

Daniel Lysons
The environs of London, second edition
London
1811

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THE
ENVIRONS OF LONDON:

BEING
AN HISTORICAL ACCOUNT
OF THE
TOWNS, VILLAGES, and HAMLETS,
Within Twelve Miles of that Capital:

INTERSPERSED WITH BIOGRAPHICAL ANECDOTES,

By the Rev. DANIEL LYSONS, A.M. F.R.S. F.S.A. & L.S.
RECTOR OF RODMARTON IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

VOLUME I. – PART II.
COUNTIES OF KENT, ESSEX, AND HERTS.

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COUNTY
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KENT.

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BECKENHAM.

- Etymology.** This place is supposed to derive its name from the Saxon words bec, a brook, and ham, a dwelling. A small stream, which falls into the Ravensbourn, passes through the parish.
- Situation.** Beckenham lies in the hundred of Bromley and Beckenham, at the distance of nine miles and a quarter from London-bridge. The parish is bounded by Lewisham, Bromley, Hayes, and West Wickham, in Kent; and by Croydon, a small portion of Camberwell, and Penge, (a detached hamlet of Battersea,) in Surrey. It contains about 3170 acres of land, of which, in the year 1793, about 1850 were arable, 1080 meadow and pasture, and about 240 wood and orchards.
- Boundaries.** A considerable quantity has since been laid down to grass. The waste land does not exceed 30 or 40 acres. The soil is for the most part clay and gravel; in some parts loam.
- Extent and nature of the land, and how occupied.**
- Manor.** The manor of Beckenham was held of King Edward the Confessor, by Anschil. When the survey of Doomsday was taken /1, Ansgot, of Rochester, held it under Odo, Bishop of Baieux. Richard de la Rokele died seised of it in 1276 /2. His son Philip left a daughter and sole heir, Isolda /3, married to Sir William Bruyn; from whom this manor descended /4 to Sir Henry Bruyn, who died in 1461, leaving two daughters, coheirs /5. Alice the eldest had, by her first husband John Berners Esq., a son, who **dying** without issue, a moiety of this manor was inherited

/1 It is thus described in the survey: – Ansgot, of Rochester, holds Bacheham, in the hundred

of Brunlei, of the Bishop (of Baieux). It is taxed at two sulings /*. The land is eight carucates. There are two ploughs on the demesnes. There are 22 villans and eight bordars, who employ eight ploughs, and have half employment for another. There are 12 acres of meadow, four slaves, a mill, and pannage for 60 hogs. In the time of King Edward, and afterwards, it was valued at 9l.; now at 13l. Anschil held it of King Edward.

/2 Esch. 5 Ed. I. N/o 6.

/3 Esch. 23 Edw. I. N/o 39.

/4 Sir Maurice Bruyn died seised of it in 1355; Esch. 29 Edw. III. N/o 38. William Bruyn, in 1362; Esch. 36 Edw. III. pt. 1. N/o 31. Sir Ingram Bruyn, in 1400; Esch. 1 Hen. IV. N/o 39. Elizabeth his widow, in 1407; Esch. 8 Hen. IV. N/o 18.

/5 Esch. 1 Edw. IV. N/o 27.

/* A word peculiar to Kent, supposed to mean the same as carucate; but here it seems to be of greater extent; in some parts of Domesday, a suling is described as containing about 220 acres.

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by John Harleston, son of her second husband /6. Clement Harleston sold it, in 1530, to Robert Legh Esq. /7, whose descendant of the same name, in 1610, aliened it to Henry Snelgar or Snelgrave Esq. /8 (afterwards knighted). About the year 1650, it was sold by his grandson Henry Snelgrave Esq. to Walter St. John Esq. /9, in whose family the manor became again united. – Elizabeth, second daughter of Sir Henry Bruyn, married, to her first husband /10, Thomas Tyrrell Esq. whose descendants inherited the other moiety of this manor; one of them, whose name also was Thomas, left a daughter and sole heir, married to Sir John Dalston, by whom she had two daughters. Catherine, one of these coheirs, married Sir Henry Curwen /11: about the year 1650, Sir Patrick Curwen, his son, sold a moiety of the manor of Beckenham to Oliver St. John Esq. /12; from whom it descended to Sir Walter St. John, Bart. already possessed of the other moiety. The manor, thus united, continued in the St. John family till the year 1773, when Frederick, the late Viscount Bolingbroke, sold it to John Cator Esq. /13, whose nephew of the same name is the present proprietor, and resides in an elegant mansion built by his uncle soon after his purchase of the estate, and called Beckenham-place. It stands on an eminence, and commands a beautiful, though not a very extensive prospect.

Charles
Brandon,
Duke of
Suffolk.

Philipott informs us, that Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, son of Elizabeth Bruyn, before-mentioned, by her second husband, resided in the manor-house of Beckenham as lessee; and that he entertained Henry VIII. there, "with all the cunning pompe of magnificence, as he went to bestow a visit, at Hever, on his discarded and repudiated wife, Anne of Cleve /14."

Foxgrove-
farm.

Foxgrove-farm belonged, at a very early period, to a family of that name /15. Bartholomew de Burghersh died seised of it in 1354 /16. His son Bartholomew

/6 The account of the matches of Sir Henry Bruyn's daughters is taken from Vincent's Visitation of Essex, and Glover's MSS. in the College of Arms. After the death of her second husband, Alice Bruyn married Sir John Heveningham.

/7 Pat. 22 Hen. VIII. pt. 1. March 29.

/8 Pat. 8 Jac. pt. 23. April 1.

/9 Philipott, p. 63.

/10 She was thrice married. Her second husband was Sir William Brandon, by whom she became mother of Charles Brandon, Duke of Suf-

folk. After Sir William Brandon's death, she married William Malory, Esq.

/11 The alliances of the Tyrrells, Dalstons, and Curwens are taken from St. George's Visitation of Cumberland, in the College of Arms. The alienation from Sir George Dalston, (who was son of Sir John Dalston by a second wife,) to Sir Patrick Curwen, as mentioned by Philipott and Hasted, was, it is probable, a family conveyance. He might have been trustee for Sir Patrick, who was his nephew. The conveyance of this moiety of the manor, from Humphrey Tyrrell to Sir Ralph Warren, mentioned by Philipott, and confirmed by Pat. 35 Hen. VIII. pt. 18. April 12, was probably a mortgage, or trust, though not declared; as was also, I suppose, a conveyance from the same Humphrey Tyrrell to William Parker, citizen and draper. Pat. 2 Edw. VI. pt. 1. Nov. 22.

/12 Philipott, p. 63.

/13 From the information of **the late** Mr. Cator.

/14 History of Kent, p. 63.

/15 Ibid. p. 64.

/16 Esch. 29 Edw. III. N/o 44.

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alienated it, in 1369, to Sir Walter de Pavely /17. About the end of the same century, it passed from the Pavelys to the family of Vaux, of Northamptonshire /18. Sir Thomas Grene, who had purchased it of the Vaux's, died seised of it in 1465 /19. About the year 1510, it came into the family of Baversea. Humphrey Baversea alienated it to Luke Hollingworth; **the latter**, about the year 1547, sold it to Sir John Olyffe /20, whose only daughter and heir married John Leigh Esq. of Addington, in Surrey. From him it descended to Sir Francis Leigh, who died in 1711 /21, having directed this and other estates to be sold. This farm was purchased, in 1716, by Mr. John Tolson, and descended to Lancelot Tolson Tilly, who devised it to Timewell Brydges Esq. for his life, with remainder to John and Edward Brydges, of Wotton. In 1765, it was sold by the Brydges **family** to Jones Raymond Esq. who died in 1768, having left this estate between Amy his sister, relict of Peter Burrell Esq. and William and George Evelyn Glanville Esqrs. the sons of Bridget, another sister. Mrs. Burrell, having purchased their share, became possessed of the whole; **upon her death** in 1789, this estate devolved **to** her son, the late Sir William Burrell, Bart. who sold it to his nephew, Sir Peter (now Lord Gwydir). Sir Peter Burrell exchanged it, in 1793, for other lands, with John Cator Esq., **uncle of** the present proprietor.

Kelseys. Kelseys, a considerable estate in this parish, belonged to a family of that name /22. In the latter part of the fourteenth century it came, by purchase, to the Brograves. In 1479, William Brograve had a licence for an oratory at Kelseys /23. A descendant of the Brograves sold it, about the year 1688, to Peter Burrell Esq. /24, ancestor of the Right Honourable Lord Gwydir, who is the present proprietor.

Langley-park. Hasted supposes the manor of Lasela, described in **the survey of Domesday**, to be the same estate which is now called Langley-park /25. I think that the orthography seems too remote, even had the name of Langley been more ancient; but it appears that it derived its present name from a family who purchased lands in Beckenham of Henry de Cliffe, about the year 1350 /26. Ralph Langley, who died

/17 Philipott.

/18 Ibid.

/19 Esch. 4 Edw. IV. N/o 21.

/20 Philipott.

/21 The account of Foxgrove, from this period, is taken from Hasted till the date of the last alienation, which was obligingly communicated

by the **late** proprietor.

/22 Philipott, p. 64.

/23 Ibid.

/24 Hasted, vol. i. p. 84.

/25 P. 85.

/26 These lands had been, at an earlier period, the property of John de Malmains, who had a charter of free-warren in Beckenham, in 1319. (Cart. 12 Edw. II. N/o 20.) No mention is made, in any record, of the name of Langley till a much later period, whence it seems evident, that the estate took its name from the proprietor, and not the proprietor from the estate.

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in 1451, directed this estate to be sold: the purchaser was John Violet /27, whose descendants enjoyed it till about the year 1510, when it was conveyed to John Style Esq. /28 Elizabeth, the daughter and sole heir of Humphrey Style, the last heir-male of that family, married Sir John Elwill, Bart., who died in 1727. His brother, Sir Edmund, sold Langley-park to Hugh Raymond Esq. who settled it on his only son Jones Raymond, with remainder to his eldest daughter Amy and her issue. Jones Raymond Esq. died without issue in 1768; his sister Amy married Peter Burrell Esq. whose grandson, the Right Hon. Lord Gwydir, is the present proprietor of Langley-park, where he resides **occasionally** in the summer season.

Kent-house. Kent-house, in this parish, was for several generations the property and residence of the Lethieulliers. John Greene Lethieullier Esq. sold it, in 1776, to Thomas Lucas Esq. of Lee /29. The present proprietor is John Julius Angerstein Esq. in right of his **late** wife, who was relict of Mr. Lucas. It is now occupied as a farm-house.

Among the principal seats at Beckenham, are those of the Right Hon. Lord Auckland (purchased of **the late** J. A. Rucker Esq.); Joseph Cator Esq. (formerly Sir Piercy Brett's); Richard Henry Alexander Bennet Esq.; and **Mrs. King, relict of the late** Edward King Esq. /30

Parish church. The parish church, dedicated to St. George, is a neat structure, consisting of a chancel, nave, and two aisles, both of which were built by Oliver Style Esq. about the beginning of the **seventeenth** century. At the west end is a handsome spire, which was rebuilt a few years ago, having received great damage by lightning, on the 24th of December 1790.

Monuments. Against the north wall of the chancel stands a table tomb, ornamented with lozenges, quatrefoils, and foliage, in memory of Sir Humphrey Style and his wife Bridget, (daughter of Sir Thomas Bauldrey, Lord Mayor of London,) whose effigies **on brass plates** are fixed on the wall above, together with that of Elizabeth, second wife and relict of the deceased (daughter of George Peryn Esq.). They are all habited in surcoats, on which are the arms of their families. Bridget Style died in 1548; Sir Humphrey, in 1552. On the same wall, **among others, is the monument of Mrs. Jane Clerke, who died in 1757, with an epitaph from the pen of Mr. Gray** /31. On the south wall are monuments in memory of Sir Piercy

/27 Philipott, p. 64.

/28 Ibid. The remainder of the descent is given from Hasted.

/29 Hasted, vol. i. p. 87.

/30 See p. 418.

/31 "Lo! where this silent marble weeps,

A friend, a wife, a mother sleeps;

A heart within whose sacred cell

The peaceful Virtues lov'd to dwell:

Affection warm, and faith sincere,

And soft humanity was there:

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Brett, Admiral of the Blue, who died Oct. 14, 1781, in the seventy-second year of his age; **the relict of Sir Richard Hoare Bart., who died in 1800 (a cenotaph**

by Flaxman, with figures in bas-relief, of her surviving family as mourners); some of the families of Acland, Burrell, &c. On the floor, are the tombs of William Danyell, alias Malham, rector, 1458 (the inscription is on a brass plate with a Gothic canopy, but the effigies of the deceased has been removed); Dame Margaret, wife of Sir William Damsell, Knt. (with the effigies of the deceased on a brass plate), 1563; &c. &c.

Under the south aisle (built by Oliver Style), is the burial-place belonging to Langley-house. On the north wall of this aisle, are the monuments of Sir Humphrey Style, Knt. and Bart. of England and Ireland, 1659; William Style Esq. barrister at law /32, 1679, and others of that family; and Sir John Elwill, Bart. 1727. On the south wall is the monument of Hugh Raymond Esq. (with a medallion of the deceased), 1737: on the east wall, that of Jones Raymond Esq. 1768; and a very handsome monument, of various kinds of marble, (by Hickey,) erected by the late Sir William Burrell, Bart. in memory of his mother, Amy, widow of Peter Burrell Esq. who died in 1789, aged 89. The bas-relief, in front of the sarcophagus, represents the deceased in the act of administering charity to the poor.

In the north aisle (built also by Oliver Style) is a handsome monument of veined marble, with a medallion of the deceased, in memory of Peter Burrell Esq. 1756: there are monuments also of Sir Merrik Burrell, Bart., and others of that family.

Remarkable
accident.

In the church-yard, among others, are the tombs of John Willis Esq. of Beddington-hall, Suffolk, 1764; Temperance, his wife, (only daughter and heir of Sir Edward Hannes, M.D. physician to Queen Anne,) 1765; Anne Isted, a child, "killed by the careless discharge of a pistol, at the distance of 337 yards," Aug. 25, 1766; the late Edward King Esq. /33 &c.

Rectory.

The church of Beckenham is a rectory in the diocese of Rochester, and in the deanery of Dartford. In the reign of Edward I. it was valued at 25 marks; in

In agony, in death resign'd,
She felt the would she left behind.
Her infant image, here below,
Sits smiling on a father's woe;
Whom, what awaits, while yet he strays
Along the lonely vale of days;
A pang to sacred sorrow dear,
A sigh, an unavailing tear,
Till time shall every grief remove,
With life, with memory, and with love."

/32 I suppose this to be the same person who, in 1657, published a work called "The Practical Register," treating of the practice of the common law. This book has gone through four editions. William Style published also, (1658,) Reports in the King's Bench, from 21 Car. I. to 1655; which are esteemed very valuable, as the only cases extant of the common law courts for several years.

/33 See p. 418.

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the King's books it is rated at 16l. 18s. 9d. The commissioners appointed to inquire into the state of ecclesiastical benefices, in 1650, found by their inquest, that the glebe belonging to this rectory was then worth 30l. per annum, and the tithes 110l. /33 The advowson of this benefice descended with the manor of Beckenham, till the year 1773, when Lord Bolingbroke sold the manor to Mr. Cator, reserving the advowson, which he afterwards alienated to Mr. Rose. It is now vested in his son, who is the present rector.

William
Assheton,
rector.

William Assheton, D.D. instituted to this rectory in 1676, was fellow of Brazen Nose College in Oxford. He published some practical and devotional tracts; several pamphlets against the Papists and dissenters, and some single sermons. He was the first projector of a scheme for providing a maintenance for widows by the benefit of survivorship /34. Dr. Assheton died at Beckenham in September 1711,

and was there buried. A life of him was published by Mr. Watts, vicar of Orpington.

The present rector is the Rev. William Rose, M.A.; who, in 1778, succeeded William Fraigneau, Greek professor in the University of Cambridge; and vicar of Battersea.

The register of baptisms, burials, and marriages, begins in 1538.

Comparative state of population.	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1540 – 1549.	16(2/5)	13(2/5)
1580 – 1589.	10(3/5)	6(1/10)
1630 – 1639.	16(4/5)	12(2/5)
1680 – 1689.	9(9/10)	11(2/5)
1730 – 1739.	17(1/10)	27(3/10)
1780 – 1789.	27(4/5)	29(1/5)
1790 – 1794.	28(4/5)	27
1795 – 1799.	30(3/4)	24
1800 – 1808.	37(1/3)	27(4/9)

The number of houses in this parish in 1794 was about 140; according to the /33 Hasted, from the Lambeth surveys.

/34 According to this scheme, married men of the age of thirty, or under, were allowed to subscribe 1000l.; married men, under 40, any sum not exceeding 500l.; under 60, any sum not exceeding 300l.; their widows to receive 30 per cent. unless the person subscribing should have committed suicide, have been killed in a duel, or executed; in which cases, the subscription-money was returned. Seafaring persons were not allowed to subscribe.

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returns made under the population act, there were then 163, of which four were unoccupied; the present number is about 170.

Extracts from the Register.

Margaret Finch, Queen of the Gipsies.

“Margaret Finch, buried Oct. 24, 1740.” This remarkable person lived to the age of 109 years. She was one of the people called Gipsies, and had the title of their Queen. After travelling over various parts of the kingdom, during the greater part of a century, she settled at Norwood; whither her great age, and the fame of her fortune-telling, attracted numerous visitors. From a habit of sitting on the ground, with her chin resting on her knees, the sinews at length became so contracted, that she could not rise from that posture; after her death they were obliged to inclose her body in a deep square box. Her funeral was attended by two mourning coaches; a sermon was preached upon the occasion, and a great concourse of people attended the ceremony. There is an engraved portrait of Margaret Finch, from a drawing made in 1739. Her picture long adorned the sign-post of a house of public entertainment in Norwood, called the Gipsy-house /35. In an adjoining cottage lived, a few years ago, an old woman, granddaughter of Queen Margaret, who inherited her title. She was niece of Queen Bridget, who was buried at Dulwich in 1768 /36. Her rank appeared to be merely titular; I could not find on inquiry that the Gipsies paid her any particular respect; or that she differed any otherwise than in being a householder, from the rest of her tribe. A few leading facts relating to this extraordinary race of people, who are scattered over most parts of Europe and Asia, will, it is presumed, not be unacceptable in this place to my readers. The Gipsies are called, on most parts of the Continent, Cingari, or Zingari; the Spaniards call them Gitanos. It is not certain when they first appeared in Europe; but mention is made of them in Hungary and Germany, so early as the year 1417. Within ten years afterwards, we hear of them in France, Switzerland, and Italy /37. The date of their arrival in England is more uncertain; it is most probable, that it was not till nearly a century afterwards. In the year 1530, they are thus spoken of in the penal statutes: “Forasmuch as before this time, divers and many outlandish people, calling them-

Anecdotes relating to the Gipsies.

selves Egyptians, using no craft nor feat of merchandize, have come into this realm, and gone from shire to shire, and place to place, in great company, and

/35 The Gipsy-house is situated on a small green, in a valley, surrounded with woods. On this green, a few families of Gipsies have pitched their tents, for a great number of years, during the summer season. In the winter, they either procure lodgings in London, or **migrate to** some of the more distant counties.

/36 See Vol. i. p. 79.

/37 See Grellman's History of the Gipsies, translated by **Matthew Raper, Esq.**, p. 93, 94.

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used great subtil and crafty means to deceive the people; bearing them in hand that they, by palmistry, could tell men's and women's fortunes; and so, many times, by craft and subtilty, have deceived the people of their money; and also have committed many heinous felonies and robberies, to the great hurt and deceit of the people they have come among," &c. This is the preamble to an act, by which the Gipsies were ordered to quit the realm under heavy penalties. Two subsequent acts, passed in 1555 and 1563, made it death for them to remain in the kingdom; and it remains on record, that thirteen were executed under these acts, at the assizes for the county of Suffolk, a few years before the Restoration. It was not till about the year 1783 that they were repealed. The Gipsies were expelled France in 1560; and Spain in 1591: but it does not appear that they have been extirpated in any country. Their collective numbers, in every quarter of the globe, have been calculated at 7 or 800,000 /38. They are most numerous in Asia, and in the northern parts of Europe. Various have been the opinions relating to their origin. That they came from Egypt, has been the most prevalent: this opinion (which has procured them here the name of Gipsies, and in Spain that of Gitanos) arose from some of the first who arrived in Europe pretending that they came from that country; which they did, perhaps, to heighten their reputation for skill in palmistry and the occult sciences. It is now, I believe, pretty generally agreed, that they came originally from Hindostan /39; since their language so far coincides with the Hindostanic, that even now, after a lapse of more than three centuries, during which they have been dispersed in various foreign countries, nearly one-half of their words are precisely those of Hindostan; and scarcely any variation is to be found in vocabularies procured from the Gipsies in Turkey, Hungary, Germany, and those in England /40. Their manners, for the most part, coincide, as well as their language, in every quarter of the globe where they are found; being the same idle, wandering set of beings, and seldom professing any ostensible mode of livelihood, except that of fortune-telling. Their religion is always that of the country in which they reside; and though they are

/38 See Grellman's History of the Gipsies, translated by **Mr. Raper**, p. 7.

/39 Grellman's opinion seems extremely plausible, that they are of the lowest cast of Indians called Suders, and that they left Indian when Timur Beg ravaged that country, in 1408 and 1409, putting to death immense numbers of all ranks of people.

/40 Mr. Marsden first made inquiries among the English Gipsies concerning their language. See the Archæologia, vol. vii. p. 382–386. Mr. Coxe communicated a vocabulary of words used by those of Hungary. (See the same volume of the Archæologia, p. 387.) Vocabularies of the German Gipsies may be seen in Grellman's book, translated by **Mr. Raper**. Any person, wishing to be convinced of this similarity of language, and being possessed of a vocabulary of words used in Hindostan, may be satisfied of its truth by conversing with the first Gipsy he meets.

no great frequenters either of mosques or churches, they generally conform to rites and ceremonies as they find them established /41. Upon the whole, we may certainly, as Grellman says /42, "regard the Gipsies as a singular phenomenon in Europe; for the space of between three and four hundred years they have gone wandering about like pilgrims and strangers, yet neither time nor example has made in them any alteration; they remain ever, and every where, what their fathers were; Africa makes them no blacker, nor does Europe make them whiter."

Sir Piercy Brett.

"S/r Piercy Brett, Kn/t, buried Oct. 25, 1781." This brave officer was son of Mr. Piercy Brett, master attendant, successively, of the dockyards at Sheerness and Chatham. He served as Lieutenant on board the Centurion in Lord Anson's voyage; and commanded the detachment which took Payta, Nov. 10, 1741. The drawings referred to in the printed narrative of that voyage, were taken by him. He was made a Post Captain before his return home. When commander of the Lion, he had a memorable engagement with the Elizabeth, which was conveying the young Pretender to Scotland, and obliged her to return to Brest totally disabled. He was knighted in 1753, and made a Rear Admiral in 1761; but was never in any active service after he became a flag-officer. Sir Piercy Brett was for some time representative in parliament for Queenborough in Kent.

Family of Eden, Lord Auckland.

"George, son of William Eden Esq. (now L/d Auckland) and Eleanor, born Aug. 25, 1784; Mary Dulcibella, daughter of the R/t Hon. W/m L/d Auckland and Eleanor his Lady, born Sep. 2, 1793; Henry Eden, aged 8 years, buried June 16, 1794."

Fatal accident.

"S/r John Edward Swinburne of Capheaton, Northumberland, Bar/t, and Emilia Elizabeth Bennet /43, married July 13, 1787."

"Robert Fox, aged 55 years, Thomas Fox, aged 7 years, and Robert Fox, aged 6 years, buried Jan/y 2/d, 1794. N. B. These three persons were suffocated by wood-ashes being placed in their bed-rooms to dry the walls, which were new."

/41 Grellman says, that in Germany they seldom think of any marriage-ceremony; but their children are baptized, and the mothers are churched. (See Raper's Translation, p. 45–47.) In England their children are baptized, and their dead buried, according to the rites of the church; perhaps the marriage-ceremony is not much more regarded than in Germany; but it is certain that they are sometimes married in churches. See vol. i. p. 63. of this work.

/42 Raper's Translation, p. I. of the Introduction.

/43 Daughter of Richard Henry Alexander Bennet Esq. Her mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, (Mrs. Amy Burrell,) were present at the wedding, and Mrs. Burrell lived to see another generation by the birth of a great-grandchild.

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Edward King Esq.

"Edward King Esq. F.R.S. and A.S. buried April 25, 1807," This learned writer was a native of Norfolk, and educated at Clare-Hall in Cambridge; he was bred to the bar, went the Norfolk circuit for a time, and was recorder of King's Lynn. He was a distinguished member of the Society of Antiquaries, into which body he was elected in 1770. On the death of Dean Milles in 1784, he was elected president of the society, which honourable situation he relinquished at the ensuing anniversary in favour of Lord de Ferrars (now Marquis Townshend). During the short time Mr. King continued president, he was indefatigable in his exertions for the benefit of the society, having not only projected, but carried into effect, various salutary regulations, chiefly respecting its finances. Mr. King communicated several papers to the society, which are published in the *Archæologia*; the most important are those which contain his Observations on Ancient Castles. His

more enlarged work upon this subject, being his principal antiquarian publication, displays much erudition and research; it is entitled "Munimenta Antiqua" or Observations on ancient Castles, including Remarks on the whole Progress of Architecture in Great Britain, in four volumes folio, the first of which was published in 1799, the last after his death. Besides this, he published "Vestiges of Oxford Castle," folio, in 1796. Of his other works, the most known is that entitled "Morsels of Criticism," published in 1788; he was author also of "An Essay on the English Government," 8vo, 1767; "Proposals for Establishing a Marine School at Sea," 1785; "Considerations on the Utility of the National Debt," 1793; "Hymns to the Supreme Being," 1780; "An Imitation of the Prayer of Abel," 1791; "Remarks on the Signs of the Times," 1798; an Appendix to the last mentioned publication, and Remarks concerning Stones said to have fallen from the Clouds, 1796. Mr. King had for several years a country seat at Beckenham, now the residence of his widow. He was buried in the church-yard at this place, where is a handsome monument of freestone to his memory, on which is placed a sarcophagus. On the sides are marble tablets, on one of which, at the west end is inscribed, "Sacred to the memory of Edward King Esq., who died April 16th, 1807, aged 72." On the tablet at the east end is inscribed the following quotation from Scripture, placed there at his own request: "All flesh is grass, and all the glory thereof as the flower of the field, but the word of the Lord endureth for ever."

Instances of longevity.

"Old Elizabeth Prowden, aged, as is reported, nigh 100 years, buried Aug/st 10, 1678; March 1804, Mary Goodchild, aged 107;" there are two entries of persons of 90 years of age; two of 91; one of 92, and one of 93 years of age.

Alms-houses.

At the south-east corner of the churchyard are three small alms-houses, erected
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by Anthony Rawlins Esq. in 1694, for the use of the poor; they have no endowment.

Charity for the education of children.

Capt. Leonard Bower /44 gave the sum of 100l. for the education of poor children. There has been no other benefaction for this purpose; but most of the children of the poor, to the number of threescore and upward, are educated by private charity. A Sunday school for 30 boys, and another for 40 girls, established in 1804, are supported by voluntary contributions, amounting to about 60l. per annum.

/44 Either Captain Leonard Bower who died in 1712, or Captain Leonard Bower who died in 1717; they were both buried at Beckenham.

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BROMLEY.

Etymology.

This place is supposed to have derived its name from the Saxon words Brom-leag, signifying a field or heath where broom grows; the great quantity of that plant on all the waste places near the town, sufficiently justifies this etymology.

Situation and boundaries.

Bromley is a market town /1, lying in the hundred of Bromley and Beckenham, and situated on the road to Tunbridge, at the distance of ten miles from London. The parish is bounded by Beckenham, West-Wickham, Hayes, Keston, Farnborough, Orpington, Chislehurst, Lee, Eltham, and Lewisham. It contains about 3000 acres of land, of which 350 are wood /2, 250 waste, the remainder arable and meadow, but principally the former. The soil is various; but chiefly clay and gravel.

Manor.

The manor of Bromley was given to the Bishop and Church of Rochester in the eighth century, by Ethelbert, King of Kent /3. It is probable that it was taken away from them by some succeeding monarch; for it appears that King Edgar, in 967, for a large sum of money, granted to Bishop Alfstan ten hides of land in Bromley, with extensive liberties and privileges /4. His son Etheldred, not regarding his father's grant, seized this land, and in 987 gave it to his minister /5; but afterwards, repenting of what he had done, in the year 998, the convent of Rochester and some of the principal nobility being present, he restored to the Bishop six hides /6, being the same, I suppose, which his predecessors had enjoyed under King Ethelbert's grant. After the Conquest, Odo, Bishop of Baieux,

seized this manor; but it was recovered to the see of Rochester by the exertions of Archbishop Lanfranc, in a solemn assembly of the whole county, held by the King's command in 1076 /7. In the mean time, it had been diminished in extent

/1 In 1447 or 1448, a weekly market on Thursdays was granted to the Bishop of Rochester; and two annual fairs, one in the town on St. James's Day, and the other within the manor, on St. Blaze's. — Cart. 25 and 26 Hen. VI. m. 20.

/2 A considerable quantity of woodland has been grubbed up, and converted into tillage within the last 60 years. About the middle of the **seventeenth** century, nearly half the parish was woodland.

/3 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 89.

/4 Ibid.

/5 Reg. Roff. p. 186.

/6 Reg. Roff. p. 191.

/7 Hasted, from Reg. Roff.

