

Thomas Philipott
Villare Cantianum
London
1659

<This is the replacement sheet made for the second issue of Philipott's book. The reason for the cancellation is clear enough: the original sheet, on page 151, contained a libellous statement about a Cambridgeshire baronet, Sir John Cotton of Landwade. As it appears here, that passage has been rewritten. Characteristically, Philipott also took the opportunity to add a note in the margin. – C.F. September 2011.>

Earl of North-hampton, in the sixteenth year of King James, and Sir Thomas Compton, who dying without Issue, gave his Estate here, which was settled on him by his Father, upon his Marriage with Mary Countesse of Buckingham, to his Nephew Sir William Compton, a yonger Son of Spencer Earl of Northampton, who hath very lately alienated his Interest here, to Mr. Lodowick of London.

Bedenwell in this Parish had formerly the Repute of a Mannor, when it was the Inheritance of a Family called Boreford, or more vulgarly Burford: Rose de Burford held it at her Death, which was in the third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 52. And afterwards, I find James de Burford obtained a Charter of Free-warren to his Lands at Bedenwell in Erith, in the thirty fifth year of Edward the third. After this Family was expired, which was before the end of Richard the second, it came to be the Possession of Draper, descended from an ancient Family of that Name in the County of Nottingham, who concluded in a Female Heir. For William Killem matched with the Sole Daughter of John Draper, by whom he obtained Bedenwell; but with this Proviso, that he should change his Name to Draper, which hath been ever since both by Draper of Crayford, and Draper of Hering-Hill in Erith punctually performed. But since this solemne Stipulation, Bedenwell in severall pieces has been sold to Turner, Gainsford of Crowherst in Surrey, (who not many years since alienated his Proportion to Cholmeley) and others; so that being thus broken into Fragments, it hath now lost the Estimate of a Mannor, and is to be entombed in silence.

Hering-Hill is a Place not to be forgotten, having been in elder Times the Residence of a Family called Abell. The first whom I find represented to us, under a Character of Estimate, was Sir John Abell, who was in the List of the Kentish Knights, which were Assistant to King Edward the first, at his Siege of Carlaverock in Scotland; John Abell his Successor was a Judge (as is manifest by the Patent Rols, of the Tower) in the eighth year of Edward the second, and it is very probable, that it was either this John Abell, or his Father, that obtained a Charter of Free-warren to the Mannor of Catford in Lewsham (which was after sold to William de Montacute) in the twenty third year of Edward the first. In the Reign of Henry the fourth: I find, by the Registers of the Crown Office, one Edward Abell to have been in Commission for the Peace, and he lies entered in Erith Church, not in the Cœmitery, or Church-yard; though I confesse, upon a large square Plate of Wood there is a Register of those accurately enrolled, who were Possessors of Hering-Hill, from John Abell the Judge, down to another John Abell, who died possessor of it about the latter end of Queen Elizabeth; but the date is so violated by Time and the Impression of the injurious Elements, that it is hardly visible, much less intelligible; the last of which Family at this place, was John Abell, who about the year 1611. joyning with his Father Samuel Abell, alienated his Concernment here to Mr. William Draper, whose Successor Mr. Draper, now of the County of Oxford, is the instant Proprietary of it.

Lesnes Abby was founded by Richard de Lucy, Lord Chief Justice of England under H. the second, in the year 1179. and dedicated to St. Thomas the Martyr, the Saint of Canterbury, who as he had been above the Kings Will on Earth, was now above his Faith in Heaven, being after his, but early Canonization, grown into such Veneration and Estimate, that Orisons and Prayers, Shrines and Altars, Abbies and Temples, were offered up to his Name, of which this was none of the least, being a House of black Conons, or Canons of St. Augustine. This Richard de Lucy the Founder, was Son of Richard, who was Son of Roger de Chilham, and he was Son of Fulbert de Dover, who entred into England with William the Conquerour, and changed his Name of Lucy to Dover, (of which, first, there is not only a Signory or Lordship, but likewise a Family at this instant remaining in France) because he was one of those eight, to whom certain Knights-Fees were assigned by William the Conquerour, to be assistant to John de Fiennes, in the Guard of Dover Castle, thus much for his Extraction. Now for his Dignity, he was not only Lord Chief Justice, but likewise Protector of England, in the twelfth year of Henry the second, in his Absence in France, which great Office he managed with so much Fidelity, Prudence, and Magnanimity, that when the Earl of Boloign invaded this Island, in

