	Peter de Touk and Eustachia his wife, called to warranty by Baldewyn de Paunton.
Mixed and unknown Counties. Warwick, Stafford.	Westminster, 27th October, 1252.	William de Upton ...	Gilbert de Gloucester, called to warranty by Hawyse, widow of Richard de Gloucester.

Official Number.	Date.	Complainant.	Tenant or Deforciant.
161	Gloucester, 24th May, 1255.	Walter, Master of the Hospital of St. Lazarus of Retford.	Hugh de Dokesay
162	Lichfield, 27th January, 1255.	William Bagod	Robert Maunsel, of Pattleleshull.
163	Lichfield, 14th January, 1255.	William de Strethay and Thomas de Rokeby.	William de Meysham
164	Lichfield, 20th January, 1255.	Roger de Sumery	William de Parles
165	Lichfield, 20th January, 1255.	Robert de Ferars, of Mere	Thomas de Dutton and Philippa his wife, called to warranty by Thomas, Parson of the Church of Standon.
167	Lichfield, 20th January, 1255.	William, son of Robert de Werlye.	Michael le Teinter, of Lichfield ...
168	Lichfield, 20th January, 1255.	William de Stonylove	Robert de Mere
169	Lichfield, 20th January, 1255.	Hugh de Langnad and Agnes his wife.	Richard de Wulseleye
170	Lichfield 14th January, 1255.	Isabel, daughter of Robert de Joniston.	Robert, son of Robert, and Margery his sister.
171	Lichfield, 27th January, 1255.	Roger, Bishop of Chester	Robert de Capeta
172	Lichfield, 27th January, 1255.	Robert de la Chambre ...	Geoffrey Truttock and Juliana his wife.
173	Lichfield, 20th January, 1255.	Elias de Atboldeston and Avicia his wife.	William, son of Geoffrey ...
174	Lichfield, 20th January, 1255.	Geoffrey de Deneston....	William de Deneston and Alie nora his wife.
175	Lichfield, 20th January, 1255.	Richard, son of Letitia	Robert, son of Matilda de Eneston (Enson).
176	Lichfield, 14th January, 1255.	Robert, son of Henry de Calton.	Alan de Hudlesdale and Edusa his wife.
177	Lichfield, 14th January, 1255.	Alexander de Bykeford and Hawyse his wife.	Robert de Whyston

Subject of Fine, and Result.

- A market in Wulrenhampton which had been established by the Dean to the injury of Robert's market in Duddele. Roger grants that the Dean and his successors may have a market in Wolverhampton, on condition that he and his heirs, and his burgesses and villains of Dudley may be free from all tolls, &c.
- Advowson of the Church of Horeburn. Baldwyn acknowledged the advowson to be the right of the Abbot and his successors.
- Ten shillings arrears of a rent of 10s. from their mill of Wurenford and manor of Hales. Richard and Roes and Alice acknowledge for themselves and the heirs of Roes a rent of 10s. to be due to the Abbot and Church of Lilleshull. (Salop and Stafford.)
- Advowson of the Church of Exton. Adam and his heirs to nominate a Clerk on a vacancy, to the Abbess and her successors. And the Abbess and her successors shall present the same Clerk to the Diocesan. The Abbess and her successors to receive 20 marks annually from the said Church by the hands of the Rector.
- Advowson of the Church of Crumpton. (This is not a Staffordshire fine.) (*Endorsed*, "and John de Burgo put in his claim.")
- Common of pasture in the wood of Northullay (Denston). Robert and Margery remit their right, so that the Abbot and his successors may enclose and assart the wood, for which the Abbot quit-claims to Robert and Margery and the heirs of Margery all right in the homage and service of Nicholas de Bergheston and his heirs for the tenement which Nicholas held of the Abbot in Denstone, &c.
- A messuage and a carucate of land in Atherfeld. William and Joan remit their claim, for which Thomas gave them 40s. (*Endorsed*, "and Robert de Tywe put in his claim.")
- A messuage and two parts of a virgate of land and a rent of 20s. in Norton; and between the same Roes, and the same Robert and Matilda, called to warranty by John, son of Reginald and Alice his wife, and who warranted to them a messuage, and a mill and half an acre of land in the same vill; and between the same Roes and the same Robert and Matilda, called to warranty by Richard le Franchoume and Sibilla his wife, and who warranted to them the third of a virgate of land and a rent of 20s. in the same vill. Robert and Matilda to hold the tenements of Roes and her heirs, rendering 6*d.* yearly, and they gave her 6 marks and two acres of meadow in Wyrles, called Loversmede, to be held of them and the heirs of Matilda for a rose yearly.
- A bovat of land and two parts of a mill in Sandon (except a third of the said two parts). William and his heirs to hold the tenement of John and Roes and the heirs of Roes for a halfpenny yearly, for which William gave them 20 marks.
- A messuage and a carucate and a half of land in Knotton. Walter and Christiana and the heirs of Christiana to hold the tenement of John and Alice and the heirs of Alice for one clove gillie flower yearly; and Walter and Christiana gave John and Alice 10 marks.
- A messuage, an acre of land, and four acres of marsh in Herdewyk. William and his heirs to hold the tenement of Nicholas and Agnes and the heirs of Agnes for one penny yearly; and William gave to Nicholas and Agnes 100s.
- A bovat of land in Strungeshul. John and his heirs to hold the land of Nicholas and Margery and the heirs of Margery for 1*d.* yearly; and John gave to Nicholas and Margery 10 marks.
- Two messuages and twenty-four acres of land in Sandon. William and his heirs to hold the land of Thomas and Alice and the heirs of Alice for a pair of white gloves or 1*d.* yearly, and William gave to Thomas and Alice 20 marks.
- Third part of a messuage in Stafford. Simon and his heirs to hold the tenement of William and Alice and the heirs of Alice for a pair of white gloves or $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* yearly; and Simon gave to William and Alice 4 marks.

Official Number.	Date.	Complainant.	Tenant or Deforciant.
182	Warwick, 1st May, 1272.	James de Somerville	John de Somerville
183	Lincoln, 3rd February, 1272.	Philip, son of Ralph Basset of Sapecote.	Ralph Basset of Sapecote
184	Lincoln, 3rd February, 1272.	Robert, son of Ralph Basset of Sapecote.	Ralph Basset of Sapecote
185	Lincoln, 3rd February, 1272.	Thomas, son of Ralph Basset....	Ralph Basset of Sapecote
186	Lincoln, 3rd February, 1272.	Ralph, son of Ralph Basset	Ralph Basset of Sapecote
187	Lichfield, 1st July, 1272.	William Tromewyne	Nicholas de Newenham and Alice his wife.
188	Lichfield, 8th July, 1272.	Stephen le Orfvere	Thomas atte Castelyate and Letitia his wife.
189	Lichfield, 8th July, 1272.	William de Stafford	Robert de Weston and Joan his wife.
190	Lichfield, 25th June, 1272.	John de Fremulf	William, son of Henry de Kyngeston, and Matilda his wife.
191	Lichfield, 17th July, 1272.	Benedict de Bateford	Robert de Saucheverel of Quikeshulle.
192	Lichfield, 15th July, 1272.	William de Bolonia	Henry le Carpenter and Raunild, his wife, and Ralph de Bug and Matilda his wife.
193	Lichfield, 17th July, 1272.	William de le Wych and Joan his wife.	German de Culberdesfenton and Eva his wife.
194	Lichfield, 17th July, 1272.	William Letherhose and Juliana his wife.	William Kock
195	Lichfield, 3rd July, 1272.	William Durdent	Adam de Alresawe and Eva his wife.
196	Lichfield, 1st July, 1272.	Simon de Pykestoke ...	Henry de Dotentone and Joan his wife.
197	Lichfield, 1st July, 1272.	William de Attelebergh	Magister William de Attelebergh
198	Lichfield, 3rd July, 1272.	Simon de Arley	Thomas de Gorsthul and Cecilia his wife.
199	Lichfield, 1st July, 1272.	Bertram de Burgo	Richard de Boreweston and Roes his wife.

Subject of Fine, and Result.