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one-half /8. It has since continued in the uninterrupted possession of the Bishops of Rochester, except during the Rebellion, and Cromwell's usurpation in the last century. This manor was sold, in 1649, to Augustine Skinner, for the sum of 5665l. 11s. 11d. and continued in the possession of his family till the Restoration /9. In 1255, the manor of Bromley was valued at 23l.; in 1267, at 29l. 3s. 71/2d., in 1291, at 32l. 11s. 2d./10 The Bishop of Rochester, as lord of the manor of Bromley, has the return of writs within the manor, the assize of bread and ale, view of frankpledge, &c.

Bromley-palace.

The Bishops of Rochester had a mansion at this place at a very early period. In the time of Bishop Gualeranus, or Walleran, who died in 1184, it was become so ruinous, that his successor Gilbert de Glanville, Chief Justice of England, was obliged to expend a great sum of money on the repairs /11. Bromley-palace has long been the only habitable house belonging to the see of Rochester. Having undergone frequent alterations and repairs /12, the late Bishop, finding it much decayed, pulled it down soon after he came to the see, and erected in its stead a plain brick mansion, which was finished in 1777. It stands about a quarter of a mile from the town, and is pleasantly situated on the brow of a hill, looking towards Beckenham and Hayes. A view of the old palace, as it appeared in 1756, was engraved for Hasted's History of Kent.

Roger Ford, abbot of Glastonbury, was killed at Bromley-palace in the year 1261, being on a journey which he took to defend the rights of his church /13. At

/8 The Bishop of Rochester, says the Survey of **Domesday**, holds Bronlei. In King Edward's time, it was taxed at six sulings, now at three only. The arable land is thirteen carucates. On the demesnes are two ploughs. There are 30 villans and 26 bordars, who employ eleven ploughs. There is a mill of 4s. rent, and two acres of meadow; pannage for 100 hogs. In the time of King Edward, and afterwards, it was valued at 12l. 10s. now at 18l. yet it yields 21l. wanting 2s.

/9 Hasted, vol. i. p. 91.

/10 In rents of assize, 23l. 10s.; in plough-shares, 8s.; hens, 12s. 6d.; two mills, 40s.; two caracutes of land, 60s.; the profits from herds and live-stock, 13s. 4d.; reliefs, heriots, and other perquisites of court, 20s.; pannage, 5s.; eggs, 12d.; sale of wood, 20s.; a carucate of land let to farm, 16d. — Among the Cottonian MSS. at the British Museum, is an account of the stock which ought to remain on all the

manors of the Bishop of Rochester after the decease of each bishop. It is stated, that at Bromley there should be left one cart-horse (value 13s. 4d.), 16 oxen, four stallions, eight cows, one bull, 100 ewe sheep, five rams, five sows, two young boars, and 25 hogs, of one year old. The land ought to be sown out of the assets of the deceased, and four carters and one harrower maintained for that purpose; and there ought to be left sundry utensils and household furniture, such as tables, casks, pots, &c. See Hasted, vol. i. p. 90.

/11 Reg. Roff. p. 11.

/12 In 1699, Bishop Sprat procured a licence from the Archbishop of Canterbury to pull down the old chapel at Bromley, and rebuild it. Regist. Lambeth. Tennison, f. 126. b. Bishop Atterbury and Bishop Wilcox laid out considerable sums in repairing and improving the old palace. Hasted, vol. i. p. 91.

/13 Willis's Mitred Abbies, vol. i. p. 105.

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this palace, in a flower-pot, was found the parchment forged by a conspiracy, of which Bishop Sprat printed an account /14.

St. Blaze's Well.

There is a spring of mineral water in the Bishop's ground called St. Blaze's Well, near to which, before the Reformation, stood an oratory. It was much frequented, not only on account of the medicinal virtues of the water, but for the sake of certain indulgences (or remittances of penance) which Lucas, legate to Pope Sixtus IV. granted to all such as should offer up their orisons at this oratory of St. Blaze, in the three holy-days of Pentecost /15. The oratory fell to ruins after the Reformation, the well was filled up, and its site forgotten. It was discovered in 1756, when an account of the discovery, and the use of the water, which is a chalybeate, was published by Thomas Reynolds, surgeon.

Manor of Sundridge.

The manor of Sundridge was, in the reign of Henry III., the property of Peter le Blund, Constable of the Tower of London; and, about the middle of the fourteenth century, came by marriage with an heir of the Blunds to the family of Willoughby /16. In 1393, it was the property of Sir Richard Stury. William Booth, Esq. died seised of it in 1486; from him it descended to Sith Booth, Esq.: one of whose co-heirs married Thomas Bettenham Esq. Stephen Bettenham, Esq. (great grandson of Thomas) gave this estate in marriage with his daughter Anne to Robert Pynsent, Esq. who died at Sundridge, in 1679, without issue. He was succeeded in the possession of this manor by Thomas Washer, Esq. who died in 1720. Mary, daughter and sole heir of John Washer, his son, married William Wilson, Esq. whose grandson William Wilson, Esq. sold it, in 1792, to Edward George Lind, Esq. **It was purchased of Mr. Lind in 1796 by Claude Scott Esq., who has built on it a handsome mansion for his own residence, and made great improvements in the grounds.** This manor is held under the Bishop of Rochester.

Manor of Simpsons.

The manor of Simpsons was, in 1302, the property of John de Banquel /17. Thomas Banquel died seised of it in 1361 /18; and it appears that, upon a division of his estates, his younger son William had this manor. The next owner upon record was William Clarke, who had a licence from Henry V. to fortify and embattle his mansion-house, which was surrounded by a moat /19. About the year

/14 Intituled, "A Relation of the wicked Contrivance of Stephen Blackhead and Robert Young, against the Lives of several Persons, by forging an Association under their Hands." Written by the Bishop of Rochester. 4to, 1692.

/15 Philipott's Survey of Kent, p. 84.

/16 Ibid. p. 83, 84. The remainder of the descent is given from Hasted's History, vol. i.

p. 92.

/17 He had that year a charter of free-warren for lands in Bromley. Cart. 31 Edw. I. N/o 46. Confirmed to Sir Richard Stury, by Pat. 16 Rich. II. pt. 2. m. 23.

/18 Esch. 35 Edw. III. pt. 1. N/o 30. It was then called "Lands in Bromley."

/19 Philipott, p. 84. I find no reference to this grant in the Calendars at the Tower.

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1450, it came by purchase to John Simpson, from whose family it derived its present name /20. Nicholas Simpson, his descendant, (who was barber to King Henry VIII.) alienated it to Alexander Basset, by whom it was conveyed to Sir Humphrey Style. It has since passed through the same hands as Langley-park in Beckenham, and is now the property of the Right Hon. Lord Gwedir. **The ancient mansion at Simpsons still remains surrounded with a moat, and is occupied by the servant of Mr. Jackson, who rents the farm.**

Freelands. Freelands, a house with lands in this parish, was, in 1701, the property of John Whalley, merchant. Some years ago a lease of it was granted to Robert Nettleton Esq. Governor of the Russia Company. The lease has since passed through the hands of Mr. Welles, Robert Adair Esq. the late Surgeon-general, and Thomas Raikes Esq.; it is now vested in **Charles Boone Esq., by whom it is occupied.** The fee belongs to the family of Assheton.

Bickley, &c. Between Bromley and Chislehurst is Bickley, lately the seat of Admiral Welles, who inherited it from his father William Welles Esq.; it is now the property and residence of John Welles Esq. At Plaistow, is the seat of the late Peter Isaac Thellusson Esq., who died in 1797, having bequeathed almost the whole of his great property to trustees, who are to lay out the accumulating property in lands, the whole of which, in case of failure of male issue in his immediate descendants after three generations, are to be sold and applied under the direction of Parliament towards the sinking fund. The house at Plaistow is now occupied by Thomas Maltby Esq., who has a lease from the trustees.

Parish church. The parish church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul is a spacious structure of flint and stone; consisting of a chancel, nave, and two aisles. At the west end is a square embattled tower, with a cupola.

Monuments. On the north wall of the chancel is a single stone stall of Gothic architecture; the upper part is mutilated. On the same wall is the monument of Bishop Pearce /21. Bishop Pearce. On the south side of the chancel are the monuments of Harington Bagshaw, and Thomas Bagshaw, **successively curates of Bromley, and chaplains of Bishop Warner's College, the former, who died in 1739, 40 years, the latter, who died in 1786, 54 years.** On the floor, are the gravestones of John Yonge, Bishop of

/20 Philipott. The remainder of the descent of this manor is taken from Hasted, vol. i. p. 92.

/21 Inscription: – "In the south aisle lyeth the body of Zachary Pearce, D.D. who was made Rector of St. Bartholomew's behind the Royal Exchange, London, March 10, 1720; Vicar of St. Martin's in the Fields, Westminster, Jan/y 10, 1724; Dean of Winchester, Aug. 4, 1739; Prolocutor of the Lower House of Convocation, Dec. 7, 1744; Bishop of Bangor, Feb. 21, 1748; Dean of Westminster, May 4, 1756; and Bishop of Rochester, June 4, 1756. He resigned the Deanery of Westminster, June 24, 1768; and died, in a comfortable hope of (what was the chief aim of all his labours upon earth) the being promoted to a happier place in Heaven. He was born Sep. 8, 1690, and died June 29, 1774, aged 84 years."

Elizabeth,
wife of Dr.
Johnson.

Rochester /22, **who died in 1605; and others.** In the nave, **among others, is the gravestone of Elizabeth, wife of Dr. Samuel Johnson /23, who died in 1753.**

At the east end of the south aisle is a wooden tablet, with the arms and quarterings of Style, and an inscription denoting that the pews beneath were appropriated to the sole use of the Styles, ancient owners of Simpsons', and were then (1727) the property of Lady Elwill. On the floor, **among others, is the gravestone of the Rev. John Derby Rector of Southflete, and editor of Bishop Pearce's works, who died in 1778.** At the east end are monuments in memory of John Hawksworth, LL.D. /24, 1773; and Thomas Chase, Esq. /25, 1788. The north aisle was rebuilt in 1792; towards the expence of which, Bishop Thomas contributed the sum of 500l.

Dr. Hawks-
worth.

The font is square; of Norman architecture; the sides are ornamented with rows of plain circular arches.

/22 Inscription: – "Memoriæ sacrum: – Joanni Yonge, Episcopo Roffensi, Sacræ Theologiæ Doctori, Londini nato, Cantabrigiæ bonis literis innutrito, non minus varia doctrina et prudentia quam vitæ sanctimonia claro, qui, cum domino diu vigilasset, senex, in domino pie placideque obdormivit die 10 Aprilis 1605, cum annos 27 sedisset Episcopus, et 71 vixisset."

/23 Epitaph, written by Dr. Johnson: – "Hic conduntur reliquiæ Elizabethæ antiqua Jarvisiorum gente, Peatlingæ apud Leicestrienses ortæ, formosæ, cultæ, ingeniosæ, piæ, uxoris primis nuptiis Henrici Porter, secundis Samuelis Johnson, qui multum amatam diuque defletam hoc lapide contexit. Obiit Londini, mense Mart. A.D. 1753."

Mrs. Johnson was buried at Bromley, in consequence of her disconsolate husband having committed the disposal of her remains to his friend Dr. Hawksworth, who resided at this place. How long and how severely that excellent man felt his loss, appears from his frequent mention of his deceased wife in his devotions, and from the above epitaph, written but a few months before his own death.

/24 Inscription: – "To the memory of John Hawksworth, LL.D. who died the 17th of November 1773, aged 58 years. That he lived useful and ornamental to society in an eminent degree, was among the boasted felicities of the present age; that he laboured for the benefit of posterity, let his own pathetic admonition at once record and realize.

"From the Adventurer, N/o 140.

"The hour approaches, in which, whatever praise or censure I have acquired by these compositions, if they are remembered at all, will be remembered with equal indifference, and the tenour of them only will afford me comfort. Time, who is impatient to date my last paper, will shortly moulder the hand that is now writing it in the dust, and still the breast that now throbs at the reflection: but let not this be read as something that relates to another; for a few years only can divide the eye that is now reading from the hand that has written. This awful truth, however obvious and how-

ever reiterated, is yet frequently forgotten; for, surely, if we did not lose our remembrance, or at least our sensibility, that view should always predominate in our lives, which alone can afford us comfort when we die.

“Bromley in Kent, Mar. 8, 1754.”

/25 Inscription: – “Sacred to the memory of Thomas Chase, Esq. formerly of this parish, born in the city of Lisbon the first of November 1729, and buried under the ruins of the same house where he first saw the light, in the ever-memorable and terrible earthquake which befel that city on the first of November 1755; when, after a most wonderful escape, he by degrees recovered from a very deplorable condition, and lived till the 20th of November 1788.”

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Walter de Henche, Bishop of Rochester, who died in 1360, was buried in this church, in the south aisle /26.

Against the south wall of the church, on the outside, is the monument of Elizabeth, wife of the Rev. George Richards, vicar of Hadlow, Kent, 1767.

Tombs in the church-yard.

In the churchyard, **among others**, are the tombs of Avis, relict of the Rev. Mark Hildesley, M.A. vicar of Sittingbourn, and rector of Witton, (who died in 1726,) 1743 /27; Elizabeth Monk /28, 1753; **and** Mary, widow of the Rev. Philip Stubbs, Archdeacon of St. Alban’s, aged 95, 1759.

Rectory.

The church of Bromley is within the diocese of Rochester, and in the deanery of Dartford. The rectory, to which a manor belongs, was in the reign of Henry VIII. appropriated to the Bishops of Rochester /29. In 1287, it was rated at 30 marks; in 1534, at 39l. 12s. The rectorial manor, parsonage-house, glebe lands, and tithes were valued all together, in the year 1650, at 182l. 8s. 9d. per annum. They had been all leased by Bishop Warner for 21 years, commencing in 1639, at the reserved rent of 60l. per ann. and 40 quarters of oats /30. John Younge was lessee in 1646. In 1706, the lease was in the possession of William Emmett Esq. whose granddaughter brought it to Mr. John Innocent. The present lessee is George Norman Esq. of Bromley-common, whose father married Mr. Innocent’s daughter. **The rectory-house, which stands in a beautiful situation near the church, is at present occupied as a ladies boarding-school by Mrs. Durand.**

Curacy.

The benefice was formerly a rectory in the patronage of the Bishops of Rochester. Since the appropriation above mentioned, it has been a **perpetual** curacy. The curate, who is appointed by the bishop, receives 20l. per annum out of the great tithes /31. It is not in charge in the King’s books.

/26 Regist. Roff.

/27 Mrs. Hildesley had 16 children born alive and baptized; five of them were born within one year and three days.

/28 Inscription, written by Dr. Hawksworth: – “Near this place lies the body of Elizabeth Monk, who departed this life on the 27th day of August 1753, aged 101. She was the widow of John Monk, of this place, blacksmith, her second husband, to whom she had been a wife near 50 years, by whom she had no children (and of the issue of her first marriage none lived to the second): but virtue would not suffer her to be childless – an infant, to whom, and to whose father and mother, she had been nurse, (such is the uncertainty of temporal prosperity,) became dependant upon strangers for the necessaries of life: to him she afforded the protection of a mother; this pa-

rental charity was returned with filial affection, and she was supported in the feebleness of age by him whom she had cherished in the helplessness of infancy. Let it be remembered, that there is no station in which industry will not obtain power to be liberal, nor any character on which liberality will not confer honour. She had been long prepared, by a simple and unaffected piety, for that awful moment, which, however delayed, is universally sure. How few are allowed an equal time of probation! How many, by their lives, appear to presume on more! To preserve the memory of this person, but yet more to perpetuate the lesson of her life, this stone was erected by voluntary contribution."

/29 Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 96.

/30 Ibid. from the Parliamentary Surveys.

/31 To this is added, at the discretion of the Bishop of Rochester, **about 30l.** out of the interest of 2000l. left by Bishop Warner to augment poor benefices within his diocese.

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Henry Maundrel, B.D. appointed curate of Bromley in 1680, was Fellow of Exeter College, Oxford, and chaplain to the factory at Aleppo. He published a book of Travels from Aleppo to Jerusalem, which is in considerable reputation, and has gone through several editions.

The present curate is Henry Smith, D.D. appointed, on the death of Thomas Bagshaw, in 1787.

There are two meeting-houses in this parish, belonging to the Methodists.

The register of baptisms in this parish begins in 1558, that of burials in 1578, that of marriages in 1575.

Meeting-houses.
Parish register.

Comparative state of population.

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1580 – 1589.	24(9/10)	19(1/5)
1630 – 1639.	34(2/5)	31
1680 – 1689.	34(2/5)	38(3/10)
1730 – 1739.	43	47(4/5)
1780 – 1789.	68(9/10)	63(2/5)
1790 – 1794.	82(1/5)	69(3/5)
1794 – 1799.	88(4/5)	62(1/5)
1800 – 1809.	73	57(4/3)

The number of houses in this parish in 1794 was 357 /31; in 1801, according to the return then made to parliament under the population-act, there were 424, of which nine were unoccupied; the present number is about 450.

Burials in the plague years.

In 1603, there were 26 burials; in 1625, 110; of which, 67 were between the months of July and December. In 1665, there were only 27; seven persons are said to have died of the plague.

Extracts from the Parish Register.

Bishop Yonge.

"The 14 of Maye the reverend father, John, Byshop of Rochester, had his funeral solemnized, his sonne, Mr. John Younge, being cheefe mourner, 1605." Bishop Yonge published an Exposition of the 131st Psalm.

Bishop Buckeridge.

"May 31, 1631 – the R/d Rev/d Father in God, John Buckeridge, the L/d Bishop of Ely, sometime Bishop of Rochester, buried." Bishop Buckeridge, who had been President of St. John's College in Oxford, was translated from the see of Rochester to that of Ely, in 1628. He published a book against Cardinal Bellarmine, concerning the Pope's authority in temporal affairs, and a few sermons /32.

/31 Of these, 225 were in the town, 18 at Ma-son's-hill, 26 on the common, 16 at South-

borough, 30 at Widmore, and 42 at Plaistow.
/32 Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. i.

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"George, son of S/r George Jeffreys, Kn/t, Recorder of London /34, buried Aug. 26, 1679."

Three children at a birth. Instances of longevity.

"Joseph, Benjamin, and Rachel, children of John Dudney, baptized Oct. 17, buried Oct. 20, 1724."

"Elizabeth Monk /35, widow, aged 101 last April, buried Sept. 3, 1753.

Mary White, widow, aged 100, buried Jan. 9, 1800. There occur also in the register entries of the burial of three persons of 90 years of age; four of 92; two of 93; two of 94; one of 95; one of 96, and one of 98 years of age.

Dr. Hawksworth.

"John Hawksworth, LL.D. buried Nov. 22, 1773." This well-known writer was editor and principal author of the *Adventurer*; he wrote also an Eastern tale called *Almorán and Hamet*, and some dramatic pieces, among which was *Edgar and Emmeline*, a fairy tale acted with much success. The *Narrative of the first Voyage to the South Seas* was drawn up by him, for which work he received a large sum of money. He published also a *Translation of Telemachus*, and was for some years editor of the *Gentleman's Magazine*: his widow, **who resided at Bromley, was buried there in 1796.** See his *Rpitaph*, p. 424.

Bishop Pearce.

"Zachary Pearce, D.D. L/d Bishop of this diocese, aged 84, buried July 8, 1774." This learned prelate was born at Ealing in Middlesex /36. His principal works are, *Commentaries on the Evangelists*, to which his portrait is prefixed; an edition of Cicero "*de Oratore*," and "*de Officiis*;" an edition of Longinus; **and** some controversial Tracts against Middleton and Woolston. He published also several sermons, and contributed to the *Spectator* and *Guardian*.

Bromley College.

Bromley College was founded by the munificence of John Warner, Bishop of Rochester, (from 1637 to 1666,) for the residence and maintenance of 20 widows of loyal and orthodox clergymen. This worthy prelate, by his will, bearing date 1666, empowered his executors, Sir Orlando Bridgman and Sir Philip Warwick, to raise a sum of money adequate to the purposes of such a building out of his personal estate, and charged his manor of Swayton with the annual payment of 450*l.* viz. 50*l.* per ann. for the chaplain, and 20*l.* each for the widows. The founder had expressed a desire, that this building should be erected as near to Rochester as conveniently might be, but as no healthy or convenient spot could be obtained near that town, power was given by an act of Parliament, passed in 1670, (for the purpose of explaining and settling some parts of the Bishop's donation,) to build it any where within the diocese, according to the discretion of the executors, who fixed on the present site at the north end of the town of Bromley. The founder not having made any provision for repairs, his executors, with the consent of the heir at law, charged the said manor of Swayton with the further

/34 Afterwards Lord Chancellor.

/35 See her epitaph, p. 425.

/36 See more of his family in vol. ii. p. 151, 152; and his epitaph in p. 423. of this volume.

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sum of 50*l.* per ann. but this being thought insufficient, the executors generously gave 100*l.* each, with which a fee-farm rent of 10*l.* was purchased; but still this income was found much too small to keep the buildings in a state of decent repair, and the trustees have been at times under the necessity of soliciting voluntary contributions for that purpose. The fund has since received further augmentations. Dr. Plume, Archdeacon of the diocese, left 100*l.* to it in 1704; Archbishop Tenison, who died in 1715, left 100 guineas, one-half to the widows, and the other half for repairs; Joseph Wilcocks, Esq. (son of Bishop Wilcocks) completed the inclosure of the College-grove, by building a wall on the eastern side, at the expence of 120*l.*; and Mrs. Wolfe, mother of the General, by her will, bearing date 1765, left the sum of 500*l.* to put the buildings in a state of thorough repair.

Benefactions to it since the founder's death.

Jeffrey Hetherington Esq. of North Cray, many years before his death, (which happened in 1767,) applied the interest of 2000*l.* Old South Sea annuities, to the purpose of purchasing coals and candles for the widows in Bishop Warner's Col-

lege. This sum, after his decease, was generously settled as a perpetuity, for the same purpose, by his surviving brother and heir the late Rev. William Hetherington. Bishop Pearce bequeathed the sum of 5000l. Old South Sea annuities, for the purpose of augmenting the widow's pensions to 30l. per ann. and the chaplain's salary to 60l.; Mrs. Helen Betenson, of Brabourne in Kent, by her will, bearing date 1786, left the sum of 10,000l for the purpose of building ten additional houses at Bromley College /37, and endowing them with 20l. per ann. each, for widows of clergmen. William Pearce Esq. (brother of Bishop Pearce), who died in 1782, left the sum of 12,000l. on failure of issue from his great nephew William Pearce Esq. and his great niece, who was afterwards wife of the late John Farr Abbot Esq. (both now deceased without issue), for the purpose of building ten houses /38 for widows of clergymen, in addition to Bishop Warner's College, and endowing them with 20l. per ann. each. He directed also, that 20l. per annum, should be applied towards the augmentation of the chaplain's salary, which has experienced a further increase of 6l. per ann. by the interest of 200l. 3 per cent. left by the **Rev. Thomas Bagshaw, some time chaplain.** The present chaplain is **the Rev. James John Talman.**

This excellent institution is under the management of **13** trustees, seven of whom are, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Rochester, the Archdeacon, and the Chancellor of that diocese, the Dean of St. Paul's, and the Dean of the Arches, for the time being. The others are elective:

/37 These houses **have been** finished, and inhabited **about 20 years.**

/38 Mr. Pearce's reversionary benefaction having fallen in, the houses **were completed in 1802.**

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the present trustees being, the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Sydney; **Sir Vicary Gibbs, the Attorney General;** Sir Beaumont Hotham, **George Lee Warner Esq.** (representative of the founder); Multon Lambard Esq.; and George Norman, Esq. who is Treasurer. Bromley College was exempted from the payment of taxes, by an act of Parliament, passed in **1757.**

Charity school.

There is a charity-school at this place, in which **12** boys, and the same number of girls, are clothed and educated. It was established before the year 1718. It is supported by the interest of 1000l. /39 3 per cents, an annual subscription, and the collections at a charity sermon. **There is a school also in the work-house, supported by private benefactions, for 40 young children, who are taught to read and their catechism; a Sunday-school for 25 girls, who are in part clothed, is supported by the Bishop of Rochester, and a few of the principal inhabitants /40.**

/39 The Rev. George Wilson, Rector of Chislehurst, in 1718, gave 200l.; Mrs. Eleanor Emmett, in 1739, 100l.; Lancelot Tolson Esq. 100l.; Mr. Thomas Moore, in 1734, 50l.

/40 From the information of the Rev. Dr. Smith, curate of Bromley.

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CHARLTON.

Etymology.
Situation.
Boundaries.

This place, which, in ancient records, is written Cerleton, or Georleton, takes its name from the Saxon word ceorle, a husbandman. It lies in the hundred of Blackheath, about two miles east of Greenwich, and seven miles from London-bridge. The parish is bounded by Greenwich, Lewisham, Eltham, Woolwich, the extraparochial hamlet of Kidbrook, and by the river Thames. I have not been able to learn **its extent, but it is supposed not to contain 1000 acres;** there are about 90 acres of woodland /1, and a considerable quantity of waste, including a part of Blackheath; the cultivated land is, for the most part, arable; there are 145 acres of marsh. The soil is various; gravel, loam, sand, and chalk /2.

Market, and fair, commonly called Horn-fair.

In the year 1268, there was a grant from the crown for a weekly market to be held at this place on Monday, and an annual fair, for three days, on the eve, the

day, and morrow of the Trinity /3. Philipott, who wrote in 1659, speaks of the market as then not long since discontinued; "the fair," says he, "is not disused, but kept yearly on St. Luke's Day; and called Horn-fair, by reason of the great plenty of all sorts of winding horns and cups, and other vessels of horn there brought to be sold /4." This fair, retaining the same name, still continues; it was formerly celebrated by a burlesque procession, which passed from Deptford, through Greenwich, to Charlton; each person wearing some ornament of horn

/1 Called Hanging-wood, belonging to the lord of the manor, through which there is a very pleasant walk to Woolwich. The wood, the variety of uneven ground, and the occasional views of the river, contribute to make the neighbourhood of this village remarkably picturesque.

/2 At the farther end of Hanging-wood is a very large and deep sand-pit, belonging to the lord of the manor. In this pit, the first stratum is gravel, which varies, according to the surface of the ground, from five or six to about 15 feet in depth; beneath, are various strata of clay, gravel, loam, and marle, running parallel, being altogether between 30 and 40 feet, which cover a bed of sand of 43 feet in depth. In the stratum of marle are found prodigious numbers of extraneous fossils. This vein is about six or eight feet thick, and the shells in it are so numerous, and so close, that, as Woodward justly observes, the mass is almost wholly composed of them, there being only a very little marle interposed. (Woodward on Fossils, vol. i. p. 42. of the Catalogue.) These shells consist of a great variety of univalves and bivalves (conchæ, ostreæ, buccinæ, &c.). They are very brittle, and for the most part resemble those found at Tours in France, and at Hordwell Cliff in Hampshire: some of them are impregnated with mundic. Below the church there is a chalk-pit, in which echini and other extraneous fossils are found.

/3 Cart. 53 Hen. III. m. 13.

/4 Survey of Kent, p. 96.

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upon his head. This procession has been discontinued since the year 1768: it is said, (by a vague and **absurd** tradition,) to have owed its origin to a compulsive grant made by King John, or some other of our kings, when detected in an **affair** of gallantry, being then resident at Eltham-palace.

The manor.

The manor of Charlton, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, was divided into moieties, and held by two brothers, Godwin and Alward /5. King William gave the whole to his half-brother Odo, Bishop of Baieux; under whom it was held by William Fitzoger. It afterwards came into the possession of Robert Bloet, Bishop of Lincoln, the King's Chancellor; who gave it to the prior and monks of Bermondsey /6. After the suppression of that monastery, it came into the hands of the crown. Queen Mary, in 1558, granted it to Sir Thomas White, and others /7. Previously to this grant, it had been leased to William Rice for 40 years, at 31l. per annum /8. Being again vested in the crown, Queen Elizabeth, in 1573, granted a lease for 21 years to Anne Lady Parry /9, who bequeathed her interest in it to Thomas Fortescue. In 1604, King James granted it in fee to John Earl of Mar /10, who, in 1606, sold it for 2000l. to Sir James Erskine /11. Sir James, the next year sold it for 4500l. to Sir Adam Newton. Sir Henry **Newton, son of the latter**, (who had taken the name of Puckering /12) alienated it, in 1659, to Sir William Ducie,

/5 It is thus described in the record of Domesday: – William Fitzoger holds of the Bishop of

Baieux, Cerletone, which is taxed at one suling. The arable land is five carucates. There is one plough on the demesne lands; and the villans, who are 13 in number, employ three. There are two slaves, eight acres of meadow, and pannage for five hogs. In the reign of King Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, it was, and now is, worth 7l. Two brothers, Godwin and Alward, held this estate of the King as two manors.

/6 Cotton MSS. Brit. Mus. Claudius A. VIII. fol. 116. a. The grant is not dated, but it must have been between 1092, and 1095, since Robert Bloet was promoted to the see of Lincoln in 1092, and William Carilipho, Bishop of Durham, who witnessed the grant, died in 1095.

/7 Pat. 5 and 6 Ph. and M. pt. 3.

/8 Pat. 4 and 5. Ph. and M. pt. 5. Oct. 26.

/9 Pat. 15 Eliz. pt. 10. July 27.

/10 Pat. 1 Jac. pt. 13. Oct. 18.

/11 This and the **later** alienations are taken from title deeds, obligingly communicated by Lady Wilson.