the thirteenth year of the abovesaid Prince, he was forced to retire with Shame Confusion, and Losse: which Action must certainly have improved his Name to a very high Estimate, in the Opinion of those Times. Yet notwithstanding he de=vested himself of that Pomp and Pageantry, these great Offices had made him glitter with, (which Conquest, that he made upon himself within, was of more Importance, then any he could have atchieved without) and clouded himself in a Monks Cowle, and became the Prior to that Covent, he himself had erected, and there likewise found his place of Sepulture: And it is probable, that those Coffins, with Pourtraictures insculped, which were discovered in a Grotto or Vault, upon the breaking down the Foundation of this House, in the Government of King James, were the Exchequers which treasured up, not only the Reliques of this Sir Richard de Lucy, but likewise the remains of others of the same Family: But to proceed, the Prior of this place was in that Repute, that it was customary for him (as the Records of the Church of Rochester tell us) to have his Indu=ction into this place, either by the Bishop immediately, or else by some Proxie, who represented the Bishop of Rochester's Person. And in this State it conti=nued, until Cardinal Wolsey laid the Foundation of his eminent Colledge of Christchurch in Oxford, and then with the consent of the present Abbot, in the year 1525. it was supprest, and the Revenue of this Cloister, being found in the Hands of the abovesaid Cardinal at his Death, was by Henry the eighth, united to the Income of the Crown, where it dwelt, until it was granted to William Brereton Esquire, who being engaged in the fatal Business of Katharine Howard, was attainted, and executed; upon whose Tragedy, it returned to the Crown, and was in the thirty eighth year of Henry the eighth, granted to Sir Ralph Sadler; and he not long after passed it away to Mr. Henry Cook; in whose Suc=cessors, the Possession was resident, until almost our Remembrance, and then it was conveyed to Sir Thomas Gainsford of Crowherst in Surrey: who not many years since, demised his Right in it to Mr. Haws of London; who dying lately with=out Issue, hath settled it for ever on the Hospital of St. Bartholomews neer Smithfield.

In the ninth year of Edward the second, Bartholomew Lord Badelesmer, obtained the Grant of a Market to Erith, on the Thursday, and a three Days Fair at St. Crosse, and another three Days Fair, the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in Whitson Week.

Lesnes, had by the Mediation of William de Wilton, a Grant of a Market, procured to be observed there on the Thursday, and a Fair to continue yearly the Eve, Simon and Judes Day, and three Days after, as is manifest, Pat. 41. Henrici tertii Memb. 48.

Estling in the Hundred of Feversham, gave Sirname to a Family, who had here an eminent Mansion called Northcourt, the last of which Family, was Ralph de Estling, whose Daughter and Heir Alice de Estling, about the Beginning of Edw. the first, was matched to Fulke de Peyforer, Custos of the Fleet, and Westminster in London, who in her Right became Lord of this place, and in the thirty second year of Edward the first, to inforce his Interest here, obtained a Charter of Free=warren to this place; and in this Family did it reside, until the latter end of Edward the second, and then Northcourt, Denton, and Plomford, Mannors, which came along to Peyforer with Northcourt, were sold away to Roger Lord Leybourn; and his Widow Juliana de Leybourn held them at her Decease, which was in the first year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 86. And after her Decease, they devolved to John de Hastings, a Kinsman of Lawrence de Hastings Earl of Pembroke, who was the first Husband of her Daughter and Heir Juliana de Leybourn; after his Decease remarried to William de Clinton Earl of Huntingdon, who in her Right was likewise possess of them, but likewise deceased without any Issue by her, in the twenty eighth of Edward the third, after whose Death, it is more then probable, she continued a Widow; for in the Inquisition taken in the forty third year of Ed. the third, she is styled *Comitissa de Huntington*, and was found upon a serious win=nowing, both of her direct and collateral Alliances, to have no Heirs that could directly pretend to the Title, so that her Estate here lapsed to the Crown, and King