- A messuage and two virgates of land in Barton. Adam quit-claims to Alice and her heirs all his right.
- Twenty-four acres of land in Merston Sukeburg and Sukeburg. Isabella and her heirs to hold the land of John and Margaret and their heirs for a pair of white gloves yearly; and Isabella gave them 13 marks.
- Alice complained that against the tenor of a fine levied in the reign of King John between Gilbert Bro., brother of Alice, whose heir she is, and Hugh de Loges and Margaret his wife, mother of the said Hugh, whose heir he is, respecting half a virgate of land in Sowe, and half the wood in the same vill, and two hides of land in Grenebergh and Caldecote, Hugh distrained her to do suit at his Court at Sowe, &c. Hugh de Loges acknowledges the land and wood to be the right of Alice and her heirs, and remits the suit of Court.
- A hide of land in Hulle and Lemington. Hugh acknowledges the land to be the right of Robert, to be held of the capital lords of the fee, for which Robert gives him 80 marks.
- A messuage and one-fourth of a virgate of land in Brochurst. William and Christiana acknowledge the tenement to be the right of Giles, to be held by him and his heirs, of William and Christiana and the heirs of Christiana.
- The manor of Dersethulle, which Joan de Berkele held in dower of the inheritance of Robert de Grendon by the service of half a Knight's fee. Robert de Grendon acknowledges the service of half a Knight's fee to be the right of Robert de Wycheford, to be held by Robert de Wycheford and his heirs, of Robert de Grendon and his heirs for a pair of gold spurs yearly; and for this recognition Robert de Wycheford concedes to Walter de Manecestre and Erneburga his wife the said service of half a Knight's fee, to be held by Walter and Erneburga and the heirs of Erneburga for a pair of gold spurs yearly, and Robert de Wycheford concedes that the said manor, which after the death of Joan should revert to Robert de Grendon and his heirs, should remain after the death of Joan to Walter and Erneburga and the heirs of Erneburga; and if Erneburga should die without issue, the manor to revert to Robert de Wycheford and his heirs, to be held of Robert de Grendon and his heirs for the service of half a Knight's fee.
- The service which Peter claimed for a free tenement in Nutehurst, viz., one-fourth of a Knight's fee. Peter acknowledges the said fourth of a Knight's fee to be the right of Robert, to be held by Robert and his heirs, of Peter and his heirs; Robert to pay 10s. out of every scutage levied of 40s.
- A hide of land in Cestreton. Alan remits all claim, for which Hugh gave him 2 marks.
- The services and customs which Roger claimed from William for Burnington, and its members. Roger claiming the service of eight and-a-half Knights' fees and one-fourth of a Knight's fee, and suit of Court at Duddeley every three weeks. William acknowledged the service of eight and a half Knights' fees, and one-fourth of a Knight's fee and suit of Court at Duddeley twice a year, viz., at the first Court after Michaelmas, and first Court after Easter, and whenever the King's writ of right is pleaded in the Court, and for strengthening (*afforciamentum*) of the Court when it is necessary to convoke all the Knights and Peers (Pares) of the said Court, holding by Knight's service, when difficult suits are to be adjudicated, and as often as a robber is there for judgment, at reasonable summons.
- A messuage and half a virgate of land, and one-fourth of a virgate in Prenestorp and Stratton-upon-Dunnesmore. William and his heirs to hold the tenement of Henry and Isabella and heirs of Isabella for a farthing annually.
- A messuage and a virgate of land in Pernesthorp. Richard and his heirs to hold the tenement of Henry and Isabella and heirs of Isabella for 12*d.* yearly; and Richard gave them 20 marks.
- Advowson of the Church of Stocton. John remits his claim, for which the Prior gave him 100s.

THE RONTON CHARTULARY.

RONTON, or St. Mary des Essarz,¹ was an Augustine Priory, founded about the middle of the twelfth century by Robert fitz Noel of Ellenhall. This Robert Noel, or Robert fitz Noel, as he is indifferently styled in cotemporary documents, was a person of considerable estate in Staffordshire, holding Ellenhall, Seighford, Clanford, Bridgeford, Podmore, Milnmease, and other lands of the Bishop; and Ronton² and its members of the Barons of Stafford. In Warwickshire also he held the Manor of Granborough of the Prior of Coventry. This latter manor as well as those held of the Bishop were doubtless acquired by episcopal favour and influence, for the Priory of Coventry was in subjection to the Bishops, and the service rendered to the Episcopal See by the Noels for their Staffordshire manors was quite incommensurate with their value and extent. For the whole of the Staffordshire estate held by this family of the See of Coventry and Lichfield, the service due to the Bishops was *half a Knight's fee*.

The Monks of Ronton at p. 12 of their Chartulary give the following account of the origin of their benefactor:—

In primis, quidam Noel nomine, et Celestria uxor ejus, venerunt in exercitu Willielmi Bastard in Angliâ, et habuerunt dictum manerium de Elinhale cum membris ex donatione ejusdem Willielmi Bastard. De predicto Noel descendit jus et hereditas cuidam Roberto Noel tanquam filio et heredi, qui desponsavit quandam Aliciam nomine, et fundavit Prioratum de Ranton vivente Celestria matre sua.

This account of the origin of the Noels has hitherto passed unquestioned, and has been introduced into all the genealogies of this family. It can, however, readily be shewn to be fictitious.

¹ Des Essarz is rendered into Latin *de Essartis*, and seems to be French for "the assarts." The monastery had probably been built on assarts from the waste of the manor.

² This name is written indifferently Ranton or Ronton at the present day.

Putting aside the chronological difficulties in it, it may be safely affirmed that Ellenhall could not have been given by the Conqueror to Noel, for we know, on the authority of Domesday, that manor was in the possession of the Bishops of Chester both before and after the Conquest. This account of the ancestors of the Noel family was not written in fact before the fourteenth century, and must be looked upon as one of those pious fabrications based on oral tradition which the inmates of religious houses usually compiled in honour of their founders. A curious feature in it is that the monks, regarding Celestria as their chief benefactress, and wishing to do her memory as much honour as possible, in accordance with the prepossessions of their age, have represented her, somewhat grotesquely, as accompanying the Conqueror to England in the train of his victorious army.

Leaving fiction for fact, we find from a document printed in the appendix to Hearne's "History of Glastonbury," that Celestria was daughter of Robert de Limsi,¹ who succeeded Peter as Bishop of Chester *circa* A.D. 1088, and died A.D. 1117. Here we have at once an explanation of the favourable bequests made to Noel out of the Episcopal estates and a date which coincides with the authentic epoch of Noel as handed down to us on the authority of cotemporary charters.

As Noel held no manors by hereditary descent, Ronton having been given or sold to him by Nicholas de Stafford² and all his other estates acquired in marriage with Celestria, he was probably a cadet of one of the vassal houses of the see of Chester, and I believe him to have been a brother or son of Robert, who A.D. 1086 held Handsacre of the Bishop.³

As regards the date of the foundation of Ronton, all that can be said positively on the subject is, that it was founded prior to A.D. 1166, for some of the witnesses to the foundation deed were dead at the date of the Liber Niger, the feodary of that year.

Sometime after the death of Robert Noel his foundation of Ronton was ratified by Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, who was consecrated A.D. 1184, and died A.D. 1190. In this deed, the

¹ A Bishop's daughter in the twelfth century was not necessarily illegitimate. Hallam states that most of the English bishops in the reign of Henry I. were married, and that monarch supported them in their refusal to put away their wives at the dictation of the Holy See.

² See deed at p. 256, Vol. II. of "Collections."

³ See the Handsacre Deeds in Dugdale's MSS.

Archbishop confirms the grant, which "*vir nobilis Robertus Noel, pie memorix, fecit de loco dicitur ad Sanctam Mariam de Essarz, sicut eum WILLIELMUS NOEL vel aliquis predecessorum ejus unquam melius tenuit.*" ("Monasticon.")

On the authority of this deed, Mr. Eyton has expressed an opinion that Noel the father of Robert fitz Noel was named William Noel, and that the name of Noel was employed both as a surname and agnomen, not an uncommon practice at this date.

The Chartulary of which an abstract is here given, is a folio volume of sixty-one pages of vellum written in a hand of the fourteenth century. A memorandum on the first page states it had been the property of Thomas Povey, Esq., by whom it had been presented to Sir Robert Cotton. Its official designation at the British Museum is Cottonian MS. Vespasian C.XV.

Besides the families of Noel and their descendants, the Harcourts and D'Oyly, the Chartulary contains much useful information respecting the Staffordshire families of Haughton, Knightley, de Burgh, Coyne, Handsacre, Duston, Knighton, Flashbrook, Adbaston, and Elliston.

In making the abstract care has been taken to introduce all matter which may be useful to the compiler of a County History. The writer of the Chartulary has unfortunately omitted in most cases the names of the witnesses to the deeds; these, whenever they occur, have been given at full length in the abstract.

G. W.

¹ The character of the handwriting, which is very marked, coincides also with the epoch of the last Harcourt mentioned in the pedigree.

REGISTRUM CARTARUM PRIORATUS DE
RONTON.

FOLIO 1.

“Prima Juratio Prioratus de Rontone per Robertum Noel, per metas et bundas subscriptas, vivente matre sua Celestrid.”

Robertus, filius Noel, omnibus filiis Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ, salutes. Sciant omnes, tam clerici quam laici, tam presentes quam futuri, me dedisse locum qui dicitur ad Sanctam Mariam des Essarz,¹ pro animâ meâ et uxoris meæ, et omnium parentum meorum, in perpetuam elemosinam Deo et Sanctæ Mariæ et Canonicis ibidem, Deo servientibus, sub regulâ et obedientiâ Hamanensis Ecclesiæ, cum totâ terrâ in circuitu, tam in bosco, quam in plano, &c. Testibus, Thomâ, filio Roberti, prelati loci fundatoris, et Filippo fratre ejus, Willielmo Clerico, Roberti Noel fratre, et Ricardo, et Johanne ejus fratribus, Huberto de Mandesacre, et Roberto filio ejus et Willielmo fratre ejus.