/12 Jane Puckering, only daughter and heir of Sir Henry, being walking in Greenwich-park on the 26th of September 1649, with her relation Mrs. Smith, was attacked by several men armed with swords, pistols, and other weapons, who, notwithstanding her cries and those of her companion, put her on horseback, and carried her away by violence. She twice attempted to escape, by throwing herself off, but to no purpose; they carried her to Erith, and put her on board a vessel, where she first saw their employer, Joseph Welsh, who taking the command of the party, they set sail for Margate, and thence to Flanders. There Welsh kept her many months confined in a nunnery, till at length she was induced through fear and despair of being restored to her friends, to marry him. As soon as she had procured her liberty, she came to England, and took legal means to make the marriage void, which was done by Lord Chief Justice Rolles and other Commissioners, who were appointed by Parliament to try the matter at Serjeants-Inn. Joseph Welsh and his accomplices were indicted at Maidstone assizes in July 1651, and their guilt proved; but it does not

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afterwards K. B. and Lord Viscount Downe, who died at his manor-house here in 1679 /13. His representatives sold it, in 1680, to Sir William Langhorne, Bart., who entailed this estate upon his nephew Sir John Conyers, Bart. and his heirs male; which failing, upon William Langhorne Games, Esq. (another nephew), and his heirs male, with remainder to his kinswoman Mrs. Margaret Maryon, widow; and after her death, to her son John, (afterwards rector of White-Rooding in Essex,) and his heirs for ever. Mr. Maryon left it, by will, to his niece Margaretta Maria, (married, first, to John Badger Weller Esq., of Romford; and secondly, to John Jones, Esq. of the kingdom of Ireland,) with remainder to her daughter Jane /14, now the wife of Sir Thomas Spencer Wilson, Bart. and her heirs general. Lady Wilson is the present proprietor of this manor.

The manor-house, of which an engraving is annexed, was built by Sir Adam

Newton about the Year 1612. The chapel was consecrated in 1616 /15. In the west window, over the entrance of the hall, are the arms and alliances of Sir William Ducie, who made considerable alterations in the house in 1659. The saloon retains the original cieling as it was finished for Sir Adam Newton, richly ornamented in the fashion which prevailed about his time. On this cieling are the Royal arms; and the ostrich feathers, the cognizance of the Prince of Wales, to whom he was tutor. The chimney-piece in this room is very handsome, of the same age as the cieling. On one side is the figure of Vulcan; on the other, Venus, in alabaster. In a room adjoining to the south side of the saloon, is a chimney-piece with a slab of black marble so finely polished, that Lord Downe is said to have seen in it a robbery committed on Blackheath; the tradition adds, that he sent out his servants, who apprehended the thieves. Dr. Plot makes the story more marvellous, by laying the scene of the robbery on Shooter's-hill /16. The gallery on the north side of the house (761/2 feet by 161/2) was fitted up by Sir Adam Newton. Over the window at one end, is a boar passant, on a wreath, intended, I suppose, for the crest /17 of Newton; and over the opposite window, a hart trippant, the crest of Lord Keeper Puckering, whose daughter Sir Adam Newton married. In the windows are the arms of the Ducie family and their alliances. In this gallery are portraits of Henry Prince of Wales, and Thomas Wilson, LL. D. Secretary of State to Queen Elizabeth (ancestor of Sir Thomas Maryon Wilson, Bart.). It contains also a large and

appear that they were in custody. Miss Puckering was then Lady Bale. See Perfect Diurnal, March 3, 1650, and July 14, 1651.

/13 Funeral certificate in the Heralds' College.

/14 From information obligingly communicated by Lady Wilson.

/15 Papers in Lady Wilson's possession.

/16 See Hasted, vol. i. p. 36. from Plot's MS. papers.

/17 The crest is properly a boar's head between two ostrich feathers.

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very valuable collection of natural history made by Lady Wilson, consisting of minerals, extraneous fossils, (among which a great variety of those found at Charlton /18 should be particularly noticed,) insects, and various other subjects. The park and pleasure-grounds belonging to this mansion contain about 70 acres. The stables, which were built by Sir Adam Newton, have the initials A. N. frequently repeated on the outer walls.

Charlton-house, in the Year 1742, was in the occupation of John, Earl of Egmont, who formed there a valuable library, and collection of busts and pictures, &c. /19 It continued many years in the tenure of the Egmont family, and was afterwards rented for a short time by the Marquis of Lothian.

Wrickles-marsh.

Hasted supposes Wricklesmarsh, sometime the estate of Sir Gregory Page, to have been described in Domesday-book, under the name of Witenemers /20. As the names differ so widely, and as there are no other circumstances of connexion, I doubt very much whether it is the same estate. There is no record, either by one or the other name, to direct us till the year 1598, when Wricklesmarsh belonged to Robert Vere, son of John Earl of Oxford /21. Edward Blount, Esq. died seised of it in 1617. About the latter end of the last century, it became the property of Sir John Morden, Bart. /22 After the death of his widow, which happened in 1721, it was sold to Sir Gregory Page, Bart. /23, who having pulled down the old mansion, built at a great expence a magnificent structure of stone, consisting of a centre and two wings united by a colonnade; the whole of which was completed in one year by James the architect. The internal decorations corresponded in magnificence, and a very fine collection of paintings by the old masters bore witness to the taste and liberal spirit of the owner. Sir Gregory Page died in 1775, having bequeathed this mansion and estate to his great nephew Sir Gregory Page Turner, Bart. in tail male. Sir Gregory Page Turner, having procured an act of Parliament to enable him to alienate, conveyed Wrickles-marsh-house and park, in the year 1784, to the late John Cator, Esq. of Becken-

Mansion built by Sir Gregory Page.

ham-place /24; who, in 1787, sold the house by auction, in lots, to be taken down; the foundations, with the cellars and a small part of the superstructure, still remain. That part of the premises which lies between the site of the mansion and Black-heath has been let on building leases. East-Combe lies partly within this parish /25.

/18 See p. 430. n.

/19 Vertue's MSS. in the collection of the late Earl of Orford at Strawberry-hill.

/20 History of Kent, vol. i. p. 36.

/21 Funeral Certificates, Herald's College.

/22 In a periodical work, entitled, Essays for the Month of Dec. 1716, (12/mo p. 47,) the writer speaks of three vineyards, from which most agreeable wine had been made, in quantity sufficient to furnish a great deal to the vintners of London; Sir William Basset's known vineyard near the Bath, Mr. Howard's by Darking, Surrey, and that of Sir John Mordaunt (Morden), at Black-heath, near London.

/23 Hasted, p. 36.

/24 From the information of Mr. Cator.

/25 See the account of Greenwich.

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Near the church stood a large mansion built by Sir Richard Raynes, who died, in 1710, seised of a considerable estate in this parish. Dr. Raynes, son of Sir Richard, bequeathed this house and estate to his wife's brother, Joseph Kirke Esq.; who devised them to the Rev. Mr. Harris, of Chevely in Cambridgeshire, with remainder to Mr. Browne, of the kingdom of Ireland, and after him to three nephews, (sons of three sisters,) who are now joint possessors. The earl of Cholmondeley, having a lease of the premises, pulled down the house some years ago, and built an elegant villa near the chalkpit, in a situation which possesses more picturesque beauty. It is now in the occupation of James Balfour Esq., who purchased the lease of Lord Cholmondeley.

The house, which was some years ago in the successive occupation of Mrs. Fitzherbert, and W. H. Lambton, Esq., and afterwards, for about two years, in that of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, is now in the tenure of John Atkins, Esq. Alderman of London, who has a lease of it under Lady Wilson. It was formerly the rectory, and was exchanged for the present parsonage-house by Dr. Warren. A farm-house, now called Cherry-Garden farm, is said to have been built by Inigo Jones, for his own residence.

The parish church, dedicated to St. Luke, was for the most part rebuilt between the years 1630 and 1640, by the executors of Sir Adam Newton, who, having intended to rebuild it in his lifetime, had appropriated a sum of money for that purpose /25. It is a brick structure, consisting of a chancel, nave, and north aisle. At the west end is a square brick tower, embattled.

Monuments. In the windows of the chancel and of the north aisle are several coats of arms in stained glass /26. On the east wall of the chancel is the monument of Elizabeth, wife of James Craggs, Esq., 1711. On the same wall is the monument of Brigadier Michael Richards /27, Surveyor-general of the Ordnance to King George I. 1721. There was formerly, near the south door of the chancel, a brass plate, in memory of Robert Vere, third son of John Earl of Oxford who died in 1598 /28. Adjoining to the chancel, on the north side, is an aisle, which by their arms in the window seems to have been built by the Blounts of Wricklesmarsh. In this aisle, (which now belongs to the manor, as does the north aisle of the nave,)

/25 See Philipott, p. 96.

/26 In the east window of the chancel, is an inscription denoting that it was glazed at the expense of James Newton, Esq. uncle to Sir Henry Puckering Newton, Bart. and heir to Sir Adam, 1639. In the south window of the chancel are the arms of Newton, with this mutilated inscription, "regi conclavi ostiarius hanc

suis impensis jussit fieri," 1639.

/27 This monument has a whole-length upright effigy of the deceased in white marble, holding a baton. It was put up at the expence of his nieces, the daughters of James Craggs, Esq. (See p. 435. n.)

/28 Thorpe's Regist. Roffens. p. 843.

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Sir Adam Newton.

within an iron railing, is the monument of Sir Adam Newton, Bart. (tutor to Henry Prince of Wales,) and his wife Katherine /29, and that of Sir William Langhorne, Bart., 1715. His wife Grace, second daughter of John Earl of Rutland, and relict of Viscount Armagh, died in 1700.) In the same aisle is the monument of Robert Dingley, Esq. F.R.S. of Lamb Abbey, one of the principal promoters of the Magdalen charity, **who died in 1781.**

Tombs in the churchyard. John Turnpenny.

In the churchyard, **among others**, are the tombs of James Craggs Esq. one of His Majesty's postmasters-general /30, 1721; John Turnpenny Esq. "who by industry acquired, by oeconomy improved, and with equity dispensed a considerable fortune among his surviving friends," 1756; Sir John Lambert Middleton, Bart. 1768; Lady Middleton, wife of Sir William Middleton, Bart. of Belsay, 1794; Sir William Middleton, 1795; **and others of that family**; Edward Falkingham, Esq. (Comptroller of the Navy,) 1757; **&c. &c.**

The rectory.

Charlton is a rectory in the diocese of Rochester and in the deanery of Dartford. The advowson, which had belonged to the priory of Bermondsey, was supposed

/29 Inscription: – "Katherinæ Newton, D. Joannis Puckering Angliæ procancellarii sive magni sigilli custodis natarum minimæ, sed matronali choro modestia, probitate, pudicitia nulli foeminarum secundæ, D. Adamus Newton, illustrissimo Principi Henrico primitus a studiis, dein ab epistolis secretis, eoque præmatura morte prærepto, excellentissimo Principi Carolo fratri ab arario, vir integerrimus lectissimæ foeminæ et maritus amantissimus carissimæ conjugii, monumentum hoc P. C. ipse in eodem sarcophoro, sicut animo destinavit, brevi condendus. – Dominus Adamus Newton, prenomminatus, aliquot jam annis post confecionem epitaphii suprascripti (quod ipse superstes et plenæ salutis compos dilectissimæ conjugii defunctæ composuerat) a Jacobo rege in Baronettum creatus, posteaque a Rege Carolo in secretarium Concilii in Walliæ limitibus constabiliti cooptatus, sub isto eodem monumento, sicut ipse annuerat, executorum pia cura conditus jacet, beatam resurrectionem per Christum redemptorem suum læte expectans. Corpus ejus fato concessit 13 die mensis Januarii anno Domini 1629, (anima diu antea in coelis versante,) liberis quinque, uno nempe virilis, cæteris foeminei sexus, post se relictis." This monument, which is very plain, was the work of Nicholas Stone, and cost 180l. (Anecdotes of Painting, vol. ii. p. 29.) Sir Adam Newton, after the death of Prince Henry, spent his time, for the most part, in retirement at Charlton; where he translated the four first books of Father Paul's Council of Trent, published **in the year 1620**, in folio; (the two last books were translated by Dr. Bedell). Sir Adam Newton translated also King James's discourse against Conrade Vorstius. See Birch's Life of Prince Henry, p. 15. 372

and 373.

/30 Inscription: – “Here lies the body of James Craggs, late of London, Esq. one of His Majesty’s postmasters-general. He was the son of Mr. Anthony Craggs, of Holbeck, in the parish of Walsingham, in the county palatine of Durham, and and died the 16th of March 1720-1. He had issue one son and three daughters, viz. The Right Hon. James Craggs Esq. one of the Principal Secretaries of State to his present Majesty, who died one month before his said father, and three daughters who survived him; Ann, who married John Newsham, of Chadshunt in the county of Warwick, Esq.; Elizabeth, who married Edward Eliot, of Port-Eliot, in the county of Cornwall; and Margaret, who married Samuel Trefusis Esq. of Trefusis, in the county of Cornwall: which three daughters, in duty, erected this monument, to the pious memory of the best of fathers.”

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to have been granted, with the manor, to the Earl of Mar; and Sir Adam Newton presented twice under that grant; but doubts arising about the wording of the grant, the Crown claimed the advowson, and the King presented, in 1636. Upon a representation of the case, by petition, Sir William Ducie procured afterwards, in 1667, a separate grant of the advowson /31. Sir Wm. Langhorne, who died in 1714, gave it to his relation Robert Warren, D. D. then rector /32. Langhorne Warren, his son, (who succeeded his father also in the rectory,) sold the advowson to Thomas Chamberlayne, M. A. (the late rector), **and it is now vested in trustees under his will.** In Pope Gregory’s valuation, this rectory is rated at 100s. per annum; in the King’s books it is valued at 10l. 7s. 81/2d. In 1650, it was valued at 90l. per annum /33. Sir William Langhorne above-mentioned left 1000l. to purchase lands for the augmentation of this benefice. The present rector is **the Rev. Thomas Chamberlayne, instituted in 1806.**

The earliest date of the register of baptisms, burials, and marriages, is 1653:

Parish register. Comparative state of population.

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1680 – 1689.	6(1/10)	8(4/5)
1730 – 1739.	8(2/5)	11(3/10)
1780 – 1789.	15	15(3/5)
1790 – 1794.	15	15(3/5)
1795 – 1799.	18(3/5)	19(2/5)
1800 – 1809.	29(4/5)	30(7/10)

Burials in the plague-years.

The number of houses in this parish, in 1795, was 95; in 1801, according to the returns then made to parliament under the population act, it was 117; the present number is 128, exclusively of the alms-houses, Morden College, and the establishment belonging to a large infirmary for sick and lame horses, erected by the Board of Ordnance on Charlton Common in the year 1804.

In 1665 there were seven burials; three or four persons are recorded to have died of the plague. On the 13th of August that year, mention is made of a great tempest.

Extracts from the Register.

Three children at a birth.

“Faith, Hope, and Charity were born at one birth, three daughters of Peter Newill, and were baptized April 14, 1678.” Faith and Charity were buried a few days afterwards.

Instances of longevity.

“Margaret Jones, widow, aged about 98 years, buried May 10, 1692; William Blake, aged near 100 years, was buried Jan. 12, 1692-3.”

/31 Papers obligingly communicated by Lady

Wilson; see also Pat. 19 Car. II. pt. 3. No. 6.

/32 See more of him in **the account of Hampstead.**

/33 Parliamentary Surveys, Lambeth.

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“The R/t Hon. Lucius Charles L/d Visc/t Falkland, and the R/t Hon. Sarah Countess of Suffolk /34, married at Morden College, Oct. 10, 1752.”

“L/d Visc Coke /35, buried Sep. 7, 1753.”

The birth of the present Lord Arden, and many other entries relating to the noble family of Perceval, are to be found in the register.

Henry Oldenburgh, and Dr. Robert Hooke.

Henry Oldenburgh, and Dr. Robert Hooke, both men of literature, died at Charlton in the year 1678; and Oldenburgh is said to have been buried there /36, but there is no mention of him in the parish register. He was one of the earliest members of the Royal Society; whose transactions he published down to the year 1677. He translated a life of the Duchess of Mazarine, and some other works. Dr. Hooke was professor of geometry at Gresham College, and curator of experiments to the Royal Society. He was one of the commissioners appointed to survey the new buildings, after the great fire of London in 1666; and distinguished himself as a mechanic, by his invention of the pendulum watch. His publications consisted of several treatises on mechanics and physics, and numerous papers in the Philosophical Transactions /37.

Sir Richard Browne.

Sir Richard Browne, of whom some particulars will be given in the account of Deptford, resided at Charlton during the latter part of his life, and died there Feb. 12, 1682-3 /38.

Morden College

Adjoining to Blackheath, within the limits of this parish, near Wricksmarsh, stands Morden College, built about the year 1695 by Sir John Morden, Bart. for the reception of decayed merchants. It is a spacious brick structure, with stone coins and cornices, forming a quadrangle, which is surrounded by piazzas. Over the front are the statues of Sir John Morden and his lady. In the hall are their portraits, and that of Queen Anne: **over the chimney-piece has been placed a marble tablet, with an anagram and acrostick, in memory of the founder, lately discovered in an obscure corner of the building.** In the chapel are the arms of Sir John and Lady Morden, and a record of benefactions to the College since the founder's death /39.

/34 Relict of Henry, Earl of Suffolk.

/35 Only son of Thomas Coke, who was created Earl of Leicester in 1744.

/36 Ant. Wood's Athenæ Oxon. vol. ii. Fasti.

/37 Ibid.

/38 Ibid. vol. i.

/39 1721. Lady Morden	£100
1723. Sir Charles Cooke	100
1729. Sir Peter Delmé,	100
1751. William Hanger Esq.	£100
1751. Richard Chiswell Esq.	100 /*
1752. Thomas Cooke Esq.	114
1764. Francis Levet Esq.	200
1772. Richard Chiswell Esq.	200
1774. Richard Pyke Esq.	1000
1774. John March Esq.	500
1775. Sir Gregory Page,	300
1788. John Jamet Esq.	50

/* To make the basons of water in the quadrangle, and buy a fire-engine.

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Its endowment.

Sir John Morden placed twelve decayed Turkey merchants in this College in his lifetime. He died in 1708, having by his will, bearing date 1702, endowed the College, after the death of his lady, with estates which now **produce nearly 2000l.** per annum. Lady Morden finding her income not sufficient to continue her husband's bounty to twelve merchants, was obliged, during her life, to reduce the number to four. She died in 1721, when the whole estate fell in to the College.

The pensioners must be upwards of 50 years of age, bachelors or widowers, and members of the church of England; **they receive 35l. per annum each** /40. There are commodious apartments for 30, which number, if any vacancies have happened, is filled up once a-year. The College is under the government of seven trustees of the Company of Turkey Merchants /41, who elect the pensioners. There is a treasurer, (**Alexander Bennett Esq.**) whose salary is 50l. per annum, **with** apartments in the College. The chaplain's salary was at first 30l. per annum, but was augmented by Lady Morden to 60l. He has apartments likewise in the College. The present chaplain is the Rev. John Watson, M. A. who succeeded George Patrick, LL. B. in 1790.

Register of burials.
Sir John Morden, the founder.

A register of burials is kept, in which are the following entries:

"The Hon/ble S/r John Morden, Bar/t, the pious and worthy founder of this College for decayed merchants, died Sep. 6, and was interred in his vault in the chapel belonging to the said College, Sep. 20, 1708."

Eleven of the pensioners died in the spring and summer which succeeded the hard frost in 1739-40.

"M/r Peter De Labourtache, aged 94, buried May 11, 1765."

"M/r Joseph Lane, son of S/r Thomas Lane, Lord Mayor of London, born in the year of his mayoralty, nephew of Sheriff Cornish, and the oldest pensioner of this College, buried Jan. 6, 1773, aged 80."

Moses Browne.

"The Rev/d Moses Browne, who was admitted chaplain of this College the 24/th of June 1763, died Sep. 13, and was buried Sep. 22, 1787, aged 82 years."

Moses Browne /42, who was originally a pen-cutter, distinguished himself early in life by his poetical talents; when only 20 years of age he published a tragedy and farce, called "Polidus," and "All-bedeவில்." He became afterwards a frequent contributor to the Gentleman's Magazine, and gained several of the prizes given by Mr. Cave for **his** poetical pieces. A volume of his poems was published in

/40 They are provided also with medicines, coals, candles, and washing, the attendance of servants paid by the College, and a barber. These additional charges, with repairs and taxes, make the expenditure of the College nearly equal to the revenue.

/41 Provision was made by the founder, that, if this Company should fail, the trustees should be chosen out of the East India Company. Sir John Morden had been himself a Turkey merchant.

/42 For the account of Moses Browne and his writings, see Hawkins's Life of Johnson, Biograph. Dramat. and Gent. Mag. 1787.

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1739. His most noted works were, "Piscatory Eclogues," and "Sunday Thoughts," in verse; he wrote also some political tracts. Mr. Browne had the vicarage of Olney, in Buckinghamshire.

"Mr. John Watts, aged 96, buried January 12, 1806."

Charity-school.

Sir William Langhorne, Bart. who died in 1715, bequeathed the sum of 300l. to buy lands for the endowment of a school which he had founded (having built a school-room over the vestry adjoining to Charlton church,) for the education of poor children. This purchase having been neglected, and the money vested in stock, it produces now only 8l. 15s. 2d. per annum, as a salary for the master, **who has at present five children under his care.**

Alms-houses.

Some ancient alms-houses in this place (having no endowment) were rebuilt by Sir Richard Raynes, who died in 1710. Sir William Langhorne left the sum of 100l. to be laid out in lands for the benefit of the poor in these houses. This purchase also was neglected, and the bequest now produces only 2l. 17s. 6d. per annum.

An apartment in Lambarde's alms-house (commonly called Queen Elizabeth's College) at Greenwich, belongs to this parish /43.

Kidbrook.

Adjoining to Charlton lies the extraparochial hamlet of Kidbrook, formerly a parish and a rectory: **it contains 6 houses.**

The manor.

The manor of Ketebroke, Kedbroke, or Kidbrook, with the advowson of the

church, was given by Cecilia, daughter of Pain Fitzjohn, and **the** wife of Miles Fitzwalter, Earl of Hereford, to the prior and convent of St. Mary Overie in Southwark /44; at the dissolution of which monastery, (being then on lease to John Rychemonte,) it came into the hands of the crown. Queen Elizabeth granted a lease of the rectory of Kidbrook, **in** 1579, to Brian Annesley Esq. /45 King James in 1604, granted the manor and rectory, in fee, to John Earl of Mar /46. From him they passed to Sir William Garway; who, soon afterwards, conveyed them to his son-in-law Edward Blount Esq. /47 of Wricklesmarsh. Mr. Blount sold the fee-simple to Brian Annesley Esq. above-mentioned. Mr. Annesley left three daughters; the youngest of whom, Cordelia, brought this estate to her husband Sir William Hervey, a naval officer, who had distinguished himself in the memorable engagement with the Spanish Armada. He was created, by King Charles, in 1628, Baron Hervey of Kidbrook: his only surviving daughter and heir Elizabeth, married John Hervey Esq. of Ickworth; who sold this estate to Edward Lord Montague of Boughton. John Duke of Montague, his grandson, having pro-

/43 See the account of Greenwich.

/44 Dugdale's Bar. vol. i. p. 536, 538. and Monast. vol. ii. p. 86.

/45 Pat. 21 Eliz. pt. 9. April 3.

/46 Pat. 1 Jac. pt. 13. Oct. 18.

/47 The descent of the manor, from this period, is taken from Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 40–42.

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cured an act of Parliament to vest certain of his estates in trustees, in order that they might be sold, this manor (with the rectory) was purchased by James Craggs Esq. joint Postmaster-general; whose only son having died before him without male issue, his three daughters, Anne, Elizabeth, and Margaret, became his co-heirs. Anne married, 1. John Newsham Esq.; 2. John Knight Esq.; 3. Robert Nugent Esq. (afterwards Earl Nugent). Elizabeth married Edward Eliot Esq. Margaret married, 1. Samuel Trefusis Esq.; 2. Sir John Hinde Cotton, Bart. Margaret died in 1734; and having no surviving issue, left her share between her sisters. Anne died in 1756, having vested her moiety in trustees for divers uses, with remainder to her husband in tail. Mrs. Eliot died in 1765, having bequeathed her moiety in like manner, with remainder to her nephew James, (son of her sister Anne by her first husband John Newsham,) who had taken the name of Craggs, with remainder to Edward Eliot Esq. of Port Eliot in Cornwall. Mr. Newsham Craggs died in 1769, without issue. This manor is now the property of the Right Hon. **John Craggs Eliot**, Lord Eliot /48. The manor-house is occupied **by** a farmer.

The rectory. The rectory of Kidbrook, which was appropriated to the prior and convent of St. Mary Overie, has passed with the manor. There was no endowed vicarage; and the church has been entirely demolished above two centuries.

/48 **His father** was created Lord Eliot in 1784; and took the name of Craggs in 1789.

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CHISLEHURST.

Etymology. The name of this place is written in **very** ancient records, Ciselhurst. **Those of later date** vary it to Chyslehurst, Chiselhurst, Chesilhurst, &c. The mode of spelling generally adopted **for many years past** and used in all public proceedings, is Chislehurst.

Situation. Chislehurst lies in the hundred of Ruxley, at the distance of eleven miles from
Boundaries. London. The parish is bounded by Bromley, Orpington, Paul's Cray, Foot's
Quantity of Cray, Eltham, and the extraparochial hamlet of Mottingham. It contains about
land, and 2500 acres; the cultivated land is almost wholly arable, there are about 500 acres
how occu- of woodland /1 and about 200 of waste. The soil is for the most part gravel.
pied.
Soil.
Manor.

The manor of Chislehurst is not described in the record of **Domesday**, but is supposed to have been included in that of Dartford, which was then vested in the crown. King John granted it to Hugh, Earl of St. Paul, a Norman nobleman /2. When the King of France seized upon Normandy, all the possessions of the Nor-

mans in England were declared escheats to the crown, and the manor of Dartford was granted to John de Burgh, till the King should think fit to restore it to the Earl of St. Paul, or his heirs. In 1233, it was granted to William Earl of Albemarle, on the like conditions /2; and in 1263, the Earl of Albemarle being then dead, the King restored it to Guy, Earl of St. Paul /3, on whose death it reverted to the crown. King Edward I. granted it to his mother Queen Eleanor, for her life /4. His successor, in 1322, gave the manor of Dartford, with its appurtenances, to Edmund Earl of Kent. It is evident that the manor of Chislehurst was included in this grant, since the record of the inquisition, taken after the Earl's death, values the rents of assize in Chislehurst at 4l. 14s. 10d. per annum /5. His sons, who were successively Earls of Kent, dying without issue, their sister Joan (married, first, to Sir Thomas Holland, afterwards to Edward the Black Prince) became their heir. On the death of her grandson Edmund Holland, Earl

/1 The woods, which are dispersed about upon an uneven surface, and intermixed with corn fields, give a great degree of picturesque beauty to the neighbourhood of this village.

/2 The descent of this manor, except where records are referred to, is given from Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 214–216; and p. 98, 99.

/3 Cart. 17 Hen. III. m. 3.

/4 Pat. 47 Hen. III. m. 11.

/5 Pat. 9 Edw. I. m. 17.

/6 Esch. 4 Edw. III. N/o 38.

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of Kent, without issue, his estates were divided among his four sisters: the manor of Dartford (with rents of assize in Chislehurst) fell to the share of Joan Duchess of York; who died without issue, in 1434 /7. Her inheritance being divided among her surviving sisters, this estate became the property of Margaret; and was inherited by the descendants of her first husband John Earl of Somerset. On the attainder of Henry Duke of Somerset, in 1464, the manor of Dartford, with its appendages, was granted to Richard Nevil, Earl of Warwick. His estates also became forfeited after the battle of Barnet, in which he was slain; but several of them were given to his daughters, and this manor, among others, to Isabel, wife of George Duke of Clarence; who was attainted in 1477. The King (Edward IV.) then granted the manor of Dartford (with Chislehurst) to Thomas Lord Stanley, for life. **King** Henry VII. having restored to the old Countess of Warwick all her husband's possessions, for the purpose of her making a conveyance of them to himself and his heirs, she **conveyed to** him accordingly 114 manors, among which was Dartford (with Chislehurst). Lord Stanley, who was permitted to enjoy his life-interest in this manor, died seised of it in 1504; and his widow, (Margaret Countess of Richmond, the King's mother,) in 1509. The manor of Dartford, with its member Chislehurst, then reverted to the crown. In 1512, **King** Henry VIII. granted a lease of the manor of Chislehurst to Sir John Petche for 60 years /8. Queen Elizabeth (**in** 1584) granted a lease of Dartford and Chislehurst to Edmund Walsingham for 21 years; which was renewed in 1597, to Sir Thomas Walsingham for the same term. King James, in 1610, granted the manors of Dartford and Chislehurst (in fee) to George and Thomas Whitmore /9; who the next year, conveyed them to Sir Thomas Walsingham the lessee /10. Sir Thomas, in 1613, sold the manor of Dartford to Sir Robert Darcy; reserving Chislehurst, which his son Sir Thomas Walsingham sold about the year 1660, to Sir Richard Betenson. On the death of Sir Edward Betenson, Bart. without issue, in 1733, his sisters became coheirs. Albinia, the eldest /11, having married Major General Selwyn, left issue a son, John Selwyn Esq.; who having purchased the shares of the other coheirs, conveyed the whole of the manor of Chislehurst to his son-in-law, the Hon. Thomas Townshend, **grand-father of John Thomas**, Lord Viscount Sydney, who is the present proprietor.