of Canterbury, by Ansgodus Rubitoniensis, that is, Ansgod de Rosse, and was rated in Dooms-day Book at one Sulling or Ploughland, as it was before in the Reign of Edw. the Confessor. But this Name of Rosse determining here about the end of Hen. the third, it came afterwards to be the patrimony of Fremingham, and Ralph de Fremingham obtained a Charter of Free-warren to this Mannor, in the fifty fifth year of Henry the third, after whom it descended fortified and fenced in, with this new acquired privilege, to Jo. de Fremingham, who was first Assistant to John de Malmain of Faukham, not far distant, in his Office of Sheriff, which was in the tenth of Edward the second, and was afterwards Sheriff of this County himself, in the twelfth year, and then again in the eighteenth and nineteenth years of the above-mentioned Prince; and dyed possesser of Farningham, in the twenty third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 145. Pars secunda. Ralph de Fremingham this Mans Son, was Sheriff of Kent the thirty second of Edward the third, and in the twentieth year of that Prince, paid an auxiliary Contribution, at making the Black Prince Knight, for Lands conveyed over to him by his Father, and whose Tenure was in Knights Service, and lay in this Parish, and held them at his decease, which was in the thirty eighth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 19. This mans Son and Heir was John Fremingham, who was one of the Conservators of the Peace of this County, in the first year of Richard the second, and Sheriff of Kent in the second year of that Prince, and afterwards had the Custody of this County again, in the twelfth year of Henry the fourth, but dyed without Issue; so that Ann his Sister, matched to Roger Isley of Sundrich became his Heir: and so Farningham was with her, brought to acknowledge the Interest of this Family, from whom it devolved to John Isley, whose Widow Alice Isley, dyed possesser of Farningham, in Right of Jointure, in the first year of Henry the eighth, and from her it devolved to her Son Thomas Isley, and he dyed seised of it in the eleventh year of Henry the eighth, and it was found at his Decease, that it was held in Knights Service of Dover Castle, by the payment of a Rent service, of twenty one Shillings per Annum, and had the estimate of a whole Knights Fee. * After him his Son Sir Henry Isley, succeeded in the possession of this place, and being unfortunately convicted of high Treason in the second year of Queen Mary, Farningham and Chartons escheated to the Crown, and that Princess, in the same year, granted them back to his Son William Isley Esquire, and he in the third and fourth of Philip and Mary, by a Deed enroll'd in Chancery, passes away Farningham and the Moiety of Chartons, to William Roper Esquire, Grandfather to Sir Anthony Roper, and Mr. Henry Roper, from whom, upon a Will made by his Brother Sir Anthony Roper, wherein he devises the Fee-simple to Sir Jo. Cotton of Lanwade in Cambridgeshire Baronet; (descended from a generous and knightly Family of that Sirname, who, as appears by Deeds, Muniments and ancient Sepulchral Inscriptions, have been resident in that County, almost four hundred years) he after a serious and solemn Decision at Law, is by verdict enstated in the possession of it.

* This Service if it were peculiar as this was, it was called *ad wardam*, and was a Tenure in free Socage; if personal it was styled *per wardam*, and was a Tenure in Knights Service,

The other Moiety of Chartons, gave Sirname to a Family, who held it, as appears by Testa de Nevill, in the twentieth year of Henry the third. In times of a lower descent, it was the possession of a good old Family called Groveherst. William de Groveherst paid respective Aid for it, at making the Black Prince Knight; and from him it devolved to his Successor Richard Groveherst, who in the Reign of Henry the fourth, determined in three Daughters and Coheirs, espoused to Richard Tickhill, Richard Hexall, and John Petit, who about the Beginning of Henry the sixth, passed one Moiety of it, to John Martin, whose Successor and Descendant Edward Martin passed it away with Franks mentioned in Horton Kirkby, in whose Revenue it lies now couched, about the beginning of Q. Elizabeth to Alderman Bathurst, from whom, with Franks, it is now devolved by descent to be the Inheritance of Sir Edward Bathurst.

Ralph de Fremingham obtained a weekly Market to his Mannor of Farningham, on the Tuesday, and a fair yearly to continue for four days, the Vigil, the day of St. Peter and Paul, and two days after, by Grant from Henry the third, in the fifty fifth year of his reign, Pat. An. 55. Hen. 3. Mem. 12. Which Grant was renewed and confirmed to Jo. de Fremingham, in the seventh and eighth years of Richard the second.