Robertus de Stafford, cum filiis, &c. donationem Roberti filii Noel, mei militis, &c. Hiis testibus Hilberto de Tepe, Thoma filio Radulfi, et Bernardo, et Godefrido Bras, et Adam, et Mathæo, et Nicholao . . . et Edrico, prefecto de Madeleia, et multis aliis.

FOLIO 2.

Robertus, filius Noel, &c., dedi, &c., Ecclesiæ Sanctæ Mariæ de Exsartis et Canonicis ibi Deo servientibus, Ecclesiam de Sethford, sitam in feodo et dominio meo, &c. Testibus, Rogero, Priore de Stanus, &c.

Robertus, filius Noel, &c., dedi omnes Ecclesias per totam terram meam fundatas in dominicis meis, &c. Testes . . . Prior de Stanus, Thomas Monachus, &c.

Thomas, filius Roberti, filii Noel, &c., concedo et confirmo, &c. Testibus, Waltero Abbate Watlham, Waltero, Abbate de Lillushull, Waltero Priore de Sancto Thomâ.

Thomas Noel dedi, &c., duas virgatas terræ cum corpore meo in villâ de Brugford,² &c.

Thomas Noel dedi, &c., duas virgatas terræ in Rontona. Testibus, Willielmo de Dustone, Jordano [de] Knittelle, et multis aliis.

FOLIO 3.

Carta Thomæ Noel de totâ terrâ quæ est divisa inter terram suam et terram Jordani de Knittelleye.

¹ Another grant by Robert fitz Noel, which is printed in the “Monasticon,” and is taken from the Harcourt evidences, states, “*locum qui dicitur Sancta Maria des Essarz,*” and this seems to be the better version.

² Great Bridgeford and Little Bridgeford are members of Seighford.

Thomas Noel dedi, &c., Willelmo Pistori medietatem prati ad molendinum de Mees. Testibus, Philippo filio Episcopi, Philippo Noel, et multis aliis.

Thomas Noel dedi, &c., Willelmo Pistori unam virgatam terræ in villâ de Mes, quæ fuit Willielmi de Piro, &c.

Alicia de Harecort, vidua existens, dedi, &c., totam culturam appellatam Broughull, de dominico meo de Cesteforde. Testibus, Domino Ricardo de Harecort, &c.

Alicia de Harecort dedi, &c., cum corpore meo, et pro salute animæ Thomæ Noel patris mei, et pro animâ domini mei Willelmi de Harecort, duas virgatas terræ in villâ de Bruggefurd, quas Thomas Noel pater meus cum corpore suo tenuit, et quas dominus meus Willelmus de Harecort et ego eisdem deforciavimus, &c.

Ricardus de Harecort, dominus de Elinhale, dedi, &c., pro animâ Aurabilæ uxoris meæ, duas virgatas terræ in villâ de Bruggefurd, &c.

Willelmus de Harecort concessi, &c., donationem predecessorum meorum Roberti Noel et Thomæ Noel, de Capellâ de Elinhale, pro salute animæ meæ et Aliciæ uxoris meæ. Testibus Radulfo filio Radulfi, Thoma Noel, Jordano de Knithtel, Thoma de Karseyell, et multis aliis.

FOLIO 4.

Ricardus de Harecort dedi, &c., pro salute animæ meæ et Horabillæ uxoris meæ, &c., novem virgatas terræ, et meam piscariam in Schepeye,² &c.

Ricardus de Harecort dedi, &c., totam terram quam Willelmus de Derdone tenuit in Schepee, &c.

Ricardus de Harecort dedi, &c., novem virgatas terræ et meam liberam piscariam in villâ de Schepee, &c.

Willelmus de Dustone dedi, &c., unam virgatam terræ quam Alanus Faber tenuit de me in Raunton, &c.

Omnibus, &c., Rogerus filius Adæ de Brais de[.], me concessisse, &c., unum messuagium et tres quarterias terræ quæ Galfridus, filius Hugonis, tenuit in villâ de Schepee, &c.

FOLIO 5.

Henricus de Templo³ dedi, &c., Ricardum, filium Hulle, Sewale Henricum, filium Roberti Toki, nativos meos in villâ de Schepee, &c.

Robertus, filius Henrici le Waleys de Schepee, remisi, &c., totum jus in tribus vocatis terræ in Schepeye. Testibus, Henrico de Templo, Galfrido Turgis,⁴ &c.

Thomas Noel dedi, &c., totam terram meam de Claneford,⁵ et totam terram quam Nicolaus, filius Edrici, filii Luverici, tenuit in Ronton. Testibus, Thoma de Kersewelle, Philippo filio Episcopi,⁶ Philippo Noel, Simone Senescallo, Willielmo de Hecstall.⁷

¹ Orabel, daughter of Saer de Quenci, Earl of Winchester.

² Great Sheepy, in Leicestershire, held by a family of the same name of the Harcourts, who held it of the Earls of Eerrars. (T. de Nevill.)

³ The family of Temple, or de Temple, held Little Sheepy under the Harcourts, who held it of the Earls of Winchester. (Nicholl's "Leicestershire.")

⁴ The family of Turgis were tenants in Great Sheepy under the Harcourts.

⁵ Clanford, now called Coton Clanford, is a hamlet in Seighford.

⁶ Philip fitz Bishop was named de Burgo from, I think, Brough in Ranton.

⁷ Estall, a member of Ranton.

Robertus Noel dedi, &c., tresdecim seyliones de tenemento meo in Cesterford, &c.

Robertus Noel dedi, &c., cum corpore meo, unam dimidiam virgatum terræ in villâ de Cestford, illam scilicet quam Thomas, filius Rogeri Sutoris de Gnoushale de me tenuit, &c. Testibus, Domino Roberto de Halnton, Domino Roberto de Knittele.

Sciant, &c., Philippas Noel dedi, &c., unam dimidiam virgatum terræ in villâ de Cestford, &c.

Universis, &c., me Willelmum de Dustone concessisse, &c., donationem quam Henricus Noel eis dedit de duabus virgatis terræ in Rontone, &c.

FOLIO 6.

Willelmus, filius Willelmi de Dustone, dedi, &c., totam terram de Claneford et terram de Ronton quam Helias Clericus tenuit, et terram quam Rogerus de Warwic tenuit in villâ de Grenbari,¹ &c.

Willelmus, filius Willelmi de Dustone, confirmavi, &c., totam terram de Gamelese, &c., et hoc in excambium totius terræ quam Nicholaus, filius Edrici, tenuit in villâ de Rontone, &c.

Conventio inter Priorem et Conventum de Rontone ex unâ parte, et Rosyam,² quæ fuit uxor Johannis Doyli, ex alterâ, super vastam de Ronton, &c. Facta in vigiliis Sancti Laurentii, a. r. regis Henrici, filii Regis Johannis, quinquagesimo secundo. Testibus, Domino Willelmo de Harecurt, &c. [A.D. 1268].

Rosia, quæ fuit uxor Johannis Doyly, concedo, &c., quod Prior, &c., possint sua et chanelas suas iuxta vastum meum in Ronton, anno Gratie m^occ^olxxxviii^o, &c. [A.D. 1278].

FOLIO 7.

Notum sit omnibus, &c., quod cum nota esset controversia inter Priorem et Canonicos de Rontone ex unâ parte, et Dominum Johannem Doyly et Dominam Roesiam uxorem suam ex alterâ, super terris, pasturis, et variis injuriis huic inde illatis, lis inter partes in hunc modum conquievit, &c. Testibus, Domino Roberto de Halnton, Willelmo Bagot, Domino Nicholao, Priore de Sancto Thoma, &c.

Johannes Doyly, miles, concessi, totum jus et clamium, &c., in illam partem prati in superiori parte vivarii de Claneford, &c., unde contentio superita fuit inter me et Priorem, &c., die Translationis Sancti Augustini, anno regni regis Edwardi decimo octavo. Presentibus Domino Willelmo de Stafford, milite, Magistro Thomas de Peulesdone, et aliis, &c. [A.D. 1290].

Pateat universis, &c., quod cum Domina Roys Doyli, Domina de Ronton, suo tempore concesserat Priori, &c., quod non molestaret per inundationem aquæ, &c., ego Johannis Doyli concessi et confirmavi, &c.

FOLIO 8.

G., Prior de Ronton, &c., concedo J. Doylli et Roes uxori suæ et heredibus eorum, totam candelam quæ die Purificationis Beatæ Mariæ oblata fuerit in capellâ suâ de Rontone infra curiâ suâ sitâ, de se et de liberâ familiâ suâ, exceptis omnibus parochianis dictorum Prioris et Conventus, &c.

Notum sit omnibus, &c., quod cum ortæ essent discordiæ inter Priorem,

¹ Granborough in Warwickshire, held by the Noels of the Priory of Coventry.

² Roes was daughter and co-heir of the last William de Duston.

FOLIO 58.

Willielmus, filius Willielmi de Haywode, &c., noverit me confirmasse, &c., omnimodam concessionem, &c., quas antecessores mei fecerunt, &c., et etiam quietum clamasse a me et heredibus meis unum obolatum redditus quem recipere consuevi de Willelmo le Norreys, &c.