Manor of
Scadbury.

The manor of Scadbury was long the property of a family of that name. John de Scadbury died seised of it about the year 1346, leaving an only daughter and heir, married to Osmund de Walsingham; in whose family it continued till about the year 1660, when it was sold, with Chislehurst, to Sir Richard Betenson;

/7 Esch. 12 Hen. VI. N/o 43.
/8 Pat. 3 Hen. VIII. pt. 1. June 6.
/9 Pat. 8 Jac. pt. 44. N/o 8.
/10 Cl. 9 Jac. pt. 36.

/11 Theodosia, another of the coheireses, married Thomas Farington Esq. Frances, the third, married Sir Thomas Hewet, Knt.

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and has since passed through the same hands, being now the property of Lord Viscount Sydney /12. A court-leet and court-baron are held for the manors of Chislehurst and Scadbury. The old mansion at Scadbury was taken down many years ago; a farm-house has been since built on the site.

Frogna, or
Frogpool.

Frogna, or Frogpool, an ancient seat in this parish, was, in 1253, the property of Thomas le Barbur. About the beginning of the next century, it came to the family of Cressel. John de Cressel is recorded as a liberal benefactor to the church of Chislehurst, in the reign of Edward III. About the year 1540, this estate passed from the Cressels to the Dyneleys. Sir John Dyneley, in the early part of the seventeenth century, sold it to William Watkins, Esq.; who enlarged the house, and, about the end of Charles the First's reign, sold it to Sir Philip Warwick /13. Sir Philip, by his will, left it to be inhabited by his sister Clerke or his sister Turnor, (widow of Sir Christopher Turnor, Baron of the Exchequer,) during their lives; with remainder on failure of issue from his son Philip, to their heirs male /14. Philip Warwick, Esq. died without issue, in 1683; surviving his father only two months. This estate was sold by Sir Philip Warwick's representatives to Rowland Tryon Esq. In 1749, it was purchased of his nephew Thomas Tryon, Esq. by the Hon. Thomas Townshend /15; whose grandson, John Thomas, Lord Viscount Sydney, is the present proprietor, and makes it his country residence.

Manor of
Tang-court.

The manor of Tang-court belonged to the Abbot and Convent of Lesnes, who, in the year 1433, exchanged it with Thomas Walsingham for a tenement and lands in Plumstead, called Fulham-place /16. I suppose this to be an estate now called Town-court farm and woods, the property of Miss Hodsoll, whose father, the late Edward Hodsoll Esq. purchased it about sixty years ago. The manor of Kemnall or Kinnall, partly extra-parochial and partly extending into this parish, is held on lease under New-College in Oxford. It was some years ago the property and residence of Lord Chief Baron Macdonald, by whom the house was enlarged and improved. In the year 1800 it was purchased of his Lordship by Sir William Leighton, Alderman of London, who is the present proprietor.

Manor of
Kinnall.

An estate in this parish, on which is an ancient mansion, built by Thomas Farington, Esq. of Lancashire /17, in the reign of James the First, was bequeathed by a descendant of the same name, the last heir male of this branch of that ancient family, to certain of his nephews in succession, and in the event of their dying without issue to his heirs general. Under Mr. Farington's will, this estate

/12 The account of Scadbury is taken from Philipott, p. 114; and Hasted, vol. i. p. 99, 100.

/13 The descent of Frogpool, till this period, is taken from Philipott, p. 114.

/14 From the information of Edmund Turnor, Esq. F. S. A.

/15 From the information of the late Charles Townshend, Esq.

/16 Pat. 11 Hen. VI. pt. 1. m. 13.

/17 From information obligingly communicated by the late Mr. Townshend.

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and house were in the successive possession of Lord Robert Bertie, and the late Mr. Charles Townshend. In consequence of their death without issue, the fee became vested in the representatives of Mr. Farington's sisters, Albinia Duchess of Ancaster, and Mary wife of John Selwyn, Esq. One moiety is now the property of Lord Sydney, having been purchased by his Lordship of the Duchess of Ancas-

ter's representatives, and he is entitled to the reversion of the other under a deed of Mrs. Selwyn, which gave her interest in it to Mr. Charles Townshend; and Mr. Townshend's will, by which it was bequeathed to his sister, Mrs. Mary Townshend, the present proprietor, for life, with remainder to the late Lord Sydney and his heirs /17.

Camden-place. Residence of Camden, the antiquary, and historian, at Chislehurst. His funeral.

His monument mutilated.

Camden-place takes its name from the celebrated antiquary and historian William Camden, who fixed upon this spot for his residence in the year 1609; and during the remainder of his life, spent his summers at Chislehurst /18, where he is said to have composed his Annals of Queen Elizabeth. His funeral certificate at the Heralds' College, records that William Camden, Clarencieux King of Arms, (to which place he was appointed in 1597,) died a bachelor, Nov. 9, 1623, at his house at Chislehurst, and was buried with great solemnity the 19th, at Westminster-abbey. His funeral was attended by the whole College of Heralds, the Bishop of Lincoln (Lord Keeper), the Bishops of London, Durham, &c. Lord Paget, the Earl of Leicester, Lord Grandison, &c.; the funeral sermon was preached by Dr. Sutton. His body lies in the south aisle; a monument was erected to his memory, which, in the year 1646, was wantonly mutilated, as is related by Whitelock /19, and in the Diurnals of that time. "This mischievous and malignant spirit, (says one of the Diurnals,) whoever it was, rested not here, to deface the herse of the Earl of Essex; but in one of the aisles of the Abbey near adjoining, meeting with the effigies of old learned Camden, well known by the name of Camden's Britannia and Camden's Remains, used the like uncivil deportment towards his statue, which was in stone, cut the book in pieces held in his hand, broke off his nose, and otherwise defaced his visignomy /20". Who were the intermediate owners of Camden-place I have not been able to learn; but it appears, that having been before in the family of Weston, it was purchased of Harry Spencer, Esq. by Charles Pratt Esq. /21: who, having by his eminent abilities in the law, attained the high office of Lord Chancellor, was created a Peer in 1765, by the Title of Lord Camden, Baron of Camden-place in Kent, and in 1786 was created an Earl. This place was his country residence; his son, the present Earl, sold it to William Lushington Esq.

/17 From information obligingly communicated by Lord Sydney.

/18 Biograph. Britan.

/19 Memorials, p. 228.

/20 Perfect Diurnal, Nov. 23–30, 1646.

/21 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 102.

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sometime M. P. for the city of London, of whom it was purchased by Thomson Bonar Esq., the present proprietor.

Parish church.

The parish church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is built principally of flints, and consists of a chancel, nave, and north aisle: at the west end is a spire covered with shingles.

Various monuments.

Sir Richard Adams.

On the south side of the chancel is a piscina, and an ancient Gothic arch. On the north wall are monuments in memory of General Thomas Farrington, who died in 1712; others of that family, and Sir Richard Adams, Baron of the Exchequer /22, who died in 1774. On the floor are the gravestones of Alan Porter /23, rector, who died in 1482; some of the Cunliffe family, and others.

Sir Philip Warwick.

On the south wall of the nave are the monuments of Sir Philip Warwick, Knt. /24, 1683; and Lord Robert Bertie, fifth son of Robert, the first Duke of Ancaster, General of his Majesty's forces, Lord of the Bedchamber, &c. 1782.

On the wall of the north aisle is a monument in memory of Albinia Duchess of Ancaster, who died in 1745, and Thomas Lord Bertie, her fourth son, a captain in the navy, who died in 1749.

The east end of the north aisle is parted off by a wooden screen, and belongs to the Scadbury estate. Over the arch, which divides it from the nave, are the cognizances of King Edward IV. and Henry VII. /25, and the dates 1422 and 1460.

Sir Edmund and Sir Thomas Walsingham.

In the north-east corner is a monument in memory of Sir Edmund Walsingham /26, 1549, and his grandson Sir Thomas, 1630. There are the monuments

/22 Inscription: – "Underneath lie the remains of Sir Richard Adams, Knt. late one of the

Barons of His Majesty's Court of Exchequer, who departed this life on the 16th of March 1774, in the 65th year of his age. His death was occasioned by the gaol distemper, which he caught at the Old Bailey in the execution of his office. To enumerate his many public as well as private virtues would far exceed the limits of this stone. Be it sufficient to say, that he filled the high office to which he was raised, with the most consummate judgment and unshaken integrity; and having lived in the most exemplary practice of the duties of husband and father, he died, what few can boast, without an enemy." Sir Richard Adams was chosen Recorder of London in 1749, and was appointed Baron of the Exchequer in 1753.

/23 This gravestone has a brass plate with the effigies of the deceased.

/24 Inscription written by Dr. Thomas Pearce, Dean of Salisbury: – "Here lies, in expectation of a joyful resurrection through Jesus Christ our Saviour, the only mortal part of Sir Philip Warwick, Knt. who departed this life the 15th day of January 1682-3, in the 74th year of his age. He was an acceptable servant to King Charles I. in all his extremities, and a faithful one to King Charles II. Here also, with his body, lies that of his dear wife Joan Fanshaw, of Ware-park, a lady of sincere virtue and piety, first married to Sir William Boteler, Bart.; with whom is interred the body of Philip Warwick Esq. only son of the said Sir Philip Warwick, who died an Envoy, 1682, from the King of Great Britain to the King of Sweden, having served both Crowns with great honour and fidelity."

/25 A falcon and stirrup, and a rose and crown.

/26 This monument consists of a table tomb, richly ornamented with roses, acorns, and foliage, gilt; above are two arches supported by pillars of

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also of Sir Richard Betenson, Bart. /27, 1679; Ann, his wife, daughter of Sir William Monyns, Bart. 1681; Sir Edward Betenson, Bart. 1733; the Hon. Roger Townshend, youngest son of Charles Viscount Townshend, by Elizabeth his first wife, daughter of Thomas Lord Pelham, 1760; **Charles Townshend Esq. who died in 1799; and the late Lord Viscount Sydney, who died in 1800** /28.

the Corinthian order, within one of which is the following inscription:

D. O. M.

Erected to the memorie of Sir Edmund Walsingham.

"A Knight, some tyme of worthie fame,
Lyeth buried under this stony bower,
Sir Edmund Walsingham was his name,
Lieutenant he was of London Tower;
Serving therein twenty-two yeares space,
Continually in his Prince's good grace.
The 9 of February, 1549, fully runne,
The soule from the body parted was,
Leaving three daughters and one sonne,
Marie, Alis, Ellinor, and Thomas:

Which Thomas, now Knight, this erected
the rather,

In memory of Sir Edmund his father."

Under the other arch is this inscription:

"Posteritati sacrum – Memoriam et Honori
Thomæ Walsingham Equitis aurati, eorum
qui ex ipsius familia idque continua successione
claruerunt hujus ordinis sexti: viri in patriæ
negotiis obeundis prudentissimi; pacis studio-
sissimi; vicinorum amantissimi; pauperibus
munificentissimi; omnibus liberali hospitalitate
notissimi; qui postquam annum 60 coopeverat,
4 Id. Aug. A. D. 1630, placida morte solutus,
plurimusque a suis et omnibus defletus et desidera-
tus, mortale corporis depositum, donec Christo
lubente resurgat immortale, huic marmori con-
credidit in custodiam. – Thomas Walsingham haeres
et filius unicus pie posuit 1581." The latter
part, printed in Italics, is now illegible. It
is here printed from Thorpe's Registrum Rof-
fense. The last line must refer only to the monu-
ment and epitaph of Sir Edmund Walsingham.

/27 His eldest son, Richard, married Albinia,
daughter of Sir Christopher Wray, Bart.

/28 On the monument of Lord Sydney and his
brother is the following inscription: – "To the
memory of Thomas Lord Viscount Sydney,
and of his brother, Charles Townshend, (sons
of the Hon/ble Thomas Townshend,) whose
remains lie near this place.

Lord Viscount Sydney, by the gracious
favour of his Sovereign, was appointed to the
several offices of Joint Paymaster of His Ma-
jesty's Forces, Secretary of War, Secretary of
State, and Lord Chief Justice in Eyre south
of Trent. His unblemished integrity and zeal
in the service of his King and country were
conspicuous in each of the several offices with
which he was intrusted. He was created Baron
Sydney, A. D. 1783, and raised to the dig-
nity of Viscount, in A. D. 1789. He married
Eliz. one of the coheiresses of Richard Powys,
Esq. of the county of Suffolk, by whom he
left three sons, John Thomas, now Lord Vis-
count Sydney, William Augustus, and Horatio
George Powys; and four daughters, Geor-
giana, Mary Eliz., married to John Earl of
Chatham, Frances, married to George Lord
Dynevor, and Harriet Kath., married to Charles
Earl of Dalkeith. He died June the 30th
1800, aged 67. His brother Charles Towns-
hend executed the office of Deputy Teller
of the Exchequer under his father, and
under John Earl of Camden for 41 years.
His integrity, punctuality, and beneficence in
the discharge of his office will be long remem-
bered with gratitude and regret. He died
unmarried, August 10th 1799, aged 65. The
inhabitants of this parish will bear testimony
to the universal charity and benevolence of
these two brothers. This tablet is erected
by Mary Townshend, their sister, as a record
of their virtues and her affection." The

tablet commemorates also Sophia, the first wife of the present Viscount Sydney, (third daughter of Edward Southwell, Lord de Clifford,) who died in 1795, and an infant son.

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Tombs in the churchyard.
Col. Lewis.
Rectory.

In the churchyard are the tombs of George Lewis Esq. colonel in the artillery, 1791 /29, the families of Trenchfield, Whitmore, Stevens, Selwyn, &c.

The church of Chislehurst is a rectory in the diocese of Rochester, and in the deanery of Dartford. King Henry I. gave this rectory to the church of Rochester /30. Bishop Gundulph, when he separated his own maintenance from that of the Monks, gave them this church, among others /31; but his successor, Gilbert de Glanville, took it away, reserving to them only a pension of half a mark out of the annual profits /32. Since Glanville's time, the advowson has been vested in the Bishops of Rochester. The above-mentioned pension of 6s. 8d. now belongs, under a grant of King Henry VIII., to the dean and chapter of that church /33. The rectory of Chislehurst was valued, in the reign of Edward I., at 15 marks; in the King's books it is rated at 16l. 3s. 6¹/₂d.; in 1650, it was estimated at 80l. per annum /34.

The present rector is Francis Wollaston, LL. B. (author of the General Astronomical Catalogue /35 and other works), who was instituted in 1769, on the death of Thomas Moore, D. D.

Rev. William Hendley prosecuted for preaching a charity sermon at Chislehurst.

In the year 1718, a very curious circumstance happened in consequence of a charity sermon being preached in Chislehurst church, by the Rev. William Hendley, for the benefit of the children of the charity-school of St. Anne within Aldersgate, who attended divine service with the master and some of the governors of the school. Party at that time running very high, and the patrons of the school being supposed to be disaffected to government, the persons who came down with the children were actually taken up as vagrants, and both they, Mr. Wilson, the rector of Chislehurst, and the preacher, were bound over to appear at the Quarter Sessions. In the mean time some counter proceedings were had in the Bishop's Court, where Mr. Wilson presented Sir Edward Betenson and Mr. Farington,

/29 "He served in the several glorious campaigns against the French and Spaniards in America, from 1757 to the end of the war in 1762, and was present at the taking Louisburgh, Quebec, Martinique, and the Havannah. He commanded the artillery at the siege of Gibraltar, where he so eminently distinguished himself by his great activity and exertions, but particularly on the 13th of September 1782, (when the artillery under his direction set fire to and destroyed all the floating batteries of the combined forces of France and Spain,) that the King was **most** graciously pleased to signify to him his approbation of his conduct, and as a reward for so signal a service, and the dangerous wounds he received on that occasion, to bestow on him a mark of his Royal favour."

/30 Reg. Roff. p. 6. and p. 34.

/31 Dugdale's Monast. vol. iii. p. 1.

/32 Reg. Roff. p. 53.

/33 Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 104.

/34 Parliamentary Surveys, Lambeth Library.

/35 "A Specimen of a General Astronomical Catalogue; arranged in Zone of North Polar Distance." Fol. 1789.

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for disturbing divine service. The civil business was put off from the Sessions at

Maidstone, to the Assizes at Rochester, where Mr. Hendley and those concerned with him were all tried, except Mr. Wilson, who died within 48 hours after his return from the Quarter Sessions, in consequence, as it was said, of the fatigue and ill usage which he had experienced. The indictment charged the parties concerned that they, being evilly and seditiously disposed, and intending to procure unlawful gain under pretence of collecting charity, alms and gifts for the sustenance and maintenance of certain boys and girls, did conspire and confederate, with 20 boys and 30 girls, to wander up and down in Kent and elsewhere to collect money, and did wander and stroll into Chislehurst church; and that the said William Hendley did incite and ask alms of the parishioners; and that George Chapman and others, not being churchwardens, made collections, and unlawfully extorted from the inhabitants a collection amounting to three pounds, viz. from Rowland Tryon and others, to the great disturbance of divine service, and the great defrauding and cheating of the said Rowland Tryon and others. It was in vain that it was brought in proof that charity sermons of the like nature had been preached both by bishops and archbishops; Mr. Hendley and the others were found guilty on the 15th of July 1719, and fined 6s. 8d. each. The sermon was printed, with an account of the transaction and of the trial, under the title of "Charity still a Christian Virtue!!" A print is prefixed representing Mr. Wilson and Mr. Hendley at the altar making the collection, and Sir Edward Betenson and Mr. Farington opposing them.

Parish register. Comparative state of population.

The earliest date of the register of baptisms, burials, and marriages, is 1558.

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1580 – 1589.	13(1/10)	7(4/5)
1630 – 1639.	15(4/5)	14(1/2)
1682 – 1689.	16	15(7/8)
1730 – 1739.	18(2/5)	16(1/2)
1770 – 1779.	23(3/5)	21(4/5)
1780 – 1784.	22(3/5)	25(1/5)
1785 – 1789.	25(3/5)	26(3/5)
1790 – 1794.	26(1/5)	23(2/5)
1795 – 1799.	29(1/5)	22(1/5)
1800 – 1804.	32	25(3/5)
1805 – 1809.	36(2/5)	27(3/5)

The number of houses in 1795 was 196, exclusively of fifteen new houses then building; in 1801 they were returned to Parliament as 212, four of which were then uninhabited; the present number is 226.

Burials in the plague-years.

In 1603, there were 62 burials; in 1625, 22; and in 1665, 21.

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Extracts from the Register.

Anecdotes of Sir Philip Warwick.

"S/r Philip Warwick, Kn/t, buried Jan/y 17, 1682-3." Sir Philip was son of Thomas Warwick /37, organist of the Chapel Royal and of Westminster-abbey, who is said to have composed a song of forty parts /38. He was educated at Eton, and studied at Geneva under the famous Diodati. On his return, he became Secretary to Lord Treasurer Juxon, and Clerk of the Signet. During the civil war, he attached himself to the Royal party, and in 1646 was one of the King's commissioners to treat with the Parliament for the surrender of Oxford: the next year he attended His Majesty as his Secretary in the Isle of Wight. After the Restoration, he represented the city of Westminster in Parliament, became again Clerk of the Signet, and Secretary of the Treasury. In 1667, he retired from public business, and spent most of his time at Frogpool, or Froggnal, in this parish, as appears by a letter of that date, addressed to him by Sir William Temple. "Though the retreat you have made from business (says he) must needs be a trouble and a loss to us all, yet I know it is an ease and a happiness to yourself, or else a wise man, as you are, ought not to have chosen it. I hope you do not intend to retire from the commerce of your friends as well as that of business, for though you should lock yourself up within your walls of Frogpool, I shall ever pretend to have a share in you there itself."

Sir Philip Warwick wrote "A Discourse of Government, as examined by Reason, Scripture, and the Law of the Land," and "Memoirs of the Reign

of King Charles I. with a Continuation till the Restoration;" both published after his death: an anonymous work published in 1646, intitled "A Letter to Mr. Lenthal, shewing that Peace is better than War," is ascribed also to him /39. Sir Philip Warwick died on the 15th of January 1682-3: his only son, who was Envoy to Sweden, died at Newmarket, as he was returning post to England with an intention of taking a last farewell of his father, and was buried at Chislehurst Mar. 23, 1682-3: he married Elizabeth, daughter and coheir of John Lord Freschville, of Stavely. Elizabeth, relict of Sir Philip Warwick (who must have been his third wife /40), was married at Chislehurst, Jan. 8, 1684-5, to Conyers Lord Darcy.

Instances of longevity.

"John Marten (annos centum et ultra natus) was buried the last day of May 1620; John Palmer, March 16, 1796, aged 100." There are eight entries of persons buried whose ages were between 90 and 100.

/37 He was of the family of the Warwicks, of Warwick in Cumberland, and bore the same arms.

/38 Wood's Fasti, vol. i. – It was more properly a song of five parts, each part to be sung by eight voices.

/39 This account of Sir Philip Warwick is taken from a biographical sketch in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1790, p. 781–783.

/40 His second wife was Joan Fanshaw.

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Sir F. Walsingham, and Sir N. Bacon, natives of Chislehurst.

There are several entries in the register relating to the noble families of Bertie and Townshend; in the early part of the register are many entries of the Walsingham family. The great ornament of his family, Sir Francis Walsingham, was a native of Chislehurst, but his birth, as well as that of another great statesman, Sir Nicholas Bacon, the Lord Keeper, happened before the institution of parish registers.

John Heron accused of practising necromancy, &c.

On the 5th of September 1540, John Heron, of Chislehurst, was examined before the Privy Council at Grafton, on a charge of practising astronomy and necromancy; on the 16th he was brought again before the Council, then at Ampt-hill, and was released on entering into a recognizance of 100 marks, "not to practise, use, or exercise any manner of necromancy, astronomy, calculations, or other experiments; and to discover any that he should know that did practise the same /41."

Charity-schools.

Mr. Thomas Moore, in 1733, bequeathed the sum of 50l. to a charity-school then at Chislehurst, which was afterwards discontinued: about the year 1799 the present rector (Mr. Wollaston,) gave a share of a mill, which had been erected by subscription on Chislehurst common in 1796, (then valued at 210l.,) to the parish for the use of the poor. In 1808, Thomson Bonar Esq., finding that this share had become unproductive, generously took it of the parish, and gave in lieu of it the sum of 350l. stock, equal to its original value: this was added to a former sum of 250l. stock, which had accumulated from the original legacy of 50l. given by Mr. Moore, and it was determined to appropriate the interest of the whole, (now vested in Lord Sydney, the Hon. W. A. Townshend, and the rector, as trustees,) to the founding of a school for six girls, who are clothed and educated /42. There has been for some years another school for 12 girls, who are clothed and educated by subscription.

Mr. William Harvill, in 1777, gave by will a house, for the endowment of a boys' school. This legacy becoming void by the Mortmain Act, his brother, Mr. John Harvill, in 1781. conveyed the houses, which now produce about 13l. per annum, to trustees for the use of the parish, for the purpose of teaching six boys reading, writing, and accounts.

This parish has a right of putting two pensioners in Philipott's alms-houses at Eltham /43.

/41 Minutes of the Privy Council in the Marquis of Buckingham's MSS. library at Stowe.

/42 From the information of Mr. Wollaston.

/43 See the account of that parish.

DEPTFORD, St. NICHOLAS.

- Name. The name of this place was anciently written Depeford, signifying the deep ford, where the bridge now is over the Ravensborne.
- Situation. Deptford lies in the hundred of Blackheath, at the distance of about four miles from London-bridge, near the high road from Canterbury to Dover: by an Act of Parliament, passed in 1730, the parish was divided into two; distinguished by the names of St. Nicholas, and St. Paul. The parish of St. Nicholas, which includes the old town, is bounded by the river Thames, and by the new parish of Deptford-St. Paul. It is of very small extent; the land not built upon, does not exceed two or three acres.
- Division of Deptford into two parishes. Boundaries of Deptford, St. Nicholas. Extent.
- Sir Thomas Wyatt at Deptford. Great inundation. Sir Thomas Wyatt lay a night and a day, with his army, at this place, in 1553 /1. In the year 1671, a great inundation happened at and near Deptford. About 700 sheep, with a great number of oxen, cows, &c. were destroyed in the marshes; the cables of ships at anchor were broken, and the water rose to the height of ten feet in the streets near the river; so that the inhabitants were obliged to retire, in boats, to the upper town. An account of it is extant, in a small pamphlet published at the time.
- Eminent inhabitants. Sir Thomas Smith. Sir Thomas Smith, who had been farmer of the customs to Queen Elizabeth, and was sent by K. James I. as his Ambassador to the court of Russia, in 1604, had a magnificent house at Deptford, which was burnt down on the 30th of January 1618. His travels into Russia are in print; but they are supposed not to have been written by himself /2. Cowley, the poet, was for some time an inhabitant of this place /3. The Gun-tavern, **now converted into warehouses in the occupation of Messrs. Gordon and Biddulph**, is said to have been the residence of the Earl of Nottingham, Queen Elizabeth's Lord Admiral.
- Cowley, the poet.
- The manor of Deptford, West Greenwich, le Strand, or Sayes-court. The manor of Deptford, alias West-Greenwich, was given by William the Conqueror to Gilbert de Magminot, or Maminot /4; whose great-grandson, Wakelin de Maminot, dying without issue in 1191, this manor fell to the share of his sister and co-heir Alice, the wife of Geoffrey de Say /5, who gave it to the
- /1 Holinshed, vol. iii. f. 1729.
 /2 Ant. Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. i.
 /3 See his life.
 /4 Philipott's Survey of Kent, p. 160.
 /5 Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 511.

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Knights Templars /6. His son Geoffrey recovered it, by giving the Templars the manor of Saddlescombe in Sussex in exchange /7. This Geoffrey having taken up arms against King John, his estates were seized and given to Peter de Cron /8. They were restored by King Henry III. in 1223 /9; after which this manor continued in the family of Say, till the latter end of the fourteenth century /10. William de Say died seised of it in 1375 /11; leaving issue a son, who died in his minority, in 1382 /12, and a daughter Elizabeth, who became his heir, and married, 1. John de Fallesley; 2. Sir William Heron, Knight. She died in 1402 /13, when Sir William Clinton, and others, representatives of William de Say, were found to be her heirs. In the year 1414, Sir John Philip, and his wife Alice, held the reversion of this manor; Sir William Philip, his brother, being his heir /14. Edmund Mortimer, Earl of March, died seised of the manor of West-Greenwich, in 1425 /15; William de la Pole, Duke of Suffolk, in 1449 /16. The Duke's grandson, John Earl of Lincoln, who possessed this manor in his father's lifetime, was slain in battle at Stoke, near Newark upon Trent, in 1487; and his estates became forfeited to the crown /17. King Henry VII. the next year, gave this manor to Oliver St. John /18; **upon the death of John St. John** in 1513 /19, it was inherited by his eldest son of the same name, then eight years old. It reverted to the crown before the year 1538, when Richard Long was appointed steward by the King /20. In 1547, Sir Thomas Speke had a grant of that office for life /21. After the death of King Charles I. it was seized by the Parliament. A survey of it was then taken; and it was sold, in 1650, by the trustees of forfeited estates to Thomas Buckner Esq. on behalf of himself, John Barksted, and others, creditors of the state /22. Since the Restoration this manor has been vested in the crown; and the

stewardship of it has been held with that of Greenwich.

Sayes-court,
site of the
manor.

Sayes-court, being the mansion-house and site of the manor of West-Greenwich, was, for many years, occupied by the family of Browne. Sir Richard

/6 Dugdale's Monast. vol. ii. p. 555.

/7 Ibid.

/8 Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 511.

/9 Ibid.

/10 William de Say died seised of it, anno 1272; Esch. 56 Hen. III. N/o 37. Another William de Say, anno 1295; Esch. 23 Edw. I. N/o 49. Geoffrey de Say, anno 1322; Esch. 15 Edw. II. N/o 10. Another Geoffrey had a grant of free-warren in this manor, anno 1334; Cart. 8 Edw. III. N/o 8. He died seised of it, anno 1359. Esch. 33 Ed. III. N/o 37; and Esch. 35 Edw. III. N/o 43.

/11 Esch. 49 Edw. III. pt. 2. N/o 44.

/12 Esch. 6 Ric. II. N/o 67.

/13 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 3.

/14 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 3.

/15 Esch. 3 Hen. VI. N/o 32.

/16 Esch. 28 Hen. VI. N/o 25.

/17 Hasted, p. 4.

/18 Pat. 3 Hen. VII. pt. 1. Dec. 21. Leland, in his Itinerary, says, "This young St. John's father, caullid, as I remembre, Oliver, had given him a peace of land, by King Henry the VII. of the attained landes of the Erle of Lincolne, caullid Sayes-croft, lying in the meades towards Greenwiche." Vol. vi. p. 19.

/19 Esch. 4 Hen. VIII. N/o 57.

/20 Hasted, p. 4.

/21 Ibid.

/22 Particulars of sale in the Augmentation-office.

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Browne died there in 1604. Christopher Browne Esq. **his** son, succeeded him in the custody of the said mansion-house and the demesne lands, being above 200 acres. When this estate was sold by the Parliament, they assigned the site of Sayes-court to the Brownes, with about 60 acres of land, as a compensation for their interest in the whole /23. After the Restoration, John Evelyn Esquire, who had married Mary, the only daughter and heir of Sir Richard Browne the younger, obtained (in 1663) a lease of Sayes-court and the demesne lands for 99 years /24. In 1726, the said estate was granted in fee to Francis Earl of Godolphin and others, in trust for Sir John Evelyn, Bart. /25; whose grandson, Sir Frederic Evelyn, Bart. is the present proprietor.