Chimbham is another Mannor in this Parish, which did give Name to a Family of

that Appellation, for I find in the Book of Aid, that when John de Fremingham, pays Aid for his Mannors of Farningham and Chimbham, there is a Recital of Lawrence de Chimbham, which formerly held it in the Reign of Henry the third. But it is evident both by that Record, and by the Inquisition taken after his Death, which was in the twenty third year of Edward the third, that John de Fremingham held it, and transmitted it to his Son Ralph de Fremingham, whose Son and Heir John Fremingham, dying without Issue, Anne his Sister entred upon the Possession of this, as his next Heir, and brought it with her to her Husband Roger Isley of Sundridge. And so this Family became concerned in it, and kept their Interest here until the Reign of Henry the seventh, and then it was passed away to Sibill of Littlemoat in Ainsford: in which Name the Propriety had not been long wrapt up, when this Family, found its Sepulchre in a Female Heir. For Ed. Sibill, the last of this Name, resolved into a Daughter and Heir, matched to Hide: and he not many years since, conveyed it by Sale, to Alderman Bunce of London.

Fairfield in the Hundred of Langport, was given to the Church of Christ-church in Canterbury by St. Edmund Arch-bishop of Canterbury, and Chancellor of the University of Oxford, about the year 1238. and more to fortifie the Donation, affixed his Seal, (*Sigillo suo confirmavit*, say the Records of Christ-church) to the original Grant. This upon the Suppression, was upon the Institution of the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, by Henry the eighth, confirmed by Grant to them.

Faukham in the Hundred of Acstane, was the Seat, and gave the Sirname to an ancient Family called Faukham. The first whom I find upon Record is Walloran de Faukham, who flourished here in the Reign of Henry the second, as appears by the Book called Nova Feoffamenta, taken in that Princes Reign, and kept in the Exchequer. Afterwards, in Times of a more modern date it acknowledged the Signory of the Lord Grandison, Baron of Ferneborough, and Otho de Grandison, is said, in the Book of Aid, with Gilbert de Kirkbie, to have held one Knights Fee in Faukham, of the Bishop of Rochester, which Rose de Faukham and William de St. Clere of Ford in Wrotham formerly held, and this Otho Lord Grandison held it at his Death, which was in the thirty third year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 41. And left it to his Son Thomas Grandison, who dyed without Issue in the forty ninth year of Edward the third, Rot. Esc. Num. 36. So that his Estate here, and in other places, was divided between his Sisters and Coheirs; whereof this, came to be possess by Sir John Northwood, in Right of Agnes one of his Sisters, from whom by a constant Line of Succession, it was guided down to his Son Sir Roger Northwood, who was extinguished in a Female Heir, called Albina Northwood, matched to John Diggs of Diggs Court in Berham Esquire; who was Sheriff of Kent, in the second year of Henry the fourth, and so in her Right, this Mannor devolved to this Family, and lay couched in their Estate until the latter end of Henry the eighth; and then it was passed away to Barham, of Barham-court in Teston. In which Name the Propriety had not been long resident, when Thomas Barham Esquire, concluded in a Daughter and Heir called Anne, who was espoused to Sir Oliver Boteler, who cast this into his Revenue, from whom it is now come down to Sir Oliver Boteler Baronet, only Son of Sir William Boteler, slain at Cropready Bridge, in asserting the Royal Quarrel.

Frensbury in the Hundred of Shamell, hath several places in it worthy of our Cognisance. The first is Eslingham, which was given to the Church of St. Andrews in Rochester, by Kenulfus King of Mercia, as the Book called Textus Roffensis informs me: But by the Registers of that Church, I find that John de St. Clere, held it in the Lease of the Covent, about the ninth year of Edward the third; and after him a Family called Neal, who had large Possessions about Higham, were Lessees to the Cloister. In the sixth year of Henry the sixth, I find John Rykeld held it, and kept his Shrievalty at this place: after him a Family called Frogenhall, was by Right of Lease in the Reign of Henry the seventh, possess of