Juliana, filia Umfridi de Wulscote, vidua existens, dedi, &c., totam terram quam Umfridus pater meus tenuit in villâ de Wulscote, &c., salvâ terrâ mihi et heredibus meis quam Willelmus dominus meus tenuit de predictis Canonicis, &c.

Willielmus de Edrichesleye dedi, &c., viginti denarios redditus annualis, quos percipere solebam de Ada Gist de Walcote, &c.

Willielmus de Edrichesleye dedi, &c., redditum quadraginta denariorum quem de feodo Warini de Walcote recipere consuevi, &c.

Willielmus de Flamwyle de Wyleby¹ ex assensu Margeriæ uxoris meæ, dedi, &c., homagium et servitium et totum dominium Adæ Gist et heredum suorum de tenemento quod idem de me tenuerunt in villâ de Walcote juxta Greneburg, &c.

Johannes le Walker de Braundestone dedi, &c., quinque denarios annualis redditus, quos Adam Gist mihi reddere consuevit, &c.

Willielmus de Flamwyle et Margeria uxor ejus, Philippus le folur et Anna uxor ejus, Ricardus Oliver et Matildis uxor ejus, &c., noverit, &c., nos concessisse xl. denarios annualis redditus de tenemento Adæ Gist in Walcote, quos quidem quadraginta denarios solebant solvi Willelmo de Colushul per Warinum de Walcote et heredes suos, &c.

FOLIO 59.

Willelmus Norreys de Cwintre dedi, &c., unam acram terræ in campis de Wulscote, illam, scilicet, quam habui ex dono Willielmi de Heywode, &c.

Willielmus, filius Galfridi de Wulscote, dedi, &c., unam rodam terræ prati subtus domum Galfridi de Vado, &c.

Willielmus dictus, le Serjaunt de Greneburg, dedi, &c., illud messuagium quod emi de Michaelo, filio Willielmi fabri, de Greneburg, &c.

Ricardus Thalemache de Wulscote consensu et assensu Adelinae uxoris meæ dedi, &c., Deo et Ecclesiæ Sancti Pauli de Greneburg, quinque acras terræ in Wulscote cum corpore me, &c.

Adelina, uxor Ricardi Thalemache de Wulscote dedi, &c., Deo et Ecclesiæ Sancti Pauli de Greneburg, quatuor acras terræ in campo de Wulscote, &c.

Thomas Thalemache dedi, &c., quatuor acras terræ in villâ de Wulscote quas pater meus et mater mea eidem domui et eisdem Canonicis de Ronton dederunt, &c.

Thomas Thalemache dedi, &c., unam rodam prati subtus domum Galfridi de Vado, &c.

FOLIO 60.

Ricardus, filius Osberni de . . . prati pertinentem ad dimidiam acram terræ ad Grundeldene in campo de Wulscote, &c.

¹ According to Dugdale, Thomas de Flamvill held Walcote of the Earls of Warwick 20 E. III. This deed shews that the predecessor of Thomas obtained it by marriage with this Margaret, who was probably heir of Warine de Walcote.

Frater Gilbertus, dictus Prior de Ronton, &c., noverit, &c., nos quietos clamasse omnes homines de Caldecot et successores suos in perpetuum omnes decimas prati sui partabilis et cheneistorum in Caldecote, &c.

Memorandum quod cum inter Priorem, &c., ex parte unâ, et Alanum Crok de Greneborg, et alios parrochianos ejusdem Ecclesiæ, ex alterâ, super decimis feni subtractis, &c., lis tandem inter prefatos, &c., in hac formâ conquevit, videlicet, &c.

Alicia Crok¹ pro salute animæ meæ, et Gilberti Crok et Rogeri Crok, deul, &c., unam acram terræ in campis de Greneburg de dominico meo, &c.

Alicia Crok vidua existens, dedi, &c., unam dimidiam acram terræ super Maddeu, &c.

Willielmus, filius Willielmi, prepositi de Greneburg, dedi, &c., unum messuagium in villâ de Greneburg quod emi de Michaele, filio Willielmi, fabri, &c.

Willielmus, faber, de Greneburg dedi, &c., pro salute animæ meæ et Feliciæ uxoris meæ, ad luminaria in Capellâ Beatæ Mariæ de Greneburg, tres denarios redditûs annuatim pagandos, &c.

Michaelis, Capellanus, de Greneburg, dedi, &c., unam croftam cum mesuagio, quam Odo, acupex, tenuit de me in villâ de Greneburg, &c.

Petrus de faber, concessi, &c., unam in Greneburg cum tofto, illud, scilicet, quod Odo Follers quondam tenuit, &c.

FOLIO 61

Hæc est finalis concordia facta in Curia Domini Regis apud Covintre in crastino Sancti Mathei Apostolici, anno regni Regis Henrici, filii Regis Johannis, quinto, coram Simone, Abbate de Radig, Radulpho, Abbate de Evesham, &c., Justiciariis Itinerantibus, &c., inter Petrum Fabrum, petentem, et Aluredum, Priorem de Ronton, tenantem de viginti acris et quartam partem unius virgatæ terræ cum pertinentiis in Greneburg, &c.

Oliverus de Wulscote dedi, &c., quinque solidos redditus quos Ricardus, Blundus de Wulscote mihi reddere solebat pro uno quartone terræ in Wulscote, &c.

Oliverus de Wulscote dedi, &c., unam acram terræ in Wulscote illam, scilicet, quam Domina Alicia de Harecourt excambiavit de Canonicis, &c.

Anno Domini m^o ducentesimo quinquagesimo tertio, &c., inter Willielmum, Priorem, et Conventum Covintrensem, ex parte unâ, et Gilbertum, Priorem et Conventum de Rontone, ex alterâ, ita convenitur, videlicet (super visum Franci plegii de manerio de Greneburg). Hiis testibus, Domino de Hondesacre, milite, Domino Willelmo, Vicario, et aliis.

Willielmus, filius Radulphi, molendinarii, de Wulscote, &c., noverit, &c., me concessisse totum jus, &c., in redditum unius oboli quem de Willielmo le Norreis percipere consuevi, &c.

Robertus de Harcourt dedi, &c., totum jus, &c., in terrâ quam Pavia (*sic*), uxor Rogeri de Warrewick, tenuit in dote in villâ de Greneburg.

Aluredus, Prior de Rontone, &c., dedimus Willielmo, molendinario, et Aliciæ uxori ejus, viginti acras terræ in Wulscot quas tenuit de Willielmo de Heywode, &c.

Two deeds follow, which are illegible from the discoloration of the parchment.

¹ Alice was sister and heir of Gilbert Crok, to whom Hugh de Loges and Margaret Crok (wife of Hugh) gave two hides of land in Granborough and Caldicote by fine levied 12th November, 1199. (See Warwickshire Fines in this volume.) Alice appears to have left no issue.

Staffordshire County Studies
Sample

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SOME ACCOUNT
OF THE
PARISH OF CHURCH EATON
IN THE
COUNTY OF STAFFORD.

THE Parish of Church Eaton, which is situated in the Hundred of Cuttlestone and county of Stafford, contains the townships of Church Eaton, Wood Eaton, Orslow, High Onne, Little Onne, Shushions, and Marston.

The manor of Eaton at the time of the Conquest included the present townships of Church Eaton, Wood Eaton, and Orslow. It was held in 1085-6 by Godric,¹ of the Baron of Stafford. It is called Eitone in the Domesday Record, and is to be distinguished from the neighbouring manor of Water Eaton (there called Eitone) in the parish of Penkrige, and in the same fief and hundred by the mention of a resident Priest. The Priest implies the existence of that Parish Church which gives its distinctive name to Church Eaton.² The record runs as follows:—

“Robert de Stafford holds in Eitone iij. hides, and Godric of him. Wilegrip held it [*i.e.*, in Saxon times] as a freeman. The (arable) land is seven carucates (*i.e.*, land sufficient for seven ox teams). In demesne is one carucate; and four serfs, eight villains, and eight boors, with a presbyter, have three carucates.

¹ Godric was witness to Robert de Stafford's grant of Wrottesley to the Abbey of Evesham in 1072. (“Staffordshire Historical Collections,” Vol. II., Pt. I., p. 178.)

² Eyton's “Domesday Studies, Staffordshire.”

There are four acres of meadow ; wood one quarantine in length and the same in breadth. It is worth 20s.”

As Godric is a Saxon or Danish name, it is not improbable that he was the heir and successor of Wilegrip who held it in the time of Edward the Confessor. The next possessor that I meet with is Edelina, who seems to have been a near relative of the Baron of Stafford, under whom this manor was held. She retired, in her widowhood, to the Abbey of Polesworth in Warwickshire, to which she brought the advowson of Church Eaton. For I find that Robert de Stepforthe [de Stafford] gave to God and Saint Adeline and the holy Nuns of Pollesworthe, the Church of Hectona [Eyton or Eaton] in perpetual alms, together with Edelina his relative (*cognata sua*) who seeks or intends to pass her life, and to assume the habit of religion, there, reserving to Godwin the Priest his right.¹

I take this to have been the first Robert de Toeni or de Stafford, the Domesday tenant *in capite*, who survived till the reign of Henry I.² His gift was probably a confirmation, as chief lord, of a previous grant by the said Edelina. Who this Edelina was I am not able to say, but she may very possibly have been a daughter of Godric, the Domesday tenant, by a wife who was related to the Baron of Stafford, of whom he held this manor. If so, she will probably have married Gripp, or one of his sons, and had by him a son HAMO DE LONGFORD, who succeeded to the Lordship of Longford in Shropshire, which he held of the King *in capite*, as also to this manor of Eaton in Staffordshire. Hamo de Longford married Sibil or Basilia fitz Odo, who was possessed of an estate at East Wall, in the fee of Rushbury, in Shropshire. Both

¹ Stafford MS. Chartulary at Blithfield, where this information is given in the writing of Henry Lord Stafford, who died in 1562, with other matter relating to the advowson of Church Eaton ; but the deed itself is not given in the Chartulary.