Sir Richard
Browne, at
Sayes-court.

Sayes-court was the residence of Sir Richard Browne the elder and younger /26, and afterwards of Mr. Evelyn, son-in-law of the latter; a gentleman celebrated for his general knowledge and various accomplishments. He was particularly skilled in gardening, painting, engraving, architecture, and the science of medals; on all which, as well as on other subjects, he published treatises /27. Sir Richard Browne, being absent at the court of France, gave up Sayes-court to his son-in-law, who came to reside there in 1651. Being no friend to the then ruling powers /28, he spent his time in retirement at this his favourite spot, studying the practical part of gardening, the culture of trees, and the propagation of timber; which he has treated of at large in his Sylva. His gardens at this place are said to have been the wonder and admiration of the greatest and most judicious men of his time; in the life of Lord Keeper Guildford, they are described as "most boscaresque, being, as it were, an examplar of his book of forest trees." What he most prided himself upon was a hedge of holly, which he thus describes, with a great degree of enthusiasm, in one of the later editions of his Sylva, published by

John Evelyn;

his famous
gardens.

Remarkable
holly-hedge

himself, in 1704: "Is there under **the** heaven a more glorious and refreshing object of the kind, than an impregnable hedge of about four hundred feet in length, nine feet high, and five in diameter; which I can shew in my now ruined garden at Sayes-court, (thanks to the Czar of Muscovy,) at any time of the year, glittering with its armed and varnished leaves; the taller standards,

/23 Records in the Land-Revenue-office.

/24 Pat. 15 Car. II. pt. 10. May 27, N/o 7.

/25 Pat. 12 Geo. I. pt. 1. N/o 16. – The premises included in this grant were, the site of Sayes-court, containing nearly 62 acres; 159 tenements; a large building called the Red-house, 870 feet by 35, containing 100 warehouses (now the site of the victualling house); a wet and dry dock, (now **Dudman's**,) having a great depth of water, esteemed the best in the whole river; and a water-mill for grinding corn. The manor was reserved to the crown.

/26 See p. 455, 456.

/27 Mr. Evelyn's most popular work was his *Sylva*, which has gone through several editions; he wrote also on the art of engraving; on medals; a philosophical discourse of the earth; *Acetaria*, or a discourse on salads; *Pomona*, or a treatise on cyder, &c.

/28 Mr. Evelyn wrote a political tract, in 1659, called *An Apology for the Royal Party*.

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at orderly distances, blushing with their natural coral? It mocks the rudest assaults of the weather, beasts, or hedge-breakers – Et illum nemo impune lacessit /29."

Peter, Czar of Muscovy, at Sayes-court.

It is said that Peter the Great, Czar of Muscovy, to whom Mr. Evelyn lent his place at Sayes-court whilst he was studying naval architecture in the adjoining dockyard, in 1698, used to amuse himself with being wheeled through this hedge in a wheelbarrow; **but although** the Royal tenant paid very little respect either to his landlord's trees or hedges, **it seems probable** by Mr. Evelyn's description of his holly, and the exulting manner in which he speaks of its being proof against the rudest hedge-breakers, that the Czar rather chose any other hedge than this for his amusement. In the *Philosophical Transactions* of the year 1683, there is a letter from Mr. Evelyn, giving an account, by desire of the Royal Society, of the damage done in his garden by the frost the preceding winter; but as his letter is dated the 14th of April, little is to be gathered from it, as it is most probable that the cork trees, and many others which he mentions as looking very suspiciously, recovered. He laments the damage done to his beautiful holly-hedge; but from the manner in which he speaks of it in 1704, it is evident that it was not materially injured. A tortoise, which had lived in his garden many winters, would, it is probable, have escaped, but was found dead, having been obstructed by a vine root from burying himself to his usual depth /30. There is not the least trace now, either of the house or gardens at Sayes-court; **a part** of the garden walls only, with some brick piers, are remaining. The house was pulled down in 1728 or 1729, and the workhouse built on its site /31.

Frost of 1682–3.

Present state of Sayes-court.

Parish church.

Several repairs, and rebuilding.

The old church of St. Nicholas consists of a chancel, nave, and two aisles. In the year 1630, this church was repaired and considerably enlarged; to which work the East-India Company, and Sir William Russell, were principal benefactors /32. In 1697, on account of the great increase of inhabitants, the whole church was pulled down, except the tower, (an ancient structure of flint and stone, which is still standing,) and rebuilt upon a larger scale. Isaac Loader Esq. contributed 901l. towards the rebuilding and the ornaments. The architect performed his work so ill, that the church was obliged to undergo a thorough repair in 1716, at the expence of about 400l.; as is recorded on a tablet placed against the south wall, on the outside.

Monuments. Edward Fenton.

On the north wall of the chancel, within the recess for the altar, are the monuments of Edward Fenton, Esq. /33, 1603; the Hon. Henry Roger Boyle, eldest

/29 Hunter's edition, vol. i. p. 265.

/30 Philos. Trans. vol. xiv. p. 559–563.

/31 The workhouse was opened, Oct. 5, 1729; a sermon preached at its opening, is extant; to which is added the oeconomy of the workhouse.

/32 Philipott's Survey of Kent, p. 161.

/33 Inscription – "Richardus prænobilis Comes Coragiensis uxoris suæ patruo, B. M. P. – Memoriam perenni Edwardi Fenton Reginæ Elizabethæ olim pro corpore Armigeri; Jano

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George
Shelvocke.
Peter Pett.
Sir Richard
Browne.

son of Richard Earl of Corke, (who died at a school in Deptford,) 1615; and George Shelvocke Esq. /34, 1760. On the east wall of the chancel, to the north of the recess, is the monument of Peter Pett Esq. /35, 1652. On the east wall, to the south of the recess, are the monuments of Sir Richard Browne, Knt. 1604, and others of his family /36; some children of John Evelyn Esq., &c.

O Neal & post eum Comite Desmoniam in Hibernia turbantibus fortissimi taxiarchi; qui post lustratum improbo ausu septentrionalis plagæ apocryphum mare et excussas variis peregrinationibus inertis naturæ latebras, anno 1588, in celebri contra Hispanos naumachia meruit, navis prætoriam navarchus. Ob. anno 1603."

/34 Inscription – "Sacred to the memory of George Shelvocke Esq. late Secretary of the General Post-office, and F. R. S. who, at a very early period of life, attended his father in a voyage round the world: during the course of which, he remarkably experienced the protection of Divine Providence, and ever retained a most grateful remembrance thereof. In his life, he was most amiable; in his death, he is most lamented; in him, his kindred regret their greatest ornament; his acquaintance, their best companion; his intimates, their dearest friend. Learned, without pride; pious, without ostentation: he fulfilled the duties of his office with the utmost integrity; and showed the goodness of his heart by repeated acts of benevolence. He died the 12th of March 1760, aged 58 years, and is buried with his father. This monument is erected at the particular desire of his widow, who did not long survive him." Mr. Shelvocke was one of the writers of the Universal History, and published an edition of his father's voyage round the world.

/35 Inscription – "Monumentum hoc omnes qui aspexerint inclyti viri Petri Pett, armigeri, famam et laudes benigne audiant. Dic igitur lapis, ex his enim tu literis et tanti viri historia, vitam adeptus, his /* multa durabis sæcula; dic cujus sacra ossa juxta te tam quiete custodiuntur, illius scilicet qui fuit patriæ suæ decus, patriæ suæ magnum munimentum; equippe qui non solum nauticam nostram restituit rem verum illud eximium et novum navigii ornamentum quod nostri frigatum nuncupant, hostibus formidulosum, suis utilissimum atque tutissimum, primus invenit; qui Archinauegi munus per

viginti et tres annos tanta cum fide et solertia gessit ut hinc plane appareret se non suum sed bonum publicum cordi habuisse. Justus sane vir fuit et sui sæculi Noah, qui postquam cum Deo ambulavit et supra dictam illius inventionem in lucem protulit (quæ fuit arcæ instar, unde nostrum maris dominium juraque nostra e naufragio pene erepta sunt) evocatus fuit ex hujus mundo tempestatibus, Deo gubernante, atque anima illius in Salvatoris sui gremio tanquam in gloriæ arca, reposita, ob. vero Julii 31, ætatis suæ anno 60, post redemptoris nostri nativitatem 1652."

Epitaphium.

"Quantum antiqua viris tribuerunt tempora magnis,
 Utile qui patriæ attulerint vel nobile quicquam,
 Tantum hanc ætatem tibi, Pette, rependere oportet;
 Ergo inter veteres tu collaudabere semper;
 Namque tibi hoc proprium est retro ut tua fama recurrat
 Laudibus atque novis priscorum jungat honores."

/36 Inscription – "Near this place are deposited, the bodies of S/r Richard Browne of Sayes-court in Deptford, Kn/t; of his wife Dame Joanna Vigorus of Langham in Essex, deceased in Nov. 1618, aged 74 years. This S/r Richard was younger son of an ancient family at Hitcham in Suffolk, seated afterwards at Horsley in Essex, who (being student in the Temple) was by Robert Dudley, the great Earl of Leicester, taken into the service of the crown, when he went Governor of the United Netherlands; and was afterwards, by Queen Elizabeth, made Clerk of the Green-cloth; in which honorable office he also continued under King James until the time of his death, May 1604, aged 65 years. – Of Christopher Browne Esq. son and heir of S/r Richard, who deceased in March 1645, aged 70 years. – Of Thomasine his wife, daughter of Benjamin Gonson,

/* It is hi on the stone.

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On the south wall, over the gallery, **is the monument** of John Turner Esq., captain of the York man of war, ("qui in utroque bello Batavico et contra prædones Algerinos strenuam navavare operam,") ob. 1672; beneath the gallery **that** of John Hughes /37, M. A. 1710, and Mrs. Mary Gransden, 1719.

John
 Hughes.

On the south wall of the south aisle, over the gallery, is the monument of Sir Richard Hughes, Bart. Commissioner of the Navy, 1779; underneath are the arms of the Trinity-house. On the floor **is the gravestone of** Mr. John Benbow /38, (son of John Benbow, Admiral of the White), 1708.

On a pillar of the nave is a tablet which commemorates the particulars of the benefaction of Isaac Loader, Esq., Sheriff of the county, who gave the sum of 901l. towards rebuilding and ornamenting the church.

of Much Baddow in Essex, Esq.; whose grandfather William Gonson, and father Benjamin, were successively Treasurers of the Navy to King Henry VIII., to King Edward VI., to Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth: she died June 1638, aged 75 years. – Of S/r Richard Browne Kn/t and Bar/t, only son of Christopher ——. Of his wife Dame Elizabeth, daughter of S/r John Prettyman of

Dryfield in Gloucestershire, who deceased, Oct. 6, 1652, aged 42 years. This S/r Richard was Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to King Charles I. and Clerk of the Council to His Majesty, and to King Charles II.; Ambassador to the French King Lewis XIII. and Lewis XIV. from the year 1641 (the beginning of our unnatural civil war) until the happy restoration of King Charles II. anno 1660; deceased 12 February, 1682-3, aged 78 years; and, according to antient custom, willed to be interred in this place. These, all deceasing in the true faith of Christ, hope, through his merits, for a joyful and blessed resurrection. — X. A. P. D. This title was erected by John Evelyn Esq. of Sayes-court, who married Mary sole daughter and heir of S/r Richard.”

/37 Inscription: — “M. S. Joannis Hughes, A. M. Col. Jesu Cant. socii, quem importuna lethi vis suaque fatalis excellentia coeli avidum, coelo maturum eripuerunt. Is vir erat quem imitari pro meritis laudare ideo omnes vellent, quod vix quisquam potuit. Sacerdotii dignitatem quam vitæ sanctimonia adauxit, scriptis strenue asseruit, in quibus elucent rara divitis ingenii severique judicii specimina. In vita rariores virtutum effulsere concordia in qua morum antiquorum gravem severitatem cum præsentis ævi decora facilitate suaviter temperatam et amice conjurantem videre erat et admirari. In hoc inane laudis munere ulterius progredi jubet officiosa pietas, sed tibi parcimus viator ne nimius tandem sit nostroque similis dolor tuus. Ob. Nov. 18/o, anno 1710, ætatis suæ 28. Tristes reliquias honesta pompa efferendas et hoc sepulchrali marmore decorandas curavit Samuel Townsend amici defuncti injussu, amicitia scilicet esse ratus hac una in re idem non vellet.” It is most probable from the mention in the foregoing epitaph, of his having asserted by his writings the dignity of the priesthood, that John Hughes buried at Deptford, is the same person who wrote a preliminary dissertation to St. Chrysostom, “De Sacerdotio,” wherein the authority of the church is explained, as distinguished from that of the state. It is annexed to Hicke’s *Treatise* “on the Dignity of the Christian Priesthood,” Edit. 1711.

/38 This Mr. Benbow, who has a separate article in the *Biographia Britannica*, was shipwrecked, in the year 1702, (being then a mate on board the *Degrave East Indiaman*,) on the coast of Madagascar; “where, after many dismal and dangerous adventures, he was obliged to live with and after the manner of the Indians,” his biographer says many years, but as he is likewise said to have lived several years after his return, his sojourn among the Indians could not have been so long. He was liberated by a Dutch captain, who brought him to England, after his friends had given him over as dead. Mr. Benbow wrote a large work, intitled “A complete Account of the South

Part of the Island of Madagascar," treating of the climate, soil, natural productions, inhabitants, &c. but it was never published.

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Tomb of
Capt. Shel-
vocke.
Sir Richard
Browne.

Other tombs
in the
church-yard.

The rectory.

Against the east wall of the chancel, on the outside, is a tablet in memory of Susanna, wife of Capt. George Shelvocke, 1711; near it is the tomb of her husband /40, who died in 1742. In the churchyard are, **among others**, the tombs of Sir Richard Browne, Bart. /41, 1683; **and** Capt. Abraham Mitchell, commander of a trading vessel, who died in 1745, in consequence of losing his leg in an engagement with a French privateer of considerable force (he defended his ship, which was richly laden, with such bravery and resolution, that the enemy was obliged to sheer off).

The rectory of St. Nicholas at West-Greenwich, alias Deptford, was given by Juliana Countess of Norfolk /42 to the monks of Begham in Sussex /43, who had removed thither from Brockley in Deptford. In 1183, it was appropriated to the abbot and convent of Begham /44, since the dissolution of which house it has passed through the same hands as Brockley farm in the parish of Deptford-St. Paul /45, being now vested in John Drake, D. D. and Thomas Drake Tirwhit **Drake** Esq. in right of their wives, who were daughters of the late William Wickham, Esq. of Garsington in the county of Oxford. They are also patrons of the

/55 Inscription: — "Here lyeth the body of Capt. George Shelvocke, descended of an ancient family in Shropshire; but long an inhabitant of this town. He was bred to the sea-service, under Admiral Benbow, and served on board of the Royal Navy in the wars of King William and Queen Anne. In the years of our Lord 1719, 20, 21, and 22, he performed a voyage round the globe of the world, which he most wonderfully, and to the great loss of the Spaniards, compleated, though in the midst of it he had the misfortune to suffer shipwreck upon the Island of Juan Fernandez, on the coast of the kingdom of Chili. He was a gentleman of great abilities in his profession, and allowed to have been one of the bravest and most accomplished seamen of his time. He departed this life in London, Nov. 30, 1742, in the 67 year of his age." He married Susanna, daughter of Capt. Richard Strutton, who died in 1711.

/56 Inscription: — "M. S. Richardus Browne, de Sayes-court, Deptfordiæ in **com**mitatu Cantii, eques auratus et baronettus; Regibus Carolo I. et II. a sanctoribus conciliis secretarius, necnon utriusque Regis totos viginti annos ad Ludovicos XIII. et XIV. Galliæ Reges prolegatus. Ætatis confectus in coelestem patriam migrans exuvias corporis hic deposuit ætatis anno 78, reparatæ salutis 1683, unica relicta filia Johanni Evelyno nupta. Monumentum in parte ecclesiæ interiore, Gener P. P." Sir Richard Browne was created a Baronet by Charles II. in 1649. He resided at the court of France during the space of twenty years, as his epitaph informs us, as agent for **King** Charles I. and II.; during all this time he is said to have received only 1200l. though he spent as much as that yearly. Ant. Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. i. Fasti. Sir Richard Browne died at Charlton. See p. 437.

/42 She was daughter of Alberic de Vere, Great Chamberlain of England, and wife 1. of Hugh Bigod, Earl of Norfolk; 2. of Walkelin de Maminot, lord of the manor of West-Greenwich.

/43 See the account of Brockley, in St. Paul Deptford. The advowson of the church seems, nevertheless, to have been after this in Geoffrey de Say, who first gave it to the Knights Templars, and being again possessed of it, granted it to the monks of Begham. Dugdale's Monast. v. ii. p. 555. and vol. i. p. 640.

/44 Reg. Roff. p. 378–381.

/45 See the account of that parish.

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vicarage. The rectory was rated at 15 marks in the year 1287 /46: it comprehends the great tithes of this parish and that of St. Paul, except the manor of Hatcham, which belongs to the Camberwell impropriation /47.

The vicarage. The vicarage was rated, in 1287, at six marks and a half; in the king's books it is valued at 12l. 17s. 31/2d.: in 1650, the vicarage (with the house and glebe) was valued at 60l. per annum /48. The vicarial tithes of the new parish were reserved to the vicar of St. Nicholas, under the act of parliament passed in 1730.

Advowson. The patronage continued in the crown from the dissolution of monasteries till after the year 1630. In 1659, the advowson was vested in John Cutler Esq. /49, who was created a baronet the next year; it has since passed through the same hands as the manor of Brockley and the great tithes.

Vicars. Samuel Page, D. D. instituted to this vicarage about the year 1603, published some sermons and tracts in divinity /50; he was buried at Deptford, August 8, 1630. Thomas Mallory, who was appointed minister in 1644, and resigned in 1659, had the living of St. Michael, Crooked-lane, from which he was ejected by the Bartholomew Act. He published some sermons /51. Richard Holden, vicar from 1692 to 1700, published a sermon preached before the Trinity-house. Dr. Stanhope. The learned George Stanhope, D. D. dean of Canterbury, was vicar of this parish from the year 1700 till his death in 1728 /52. Thomas Anguish, vicar from 1737 to 1762, published three sermons; on the accession, on the rebellion of 1745, and on the earthquake. The present vicar is John Drake, D. D. who succeeded William Worcester Wilson, D. D. in 1791.

Parish register. The earliest date of the parish register is 1563.

Comparative state of population.	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1580 – 1584.	26(4/5)	28(3/5)
1584 – 1589.	33(3/5)	25(2/5)
1600 – 1609.	42(1/2)	57(4/5) /53
1610 – 1619.	68(3/5)	72(7/10)
1620 – 1629.	77(9/10)	104(7/10)
1630 – 1639.	81(1/10)	101(1/5)
1680 – 1689.	228(1/5)	252(7/10)

/46 Hasted, vol. i. p. 12.

/47 See p. 163.

/48 Hasted, from the Lambeth surveys.

/49 In that year he presented Robert Lytler. Proceedings of the Committees, Lamb. MS. Lib. vol. xxxv. p. 5. 2d numb. He presented Robert Bretton in 1661. (Parish Register.)

/50 Ant. Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. i.

/51 Nonconformist's Memorial, vol. i. p. 133.

/52 See the account of Lewisham, of which place also he was vicar, and where he was buried.

/53 The year 1603 was a year of great mortality; as were the years 1624 and 1625, in the period

of 1620-9; and 1636 and 1637 in the period of 1630-9.

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	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1730 – 1739.	136(7/10)	186
1780 – 1784.	187(2/5)	208(2/5)
1784 – 1789.	203(1/5)	189(4/5)
1790 – 1794.	201(4/5)	189
1795 – 1799.	215(3/5)	213(1/5)
1800 – 1804.	206(1/5)	220(2/5)
1805 – 1808.	164(3/4)	211(3/4)

To obtain a fair view of the increase of population, the baptisms and burials in both parishes, since the division in 1730, should be added together, and then the latter averages will stand thus:

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1730 – 1739.	270(7/10)	309(3/5)
1780 – 1784.	464(4/5)	600(4/5)
1785 – 1789.	503(1/5)	525(3/5)
1790 – 1794.	516(4/5)	585(2/5)
1795 – 1799.	601	559(2/5)
1800 – 1804.	631(1/5)	572(2/5)
1805 – 1808.	675(1/5)	547(3/4)

Great increase of buildings.

It appears that the population of this place has increased within two centuries, in a proportion of twenty to one, and it is observable that a considerable increase is to be noticed at a very early period; which is to be attributed to this cause, that in the statutes and proclamations against the erecting new buildings within a certain distance from London, market towns, and places used for building of ships, were excepted. It should be noticed that the burials are at some periods much increased by the number of persons who die on board the ships. I was informed in 1795, that the number of houses in the parish of St. Nicholas, was about 1150, and those in St. Paul about 2300; making together about 3450, but both numbers appear to have been considerably over-rated. In 1801, according to the returns then made to Parliament under the population act, there were then 1192 inhabited, 14 uninhabited houses, and 4933 inhabitants in Deptford St. Nicholas; 1876 inhabited, 37 uninhabited houses, and 10,615 inhabitants in the parish of Deptford St. Paul. In this statement there must have been some mistake as to the number of houses in St. Nicholas, for it appears by a careful enumeration made by the assessor in 1805, that there were then only 1098 houses in that parish, of all descriptions. There have been about 50 houses built since that time, so that the present number may be stated at about 1150; the present number in the parish of Deptford-St. Paul, is somewhat under 2000.

Burials during the plague years.

In the year 1603, there were 235 burials, the average of that period (not including that year) being about 38. In 1624, there were 125 burials; in 1625,

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342; the average of that period (deducting those years) being 60. In 1636, there were 147 burials (65 persons dying of the plague); the next year eleven persons died of the plague, the number of burials was 109. In 1665, 374 persons died of the plague, the whole number of burials was 548: the next year (a circumstance which I have observed only in this parish and in Greenwich) was more fatal, 522 persons dying of the plague; the total number of burials was 715. The average number of burials of the period 1680–9, above ten years afterwards, was only 252.

Extracts from the Register.

Phineas Pett.

“Phineas, son of Peter Pett, baptized Nov. 8, 1570.” The family of Pett were eminent shipbuilders for several generations. Peter Pett (here mentioned) was master shipwright to Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth /54. Phineas, whose baptism is here recorded, having been servant to the Lord Admiral, was taken

into the service of Prince Henry in 1603 /55, as appears by the MS. of his own life, extracts from which have been published in the *Archæologia*. In 1606, he succeeded his brother Joseph as one of the master shipwrights in the navy /56. In 1609, there appears to have been a combination among his brother shipwrights to ruin him, by accusations of insufficiency and dishonesty, shewn in the building of a great ship then on the stocks. This matter came to a final hearing at Woolwich (where the ship was building), on the 8th of May that year, before the King in person, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, and the Lords of the Council, Mr. Pett during the whole trial attending on his knees /57. The event was much to his credit, and to the disgrace of his enemies. He was ever after honoured with the favour of the King, and of his successor Charles I., who, with various branches of the Royal Family, frequently honoured him with visits when they went to see the shipping at Woolwich. Among other marks of the Royal favour, it appears that he had the disposal of two baronets' patents, one of which he sold for 700l. /58 Mr. Pett was employed to fit out the fleet which carried over the Princess Elizabeth after her marriage to the Palsgrave, in 1613, and accompanied the Lord Admiral in that voyage /59. In 1623, he went with Prince Charles to Spain; for his attendance on this voyage he was presented with a gold chain, valued at 104l. /60 In 1625, he fitted out the fleet which brought over Henrietta Maria, and attended the voyage /61. In 1637, he was employed to build a great ship at Woolwich, for the Navy: this ship, which was called the *Sovereign of the Seas*, was the largest which had been built in England /62. She

/54 *Archæologia*, vol. xii. p. 295.

/55 *Ibid.* p. 228.

/56 *Ibid.* p. 229.

/57 *Ibid.* p. 244–254.

/58 *Ibid.* p. 272 and 275.

/59 *Ibid.* p. 267–270.

/60 *Ibid.* p. 274.

/61 *Ibid.* p. 274, 275.

/62 A description of this ship, with an engraving of it on two plates by John Payne, was

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was launched on the 14th of October /63: on the 6th of June following, the King and Queen, the Duchess of Chevreuse, the Duke and Duchess of Lenox, and several other Lords and Ladies, dined on board her at Greenhithe /64. Mr. Pett was the first master of the Shipwrights' Company, after their new charter of incorporation in 1612 /65; he is supposed to have died in 1647 /66.

Peter Pett.

"Mr. Peter Pett, one of the master shipwrights, buried Aug. 5, 1652." This Peter Pett I suppose to be the nephew of Phineas, who, though but slightly mentioned in his uncle's memoirs, appears to have been no less eminent in his profession, being the first inventor (as we learn from his epitaph /67) of that useful ship of war, a frigate. His son Peter, baptized at Deptford, Oct. 31, 1630, was Advocate General for Charles II. in Ireland, and member of the House of Commons in that kingdom. He was knighted by the Duke of Ormond, the Lord Lieutenant. Sir Peter Pett published several political tracts, particularly, "A Discourse of the Growth of England in Trade and Populousness since the Reformation;" – "On the Clerical Revenue; and the same asserted to be reasonable and necessary;" – "Of the Number of the People of England, founded on the Poll Books and Bishops' Surveys;" – "On the Necessity of future Public Taxes for the Support of Government and our Religion," &c. &c. /68

Sir Peter Pett.

Edward Fenton.

"Edward Fenton, Armiger, post decennem ægritudinem sepelitur, Aug. 31, 1603." Capt. Edward Fenton, whose burial is here recorded, accompanied Sir Martin Frobisher on his second and third voyages. He had afterwards himself the command of an expedition for the discovery of the North-west Passage; though he failed in the object of his voyage, he signalized his valour by defeating a Spanish squadron, and sinking the Vice Admiral's ship. He distinguished himself also in the celebrated action with the Armada, in which he was captain of the Admiral's ship. He spent the latter part of his life at Deptford /69, and lies

published in 1637. Her dimensions are thus described: She was 128 feet long, 48 broad; 232

feet from the fore end of the beak end to the after end of the stern; from the bottom of the keel to the top of the lanthorn 76 feet; there were five lanthorns, the biggest of which would hold ten persons upright: she had three flush decks, a fore-castle, &c. The lower tier had 60 ports, the middle one 30, the third 26, the fore-castle 12, half deck 14, and as many more within besides 10 pieces of chase ordnance forward, and 10 right off, and loop-holes in the cabin for muskets. Haywood the dramatic writer designed the emblematical devices with which she was ornamented. This ship was of 1637 tons burden (the date of the year).

/63 Archæologia, vol. xii. p. 282.

/64 Ibid. p. 283.

/65 Ibid. p. 264.

/66 Ibid. p. 284. He is supposed to be the same Phineas Pett who was buried in 1647, at Chatham, where the following entry appears in the register, "Phineas Pette, Esq. and captain, buried Aug. 21, 1647." Mr. Pett had a son named Phineas, born in 1618. Mr. Phineas Pett, builder, was buried at Woolwich in 1678. There was also a Mr. Phineas Pett who was a shipwright, and resident Commissioner of the Navy at Chatham, in the reign of Charles II.

/67 See p. 455.

/68 Ant. Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. ii.

/69 Biograph. Britan.

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buried in St. Nicholas's church; where there is a monument to his memory, with an inscription, which has been already given /70.

John Wells,
and Benjamin Wells.

"Benjamin, son of M/r John Wells, Paymaster of his Majesty's Navy, baptized Aug. 18, 1616." John Wells, who was afterwards Treasurer of the Stores, distinguished himself as a mathematician, and published a treatise on shadows /71. He was buried at Deptford, Dec. 7, 1635. His son Benjamin was an eminent physician, and published a treatise on the gout /72.

From 1619 to 1638 are several entries relating to the family of S/r W/m Russell, Bar/t, Treasurer of the Navy.

Fatal accident.

"William Shewers, and John Finicho, two children which, playing together, shut themselves into a hutch and were smothered, buried Aug. 26, 1631."

Ephraim Paget.

"M/r Ephraim Paget, buried Oct. 27, 1646." – Author of a description of the sundry sorts of Christians not subject to the Pope; and an account of the heresies of later times /73. He was rector of St. Edmund, Lombard-street.

John Evelyn.

"John, son of M/r John Evelyn, was baptized Jan. 26, 1654-5." This son of the celebrated Mr. Evelyn of Sayes-court, inherited his father's literature and love of science. He translated Plutarch's Life of Alexander, Rapin on Gardens, and the History of the Grand Visiers: some of his poems are published in Dryden's Miscellanies /74. His son John, whose baptism is thus entered in the register, ("John, son of John Evelyn Esq. grandson of John Evelyn Esq. and great grandson of S/r Richard Browne, Bar/t, baptized Mar. 2, 1681-2,") was created a Baronet in 1713, and was grandfather of the present Sir Frederic Evelyn, Bart.

Officers shot for cowardice.

"Capt. Thomas Pearse, and Lieut. Logan, shot to death for losing the Saphire cowardly, buried Aug. 26, 1670."

Three children at a birth.

"Rebecca, Sarah, and Rachel, daughters of Edward Rippinton, baptized Aug. 5, 1688. It appears that these children all lived, and that the mother recovered. "Richard, Ellis, and Samuel, children of John Powell, mariner, baptized Nov. 28, 1738." They were all buried Dec. 14.

Numerous progeny.

"Anne Bland, widow, who was mother of 25 children born of her body, aged 80, having, at the date hereof, 15 sons in His Majesty's army, from a cellar in Butt-lane, buried Jan. 9, 1710-1."

George Shelvocke. "Capt. George Shelvocke, from Lombard-street, London, buried Dec. 4, 1742." See his epitaph, p. 457. A narrative of his voyage round the world was published by himself, in 1726, in one volume in octavo; there is a later edition published by his son.

Great fire. In 1652, there is mention of a lamentable fire having happened at Deptford.

/70 See p. 454, 455.

/71 Ant. Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. ii.

/72 Ibid.

/73 Ant. Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. ii.

/74 Kimber's Baronetage (1771), vol. iii. p. 42.

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Persons touched for the evil. In the years 1684, 1685, 1686, 1687, and 1688, are lists of persons who had been touched for the evil. In 1686, the number amounts to 82.

Instances of Longevity.

"Maudlin Augur, ætatis suæ 106, buried Dec. 19, 1632; Katherine Perry, widow, of 110 years old, by her owne report, buried Dec. 12, 1676; Sarah Mayo, widow, being 102 years of age, from S/t Michael, Wood-street, London, buried Aug. 30, 1705; Elizabeth Wiborn, widow, buried in the hundred and first year of her age, Dec. 12, 1714. **There are entries also, of the burial of five persons whose ages were between 90 and 100.**

Society of the Trinity-house.

The Society of the Trinity-house, founded by Sir Thomas Spert, Comptroller of the Navy to King Henry VIII. was first established at this place, and incorporated by the name of "The Master, Warden, and Assistants of the Guild or Fraternity of the Most Glorious and Undivided Trinity, and of St. Clement, in the Parish of Deptford Strond, in the County of Kent." This Corporation consists of a Master, Deputy-master, 31 Elder Brethren, and an unlimited number of inferior members; out of whom the elder brethren are elected. Among these are always some of the great officers of state; the remainder are captains, either in the Royal Navy or of merchantmen. This Corporation having for its object the increase and encouragement of navigation, the good government of seamen, and the security of merchant-ships upon the coasts, is invested with the power of examining the mathematical classes in Christ's Hospital; of examining and licensing masters of ships; appointing pilots, both for the Royal Navy and merchant-ships; settling the rates of pilotage; erecting, ordering, and maintaining light-houses, buoys, beacons, and other sea-marks, for the better security of ships; granting licences to seamen to row on the Thames, in time of peace, or when past service; licensing aliens to serve on board English ships; hearing and determining complaints of officers and seamen in the merchant service, subject to an appeal to the Admiralty. The revenue of the Corporation, which arises from tonnage, ballastage /75, beaconage, &c.; and from contingent benefactions, is applied (after defraying the expenses of light-houses, &c.) to the relief of decayed seamen, their widows and orphans. The members of this corporation enjoy various privileges and immunities. The ancient hall at Deptford, where their meetings were formerly held, was **taken** down about the year 1787, and an elegant building erected for that purpose in London, **on Tower-hill**. The arms of this Corporation are, Arg. a cross G. between four ships of three masts, in full sail, proper.

/75 This Corporation enjoys the exclusive power of clearing and deepening the Thames, by taking out ballast, which is sold at a shilling a ton to all ships that sail from the river. – The grant of ballastage to the Trinity-house **has been printed**. There have been two or three editions of their charters and bye-laws.

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Trinity hospitals.

There are two hospitals at Deptford belonging to the Corporation of the Trinity-house. The old hospital, of which there is a view, engraved by Gribelin, in 1701, was built in the reign of Henry VIII. It consisted originally of 21 apartments; but, being pulled down and rebuilt in 1788, the number was increased to 25.

This hospital adjoins the church-yard. The other, which is in Church-street, was built about the latter end of the **seventeenth** century. Sir Richard Browne, in 1672, gave the ground, after the expiration of a short term; and Capt. William Maples, in 1680, gave 1300l. towards the building. This hospital consists of 56 apartments, forming a spacious quadrangle; in the centre of which is placed a statue of Capt. Maples. On the east side, opposite the entrance, is a plain building, which serves both for a chapel and a hall. Here the Brethren of the Trinity-house meet annually on Trinity Monday, and afterwards go to St. Nicholas's church, where they hear divine service and a sermon. The pensioners, in both hospitals, consist of decayed pilots and masters of ships, or their widows. The single men and widows receive about 18l. per annum; the married men about 28l., **besides certain allowances of coals and clothes.**

Dr. Breton's school.

There is no alms-house exclusively appropriated to the poor of this parish. Dr. Robert Breton, vicar, who died in 1672, left the sum of 400l. to endow a grammar-school in this parish for 24 children; a considerable part of this benefaction was lost; the remainder produces 6l. 16s. per annum; which is given as a salary to a master, who teaches six children of this parish, and as many of the parish of St. Paul, on Deptford Green. This school has no other endowment.

Charity-school for both parishes endowed by Mrs. Gransden, and others.

Mr. Robert Gransden gave the inheritance of a piece of ground in Butt-lane, for the purpose of building a school-house. His daughter Mrs. Mary Gransden, who died in 1719, bequeathed 80l. towards the building. She gave also her farm of Plaistow, (near Halsted in Essex,) **let in 1795 on a lease of 21 years at 35 guineas per annum**, and the ground-rents of two tenements in London (since sold to the Bank for the sum of 1300l.,) for its support. The school-house was built with Mrs. Gransden's legacy, and the contributions of other benefactors /76, amounting in the whole (including two other legacies /77; 100l. collected at a sermon, preached by Dr. Stanhope, and 100l. given by a friend who had some charitable legacies to dispose of at his own discretion) to about **5300l.** The school was opened May 28, 1723; since which time, some noble benefactions having been given for the education

/76 Some of the principal benefactors were,

Thomas Loving Esq. (by gift),	20l.
John Crowley Esq.	50l.
Earl of Thanet	20l. 10s.
Countess of Portland	21l.
Lady Elizabeth Hastings	21l.
Dean and Chapter of Canterbury,	21l.
James Joye Esq.	50l.
Richard Cambridge,	21l.

/77 Thomas Loving, who had before given 20l. left by will the same sum; William Hosier Esq. left 50l.

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and apprenticing of children, (as may be seen in the table **beneath** /77,) the trustees /78 are enabled to educate **and partly clothe** 50 boys, and 30 girls; apprenticing them out as occasion may require. This school is for the joint benefit of both parishes. The school-house is in that of St. Paul.

Thomas Fellows Esq. **in** 1752, gave 1000l. 3 per cents. for educating and clothing five boys and five girls of the parish of St. Nicholas only: these children are taught in another school.

The Dock-yard.

The Royal Dock, which first gave consequence to Deptford, and gradually increased the population to its present extent, was first established by Henry VIII. about the beginning of his reign. The old store-house, which appears to have consisted originally only of the building on the north side of the quadrangle, was erected by him, in the year 1513, as appears by a date in the rigging-loft, on what was originally the front of the building. Above the date is a space, where, it is probable, the Royal arms were fixed, beneath a Gothic canopy of brick work. The initials H. R. in a cypher, accompany the date, which is in Arabic numerals, with the letters A. X. for Anno Christi. This store-house now forms **one side of** a quadrangle, buildings **having been added** on the east, west, and south sides; a double front towards the north was added in 1721. There is a current tradition, for which no authority can be adduced, that this store-house was erected on the site

of a monastery. A spacious store-house, being parallel to this just mentioned, and of the same length, having a sail-loft and rigging-loft, **was built about the year 1795.**

There is a long range also of smaller store-houses, built about the year 1780, under the direction of Sir Charles Middleton, (**now Lord Barham.**) The whole extent of the yard is about 31 acres. It has two wet docks, a double and a single one; and three slips; a bason, and two mast-ponds. It contains also, besides the

/77 Benefactions to the School.

1727. Dr. George Stanhope, 150l. increased by benefactions from William Sherwin William Collins, and William Holt, to 250l. 4 per cents. To apprentice children from the school, and to buy books.

1743. William Hosier Esq. 300l. South-Sea annuities, To educate four children.

1752. William Sherwin, and William Collins, by deed, gave the sum of 1600l. Old South-Sea annuities, To educate and clothe boys, and to put them out apprentice to shipwrights, joiners, or house-carpenters.

1783. John Chester 300l. 4 per cent. Bank Annuities. To apprentice a poor boy from the school; a bricklayer's son to have the preference.

1784. Richard Philipps 50l. 3 per cent. To the school.

/78 The trustees are twelve in number, among whom are always the vicar of St. Nicholas, and the rector of St. Paul, Deptford.

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buildings already mentioned, a large smith's shop, with about 20 forges for making anchors, &c.; mast-houses; sheds for timber; a mould-loft, various workshops, and houses for the officers /79. **Government, are in treaty for a small spot of ground called the Orchard, at the east end of the yard.**

Ships built at Deptford.

The Neptune of 98 guns, was launched at this yard in 1797, and since that year the Fame, Blake, Bombay, Colossus, and Courageux of 74 guns, four frigates, and three sloops. The Queen Charlotte of 110 guns, now on the stocks, is intended to be launched in a short time. The Hogue and the Blenheim, of 74 guns, are now building. The number of artificers and labourers of all sorts, now in the yard, amount to 1300; the peace-establishment is not much less. The riggers, &c. (called the ordinary) are about 140. This Dock-yard has no commissioner, but is under the immediate inspection of the Navy Board. The resident officers are a clerk of the checque; storekeeper; master shipwright, and his assistants; clerk of the survey; master attendant; surgeon, &c. In the reigns of James I. and Charles I. the Treasurer of the Navy resided at Deptford.

Queen Elizabeth's visit to Sir Francis Drake's ship.

On the 4th of April 1581, Queen Elizabeth visited Capt. Drake's ship called the Golden Hind. Her Majesty dined on board; and after dinner, conferred the honour of knighthood on the Captain. A prodigious concourse of people assembled on the occasion; and a wooden bridge, on which were a hundred persons, broke down, but no lives were lost /80. Sir Francis Drake's ship, when it became unfit for service, was laid up in this yard, where it remained many years; the cabin being, as it seems, turned into a banqueting-house: "We'll have our supper (says Sir Petronel Flash, in a comedy called Eastward-hoe, written by Ben Jonson and others) on board Sir Francis Drake's ship that hath compassed the world." It was at length broken up, and a chair made out of it for John Davis Esq., who presented it to the University of Oxford /81.

Royal Yacht.

The Royal Yacht, in which Her present Majesty came to England, is now laid up in the Dock-yard at Deptford. A geometrical plan and elevation of the Dock-yard, with part of the town, was published by T. Milton, in 1753. There are in this parish also two private docks, **belonging to Messrs. Barnards and Roberts.**

Private docks.

dept ford-ware.

An extensive manufacture of earthen ware, known by the name of Deptford-ware, **was some years ago** carried on at this place.

An Act of Parliament, for the better relief and employment of the poor of Deptford, and for paving and cleansing the streets, was passed in the 27th year of

/79 For access to the Dock-yard, and various particulars relating to it, **previousy to the first edition of this work**, I was indebted to Sir A. S. Hamond, Bart. (**then** Comptroller of the Navy) and R. Rosewell Esq. **then** Clerk of the Checque.

/80 See Philipott's Survey, and the Parish Register.

/81 See Dodsley's Old Plays, vol. iv. p. 254.

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King George II. A bridge for foot passengers, who pay a toll of one penny, has been built over the creek, which divides Deptford from Greenwich, near its mouth: it was opened in the year 1804. The proprietors are incorporated by an act of parliament under the name of the Deptford-Creek-bridge Company. The tolls have been let at an average at 1600l. per annum. It is intended at some future time to be made a bridge for carriages, and some of the piles have been driven for that purpose.

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DEPTFORD, St. PAUL's.

- Boundaries. This parish, which was constituted in the year 1730, is bounded by Deptford-St. Nicholas, Greenwich, Lewisham, Camberwell, Rotherhithe, and
- Extent. by the river Thames. It contains about 1800 acres of land, of which about 500 are arable; about the same quantity occupied by market gardeners /1; **there are some very extensive nursery grounds in the occupation of Mr. Cormack**; the remainder **is** marsh and pasture. The soil on the hills, towards Brockley, is clay; in other parts, sand or gravel. At Loampit-hole, in this parish, is a large chalk pit, in which are found various kinds of extraneous fossils.
- Nature of the soil. The Ravensborne, which separates this parish from Greenwich, and falls into the Thames here, rises on Keston common. Its banks are under the superintendence of a commission of sewers. The bridge over this river, at Deptford, was formerly of wood, and was repaired by the inhabitants of the hundred /2. **Previously** to the battle of Blackheath, there was a skirmish between Lord Dawbeney's army and "certeyne archers of the rebelles, whose arrowes, as is reported (says Hall), were in length a full yerde /3." Deptford-bridge was rebuilt in 1570 /4; **and** again, in 1628, at the sole expence of King Charles I. /5
- River Ravensborne. In Hasted's History of Kent is an engraving of the head of a Janus, found (in this parish) on the road to New Cross, near St. Thomas's Watering-place.
- Deptford-bridge; The **Dianthus Armeria**, which abounds in this part of Kent, was called by the old botanists, who found it in this parish, the Deptford pink.
- Skirmish there. In this parish stands one of the telegraphs, which communicates intelligence between Dover and the Admiralty.
- Antiquities. The manor of Brockley, partly in this parish and partly in that of Lewisham, was granted by Wakelin de Maminot the younger, about the beginning of the thirteenth century, to Michael de Turnham; who, soon afterwards, sold it to Juliana Countess of Norfolk, wife of the said Wakelin, to the intent that the might found a religious house here; the site of which was confirmed to the convent, by the Countess, and by Geoffrey de Say, who was the lord paramount /6. Not long
- The Deptford pink.
- Telegraph.
- Manor of Brockley.
- Monastery at Brockley.

/1 A considerable quantity of asparagus is raised in this parish; which is famous also for its onions, raised principally for seed.

/2 Philipott's Survey, p. 161.

/3 Chronicle, temp. Hen. VII. f. 43.

/4 Lambard's perambulation, p. 469.

/5 Philipott's Survey, p. 160.

/6 Dugdale's Monast. vol. ii. p. 640.

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afterwards, Robert de Turnham, nephew of Michael, gave these monks an estate at Begham in Sussex, whither they removed themselves. He confirmed to them also this manor of Brockley /7. In 1328, they had a grant of free-warren on their lands here /8. The convent at Begham being dissolved, upon the suppression of the smaller monasteries, in 1538, Cardinal Wolsey procured a grant of its revenues for his college at Oxford /9. Upon the Cardinal's fall, they were seized by the crown. A lease of that part of the manor of Brockley which lies in this parish was granted, in 1568, by the name of the capital messuage of the manor of Brockley, to Philip Conway for 21 years /10. This estate, which is situated near New Cross turnpike, and called Upper Brockley farm, was, about the time of the Restoration, vested in Sir John Cutler, Bart.; who, by deed, in 1692, settled it (after his death) on Edmund Boulter, Esq. In 1709, William Boulter Esq. **de-vised of Edmund**, made a settlement, by which it passed to his grandson, Richard Wilkinson, and afterwards to William Wickham Esq. and Mary his wife, sister of the said Richard. It is now vested in John Drake, D. D. and Thomas Drake Tirwhit **Drake** Esq. in right of their wives, daughters of William Wickham Esq. and grand-daughters of William Wickham above mentioned /11.

Manor of Deptford Strond.

The manor of Deptford Strond, in this parish, between the upper and lower road to Greenwich, was included in Jane Seymour's jointure, and was afterwards granted by Queen Mary to Sir Thomas Pope /12, who alienated it to Robert Trapps Esq. It has since passed with the manor of Bermundsey, and is now the property of Mrs. Hambly, widow of the late Rev. Thomas Hambly. This I suppose to be the same estate of which Roger Mortimer Earl of March died seised in 1399 /13, being described as a manor in West-Greenwich, called le Stronde. The manor of West-Greenwich was then in the family of Say. From the Earl of March the Stronde descended to King Edward IV. /14 and thus became vested in the crown.

Henry, son of Luce de Estetone, and Maurice his brother, (by a deed without date,) granted certain lands, rents, &c. in West-Greenwich, to Thedred son of Richard /15. In 1342 John, Alexander, and Hugh de Grenwiz, sons of Alexander Thedred, quitted all claim to these lands to Ralph Nunthey (or Nonthey)

/7 Dugdale's Monast. p. 638, 639.

/8 Cart. 2 Edw. III. N/o 1.

/9 Tanner's Notit. Monast. p. 561.

/10 Pat. 10 Eliz. pt. 8. May 4.

/11 From the information of the late Mr. Mitchell, vestry-clerk of this parish, communicated for the first edition of this work.

/12 Pat. 1 Mar. pt. 7. May 30. m. 25.

/13 Esch. 22 Rich II. N/o 34.

/14 Edmund Earl of March died seised of it in 1425; it is called, in the calendar of that year, at the Tower, the Manor of West-Greenwich.

/15 Cartulary of the hospital of St. Thomas, in the library of the Marquis of Buckingham at Stowe, f. 245.

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of Halsted, and Sarah his wife /16. William de Blackstan in 1317 conveyed to Robert Ilger certain lands, rents, and services in Deptford, Rotherhithe, and Peckham /17. This estate passed in 1328 to Thomas de Houton; afterwards to Richard Lacer, and from him in 1342 to Ralph Nonthey /18, who in 1349 conveyed a mansion called Skinner's Place, 40 acres of land, with certain rents and services in West-Greenwich, to William Bishop of Winchester, and others /19, who the same year conveyed them to the Hospital of St. Thomas the Martyr. In the year 1547, Thomas Bassingburne held Skinner's-place with certain lands, formerly parcel of the possessions of St. Thomas's Hospital in Southwark. Skinner's Place afterwards belonged to Richard Stonely, and in 1568 to Anne Lady Parry /20. This estate is supposed to be included in Sir Frederic Evelyn's.

Skinner's Place.

Manors of Hatcham and Breedinghurst.

The manor of Hatcham, though formerly esteemed to be in Camberwell, is wholly in this parish. It has been described at p. 89. of this volume. Breeding-

hurst, in Peckham, **which** has been described under Camberwell, was formerly esteemed **to be** in the county of Kent also, as appears by ancient records. It must be observed, that the county of Surrey, as its bounds are now known and defined /21, extends to New Cross turnpike, and comprehends a great part of this parish.

Church of St. Paul's.

The parish church of St. Paul's, Deptford, was built under the power of certain Acts passed in the ninth and tenth years of Queen Anne, for the building fifty new churches in and near London. It was finished before 1730, but not consecrated or dedicated till the 30th of June that year, when that ceremony was performed by Edmund Gibson, Bishop of London. It is a handsome stone structure, consisting of a chancel, nave, and two aisles supported by columns of the Corinthian order. The pews are of Dutch oak. At the west end is a taper spire.

Monuments.

On the east wall, to the north of the altar, is a monument, by Nollekens, to the memory of James Sayer, Esq. Vice Admiral of the White /22, who died in 1776.

/16 Cartulary of the hospital of St. Thomas, in the library of the Marquis of Buckingham at Stowe, f. 249.

/17 Ibid. f. 255.

/18 Ibid. f. 266.

/19 Ibid. f. 269.

/20 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 7.

/21 Ancient inquisitions, and other records, in speaking of the manors in this neighbourhood, have described them sometimes in one county and parish, and sometimes in the other.

/22 Inscription – "In memory of James Sayer, Esq. Vice Admiral of the White, son of John Sayer, Esq. and Katherine his wife, one of the daughters and coheirs of Rear Admiral Robert Hughes, and Lydia his wife, who all lie buried in the old church of this town, with many of their issue. He was a man of the strictest honour and integrity; an active and diligent officer. In the war of 1739, he had the thanks of the Assembly of Barbadoes for his disinterested conduct in the protection of their trade; and he first planted the British standard in the island of Tobago. In the war

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Tombs in the church-yard. Mrs. Hawtree, a famous midwife. Murder of Mr. Blight.

In the churchyard are the tombs of **some of Sir John Leake's family**; Thomas Hawtree, aged 95. 1757; Margaret, his wife /24, 1734; Richard Conyers /25, LL. D. Rector, 1786; **Mr. Isaac Blight /26, 1805, &c.**

Mr. Isaac Blight, ship-breaker, of Greenland Dock, was killed by a pistol shot, as he was sleeping in his chair in his back parlour. Richard Patch, who had been taken into the employment of the deceased, out of motives of charity, about three years before, and was his confidential servant, was tried on suspicion of the murder, convicted upon a chain of the most satisfactory evidence, and executed on the 8th of April 1806. The culprit's trial and execution excited for some time an uncommon degree of interest.

The rectory.

By an Act of Parliament, passed in 1730, the sum of 3500l. (out of the duty on coals) was allotted for the maintenance of the rector of the new church at Deptford, (afterwards dedicated to St. Paul,) to be laid out in the purchase of lands or other hereditaments in fee-simple, **but the purchase was neglected to be made, and the money, which was laid out in South Sea stock, produces only 3 per cent.** It was directed by the Act, that the churchwardens of this parish (in whom four acres of glebe, taken out of the old parish, are vested) should pay the sum of 70l. per annum, as a further maintenance for the rector, in lieu of fees for vaults and burials, except when the service **should be** read in the church. These endowments, together with other surplice dues and Easter offerings, form the whole

income of the rectory. By the said Act, William Norton, D. D. then vicar of St. Nicholas, was to be the first rector of the new church; and to hold both benefices during his life. After his death, the first presentation of this rectory was given to the crown; and the perpetuity of the advowson vested in the Wickham family, (as patrons of the old church,) to whom it still belongs. The

of 1756, he led the attacks, both at the taking of Senegal and Goree; and was commander in chief off the French coast at Belle Isle, at the time of making the peace, in 1763. As his life was most exemplary, he met death with a becoming fortitude, after a tedious and most painful illness, on the 29 of Oct. 1776, aged 56 years."

/24 Inscription: –

"She was an indulgent mother, and the best of wives,
She brought into this world more than three thousand lives."

This lady, who was an eminent midwife, gave a silver bason, for christenings, to this parish, and another to the parish of St. Nicholas.

/25 Dr. Conyer's was seized whilst in the pulpit, April 23d, 1786, with a paralytic affliction, which occasioned his death at four o'clock the same afternoon.

/26 Inscription: – "This tomb was erected to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Isaac Blight, who was inhumanly shot in his own house at Rotherhithe, by the hand of a perfidious domestic, the 23d day of September, 1805, in the 49th year of his age."

"Have you not seen beneath a darken'd sky,
Quicker than thought the vivid lightning fly,
Equally swift was the insidious blow,
That pierc'd my heart, and laid my head thus low;

Merciful God! thou glorious God of heaven,
Forgive the deed, and may I be forgiven."

M. G.

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Parsonage-house. rectory is not to be held in commendam. The parsonage house, built by Sir John Vanburgh, is of a most singular construction, being triangular, with an octagon at each corner.

Rectors: James Bate. The Rev. James Bate, who held this rectory from 1731 till his death in 1775, published a work called a Rationale of the doctrine of original sin, an address to his parishioners, on occasion of the rebellion, some sermons and other works.

The present rector is the Rev. Henry Purrier, who was instituted in 1809.

Meeting-houses. There are several meeting-houses in this parish; there is one belonging to the Quakers, in Butt-lane; in Church street is a meeting of the Independents, long established, of which Abraham Taylor, an eminent divine of that persuasion, was some time pastor; there is another small meeting-house for the Independents, built a few years ago by the present pastor Mr. Thomas Beck, (author of several poems, &c.), in his own garden in Butt-lane. In Church-street there is a meeting-house of the General Baptists, which has a small endowment; and there is another meeting-house of the Baptists in Hughes's fields, where service is performed alternately in English and Welsh. There are three meeting-houses belonging to the Methodists; one of these, a large structure, belonging to the Methodists in the late Mr. Wesley's connection, has been lately erected.

The parish register begins in July 1730.

Parish register. Comparative state of population.

Average of Baptisms. Average of Burials.

1731 – 1739.	140	129(8/9)
1780 – 1784.	277(2/5)	392(2/5)
1784 – 1789.	300(1/5)	335(4/5)
1790 – 1794.	315	396(2/5)
1795 – 1799.	385(2/5)	346(1/5)
1800 – 1804.	425	352
1805 – 1809.	514(4/5)	334(2/)

In 1795, I was informed (certainly erroneously,) that the number of houses in the parish of St. Paul was then about 2300; in 1801 they were returned at 1913: the present number is said to be under 2000.

Instances of longevity.

The following remarkable instance of longevity is recorded: "Margaret Haley, widow, aged 100 years and upwards, buried Mar. 20, 1739-40; besides which there are entries of the burial of eight persons, whose ages were 90 years or upwards, one of them being 98, and another 99.

Boulter's alms-house near Oxford.

Edmund Boulter, Esq. by his will, bearing date 1707, gave the parish of Deptford a right of presenting one pensioner to a certain alms-house which he directed should be built near Oxford: they were not built till since the year 1780. The pensioners have 7l. per annum, and a good warm gown with a

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silver badge. This benefaction has been determined to belong exclusively to the parish of St. Paul, on account of its connection with the Brockley estate.

This parish has a moiety of all the benefactions left to St. Nicholas's before the separation of the two parishes; and of some of those left since that date.

A school for children of this parish and the neighbouring parishes of Deptford-St. Nicholas, Greenwich, and Lewisham, was established under the direction of Mr. Lancaster, in the year 1805. In this school, which is supported by subscription, there are generally about 150 children on an average.

Red-house.

In this parish stands the Victualling-house, on the site of a large range of store-houses, formerly called the Red-house, burnt down in July 1639, when all the stores were consumed. It was afterwards rebuilt, and was included in the grant to Sir John Evelyn in 1726, being then described as 870 feet in length and 35 in width. These premises were for some time rented by the East India Company; the Crown having become repossessed of them by purchase from the Evelyns, a Victualling-house was built there in 1745; in 1749, it was burnt down by an accidental fire, which consumed a great quantity of stores and provisions. It was afterwards rebuilt, and has been since enlarged with new storehouses of various kinds; it contains also a windmill for grinding corn, an extensive cooperage and brewhouse; slaughtering-houses; houses for curing beef, pork, &c.; bake-houses, and other buildings, besides dwelling-houses for the superintendants and inferior officers.

Victualling house.

Grove-street Dock-yard.

Near the Victualling-house is Grove-street Dock-yard, the property of Sir Frederic Evelyn, and in the occupation of Mr. Dudman. It is described in the grant to Sir John as having a great depth of water, and as being the best private dock upon the river. Men of war of 74 guns are sometimes built here.

Project of making a harbour at Deptford.

During Cromwell's usurpation a project was set on foot by Sir Nicholas Crispe, of making a mole at Deptford, for the harbour of two hundred sail or more to ride in 17 or 18 feet of water, without cable or anchor. The demesne lands of the manor (being about two hundred acres, lying now within the parish of St. Paul) were purchased for that purpose at the price of 6000l. and a considerable sum of money was expended in erecting storehouses, and setting up a sluice. After the Restoration, Sir Nicholas Crispe joining with the Duke of Ormond, the Earl of Bath, and others, who were embarked with him in this undertaking, petitioned King Charles II. to grant them the land so purchased in fee-farm; it was stated in the petition that Sir Nicholas Crispe had formed this project principally with a view of ingratiating himself with the then ruling powers, that he might the better watch a favourable opportunity of bringing about His Majesty's restoration. Sir Charles Harbord, the King's surveyor, to whom the petition

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was referred, advised his Majesty by no means to grant the land in fee-farm, but

to offer a lease of 31 years, at a rent of 160l. per annum, with a fine of 2000l. /25 These terms, it is probable, were not accepted, for it does not appear that the projectors proceeded any further with their design.

The Surrey and Croydon canals pass through and communicate with each other in this parish.

/25 The circumstances above stated are taken from documents in the Land-Revenue-office, obligingly communicated by **the late** William Harrison, Esq.

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ELTHAM.

Etymology. The name of this place was anciently written Ealdham, i. e. the old mansion or dwelling.

Situation. Eltham lies in the hundred of Blackheath, at the distance of eight miles from London, on the road to Maidstone. The parish is bounded by Woolwich, Plumstead, and the extraparochial hamlet of Kidbrook, on the north; by Bexley on the east and south east; by Chislehurst on the south; by the extraparochial hamlet of Mottingham, on the south-west, and by Lee on the west. It contains about 2880 acres: of which about 360 are woodland; **and** about 60 waste; about three fifths of the cultivated land are arable /1. The soil near the town is principally gravel; in the more distant parts of the parish (towards Shooter's Hill on the north, and towards Chislehurst on the south), clay. This place had formerly a market on Tuesdays, and two fairs; one at the festival of the Holy Trinity, and the other at that of St. Peter and St. Paul; both of which have been long discontinued /2.

Market and fair.

Frederic Prince of Wales was created Earl of Eltham in 1726. This title is now vested in His present Majesty.

An ancient coin was found here in 1751, which would not be worthy of mention, but as it occasioned the publication of some conjectures, by Mr. Clarke of Baliol College, who endeavoured to prove it to be a coin of Richard I., and an answer by G. North, M. A. F. A. S. who contended that it was a piece of base money, called a Penny-yard penny.

/1 From the information of the Rev. Mr. Shaw **Brooke**, to whom I **have been** indebted for his assistance in other respects during my inquiries at this place.