² Since the above was printed I have met with good reason to think that Dugdale (who quotes from “Monasticon Anglic.,” Vol. II., p. 126) has been misled in supposing the first Robert de Stafford to have survived till the reign of Henry I. His second grant of Wrottesley to the Abbey of Evesham in 1088 was probably a bequest made on his death-bed, he being then shorn a monk (see “Staff. Hist. Collections,” Vol. II., pp. 182, 183). The old Rhyming Chronicle of Stone in the “Monasticon” is of comparatively a late date, and not to be relied upon as trustworthy evidence for the early history of the Staffords. The Robert de Stafford who gave Edelina, his relative, to the Abbey of Polesworth, with the advowson of Church Eaton, will therefore have been his grandson Robert, the son of Nicholas de Stafford, and Edelina herself may perhaps have been a Stafford, and had the manor of Church Eaton given to her on her marriage with the Lord of Longford.

Hamo and Sibil his wife were deceased in 1165. They had an elder daughter Eva, and at least one other daughter Agnes, who became the wife of de Stockton. Eva, the eldest daughter, was given in marriage by King Henry II. to ROBERT DE BRINTON, Lord of Brinton, Brimpton, or Brumpton in Berkshire,¹ who had with her the greater part of her father's lands by the express direction and gift of the King. She also inherited her mother's lands at Rushbury.² Among the muniments at Longford is the transcript of a deed, whereby King John, in the first year of his reign, confirms to Eva, niece of John, son of Gripp, and her heirs, the manor of Longford, with the right of free warren, &c., as it had been held by her uncle John, son of Gripp, and Eva's ancestors in the time of King Henry I. and King Henry II.³

As Lord of Longford *jure uxoris*, Robert de Brinton became a tenant *in capite*. Hence in the Feodary of 1165⁴ he acknowledges himself to hold one knight's fee, of old feoffment, which he asserts that the King gave him with a certain gentlewoman (*liberâ muliere*) named Eva, who is heir thereof, by the service of one knight, the service being to be performed at the King's charges. This *carta* must be taken to allude to Longford and its adjuncts, and as it is repeated in duplicate under Staffordshire and Shropshire, it is probable that some portions of the manor of Longford or its appurtenances were situated in Staffordshire.

In the same Feodary he also occurs as holding one-fourth of a knight's fee under Robert de Stafford. This doubtless alludes to his tenure of Eaton and Orslow.

Mr. Eyton considers the passage to be self-contradictory and probably corrupt, believing that his service thereon amounted to a whole knight's fee.⁵ But it is quite probable that, though he afterwards made good his title to hold the whole manor as chief lord under the Baron of Stafford, he was then in full seisin of but one-fourth as the husband of the eldest co-heiress, who may have had three younger sisters still in their minority and unmarried.

¹ This manor was held under the Mortimers of Wigmore.

² Eyton's "Ant. of Shropshire," Vol. IV., p. 102.

³ I take this John, son of Gripp, to have been the anonymous person alluded to by Mr. Eyton, to whom Henry I. granted one hundred solidates of land in Longford. ("Ant. of Shropshire," Vol. VIII., p. 103.) He occurs as witness to a grant of Robert fitz Turold to Shrewsbury Abbey which passed before 1121. ("Ant. Shropshire," Vol. II., p. 48.)

⁴ "Liber Niger."

⁵ Eyton's "Shropshire," Vol. VIII., p. 103.

sion as a conservator of the peace for Berkshire; and in October, 1292, he was one of the knightly jurors who tried several pleas of *quo Waranto* in Shropshire.

In Hilary term, 21 Edward I. (1293), Adam de Brynton and Mary his wife were summoned to answer to the King by what warrant they claimed to hold pleas of the Crown, and to have free warren, gallows, and wayf in Church Eaton and Wood Eaton. In reply it was stated that Mary made no claim to the said liberties except as Adam's wife; and Adam acknowledged that he had no claim to the aforesaid liberties in the said manors, which therefore remained to the King.¹

In 1297 Adam de Brinton was summoned for foreign service as a tenant of twenty librates of land and upwards in the counties of Berks and Salop. In 1298, as a Staffordshire land owner, he had military summons against the Scots. In 1299 he was returned as Knight of the Shire for the county of Berks, for the Parliament summoned to meet at London or Westminster on 6th March of that year. And in 1300, as Adam de Brumpton, Knight, he was again returned, as one of the three Knights for the same county, to the Parliament ordered to assemble at York on 20th May of that year, concerning the observation of "*Magna Carta et Carta de Foresta*." In 29 Edward I. (1301) he was High Sheriff of Oxfordshire,² and in the same year he had military summons against the Scots, in respect of his tenure in Oxfordshire, Berkshire, and Shropshire. This is the last I hear of Adam de Brimpton (III.). The writ of *diem clausit extremum* issued on his death bears date 10th May, 1315. He held nothing of the King *in capite* in the county of Stafford on the day of his death; but he held on the day of his death the manor of Eyton in his demesne, as of fee, of the Baron of Stafford, by the service of one knight's fee of Morteyn. In this manor is a chief messuage worth 2s. yearly, two carucates of land containing two hundred acres worth 60s. yearly, two acres of meadow worth 3s. yearly, a certain plot of pasture in severalty worth 2s. yearly, a certain wood worth yearly, with the profit of herbage and underwood, 5s., certain ruinous water-mills worth yearly . . . and assized rents of

¹ "Placita de quo Waranto," p. 712.

² "Parliaments of England," Part I., pp. 10, 12.

³ "Lords Lieutenant and High Sheriffs of Oxfordshire from 1086 to 1868." Edmund de Brumpton, who was returned to Parliament as one of the Burgesses for the borough of Windsor, in the county of Berks, in May, 1306, and again in October, 1307, and August, 1311, was probably a member of this family.

CHURCH EATON CHURCH.

THE Church of Eyton is an ancient foundation which existed in Saxon times. It was given to the Nuns of Pollesworth, in Warwickshire, towards the close of the eleventh century, or very early in the twelfth century, by Edelina, the Lady of Eyton, and confirmed, as I suppose, by her relative and chief lord, Robert de Stafford.¹ As the right of Godwin, the Priest of the said Church, was specifically reserved to him, I presume that the Abbess and Convent did not enter into possession of the fruits of the benefice until after his decease. From after that time it appears that they received two-thirds of the income. The Vicar who served the Church retained the other third, out of which he had to pay them a further sum of 3 marks annually for the demesne of the Church.²

It has been stated, in speaking of the manor that in 1198 a suit was commenced in the King's Court at Westminster, between the Abbess of Pollesworth and Eva de Longford, the granddaughter of Edelina, concerning the advowson of the Church of Eyton, which was decided in favour of the Abbess in 1203. I presume, therefore, that the above-mentioned arrangement continued in force till about the year 1260, when the decision was challenged by Adam de Brumpton, the grandson of Eva, who claimed against the Abbess the right to present to the Church, then vacant by the death of William de Eyton, the late Vicar.

This dispute was determined by Roger Meuland, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, with the consent of his chapter. By his award, which is dated on 1st April, 1260, it was settled that the Lord of Eyton and his heirs should nominate a fit Clerk to the Abbess and her Convent, who should present the same Clerk, and no other, to the Bishop for admission and institution. The said Clerk, before his institution, was to swear that he would pay to the said Abbess and her Convent an annual pension of 20 marks from the fruits of the benefice in lieu of their claim to two-thirds of the income.² This arrangement seems to have been accepted and acted

¹ Stafford MS. Chartulary.

² Lichfield Diocesan Register, Lib. VI., p. 32.

upon for more than two centuries afterwards; but there is no institution of a Clerk recorded in the Diocesan Register till the year 1305. The Church, which was situate in the Deanery of Lapley-cum-Tresel, was valued for Pope Nicholas's Taxation, in 1291 at 30 marks, *i.e.* £20.

The *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1534-35 gives Thomas Sall, Clerk, as Parson there.

	£	s.	d.
He has a manse with lands there worth ..	3	0	0
and tithes of corn there annually worth ..	16	0	0
and in wool and lambs, about (7 marks)	4	13	4
and in Easter offerings	2	3	4
and in hay, hemp, geese and pigs, about	0	15	0
and in tithes of hay, about	1	0	0
and in herbage, about	1	6	8
and in fruits, about	0	1	0
and in oblations, about	0	10	0
	<hr/>		
Total	29	9	4

From which are to be deducted the following payments, *viz.* :—

For a certain annual pension, payable to Alice Fitzherbert, Abbess of Pollesworth, in the county of Warwick (20 marks) ..	12	6	8
and for procurations to the Archdeacon of Stafford, annually	0	17	0
and to the Bishop of Chester for synodals every third year	0	6	0
	<hr/>		
Clear total	14	19	8

INCUMBENTS OF CHURCH EATON.

XIII. *kal.*, April. (*i.e.*, 20th March), 1305, Hugh de Hotoft was admitted to the Church of Eyton, to which he was presented by the Abbess and Convent of Pollesworth, on the nomination of Sir Adam de Brympton, Knight, and promised to pay to the said

ladies a pension of 20 marks, which was due to them by ancient custom.¹

VII. *kal., Februarii*, 1310 (*i.e.*, 26th January, 1311), Thomas, son of Sir Adam de Brympton, Knight, Acolyte, was admitted to the Church of Eyton, void by the resignation of Sir Hugh de Hocotot, to which he was presented by the Abbess and Convent, and swore to pay their annual pension of 20 marks.²

VIII. *id., Januarii*, 1320 (*i.e.*, 6th January, 1321), William de Ipstones was admitted to the Church of Eyton-juxta-Gnonsale, to which he was presented by the Abbess and her Convent on the nomination of *the heir of Sir Adam Brumpton*, reserving to the Nuns the annual pension which had been secured to them by the ordination of the late Bishop, Roger (Meuland); the said Church being void by the resignation of Thomas Brumpton, the late Rector, who had resigned *iiij. id. Decemb.* (11th December), 1319.³

Soon after this a great controversy arose between William de Ipstones and Thomas de Brumpton concerning the possession of the Church, in which nearly all the leading families in that part of the county took part on one side or the other. In 19 Edward II. (1325-6), a special commission was sent into Staffordshire, "*ad inquirendum de congregat onibus vicariis, homicidiis, depredationibus, combustionibus, &c., in comitatu Staffie.*" and among the pleas heard before the King at Tamworth⁴ in that year, with respect to felonies committed, the jury of Cuttlestone and Pirehill presented that in 17 Edward II., about Holy Trinity (1324), a quarrel arose between Thomas de Brumpton and William de Ipstones respecting the Church of Church Eyton, to which Thomas had been instituted, who had held it until William de Ipstones, John his brother,⁵ Henry de Cresswall,⁶ Philip de Ipstones,⁷ Philip, son of Vivian de Chetewynd, William de Chetelton, John de Pichefeld,⁸ and others,

¹ Lichfield Diocesan Register, Lib. I., f. 15.

² *Ibid.*, f. 44.

³ *Ibid.*, f. 91.

⁴ The King was at Tamworth on 12th and 13th March, 1326, and from thence he went to Lichfield, where he remained from the 14th to the 18th inclusive.

⁵ Sir John de Ipstones, Lord of Ipstones and joint Lord of Blymhill, was the son of William de Ipstones, and was born about 1284.

⁶ Henry de Creswell, Lord of Creswell, whose daughter and heir brought the manor of Creswell to the family of Ipstones by her marriage with John, the son and heir of the above-named Sir John de Ipstones.

⁷ Philip de Ipstones, son of William de Ipstones, a brother or cousin of the contending Clerk.

⁸ John de Pichefeld, who lost his life in this affray, was a younger brother of Richard and Roger de Pichefeld, successively lords of a fourth part of Blymhill; and father of Roger Pichefeld, who afterwards succeeded to the said estate.

Chetwynd Talbot, on the presentation of Charles Chetwynd Earl Talbot.¹ The Rev. Edward Levett resigned on 4th February, 1829.¹

On 27th March, 1829, the Hon. and Rev. Arthur Chetwynd Talbot, B.A. (the present Rector) was instituted to the Rectory of Church Eaton, void by the resignation of Edward Levett.¹ He is also Rector of Ingestre.

¹ Lichfield Diocesan Register.

Staffordshire County Studies
Sample

ORSLOW.

ORSLOW, though often spoken of as a manor, is not mentioned in Domesday. It was then included in the manor of Eaton, where it is required to make up the three hides which were reckoned to it as a knight's fee. It became, as has been shown in speaking of Church Eaton, the subject of litigation between Eva de Longford and her sister Agnes, and by fine levied at Westminster on 20th January, 1203, Eva and her then husband, Walter de Witefeld, conceded, amongst other lands, to her sister Agnes de Stockton half a hide in Horselowe (Orslow), saving to themselves the vivary and mill there, to be held by Agnes and her heirs under Walter and Eva and the heirs of Eva. And in Easter Term, 1208, Robert de Wodecote and Milisent his wife and Agnes wife of Robert (otherwise called Agnes de Stockton), acknowledged at Westminster Hall that, in regard of their villain tenants they owed suit to the mill of Horselawe, as required by Walter de Witefeld and his wife Eva on the strength of a previous fine.

Milisent, the wife of Robert de Wodecote, was probably another daughter of Hamo de Longford and sister of Eva, for Robert de Wodecote was in litigation with the said Eva concerning certain lands in Cheswell, near Longford, at least as early as the year 1193.¹

It appears, then, that the *suzerainty* of Orslow remained with Eva de Brumpton and her descendants, of whom her grandson, Adam de Brumpton, was seised of a knight's fee in Eyton and Orslow in 1240; while the tenancy in fee became vested in the sisters of Eva and their heirs, of whom the Woodcotes seem to have obtained the chief part.

ROBERT DE WODECOTE (I.) the husband of Milisent, was lord of the neighbouring manor of Woodcote in Shropshire. He was the son of Richard de Wodecote, and probably descended from Tochil, the Domesday lord of that vill.¹ At the Shropshire Assizes of 1203 Robert de Wodecot was one of the Knights impanelled in causes of *Grand Assize*. He probably died about the year 1220

¹ Eyton's "Antiquities of Shropshire," Vol. IX., p. 12.

at least we have mention of his widow Milisent and his son Robert in a suit concerning Leighton Mill in the November of 1221.¹ His grant to Lilleshall Abbey must be taken as the closing act of his life, seeing that it was accompanied by a bequest of his body. It was of certain land in Sakerlaw (Shakerley), which the grantor seems to have inherited from his uncle Robert, who had obtained it by the feoffment of Sir Richard de Beaumeys. His widow, Milisent will have been the heiress of Orslow. In her widowhood and liege power, she gave to Lilleshall Abbey, for the soul's health of herself, her ancestors, and successors, together with her body (in burial), a virgate of land in Horselawe, one noke of which was held by Adam White.¹

ROBERT DE WODECOTE (II.), calling himself "son and heir of Robert de Wudecot," confirmed this grant of a virgate in Horselawe, "which Adam Brundus held," reserving the scutage assessable thereon, unless it should appear that the land had been freed from scutages under the franchises of Lilleshall Abbey. This confirmation the said Robert handed over to the Canons in the full county court of Stafford, in the time of that "noble personage, Henry de Audley, then sheriff." This serves to date the deed as having passed either between 1218 and 1220, or else between 1227 and 1232. The latter limits are the more likely, because it seems probable that the confirmation passed after Milisent de Wodecote's death, and she was living in 1221. As Orslow was a member of Church Eaton, the charter was confirmed by Sir Adam de Brinton, Lord of Eyton. Between the years 1220 and 1224, Robert, son of Robert de Wodecote, gave a grant of land near Rushton, which his father had purchased from Richard de Constantyn, to Wombridge Priory. About the year 1241 he was second of the jurors who decided the lands of Lilleshall Abbey not to be liable to the custom of "canine expedition;" and about 1250 he occurs as witness to a grant of Geoffrey Griffin to the Abbeys of Lilleshall and Haughmond. He probably died about 1253, and was succeeded by a son of the same name, who styles himself, in a grant to Buildwas Abbey about that date, "Robert, son of Robert de Wodecote."³

ROBERT DE WODECOTE (III.) seems to have had a sister married to Michael de Morton. To Michael, son of the said Michael, and therefore his own nephew, Robert de Wodecote sold the fee simple

¹ Eyton's "Antiquities of Shropshire," Vol. IX., p. 13.

² *Ibid.*, and Lilleshall Chartulary.

³ Eyton's "Antiquities," Vol. IX., p. 14.

of Eye.¹ The said Robert died in 1278, when Thomas de Wodecote his son and heir was found to be 23 years of age and more.

Thomas de Wodecote alienated the mesne interest of all his estates to William Rondulf, a thriving Burgess of Newport, between whose son Geoffrey Rondulf and the Mortons there arose litigation about Wodecote.² But I imagine that the fee of Orslow, like Eye, had passed before this to the Mortons. It was probably soon after the death of his uncle Robert de Wodecote III., that a convention was made between Michael, son of Michael de Morton, and the Lady Isabella, formerly wife of Robert, Lord of Wodecote, whereby the said Michael conceded to the said Isabella the third part of his land in W[odecote ?] with the appurtenances, which said land he had formerly had from his uncle Robert, Lord of Wodecote, to hold for term of his life, the reserved rent being a pair of white gloves. This convention is witnessed by Bertram de Burgo, Michael de Morton, Hugh de Weston, and Richard de Leyeton.³

From the somewhat obscure passage in the Staffordshire Hundred Roll of 1255, already quoted,⁴ I should infer that Michael de Morton had now succeeded to the Wodecote interest in Orslow, less the portion which had been granted to the Abbot of Lilleshall by (his great grandmother) Milisent de Wodecote.⁵

I suppose these Mortons to have been members of that family who held Moreton, in the parish of Onosall, under the fitz Alans.