/2 There are three grants at the Tower relating to the market and fairs at Eltham; the first was a grant to John de Vesci (**in** 1284), of a weekly market on Tuesday, and an annual fair for three days, viz. the eve of the Holy Trinity, the festival, and the day following. See Cart. 12 Edw. I. N/o 6. In 1312, the King issued his writ for proclaiming a market to be held at Eltham on Mondays, and a fair annually as above. See Cl. 5 Edw. II. m. 23. In the year 1439, there was a grant to the tenants of Eltham manor of a market on Tuesdays, and a fair on the eve of St. Peter and St. Paul, the festival, and the day following. Cart. 1–20 Hen. VI. N/o 38. The market has been long discontinued. It existed in 1602, as appears by the churchwardens' accounts of that year. No fair is now held. Hasted, mistaking, as I **suppose**, Eltham for Eleham, says, that within the memory of man there were four annual fairs, held on Palm-Monday, Easter-Monday, Whitsun-Monday, and Oct. 10.

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Manor. The manor of Eltham was, in the time of Edward the Confessor, held under the Crown by Alwold. William the Conqueror gave it to his half-brother Odo, Bishop of Baieux and Earl of Kent, under whom it was held by Haimo, sheriff

of the county /3. About four years after the survey of **Domesday** was taken, Odo fell into disgrace, and all his estates were confiscated /4. This manor belonged afterwards partly to the Crown and partly to the Mandevilles. King Edward I. gave his moiety of Eltham to John de Vesci /5, who afterwards obtained, in exchange for other lands, Walter de Mandeville's share /6. William de Vesci, his son and successor, was a baron of great note, and much in the King's confidence. He died in 1297, having settled this manor, together with most of his estates, on his natural son, William de Vesci, who was slain in battle at Strivelin in Scotland, **in** 1314 /7. Leaving no issue, the manor of Eltham with other estates devolved (pursuant to his father's settlement) on Sir Gilbert de Aton, as his right heir /8. Sir Gilbert granted the manor of Eltham Mandeville to Geoffrey le Scrope, of Masham /9, who, in 1318, procured a confirmation of it from the Crown /10. Soon afterwards he gave it to Queen Isabel /11. In 1444, the manor of Eltham was granted to Robert Dauson, for seven years /12; in 1522, by King Henry VIII. to Sir Henry Guildford, for forty years /13. King Edward VI. **in the year** 1550, granted the manor of Eltham, which had fallen into his hands by the death of Sir Thomas Speke /14, to Sir John Gates, for life /15. He enjoyed it but a short time, being executed for high treason in 1553. William Cromer Esq. held the manor of Eltham in 1568 /16. Lord Cobham had a lease of it in 1592 /17. In 1628 the manor was leased to Henry, Earl of St. Alban's, and others, in trust for Queen Henrietta Maria. After the death of **King Charles I.** the manor was seized by the Parliament, and having been valued /18, was sold with the manor-house (Eltham

/3 Haimo, the sheriff, says the record of **Domesday**, holds of the Bishop (of Baieux), Altheam, which is taxed at one suling and a half. The arable land is 12 carucates. On the demesne lands there are two ploughs. There are forty-four villans, and twelve bordars, who employ eleven ploughs. There are nine slaves, and twenty-two acres of meadow; there is pannage for fifty hogs. In the time of King Edward the Confessor, it was valued at 16l.; when it came into possession of the present owner at 12l. now at 20l. Alwold held this manor of King Edward.

/4 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 49.

/5 Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 94.

/6 Hasted, vol. i. p. 49. John de Vesci died seised of the manor of Eltham, **in** 1289. Esch. 17 Edw. I. N/o 25.

/7 Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 95.

/8 He was great-grandson of Gilbert de Aton, who married Margery, sole daughter and heir of Warin de Vesci, great-uncle of William who made the enfeoffment above-mentioned. — Dugdale.

/9 Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 657.

/10 Pat. 11 Edw. II. pt. 2. m. 7.

/11 See this gift mentioned in Pat. 4 Edw. III. pt. 2. m. 1.

/12 Pat. 22 Hen. VI. pt. 1. m. 10.

/13 Pat. 14 Hen. VIII. pt. 2. Sep. 1.

/14 It was granted to Sir Thomas Speke by Pat. 1 Edw. VI. pt. 7. Aug. 4.

/15 Record in the Augmentation-office.

/16 Hasted, p. 50.

/17 Burleigh State Papers, vol. ii. p. 799.

/18 It was valued at 35l. 3s. 21/2d. per ann.

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palace), and a great part of the demesne lands, to Nathaniel Rich Esq. of Eltham /19. After the Restoration, Sir John Shaw, having purchased a subsisting term of this manor, procured a renewal of the lease in 1663. An assignment

of the Queen Dowager's lease was made by her trustees to Robert Shaw and others, in 1665; and King Charles II. having granted a lease of this manor in 1673 to his consort, Queen Caroline; this lease also was assigned to the Shaw family in 1679 /20. The lease of the manor having been several times renewed, is now vested in his descendant Sir John Gregory Shaw Bart. to whom it was renewed for eight years from April 1796, and again for seven years from 1804. Sir J. G. Shaw has not resided for some years at the manor-house, which is at present unoccupied. The manor of Eltham extends over the whole of this parish, the hamlet of Mottingham, and a part of Chislehurst. The tenants of this manor have had various grants of privileges, and exemptions /21.

Eltham palace.

Residence of the Kings of England there.

Parliament at Eltham;

John King of France entertained there.

The Kings of England had a palace at Eltham at a very early period, a moiety of the manor having remained in the Crown till granted away by Edward I. to John de Vesci. Henry the Third, in the year 1270, kept a public Christmas at his palace of Eltham, being accompanied by the Queen, and all the great men of the realm /22. Anthony Bec, Bishop of Durham, and Patriarch of Jerusalem, bestowed great cost, we are told, on the buildings at this place, and died there on the 28th of March 1311 /23, having, as it is said, some time before given Eltham-house to Edward the Second, or, as some say, to Queen Isabel, reserving only a life-interest for himself /24. That monarch frequently resided here: in 1315, his Queen was brought to bed of a son in this palace, called, from that circumstance John of Eltham /25. Edward the Third held a Parliament at Eltham in 1329, and again in 1375, when the Commons petitioned him to make his grandson Richard, Prince of Wales /26. In 1364, he gave a magnificent entertainment here to John King of France. Lionel (son of Edward III.), being regent during his father's absence, kept a public Christmas here in 1347 /27. Richard II. kept

/19 Particulars of sale in the Augmentation-office.

/20 Records in the Land-Revenue-office.

/21 See Pat. 21 Edw. III. pt. 2. m. 2. Pat. 6 Hen. IV. pt. 1. m. 8. &c.

/22 Matt. Paris, Watts's edition, p. 858.

/23 Stow's Annals, 4to. p. 331.

/24 Hasted, p. 51. Stow says he builded the manor-house, and gave it to the Queen. It does not seem clear how this prelate became possessed of any interest in Eltham. He was William de Vesci's trustee for the manor of Alnwick in Yorkshire, and betrayed his trust by selling it to the Percys. But Eltham was among the manors which William de Vesci, the father, settled on his natural son, absolutely, with remainder to his right heirs; and we find accordingly, that it did pass to Sir Gilbert de Aton, who sold it to Geoffrey de Scrope, and that the latter gave it to Queen Isabel some years after she had been possessed of Eltham-house. If Anthony Bec built Eltham-house, as Stow says, it is probable that he had a better claim to give it away than he had to sell Alnwick.

/25 Sandford's Genealogy, p. 153.

/26 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 51.

/27 Rymer's Foedera, vol. viii. p. 536.

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Leo King of Armenia.

his Christmas at Eltham in 1384, 1385, and 1386 /28. The last-mentioned year he gave a sumptuous entertainment to Leo King of Armenia /29. King Henry IV. kept his Christmas here in 1405; at which time the Duke of York was accused of an intention of breaking into the palace by scaling the walls, for the purpose of murdering the King /30. Henry kept his Christmas at Eltham again in 1409 and in 1412; he was residing there when he was seized with the sickness which occasioned his death /31. King Henry V. kept his Christmas at this palace in 1414 /32; as did his successor Henry VI. with much splendor, in 1429 /33. King Edward

Robert Earl of Essex resides at Eltham palace.

IV. bestowed much charge upon the repairs of this palace /34: here his daughter Bridget (who became a nun at Dartford) was born in 1480 /35, and baptized in the chapel of the palace by the Bishop of Chichester. In 1483, the King kept his Christmas here with most magnificent entertainments, two thousand persons being fed daily at his expence /36. **King** Henry VII. built the front of this palace towards the moat, and frequently resided here /37; **his successor** preferring the situation of Greenwich, came seldom to Eltham. He kept his Whitsuntide here in 1515 /38, and his Christmas in 1526, with few attendants, on account of the plague /39; it was called therefore the still Christmas. **King** King Edward VI. on the death of Sir Thomas Speke, made Sir John Gates keeper of Eltham palace and park /40: He was beheaded in 1553. Queen Elizabeth spent a few days at Eltham in 1559 /41. Sir Christopher Hatton was keeper of the palace in her reign /42; and after him Lord Cobham, who had a grant of that office in 1592 /43. King James was at Eltham in 1612 /44. I have not been able to find that it was visited by any of the Royal Family at a later period. The palace was, during the civil war, for some time in the occupation of Robert Earl of Essex, the parliamentary general, who died there Sep. 13, 1646 /45, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. After the death of **King** Charles I. the manor-house was surveyed /46, and valued

/28 Stow's Annals, 4to. p. 473. 477. 480.

/29 Rapin, vol. i. p. 462.

/30 Holinshed, vol. iii. f. 1145.

/31 Stow, 546 and 556.

/32 Ibid. 560.

/33 Ibid. 605.

/34 Ibid. 721.

/35 Sandford's Genealogy, p. 396.

/36 Stow, 720.

/37 Lambarde's Perambulation, p. 386.

/38 Dugdale's Baronage, vol. ii. p. 355.

/39 Holinshed, vol. iii. 1536.

/40 Record in the Augmentation-office.

/41 Strype's Annals of the Reformation, vol. i. p. 194.

/42 Segar's Honor, p. 200.

/43 Burleigh Papers, vol. ii. p. 799.

/44 Churchwardens' accounts at Eltham.

/45 Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. ii.

/46 The capital mansion called Eltham-house is described in the survey (dated 1649), as built of brick, wood, stone, and timber; consisting of one fair chapel, one great hall, 36 rooms and offices below stairs, with two large cellars; and above stairs, 17 lodging rooms on the King's side, 12 on the Queen's side, and 9 on the Prince's side; and 78 rooms in the offices round the court yard, which contained one acre of ground. None of the rooms were then furnished, except the chapel and the hall. The house was reported to be much out of repair and untenable. – Parliamentary Surveys in the Augmentation-office.

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at 2764l. for the materials. It was sold with the manor to Nathaniel Rich Esq. After the Restoration, the palace, with its appurtenances, reverted to the Crown. It is included in Sir J. G. Shaw's lease, and the site is now occupied as a farm-house. The manor-lodge in the great park, is now the manerial residence.

Present state of Eltham palace.

The principal buildings now remaining on the site of the palace are, the great hall, where the Parliaments were held, and the public entertainments given (now used as a barn); and some of the offices. The hall is 100 feet in length, 36 in breadth, and 55 in height: it has a wooden roof, wrought with Gothic ornaments.

A ground plan of part of the ancient palace of Eltham, as taken in 1509, was

engraved for Hasted's History of Kent. A view of the palace was published upon a very small scale, by Stent, in 1650. There are several prints of it in its present ruinous state.

The ordinances for the establishment of the Royal Household, which contain precedents for the government of the King's house to this day, were made at Eltham in 1526 /47.

Eltham park.

The great park at Eltham contained 596 acres, according to the survey taken in 1649; Patrick Maule Esq. Groom of the Bed-chamber, was then Ranger and Master of the Game. The little or middle park contained 333 acres; Horne, alias Lee park, in Eltham and Lee, 336 acres. The deer in all these parks had been destroyed by the soldiery and common people. In the three parks, 3700 trees had been marked for the Navy /48. A book called the Mysteries of the Good Old Cause, published in 1660, says, "Sir Thomas Walsingham had the Honour of Eltham given him, which was the Earl of Dorset's, and the middle park, which was Mr. White's; he has cut down 5000l. worth of timber, and hath scarcely left a tree to make a gibbet." Sir Theodore Mayerne, physician to the King, had been for many years chief ranger and master of the game of Horne park, and resided in the lodge (now a farm-house) during the reign of Charles I. before 1649 he had removed to Chelsea; and left an under-tenant in the lodge; as is stated in the survey /49.

Manor of Henleys.

The manor of Henle, or Henleys, was, in the early part of Edward the Third's reign, the property of John de Henley; who dying without issue, it was given by William de Brantingham, his feoffee, to the King; and has been annexed ever since to the manor of Eltham /50.

Manor of West-Horne.

The manor of West-Horne, being part of the ancient demesnes of the Crown, /47 They have been published by the Society of Antiquaries.

/48 Survey in the Augmentation-office.

/49 In the Augmentation-office. – Sir Theodore Mayerne's name first occurs in the parish books at Eltham, in 1632.

/50 Philipott's Survey, p. 135.

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was inclosed by King Edward the Third /51; since which time it has been called Horne-park, alias Lee-park. It is included in Sir J. G. Shaw's lease.

Corbye-hall.

Corbye-hall, in this parish, was, at an early period, the property of a family of that name /52. In the reign of Edward VI. it was in the Crown, and was included in the grant to Sir John Gates /53; it was afterward granted, with the manor, &c. to Lord Cobham /54; and is now a part of Sir J. G. Shaw's estate.

Manors of East-Horne, and Well-hall.

The manors of East-Horne and Well-hall (or Well-hawe) were, in the year 1100, the property of Jordan de Briset /55. In the reign of Edward I. Matthew de Hegham held this estate /56: in 1346, it was the property of John de Pulteney /57. In 1386, Thomas Conduyt, clerk, brother and heir of Nicholas Conduyt, citizen of London, deceased, granted the manors of East-Horne and Well-hawe to Gilbert Purneys Esq., and his heirs /58. In 1432, John Foxholes, clerk, released to William Basket, citizen of London, all right in these manors, lately the property of Margery, relict of Nicholas Sernefelde /59. Soon afterwards (probably by purchase) they came to John Tattersall, who died in 1446, leaving two daughters co-heirs /60. Margery married John Roper Esq. who, in her right, became possessed of these manors; John, his eldest son, who succeeded him in this estate, was Attorney-General to King Henry VIII. From him it descended to Edward Roper Esq., whose daughter, Elizabeth, married Edward Henshaw Esq.; and on the death of her brothers without issue, became sole heir to her father. Mr. Henshaw left three daughters; Catherine, married to William Strickland Esq.; Elizabeth, to Sir Edward Dering, Bart.; and the third daughter, to Sir Rowland Wynne, Bart. These co-heirs sold the manors of East-Horne and Well-hall, about the year 1733, to Sir Gregory Page; by whom they were bequeathed to Sir Gregory Page Turner, Bart. **father of Sir G. O. Turner** the present proprietor.

Picture of Sir Thomas More's family, Margaret Roper.

At Well-hall was formerly one of the celebrated pictures of Sir Thomas More's family; which was removed into Yorkshire by Sir Rowland Wynne, in 1731. Sir Thomas More's amiable daughter, Margaret, married William Roper Esq.,

Prothonotary of the King's Bench, and proprietor of Well-hall.

Park-place-farm.

Park-place-farm, which had been the seat of Mrs. Sarah Nunn, was purchased of Lord Harry Pawlet, (afterwards Duke of Bolton,) who married her daughter, by Sir William James. It is now the property of **Lord Ranccliffe, who married the heiress of Sir William James, and occasionally resides here.**

/51 Philipott's Survey, p. 135.

/52 Hasted, vol. i. p. 57.

/53 Ibid.

/54 Burleigh Papers, vol. ii. p. 799.

/55 Philipott, p. 135.

/56 Hasted, p. 54.

/57 Hasted, p. 54.

/58 Cl. 9 Ric. II. m. 14.

/59 Cl. 10 Hen. VI. m. 21.

/60 The descent of the manor from this period is taken from Hasted.

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Southend.

At Southend, a hamlet of Eltham, (about a mile from the village, on the road to Maidstone,) is an ancient seat, which was the property of Sir William Wythens, Sheriff of the county in 1610; from him it descended to Sir Francis Wythens, Knt. Serjeant at Law, who died in 1704 /60. It soon afterwards became the property of Sir Comport Fitch, Bart.; whose daughter and sole heir, Alice, married Sir John Barker, Bart. Sir John Fitch Barker, Bart. dying without issue, in 1766, left it to Robert Nassau Esq /61. It was sold a few years ago by George Nassau Esq. to Joseph Warner Esq. the present proprietor, who resides there.

Eminent inhabitants.

Sir Anthony Vandyke had a summer residence at Eltham /62.

Sir Anthony Vandyke.
John Philipott.

John Philipott, Somerset Herald, who collected the materials for the survey of Kent, and is said to have written it /63, was of Eltham; as was his son Thomas, who published that work, and assumed the merit of it to himself. That eccentric character John Lilbourn, who offended all parties, being pilloried by one, and shut up in the Tower by another; who had been a captain in the Parliamentary army, and was taken prisoner at the battle of Brentford; at last turned Quaker, and settled at Eltham; where he held forth to his brethren of that persuasion /64. He died at this place, Aug. 28, 1657 /65: his corpse was removed to the Quakers' Meeting in Aldersgate-street, where there was some disturbance about putting a velvet pall over his coffin, which the Quakers would not suffer. He was interred in the burial-ground near Moorfields, the funeral being attended by an immense

John Lilbourn.

Dr. Sherard's botanic garden.

concourse of people /66. Dr. James Sherard, **who was originally** an apothecary in Mark-lane, where he occasionally **exhibited collections** of scarce plants, **and afterwards became a physician of some eminence** in the early part of the **last** century, formed a botanical garden at Eltham; in which he was assisted by Dillenius, who spent much of his time here /67; and published a catalogue of Dr. Sherard's plants, in two volumes, in folio, under the title of Hortus Elthamensis. A new edition of it was published at Leyden, in 1775, with Linnæan names. Dr. Sherard died at Eltham, Feb. 12, 1738-9 /68, being worth as it **was** said 150,000l: he was buried at Evington in Leicestershire, where there is a monument **raised** to his memory. Dr. Sherard in his life-time gave 500l. to the Physic Garden at Oxford, and by his will bequeathed the sum of 3000l. for the support of a botanical professorship, appointing Dillenius the first professor. He gave also to the library at the Physic Garden, all his books of natural history; his drawings and dried plants /69. His house is

Dillenius.

/60 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 60.

/61 Ibid.

/62 Anecdotes of Painting, vol. ii. p. 97.

/63 Ant. Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. ii. Fasti.

/64 See Biograph. Brit. and Anthony Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. ii.

/65 Smith's Obituary, Sloane MSS. Brit. Mus. N/o 886.

/66 See Biograph. Brit. and Mercurius Politicus, Aug. 27, 1657.

/67 Biograph. Brit. new edit.

/68 Gent. Mag.
/69 Gent. Mag. Oct. 1796.

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- Cedar of Lebanon. now in the tenure of John Dorington Esq. Some of the exotics planted by Dr. Sherard still remain, among which is a fine cedar of Lebanon, close to the house: its girth, at three feet from the ground, **was in 1795 nine feet; it is now nine feet six inches and a quarter.**
- The church. The parish church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, consists of a chancel, nave, and two aisles. At the west end is a spire.
On the east wall of the chancel **is** the monument of Peter Pinnel, D. D. vicar of Eltham, and prebendary of Rochester /71, 1783. On the north wall is one to the memory of Ann, wife of Richard Owen, D. D. vicar, 1653, and some of his children /72; there **is an** inscribed achievement also to the memory of "Susanna, widow of John Philipott, Somerset Herald, designed Norroy, daughter and sole heir of William Glover Esq., by Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Henry Herlackenden Esq.," **who died in 1664.**
In the nave are the **gravestones of the Reverend Clement Hobson, 67 years vicar, who died in 1725, aged 91; some of the family of Bowles, and others.**
The north aisle was built in 1697, by Sir John Shaw, Bart. who had a faculty for that purpose. Whilst the vault was digging under this aisle, the roof of the nave fell in, June 24, 1667; after this accident, it was rebuilt, new pewed, and a new pulpit was given at the expence of Sir John Shaw.
There was formerly a chapel in this church, dedicated to St. Michael, which belonged to the Tattersalls; in the windows were coats of arms in stained glass, shewing the alliances of that family.
- Tombs in the church-yard. In the church-yard, **among others,** are the tombs of Felicia, more than 52
/71 He was author of some poems published in the first volume of the Poetical Calendar, among which is one on the death of Lady Shaw, of Eltham.
/72 Inscription written by Dr. Owen. – "M. C. In the middle of this chancel doe rest, waiting for the last trump, Ann the virtuous dear wife of Dr. Richard Owen, who died in childbed of their 10th, March 12, 1652-3; Richard, their eldest son, a year old, buried Mar. 24, 1641-2; Charles, their third, carried from the womb to the tomb, July 5, 1648; Edward, their fourth, who lived 27 years, grew to be a learned man, Master of Arts, Fellow of Magdalen College, in Oxford, took holy orders, a solid preacher, died of a consumption, and was buried July 15, 1678; James, their fifth, the mother's sorrow, buried, six months old, Sep. 27, 1653; Mary, their second daughter, buried in her 31st year, Oct. 7, 1675; Jane, their fourth, taken off in her prime, aged 20, buried Mar. 11, 1663-4; Blainch, their fifth, buried in the third year of her age, Nov. 8, 1649; Thomas, his third son by his second wife, Amy, now living, (George, the elder by her, being lost at sea in the year 1674,) the great hope, joy, and grief of the parents, beloved of all, aged 23, buried April 26, 1679."
"In solatium fati quantulumcunque poni tandem curavit hoc marmor tot summæ spei liberis superstes pater, expulsus hinc olim rebellibus; idem Richardus Owen, S. T. P. annos numerans 73, ipse brevi secuturus. Eadem et tersors manet, lector, vigila, nescis qua hora."

Philip Bur-
ton.
Bishop
Horne.
The rectory.

years the wife of Philip Burton Esq. 1791; Philip Burton, Esq. /73, 1792; and George Horne, D. D. Bishop of Norwich /74, 1792.

The church of Eltham, which is in the diocese of Rochester, and in the deanery of Dartford, was given by William Earl of Gloucester to the abbot and convent of Keynsham (in Somersetshire); to whom, in 1242, the rectory was appropriated. After the dissolution of that convent, it was granted to Sir John Henley; who left three daughters, co-heirs /75. Helen, who married Thomas Colepepper Esq. had this rectory, which was sold, about the year 1550, to William Roper Esq. of Well-hall. Mr. Roper, reserving the advowson of the vicarage, gave the rectory to the Provost and Fellows of Oriel College, Oxford, on condition that they should grant, from time to time, a lease for three lives, to his heirs of the family of Roper; they paying a rent of 14l. per annum, and a fine of 100l. at each renewal. The Ropers having neglected to renew according to these conditions, the College granted a lease of the rectory to Christopher Comport, Gent.; whose only daughter and heir married Sir Thomas Fitch. Alice, daughter and heir of Sir Comport Fitch, Bart. (who died in 1720), married Sir John Barker, Bart.; whose son, Sir John Fitch Barker, dying without issue, in 1766, left his interest in this rectory to Robert Nassau Esq. /76 The lease was purchased of the Nassaus by Mr. John Green, who is the present lessee. The rectory of Eltham was valued at twenty marks per annum, in 1287.

/73 Inscription: – “Sacred to the memory of Philip Burton Esq. who survived his faithful companion not two years. In his life just and upright; in the profession of the law deservedly eminent; to his family a kind and generous friend. After a long and active life it pleased the Almighty God to render his passage from this world to the next, quiet and easy. He died Nov. 17, 1792, in the 82 year of his age; and has left one daughter, the widow of the R/t Rev/d George Horne, the much-lamented Bishop of Norwich, three grand-daughters, and one great-grand-daughter.” – Mr. Burton was author of “The Nature and Extent of the Business in the Office of Pleas, with Rules and Methods of Practice, &c.” 1770; an Epitome of the Practice in the Court of Exchequer, 1777; and a theological pamphlet, intitled “Annihilation no Punishment, but Contempt to the Wicked, after the Day of Judgment, or the Curse of God on Adam’s eating the forbidden Fruit;” published a few months before his death.

/74 Inscription: – “Here lie interred the earthly remains of the R/t Rev/d George Horne, D. D. many years President of Magdalen College, in Oxford; Dean of Canterbury, and late Bishop of Norwich; in whose character, depth of learning, brightness of imagination, sanctity of manners, and sweetness of temper, were united beyond the usual lot of mortality. With his discourses from the pulpit, his hearers, whether of the university, the city, or the country parish, were edified and delighted. His commentary on the Psalms will continue to be a companion to the closet till the devotion of earth shall end in the hallelujahs of Heaven. Having patiently suffered under such infirmities as seemed not due to his years, his soul took **his** flight from this vale of misery, to the unspeakable loss of the church

of England, and his sorrowing friends and admirers, Jan. 17, 1792, in the 62d year of his age.”

/75 A note in the parish register says, “Walter Henley left one daughter; one Culpepper married her – this Culpepper sold the parsonage and vicarage of Eltham to the Ropers.”

/76 The descent of the rectory is taken from Hasted’s History of Kent, vol. i. p. 61, 62.

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Advowson of the vicarage.

The advowson of the vicarage having been reserved by William Roper, as before mentioned, descended with the estate of Well-hall, and is now the property of Sir Gregory Osborne Page Turner, Bart.

Vicarage.

The vicarage was rated, anno 1287, at 100 shillings; in 1650, it was valued at 27l. 5s. per annum. In the King’s books it is among the discharged livings, the clear yearly value being stated at 32l. 8s. In 1734, it was augmented by Queen Anne’s bounty, Sir Gregory Page contributing 100l. towards that purpose. John Foord, who was vicar of Eltham from 1597 to 1627, has inserted many useful notes in the register relating to the vicarage /76, for the benefit of his successors.

Richard Owen, vicar.

Richard Owen, instituted to this vicarage in 1636, was turned out by the Parliament in 1653 /77. After the Restoration he had the living of St. Mary Cray, but it does not appear that he ever recovered the possession of Eltham; Clement Hobson, who succeeded Mr. Overton in 1658, enjoying it till his death in 1725. Dr. Owen was buried at Eltham, Jan. 22, 1682-3. He translated most of Juvenal’s Satires, and published some controversial tracts /78.

The present vicar is John Kennard Shaw Brooke, M. A. who succeeded Dr. Pinnell in 1783.

Chantry.

There was formerly a perpetual chantry in this parish, in the gift of the Crown, which, with the chantry-priest’s house, was granted by King Henry VIII. in 1528, to Robert Burste, clerk /79.

Parish register.

The earliest date of the parish register is 1583.

Comparative state of population.

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1583 – 1592.	15	15
1630 – 1639.	20(2/5)	20(1/01)
1680 – 1689.	25(1/2)	27(1/10)
1730 – 1739.	27(9/10)	35(3/10)
1770 – 1779.	43	41(9/10)

/76 He particularly mentions a parcel of woodland, called the Vicar’s Spring, containing, by estimation, 15 acres, for which Sir William Roper paid but 10s. per annum, he holding it by a most ungodly lease, granted by Sir Henry Underwood, vicar of Eltham, for 99 years, in 1549. The vicar was entitled also to his diet at Sir William Roper’s table for the said wood; but this Mr. Foord complains was denied him by Sir William, though acknowledged to be due by his own mother.

Mr. Foord mentions a terrier of glebe lands in the Exchequer, which he says is a most useful record for clergymen and impropiators, since “many a stragling close, wandering out of the way, would long since by sacrilegious guides have been seduced into the possession of false owners, had not this record directed them to their true propriety.”

/77 See his wife’s epitaph p. 482. He signs himself vicar in that year.

/78 Ant. Wood’s Athen. Oxon. vol. ii.

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1780 – 1789.	45(2/5)	48
1790 – 1794.	53	43
1795 – 1799.	57(3/5)	43(1/5)
1800 – 1804.	55(2/5)	54(1/5)
1805 – 1809.	59(4/5)	45

The number of houses in 1795, was about 240; in 1801, according to the return then made to parliament under the population act, 268; the present number is about 280.

The present number of houses is about 240.

Burials in the
plague years. In 1603, there were 52 burials, 17 persons dying of the plague, among whom was the vicar's son; in 1625, there were 61 burials; in 1665, 44: thirty-two persons died of the plague that year. In 1666, there were 28 burials.

Extracts from the Register.

Baptism by
midwives. "A man-child of John Grace, born, baptized by the midwife of necessity /80, and buried the 19th of Jan/y 1605."

/80 This practice was formerly allowed, and not uncommon, as appears by the following extracts from documents relating to the oaths of sworn midwives in Bishop Bonner's time: – "Non minus pauperi quam diviti mulieri in puerperio laboranti præstet auxilium. – Non permittet ut mulier pregnans, et in partu laborans, nominet alium virum pro patre prolis natæ quam illum qui est verus pater ejusdem. – Non sinet aut permittet falsum aut alienum partum mulieri laboranti et parturienti loco veri partus supponi aut suppleri in quantum scire aut intelligere poterit, nec utetur sortilegiis seu incantationibus tempore alicujus mulieris in partu laborantis. Et quod prolem natam aut procreatam non destruet aut caput ejus amputabit sive auferet, vel alius quovismodo enervabit, et ledet, seu ita destrui vel ledi faciat aut sinet. Et quod in ministracione sacramenti baptismatis necessitate imminente, utetur verbis aptis et consuetis sacramenti prædicti vel similiter in effectu. I chrystyn thee N. in the name of the Father, and the Sonne, and of the Holye Gooste, et nullis aliis prophanis verbis; et quod tempore necessitatis hujusmodi in baptisando infantem natum, et profundando aquam super illum utetur pura aqua, et non aqua rosea vel rosaia, aut damascena de damasco, vel ex aliqua alia confectione facta aut mixta; & quod certiorabit curato ecclesiæ quiddam erat factum in omne baptismo hujusmodi," &c. Regist. London. Bonner, f. 18, b.