The first of this family with whom we meet is Henning de Morton, who held the fee of Morton under William fitz Alan in 1166, by the service of a muntator, or man-at-arms bound to serve on garrison duty.⁶ The muntator's fee of 1166 is found in other instances to have been commuted into half a knight's fee. And accordingly, about 1240, Michael and James de Morton are recorded as holding half a knight's fee in Morton of John fitz Alan.⁷ The same lords were in possession in 1245-5, and Michael

¹ The manor of Eye (now known as the Eye Farm) is situate on the bank of the Severn, near Leighton and Eaton Constantine, in Shropshire.

² Eyton's "Antiquities of Shropshire," Vol. IX., pp. 15 and 16.

³ Newport Evidences, being Blakeway's extracts from the Newport deeds preserved with Blakeway's other MSS. at the Bodleian Library.

⁴ See p. 8, note.

⁵ This portion was afterwards made over to Michael by the Abbot, who merely reserved to himself and his Convent a rent of 4 marks.

⁶ "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., p. 214.

⁷ Testa de Nevill ("Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. I., p. 215).

answered as tenant of a moiety of the messuage, and said that he entered into that moiety through the said John Child. A jury was impanelled, but the cause was made to stand over until the following Easter;¹ and I do not know the result. From this it may perhaps be inferred that the Stocktons retained some interest in Orslow, though the Woodcotes were certainly the principal holders.

At the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, the Priory of Ronton had a small estate here—possibly the same—which was then valued at 12*d.* per annum.¹ This was granted on 1st May, 1540, to Sir John Giffard, of Chillington, in the county of Stafford, Knight, being then described as one croft, one parcel of land, and meadow, with its appurtenances, in Orslowe, late belonging to the Priory of Ronton. This property remained in the possession of the Giffard family for more than 300 years. It was included in the settlement of June, 1778, made on the marriage of Thomas Giffard, Esq., with the Hon. Charlotte Courtenay. In June, 1835, it was mortgaged by Thomas William Giffard, of Chillington, Esq., to Mr. Humphrey Webb, of Orslow. The said Mr. Humphrey Webb died on 5th February, 1842, and his son, the late Mr. Humphrey Webb purchased the property on 11th June, 1851. The last mentioned Humphrey Webb died 11th December, 1873, having sold the said estate in his life time; and the sale was carried out by his executors on 25th March, 1874, by a conveyance to Messrs. Butler and Bayliss, who shortly afterwards conveyed it to the Earl of Bradford, who is now the owner of the whole township.

¹ Rot. Assis., 13 Edw. III.

² "Valor Ecclesiasticus," Vol. III., p. 114.

HIGH ONN.

ORDERICUS VITALIS informs us that Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, gave the manors of Othna and Mereston in Staffordshire to the Abbey of St. Ebrulf at Utica in Normandy.¹ This, Mereston was Marston, near Stafford, in the Hundred of Pirehill, and must not be confounded with the hamlet of that name in the parish of Church Eaton which was held by the Abbey of St. Remigius at Rheims; but Othna I take to be identical with High Onn, in the parish of Church Eaton.

At the Domesday survey in 1086, it is stated that "the Church of St. Ebrulf holds Otne of the Earl [Roger]. Here are two hides. The (arable) land is 2 carucates. There is one acre of meadow; wood one league in length and half (a league) in breadth. Suain, who was a free man, held this land in the time of King Edward. The value is £4."

In 17 Henry II. (1170-1) the monks of St. Ebrulf were excused by the King's brief from paying their quota of amercia-ment which had been set upon the county of Stafford by Alan de Nevill in the previous year.² After this time the foreign abbey

¹ "Dugdale's Baronage," Vol. I., p. 27; "Monasticon," Vol. II., p. 86; Ordericus Vitalis, Lib. VI., s. 6 (Prevost's ed. Paris, 1845, Tom. III., p. 20), "*Othna est un domaine dans la paroisse de Church Eyton, qui a donné son nom aux deux hameaux de Great et Little Onn, autrement High et Low Onn (Hundred de Suthleston, Staffordshire). Dans l'inventaire des chartes ayant appartenu à Saint Evroult, on trouve, 'Indentura rectoris de Eyton super decimis de Onna.' Mereston (Marston) est un manoir avec hameau et chapelle dans la paroisse de Saint Mary (Hundred de Pirehill, Staffordshire), auquel appartenaient dix-huit bourgeois de la ville de Stafford Dans l'inventaire on trouve plusieurs pièces qui le concernent, sous la denomination de Mereston-juxta-Stafford.*" Mons. Prevost's assertion that Othna gave its name to the two hamlets of Great and Little Onn, or High and Low Onn (which is a better designation, for the latter is the larger of the two), is misleading; for it seems to imply that they were both included in the Earl's grant to the foreign abbey, whereas (if Mr. Eyton is correct in his identification) Little Onn appears in Domesday as a separate manor, which was then held *in capite* by Richard, one of the King's thanes, and had previously been held by Ailric in the time of Edward the Confessor. These distinctive names do not occur till a later date, and as both of them were subsequently held by a family or families who bore the local name of Onne, it is very difficult to distinguish them from each other.

² Rot. Pip., 17 Hen. II.

appears to have been represented by its English daughter-house at Ware.

In 15 Hen. III. (1230-1) the Prior of Ware attorns Richard de Onne against Hugh de Bifeld concerning the manor of Onne with its appurtenances.¹

In 1255 the Prior of Ware is returned as Lord of *Magna Onne*, where he holds of the Barony of Boleme (de Belesme) two hides geldable, and renders for sheriff's aid 2s., for frankpledge 2s., and for the hundred 8d. The jurors are ignorant by what service the Prior holds, unless by perpetual alms.²

In 1271-2 the vills of Eyton and Great Onn were amerced, with Morton, for not coming to an inquest upon the body of William Peche of Morton, who died in consequence of having been stabbed in the stomach by William le Ruter of Orselowe. For a similar default as to an inquest on the body of Simon Parvus of Abbeton, slain by John Leger, Great Onn and Eyton were amerced with Halenton (Haughton).³

In 1291 the Prior of Ware, as representative of St. Ebrulf, has two carucates of land at Merston, in the Deanery of Stafford, of which each carucate is valued at 30s. yearly, assized rents 14s. 6d., a meadow worth 20s., two mills worth half a mark, and for pleas and perquisites half a mark. He has also at Onne in the same Deanery one carucate of land, which is valued at 20s., assized rents 9s. 6d., a mill worth 4s., and de "Staur" (of stores?) 20s., total annual value £8 4s. 2d.⁴ In the survey of 9 Edward II. (1315-6) the Prior of Ware is returned as Lord of Onne.⁵ The Benedictine Priory of Ware, in Hertfordshire, was a cell to the Norman Abbey of St. Ebrulf, and it was so well endowed in the time of Edward III., that upon the seizure of the foreign houses by that King (during the wars with France, it was farmed at 20s. per annum. After the final suppression of the alien monasteries its possessions were given by King Henry V., in the third year of his reign, to the new Priory of Shene, in Surrey, which he had recently founded for the maintenance of 40 monks of the Carthusian order, whom he incorporated by the name of the House of Jesus of Bethlehem.⁶ The

¹ Rot. Claus. 15 Hen. III., m. 20 in dorso (ex. inf., Hon. G. Wrottesley).

² Rot. Hund., Vol. II., p. 114.

³ Assize Roll, 56 Hen. III. (Salt's MS.).

⁴ Pope Nicholas's *Taxatio*.

⁵ *Nomina villarum*.

⁶ Manning's "Surrey," Vol. I., p. 417.

At the same assizes William de Holney, having been disseised by Henry de Bromleye of his common of pasture in Little Onn pertaining to his freehold there, was held by the assize to have been unjustly dealt with. The recognitors were John de Elmedon, Richard le Say, of Dunston, Adam, on the moor of Sumerford, Geoffrey de Copel, Robert, upon the hold of Sawel, Richard, in le Siche of Eyton, Adam de Olney, Ivo de Eyton, and John, Lord of Onne.¹

At the same assizes William de Onne, having taken out a writ of *mort d'ancestor* against William de Wolleston, concerning tenements in Little Onne, withdrew his suit, and was *in misericordia* with his pledges, Richard de Onne and John de Alrenston.²

In August, 1277, Richard de Honne is first juror at an inquest on the estates and privileges of the Prior of Lapley.

John de Onne and John de Horselowe were jurors on the inquisition taken after the death of Geoffrey de Bromley, on Wednesday after the Feast of St. John ante Port. Latin., 1 Edward I. (1273).

In 3 Edward I. (1274-5) Richard de Onne gives half a mark to have an assize, and the Sheriff of Stafford is ordered to take his security.³

In 11 Edward I. (1283) William de Onne is a juror on the inquisition on the death of William de Perton.

In 22 Edward I. (1293-4) there was a suit of novel disseisin between Richard fitz Richard de Fyneword and Richard fitz Adam de Wolaston and On, concerning tenements in Little Onne.⁴

In 29 Edward I. (1300-1) Thomas de Onne is the last witness to a Morton deed.

In 1333 Felicia, widow of Guy de Glaseley, grants to her son Alan de Glaseley 4 marks and 8*d.* annually during her life out of her estate in Little Onne, to be paid at the feasts of St. Mark and the Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary; to which are witnesses, Sir Hugh de Mortimer, Knight, Adam Daras, John . . . lepton, John de Roshale, Richard de Baggessore, of the county of Salop, William de Wolseleye, Adam de Morton, Henry de Rok, Richard Godefroy de Dilinton, Henry le Wolaston, and others of the county of Stafford. Dated at Glaseley, on Monday, the Feast of St. Alphega (19th April), 7 Edward III.⁵

¹ Assize Roll, 56 Hen. III., m. 2.

² *Ibid.*, m. 1, *in dorso*.

³ Rot. Fin., 3 Edward I.

⁴ Pat., 22 Edward I. (Salt's MS.).

⁵ Beck's Deeds (abstracts), *inter* Salt's MSS., No. 5.

Felicia's husband was, I suppose, that Wido or Guy de Glaseley who held the manor of Glaseley in Shropshire under Sir John le Strange, of Knockin, who held under the Fitzalans. Guy de Glaseley was descended from a Norman family, whose original name was Pierrepont (de Petriponte), from Pont St. Pierre, a vill in the diocese of Rouen, situate at the confluence of the rivers Andelle and Seine, but whose members, seated at Glazeley, came to be called by the local name, at first incidentally but afterwards uniformly.¹ Of this family Simon de Perepont was probably Lord of Glazeley from 1175 to 1203. He seems to have been succeeded there by Alan de Pierpoint, or de Glazeley, who occurs in 1211 as having been amerced for some disseisin in Shropshire.² In November, 1221, he appears as holding certain lands in Quatford.³

The next who occurs in this succession at Glazeley was Guy de Pierrepont, otherwise called Guy de Glazeley. Mr. Eyton believes him to have been the son of Alan, and father of another Alan, his heir. Sir John le Strange and Wido de Gleseg are witnesses of Peter de Eyton's charter to Shrewsbury Abbey, which must have passed between 1224 and 1227. Also Wydo de Gleseleg is witness of a grant in Walkersow to the same House by Adam de Beyssin, which passed within ten years of the same period. In September, 1235, the scutage of John le Strange had been paid by hand of Guy de Gleseleg. Wido de Perpund is a witness to a feoffment of John le Strange (probably the third of his name), which must have passed about 1238, if the grantor be rightly identified.⁴ This Guy had four sons, Alan, Lawrence, Henry, and William, by his wife Juliana, who survived him, and afterwards married John de Perton.⁵

In Michaelmas term, 1251, Ralph de Arraz and Jane his wife sued Alan, son of Wydo, for six virgates of land in Wadeleg,⁶ and Juliana, mother of the said Alan, for two virgates there, as the right of Jane. Alan and Juliana ask for *view* thereof, which the Court grants, and adjourns the case till the *quinzaine* of Hilary (27th January, 1252). Juliana names *Adam* de Perepunt her attorney. The rolls of that term are lost, but we shall hear presently the result

¹ "Antiquities of Shropshire," Vol. I., p. 211.

² *Ibid.*, p. 213.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 113.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 213.

⁵ *Ibid.*, and Vol. VIII., p. 122, n.; and "Staffordshire Historical Collections," Vol. IV., p. 138.

⁶ Wadley was near Glazeley, and a member of the manor.

Perhaps this may have been the interest enjoyed by Felicia, the widow of Guy de Glazeley, in 1333, which may have afterwards passed to the Astons or the Wolryches, and from thence to the Myttons of Weston; while the inheritance which fell to Eva, the elder co-heir, and afterwards to Elysant de Burgo or de Bromley, may have passed through the Knightleys to the Peshales and Lacons, and thence to the James's; but this is all conjecture.

Staffordshire County Studies
Sample

SHUSHIONS.

THE little estate of Shusions (or Shuston), which contains about 362 acres, was an ancient Domesday manor held by one of the King's thanes, though the manorial rights have now for long been obsolete or merged in those of some neighbouring manor. It is thus described in Domesday: "Levild holds Sceotestan. Here is half a hide. The (arable) land is three carucates. Three villains with one boor have half a carucate there. There are two acres of meadow. Its value is 4s."

It would seem to have been afterwards given to the Abbey (or Priory) of Wenlock, in Shropshire, under whom it was held by Adam le Beysin in the time of Henry II.,¹ as appears from a suit in the Court of King's Bench in the time of King Edward II., hereafter to be quoted.

This Adam le Beysin was Lord of the neighbouring vill of Water Eaton (in the parish of Peakridge), where he held the fourth part of a knight's fee under Wade Stretton, and of Longnor (in the parish of Bradley), where he held a fifth part of a knight's fee under the Baron of Stafford.² He was moreover a large proprietor in Shropshire, where (*inter alia*) he held certain lands in Wrickton and Walkeslow of the King *in capite* by grand serjeantry as the King's Falconer.²

In 1194 he was amerced for marrying Mabel, the daughter and eventual heiress of Warin Fitzwarin, otherwise called Le Strange, of Burwardesley (Broseley), without licence, which he should first

¹ In the Assize Roll of 12 Henry III., in the Crown cases the jury of the Hundred of Cattleston presented that "some unknown malefactors came to the house of Adam le Beysin and had robbed the house and killed William the carter; and the vill of Etun had not named the first finder, and is therefore *in misericordid*. No Englescher was presented, and therefore the vill is fined (*ideo murdrum*).² "Murdrum" is the fine for murder, not the actual crime, though it afterwards came by extension to signify the crime itself. (*Ex inf.*, General the Hon. G. Wrottesley.)

² Testa de Nevill

have obtained; not for marrying the said Mabel (for she was not yet an heiress), but as being himself a tenant *in capite*.¹

Adam le Beysin died in 1238, before his wife had succeeded to her share of lands at Ashley, Broseley, and elsewhere, as heir of her brother Roger de Burwardesley, who died about the year 1243.

By the said Mabel he left issue a son and heir Adam, a younger son Warin, and a daughter Margery, who was married about 1255 to Thomas de Bagsore (Badger, co. Salop).¹

In the year 1244 or 1245 Mabel, calling herself the daughter of Warin de Burwardesley, grants in lawful widowhood to her son Warin all the land which, by hereditary right had fallen or should fall to her in the vill of Edulvescote (Arlescote near Broseley) and of West Bradeley (Bradleye near Broseley); the reserved rent being one pound of pepper.¹ It seems that his father Adam had also given to him all or most of his estate at Shushions; for in 1255 Warin de Beysin is returned as holding two carucates at Stuston (Shuston) of the Baron of Wenlock² (*i.e.*, Wenlock Priory). It is probable that the other carucate was at that time held in dower by Mabel, the widow of Adam le Beysin.

Adam le Beysin (Mabel's son and heir of Adam and Mabel, did homage and was charged his relief for his lands in Shropshire as a tenant *in capite* before Michaelmas, 1238.¹ His attestation of a Pickthorn deed in 1241-2 proves him to be then a Knight.¹ But he did not live long to enjoy his inheritance. He died 13th December, 1243, leaving a widow Matilda,² and an only son and heir Robert, who was but sixteen months old at the time of his father's death. The wardship of Robert le Beysin, as a tenant *in capite*, fell to the Crown, and the King granted the said wardship to Sir Hugh Giffard, whose widow, Sibill Giffard, sold it to Sir Baldwin Freville. The latter also sold it, either altogether or in so far as the marriage of the heir was concerned, to Philip le Bret;³ and in 1255 (being then only thirteen years of age) he was already married to Philip le Bret's daughter.⁴ Robert le Beysin died before he had completed his twenty-fifth year. On 19th September, 1267, the King granted the marriage of his widow, Isabella, to Hugh de Beaumes, and in September, 1272 the said Isabella was

¹ "Antiquities of Shropshire," Vol. II., p. 18.

² Rot. Hund., Vol. II., p. 115.

³ Baneo Roll, 7 Edward 1., Trinity; m. 71, Salop. (*Ex inf.* Hon. G. Wrottesley.)

⁴ "Antiquities of Shropshire," Vol. II., p. 19.

⁵ Rot. Hund., Vol. II., p. 83.

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ERRATA.

Page 24, line, 1 *for* Isabella daughter of Sir Adam, and sister and co-heir of Ralph de Mutton, &c. *read* Isabella, daughter of Ralph, and granddaughter and heiress of Sir Adam de Mutton, &c.

„ 42, „ 2 „ try causes, *read* make presentment.

Note to page 97, line 31. *John, Lord of Onne.*—This was probably John de Engleton, the son of William and Felicia de Engleton, the co-heiress of Little Onn.

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