Extracts from the form of a midwife's oath in Bishop Bonner's Register: – "Ye shall nother cause ne suffer any woman to nayme or put other father to the chylde but onely hym that ys the verey father in dede thereof. – Item, Ye shall not suffre any woman to pretend, fayne, or surmyse herself to be delyvered of chylde, which is not in dede, nother to name any other woman's chylde for her owne. – Item, Ye shall

not suffre any chyldre to be murdered or maymed, or otherwise hurtyde, as nygh as ye may. – Item, Ye shall not in anywyse use or exercise anye manner wycheecraftes, charmes, sorcerye, invocations or other prayers than may stand wyth Goddes lawes and the Kynges! – Item, Ye shall have perfectly the woordes appoynted for baptysme of chyldren, and use noone other but the same, that ys to say, 'I chrystyn thee N.' &c. – Item, When of necessitie ye shall chrystyn any chyldre, ye shall use pure and cleane water, nother mixte with rose water, damaske water, or otherwise altered or confected. Item, That ye shall not ynforce any woman, by paynes or any other ungodly wayes or meanes, to give you more or greater reward for bryngyng her a bedde than she would otherwise doo. – Item,

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“Mr. Cornelius Orts, a Hollander, a servant unto the King, for providing hawks, under S/r Anthony Pell, buried May 1, 1621.”

“Mr. Ambrose Gurney was buried the 23/d of May 1621, in the chancel, at 11 of the clock at night, because of his infirmity: Mrs. Elizabeth Gurney was buried in the chancel, the 20/th day of August 1623, by her husband, in the night, because of her infirmity.”

Fatal accident.

In 1623, Mr. Foord, the vicar, in his zeal against popery, **speaks thus of the fatal accident, which happened at Black-friers on the 26th of October that year /81:** “Let this be a pitiful remembrance to all posteritie, that in the year of our Lord 1623, the 26th day of October, in the 21/st year of King James his reign, there lay a French Ambassador in the Blacke Friers in London, who being at masse the same Sabbath-day in the afternoone, with a multitude of blind ignorant people, there fell (in the chapel in his house) a gallery in the said chapel, that crushed to death fourscore and sixteen souls, besides a great multitude that had their arms and legs broken, so much was God offended with their detestable idolatrie.”

Family of Shaw, Bart.

“Johannes Shaw, Eq. Aurat. et Domina Brigetta Nedham, relicta Roberti Nedham, Vicecomitis Kilmurrey, conjunct. matrimonio Jun. 24, 1663.” Sir John Shaw was created a Baronet in 1665, as a mark of the Royal favour for his having lent large sums of money to the King during his exile, when there was little prospect of repayment. He was appointed also one of the farmers of the Customs /82. Sir John Shaw died in London in **the year 1680**; his corpse was carried through the city with great funeral pomp /83, and was buried at Eltham, March 6th. “Bridget Countess of Kilmurrey, widow of Sr John Shaw, buried July 11, 1696.” There are many other entries of the Shaw family, and some of the family of Fitch, an extinct Baronet’s.

Dogget the comedian.

“Thomas Dogget, buried Sep. 25, 1721.” A comic actor of great eminence. He was a native of Dublin, where he made his first appearance upon the stage: not finding the success he expected, he came over to England, where he soon established himself on the London theatres. He was for some time joint-manager

Ye shall never consent nor agree that eny woman be delyvered secretly, but in the presence of 2 or 3 honest women, and that there be two or three lyghtes, if shee doo travell by nyght. Item, If eny chyldre be dead borne ye shall see yt buried in such secreete place as nother hogge, nor dogge, nor any other beaste may come to yt; and ye shall not suffer eny such chyldre to be cast into the jaks, or yn eny other inconvenient or dishonest place.” All mid-wives were to be licensed and sworn by the Bishop of Westminster /*. Regist. London. Bonner, f. 253, b.

/81 **There is a particular account of this dreadful**

accident in Stow's Survey of London, with a list of the persons who. lost their lives; among the number were Father Drury the Jesuit, another priest named Redyate, Lady Webbe, and Lady Blackstone's daughter.

/82 Kimber's Baronetage, vol. ii. p. 319. edit. 1771.

/83 Domestic Intelligencer, Mar. 9, 1679/80.

/* This bishopric was created by King Henry VIII. and soon afterwards abolished.

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of Drury-lane with Wilks and Cibber; but retired in disgust, both from the management and the stage, in 1712, upon Booth's being admitted to a share. The last time of his acting was in the Wanton Wife, for Mrs. Porter's benefit, the 28th of April in that year. It is probable that he had a residence at Eltham, where his wife, Mary Dogget, was buried Nov. 8, 1712. It is said that he afterwards married a lady of large fortune. Cibber, in his Apology, says, that "Dogget was the most an original, and the strictest observer of nature, of all his contemporaries; he borrowed from none of them; his manner was his own; he was a pattern to others, whose greatest merit was, that they sometimes tolerably imitated him. In dressing a character to the greatest advantage, he was remarkably skilful; the least article of whatever habit he wore seemed, in some degree, to speak and mark the different humour he presented: he could be extremely ridiculous, without stepping into the least impropriety. His greatest success was in characters of low life. In songs, and particular dances of humour, he had no competitor. Congreve was a great admirer of him, and found his account in the characters he expressly wrote for him. In those of Fondlewife, in the Old Batchelor, and Ben in Love for Love, no author and actor could be more obliged to their mutual masterly performances /84." Dogget wrote the Country Wake, a comedy, since altered to a farce, which has been frequently revived, called Hob in the Well. For many years before his death he gave yearly, on the first of August, (being the anniversary of King George the First's accession,) a coat and silver badge to be rowed for by six watermen; and, by his will, left a sum of money for the purpose of perpetuating the custom /85.

Dr. William Sherard.

"William Sherard LL. D. buried Aug. 19, 1728." Brother of Dr. James Sherard, mentioned in p. 481. He was fellow of Allsouls College, and from 1704 till 1715 Consul at Smyrna. During his travels in Asia, he collected a great number of ancient inscriptions published by Edmund Chishull, vicar of Walthamstow, who was chaplain to the same factory.

Sir William James.

"S/r William James, Bar/t, buried Dec. 22, 1783." This brave officer (who resided at Park-place-farm in this parish) had for some time the command of the Company's marine forces in the East Indies, where he particularly distinguished himself by the taking of Severndroog Castle on the coast of Malabar, April 2, 1755. Lady James erected a triangular tower on Shooter's-hill, about forty-five feet high, in memory of this event. It consists of three floors: on each of the upper stories is a room, with two closets adjoining, neatly fitted up. The vestibule at the entrance, is ornamented with armour and trophies taken at Severn-

Tower erected to his memory on Shooters-hill.

/84 Cibber's Apology, p. 287.

/85 Biograph. Dramat.

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droog Castle. On the front of the building is an appropriate inscription /86. This tower commands a very extensive and beautiful prospect of the metropolis, Greenwich, Woolwich, the river Thames, and the adjacent counties of Kent, Surrey, and Essex. Sir William James was created a baronet in 1778. Sir Edward William James, his only son, was buried at Eltham, Nov. 24, 1792, in the 18th year of his age: his daughter, who married Lord Rancliffe, died in 1797, and was buried at Eltham with much funeral pomp, on the 28th of January. Her mother, Lady James, survived her, and was buried at Eltham in the month of August, 1798.

George Horne, Bishop of Norwich.

"The R/t Rev/d George Horne, D. D. L/d Bishop of Norwich, died Jan/y 17, aged 62 years, buried Jan/y 26, 1792." This amiable and learned prelate was

Native of
New South
Wales.
Alderman
Cadell.

a native of Otham in Kent. He was educated at University College, whence he was elected a Fellow of Magdalen in 1750. In 1768, he was elected President of the latter college; in 1781, was made Dean of Canterbury; and in 1789, promoted to the See of Norwich. His principal work was a Commentary on the Psalms, in two volumes quarto, published in 1776. He was author also of Considerations on the Life and Death of John the Baptist; a Letter to Adam Smith; Letters on Infidelity; a Letter to Doctor Priestley; Observations on the case of the Protestant Dissenters; and the letters marked Z. in the Olla Podrida. Dr. Horne was much admired as a preacher, as his epitaph justly says, "in the university, in the city, and in the country parish." Two volumes of his sermons are in print, besides several single discourses, preached upon public occasions. A life of Bishop Horne has been published by the Rev. Mr. Jones of Neyland.

"Yemmurravonyea Kebarrah, a native of New South Wales, died May 18, 1794, supposed to be aged 19 years, buried May 21."

"Buried, 1803, January 3, Thomas Cadell Esq. Alderman of London, died December 27, 1802, in the 61st year of his age." Mr. Cadell, in the year 1767 succeeded to the business of Mr. Andrew Millar, the most eminent bookseller of his day, which he carried on for many years with great spirit and liberality, and with unparalleled success. During this time in conjunction with the late William Strahan Esq. M. P., His Majesty's printer, and afterwards with his son and successor the present Andrew Strahan Esq. M. P., he embarked in very extensive concerns, and became possessed of the copyright of numerous works of the highest estimation in various departments of literature, some of which, from their great and

/86 "This building was erected in 1784, by the representative of the late Sir William James Bart. to commemorate that gallant officer's achievements in the East Indies, during his command of the Company's marine forces in those seas; and in a particular manner to record the conquest of the Castle of Severndroog, on the coast of Malabar, which fell to his superior valour and able conduct on the 2d day of April 1755."

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deserved popularity became the source of profits which exceeded all expectation and belief. Of this the Sermons of Blair, the Lectures of Blackstone, which owed their success to the eloquence and brilliant talents of their authors; and the Domestic Medicine of Buchan, and Burn's Justice, which the nature of the subjects, as well as the skilful adaptation of them to general use, rendered no less successful, may be brought in proof. It is well known, that upon these occasions Mr. Cadell behaved in the most liberal manner to the authors. Among the writers whose works have been published by Mr. Cadell, may be reckoned some of the most eminent of the present age in the various departments of literature: besides those already mentioned may be enumerated the names of Gibbon, Robertson, Henry; Warburton, Hurd, Lowth, Porteus; Johnson, Adam Smith, Dean Tucker, Dr. Price, Beattie, Campbell, James Ferguson; Mason, Glover; Colman, Murphy, Sir William Jones, Jacob Bryant, Sir Joshua Reynolds, &c., &c. In the year 1793, Mr. Cadell relinquished his very extensive business to his son and his partner Mr. Davies, by whom it is still conducted. In 1798, Mr. Cadell was elected Alderman of Walbrook Ward, and evinced as much zeal and activity in his magisterial capacity, as he had shown in his trade concerns; he was equally active also as a governor of various public charities, particularly of the Asylum, of which he was Treasurer.

Instances of Longevity.

"John Pennard, aged 100, buried Nov. 15, 1727." Six instances occur of persons between 90 and 100 years of age. A tombstone has been lately erected in the churchyard for Elizabeth Armstrong, of Mottingham, widow, said to have been 111 years of age, but it has been pretty well ascertained, that at the time of her death in 1806, she could not have been more than in her hundredth year.

Extracts from the Churchwardens' Accounts.

s. d.

1554.	Paid for setting up of the sepulchre	0	4
—	For taking downe of the same	0	4
—	For watching of the same two nightes	0	8
1557.	Rec/d for the burial of Sir Chaplene to Sir Henrye Gernygane, Knighte, who was buried within the churche	6	8
1562.	Paid to the boyes for the maypole	0	6
1566.	Paid for watchinge the beacon on Shutters Hill" (N. B. This occurs several times)	5	0
1573.	Paid at the eatinge of the buke (buck) which Mr. Hatton gave the parish	37	8
1574.	Paid to John Petley for making the beacon	2	4

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s. d.

	1583.	Laid out for three arming girdells, and one girdell for a shefe of arowes	3	4
		Item for two bowestrings and one mache	0	4
Expences of making the butts.	1603.	Paid for felling three trees for the butts, and cutting them out	0	12
	—	For carring the same timber	0	12
	—	To Hamshere for two daies worck to make the posts and pails for the butts, and set them up	2	4
	—	Paid to four men that digged turf, and laboured at the butts	4	0
	—	For one hundreth and a half of nails	0	9
	—	Paid in charges for their suppers for all them that wrought at the butts, which ware three or four more than wee hyred, becas wee would end them in one day	4	0
	—	For the two bars for the butts, with the staples and iron work thereunto	2	2
	1608.	Payd to Henry Byrde for ditching before the butts in Eastfylde	0	12
	1612.	Paid for ryngers when the Kinges Majestie came to lye at Ealthom	0	12
	1642.	Paid to four Irish gentlewomen	1	6
	—	Paid to the Irish gentlewomen, who had their pass from the Parliament	2	0

School. The schoolhouse at Eltham was built in 1634 /86; but it does not appear that there was any endowment for a school, till Mrs. Elizabeth Leggatt, widow, in 1714, left lands now 18l. per annum for that purpose: in this school sixteen boys are now taught.

Almshouses. Thomas Philipott, anno 1680, founded an alms-house at this place for six poor persons (four of whom are to be of this parish, and two of Chislehurst); and gave lands (now producing about 60l. per annum) for its support /87.

Three of the pensioners in Queen Elizabeth's College at Greenwich are to be of this parish.

Shooter's hill. At the north east extremity of this parish lies Shooter's-hill, over which is the high road from London to Dover. The beautiful prospect from this hill and Lady James's tower have been already mentioned /88. Not far from the tower is erected one of the Telegraphs, which communicates between London and Dover. On the top of the hill is a mineral spring, an account of which was published by William Godbid, in 1673. Shooter's-hill was formerly a place much dreaded by travellers; the steepness and narrowness of the roads, and the harbour which the neighbouring coppices afforded to the robbers, rendering it a very fit place for their depredations. Measures had been taken for improving the highway on this hill, so early as Richard the Second's time /89, but they proved in-

Telegraph.

Robberies.

Improve-ment of the road.

/86 Churchwardens' accounts.

/87 From the information of Mr. Shaw Brooke the vicar, to whom I have been indebted also for the other benefactions.

/88 See p. 488.

/89 In Pat. 6 Ric. II. pt. 2. m. 34. is an order from the Crown to the steward of the manor of Eltham, to cut down the woods on each side of the road at Shetere's held, leading from London to Rochester, (which was become very dangerous

to travellers,) in compliance with the statute of Edward I. for widening roads where there were woods which afforded shelter to thieves.

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effectual; and it was not till the year 1733 that any very material improvement was made, when a road of easier ascent, and of great width, was laid out at some distance from the old one /90.

Henry VIII. and Queen Katherine entertained by archers.

King Henry VIII. is said to have visited Shooter's-hill on May-day 1515, with his Queen Katherine; when he was met by 200 archers, clad in green, with a captain at their head personating Robin Hood: after exhibiting their skill in archery, they entertained the Royal party with venison and wine, in booths decorated with pageants /91.

Mottingham.

Mottingham, or Mottingham, is an extraparochial hamlet, adjoining to this parish and Chislehurst; to both which it has been supposed to belong. The inhabitants served parish offices at Chislehurst in the last century; but for the most part they frequent Eltham church, and christen and bury there. The number of houses in this hamlet is 17. The inhabitants of Mottingham enjoy the same privileges as those of Eltham; this hamlet having been included in the grants referred to in p. 477. The great tithes of Mottingham were given by Ansgot, Chamberlain to William Rufus, to the priory of St. Andrew at Rochester /92; on the dissolution of which, they were granted to the Dean and Chapter of that place. In 1639, they were leased for twenty years to Nicholas Buckeridge, at the rent of 5l. per annum /93. They are now in the tenure of **Nathaniel Clayton Esq. as legatee of Mrs. Anne Burden**. This hamlet has been attached to the manor of Eltham ever since the reign of Edward I.; at an earlier period it seems to have belonged to Lewisham /94.

Thomas Banquel, who died in 1361, was seised of certain lands in the hamlet of Mottingham /95, (late Legh's). This estate was, in 1445, the property of Robert Cheseman; who, by his marriage with Joan, daughter of Benjamin Cavell, obtained also certain other lands, which had long been in possession of the Cavells /96. Alice, daughter and heir of Thomas Cheseman Esq. a descendant of the said Robert, married Robert Stoddard Esq.; George **Stoddard son of Robert** in 1560, rebuilt the ancient mansion called Mottingham place, which, with the lands belonging to it, continued in that family till the death of Nicholas Stoddard Esq. (in 1765); who dying unmarried and intestate, a long litigation ensued in the court of Chancery. At length this estate was adjudged to William Bowerman Esq.

/90 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 60.

/91 An account of the entertainment, with a description of the pageants may be found in Holinshed's Chronicle.

/92 Reg. Roff. p. 346.

/93 Hasted; from the Parliamentary Surveys at Lambeth.

/94 It is mentioned **in one of** the appendages to Lewisham, in Edward the Confessor's grant of that manor, **in** 1044. (Dugdale's Monast. ii. p. 900.) Succeeding grants of Lewisham make no mention of it, but it is mentioned in all records as appendant to Eltham.

/95 Esch. 35 Edw. III. pt. 1. N/o 30.

/96 The descent of this estate is taken from Philipott's Survey, p. 136, and Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 58.

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of the Isle of Wight. It was purchased a few years ago by Robert Dynely Esq. who repaired and modernized the house; **since his death, which happened in 1805, it has been sold to Mr. Auldjo, the present proprietor.**

Fairy-hill.

Fairy-hill within the precincts of this hamlet, which was the villa of the late Earl Bathurst, when Lord High Chancellor of England, has since been in the successive occupation of Henry Hoare Esq.; General Morrison; and John Randall, Esq.

Extraordi-
nary sinking
of ground at
Mottingham.

It was sold **about the year 1795**, to John Naylor Esq. who died there in 1796: **it is now in the occupation of his widow, who resides there with her present husband Count Byland.**

“On the 4th of August 1585, betimes in the morning, in the hamlet of Mottingham, in the parish of Eltham, the ground began to sink in a field belonging to Sir Percival Hart, so much that three great elm-trees were swallowed into the pit; and before ten of the clock no part of them could be seen. The compass of the hole was about 80 yards, and it was suddenly filled with water.” This is Fuller’s narrative /97; Philipott adds, that “a sounding line of fifty fathoms could hardly find or feel any bottom; and that at ten yards distance another piece of ground sunk in like manner, near the highway, and so nigh a dwelling-house, that the inhabitants were greatly terrified therewith /98. The spot where this accident is said to have happened, is near the road leading to Fairy-hill; it presents now only a slight inequality of surface, and is supposed to have been occasioned by the falling in of what had, at some remote period, been a chalk-pit.

/97 Worthies of England. – Kent.

/98 Survey of Kent, p. 136.

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FOOT’S CRAY.

Name. This place takes its name from the river Cray and from Godwin Fot, its owner, in the reign of Edward the Confessor.

Situation. Foot’s Cray lies in the hundred of Ruxley, at the distance of 12 miles from London, on the Road to Maidstone. The parish is bounded by Chislehurst, North Cray, Paul’s Cray, Bexley, and Eltham. It contains between seven and eight hundred acres of land; about two-thirds of which are arable. The soil is chiefly gravel, or a light loam; in some parts clay.

Soil.

Manor. The manor of Foot’s-Cray was held of Edward the Confessor by Godwin Fot; in the Conqueror’s Reign, William Fitz-oger held it of the Bishop of Baieux /1. In the reign of King John, William de Eynsford held a knight’s-fee in Foot’s-Cray of Robert de Crevequer /2. Gregory de Rokesley died seised of the manor of Foot’s-Cray in the year 1292 /3: his son Roger appears to have had only a moiety of it; the other moiety being vested in Thomas de Warderoba /4. Roger de Rokesley sold the said moiety, **in 1305**, to John Abel, who died seised of it in 1323: his son Walter **alienated** it to Sir Simon Vaughan. In 1346, this Sir Simon had one moiety, and the prior of St. Mary Overie the other; which had been Thomas de Warderoba’s: of this moiety there is no further mention. Eleanor, only daughter and heir of Hamo Vaughan, married into the family of Warner; and from her this manor descended to John Warner Esq. **who was** Sheriff of the county in 1441. This family also becoming extinct in the male line, the manor of Foot’s-Cray became the property of John Heron, who married one of the co-heirs. Christopher Heron Esq. in 1529, **alienated** it to the Walsinghams. Sir Francis Walsingham, Queen Elizabeth’s Secretary,

/1 It is thus described in the record of Domesday: – William Fitz-oger holds of the Bishop (of Baieux), Crai, which is taxed at half a suling. There is one plough on the demesnes; there are 8 villans, who employ a plough, and have half employment for a second; there are four cottars; a mill of 10s. rent, one slave, and pannage for six hogs. This manor was valued in King Edward’s time, at 4l.; since at 3l.; now at 4l. Godwin Fot held it of King Edward.

/2 Hasted’s Kent, vol. i. p. 148.

/3 Esch. 20 Edw. I. N/o 29.

/4 Hasted.

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sold it to Mr. John Gellibrand; whose descendant, Samuel Gellibrand, in 1694,

conveyed it to Mr. George Perkins. John Perkins (son of George) dying without male issue, Mary, his only daughter and heir, brought it in marriage to Mr. Edward Townsend of Brockley in Deptford; whose three sons, being joint heirs, sold it, in 1764, to John Calcraft Esq. Mr. Calcraft's son of the same name alienated it, in 1787, to Charles Stewart Minshaw Esq. **father of George Harry Minshaw Esq.** the present proprietor /5.

A court-baron is held for this manor, which extends over the greater part of the parish; the demesne lands are about 140 acres.

Foot's-Cray place.

Foot's-Cray Place, the seat of Benjamin Harenc Esq. was built on a parcel of the demesne lands sold by Sir Francis Walsingham to John Ellis. This estate was afterwards **successively** in the families of Limen and Smith. The heirs of Mr. George Smith sold it to Bouchier Cleve Esq.; who, in 1752, (having pulled down the old mansion,) built an elegant villa, after a design of Palladio: he inclosed the park also, and embellished it with plantations. Mr. Cleve's only daughter married Sir George Yonge, Bart., who resided here some years, and had a valuable collection of pictures; which were removed to his house in town in 1772, when Foot's-Cray Place was sold to Mr. Harenc.

The church.

The parish church, dedicated to All-Saints, is a small structure consisting of a chancel, nave, and **a** north aisle. At the west end is a wooden tower and a low spire covered with shingles.

In the wall of the north aisle is a low obtuse arch, under which are the effigies of Sir Simon Vaughan and his lady, recumbent; they are much mutilated /6, and have been covered over with white wash. The font is square, of Norman architecture; the sides ornamented with circular arches.

Rectory.

The church of Foot's-Cray, which lies within the diocese of Rochester, and in the deanery of Dartford, was given (probably by Thomas de Warderoba) to the prior and convent of St. Mary Overie: upon the suppression of that monastery, it fell into the hands of the Crown; in which the advowson is still vested. In 1287, the rectory was valued at 100s.; in the King's books it is among the discharged livings; the clear yearly value certified to be 42l. 17s. In 1650, the rectory, with seven acres of glebe, was valued at 35l. per annum /7.

The present rector is the Rev. Thomas Moore, M. A. who was instituted in 1768.

/5 The descent of this manor, except the last alienation, is taken principally from Philipott's Survey, p. 109, 110; and Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 148.

/6 Philipott says they were entire when Glover took his notes of Kentish monuments, but they had been mutilated before his time.

/8 Hasted; from the Parliamentary Surveys at Lambeth.

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Parish register. Comparative state of population.

The earliest date of the parish register is 1559.

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1580 – 1589.	3	1(3/5)
1630 – 1639.	5(2/5)	2(7/10)
1680 – 1689.	3	(imperfect.)
1730 – 1739.	3(7/10)	3(9/10)
1780 – 1789.	7(7/10)	5(4/5)
1790 – 1794.	11(2/5)	7(3/5)
1795 – 1799.	13	7(2/5)
1800 – 1808.	7(2/9)	5(6/9)

Number of houses.

The number of houses **in 1795, was 23; in 1801, 25; now 28.** It must be observed, that a considerable part of this little village is in the parish of Chislehurst, and being situated at a great distance from their own church, the inhabitants generally christen their children here; which makes the average of baptisms greater than might be expected from so small a number of inhabitants as the parish contains.

Sedcop.

Sedcop, a small hamlet in this parish, on the road to London, about half a mile from the village, consists of a few houses, included in the above

number.

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GREENWICH.

Eymology.	Greenwic, or Grenevic, as this place was called by the Saxons, is literally
Situation.	the green village; meaning, perhaps, the village on the green. It lies in the hundred of Blackheath, being situated on the banks of the Thames, at the distance of five miles from London. The parish is bounded by Deptford, St. Paul's;
Boundaries.	Lewisham; Charlton; and the extraparochial hamlet of Kidbrook. It contains
Quantity of land, and how occupied.	about 1170 acres of cultivated land: of which about 150 are arable; 175 occupied by market gardeners; 530 marsh and lowland meadow; and about 310 upland meadow and pasture (including Greenwich-park). A small part of Blackheath, adjoining to Greenwich town and park, is in this parish. The soil, except in the marshes, is, for the most part, sand and gravel.
Soil.	
Market.	Greenwich has a market twice a-week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The profits of this market being vested in Henry Earl of Romney, were given by him, in 1700, to the Royal Hospital /1.
Greenwich once a borough.	In the year 1557, this place sent two burgesses to Parliament (Thomas Farnham and John Sackville, Esqrs.). This is the only return it ever made /2.
Assizes held there.	The assizes for the county were held at Greenwich, in the first, fourth, and fifth years of Queen Elizabeth /3.
Titles.	Greenwich gave the title of a duke of this kingdom to John Campbell, better known by his former title of Duke of Argyle, in Scotland. The Duke dying without male issue, his eldest daughter, Lady Caroline Campbell, was created Baroness of Greenwich in her own right, anno 1760; with remainder to her heirs male by the Hon. Charles Townshend her second husband. Lady Greenwich having survived her sons, who died without issue, the title became extinct at her death, in 1794.
Danish fleet and army at Greenwich.	In the reign of King Ethelred, the Danish fleet was several times stationed in the river Thames near Greenwich /4, their army being encamped on the hill above. Hence they made excursions into the interior part of the county, making dreadful

/1 History of Greenwich Hospital, p. 50.

/2 Willis's Notit. Parliament. vol. iii. p. 85.

/3 Kilburne's Survey of Kent, p. 399.

/4 This fleet was there in 1012, when Archbishop Alphege was killed; and again in 1013, and in 1014. See Simon Dunelm. in Decem Scriptorum, p. 170, 171; and Roger Hoveden in Scriptorum post Bedam, p. 432, 433.

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Death of Archbishop Alphege.	ravages wherever they went. In the year 1012, they spoiled the city of Canterbury, carrying away with them Alphege the Archbishop, whom they kept prisoner for seven months in their camp at Greenwich; when, being enraged at his refusing to pay a large sum of money which they had demanded for his ransom, they slew him /5. The Archbishop was enrolled among the Romish saints; and the parish church at this place, in memory of its having been the scene of his suffering, was afterwards dedicated to him. Some vestiges of the Danish camps may be traced in the names of East-Combe and West-Combe, two estates in this parish, on the borders of Blackheath.
Manor.	The manor of Greenwich (called in most records East-Greenwich) was formerly an appendage to that of Lewisham, and was given with it, by Elthruda, niece of King Alfred, to the Abbey of St. Peter at Ghent /6. After the alien priories had been suppressed by King Henry V. the manors of Lewisham and Greenwich were given to the Carthusian monastery at Shene /7. King Henry VIII. in the year 1530, obtained from the prior and convent of Shene a grant of these manors in exchange for the monastery of Bradwell /8 and other lands. In 1538, Sir Thomas Speke was made steward of the manor of East-Greenwich for life /9. King Edward VI. granted that office to Sir Thomas Darcy, K. G. /10. When the Crown-lands were seized by Parliament, in 1649, and put up to sale, this manor was reserved for the use of the state: at the Restoration it reverted to the Crown: in 1685, it was made part of the jointure of Queen Mary, consort of King

James II. /11 It is now in the hands of the Crown.

Another manor mentioned in

There was also, besides this principal manor, another manor which came into the hands of the Crown at a much earlier period. This, it is probable, was the

/5 Eadmer, p. 4.

/6 Among the Cartæ Antiquæ at the Tower are three confirmations of this grant. The first is a confirmation by Edward the Confessor, of Levesham and Grenevic, with Wulevic, Mottingham, and Cumbe; together with all privileges and customs thereto belonging, such as infangentheof, mondbruce, mischeninge, uthleap; feramwite; blodwite; hleastyng; sceapinge; hamsocne; forstall; &c. This charter is without date, but must have been granted in 1038, because it is witnessed by Eadsimus Archbishop of Canterbury, and Godwin Bishop of Rochester: since Godwin died, and Eadsimus was promoted to the see of Canterbury that year. There is a confirmation of these manors, with the right of free-warren, by King Hen. I. and another by King Hen. II. See Cart. Antiq. T. viii. ix. and x.

/7 Dugdale's Monast. vol. i. p. 975.

/8 Cl. 23 Hen. VIII. m. 13. The King changed the style of the manor to "the Royal Manor of East-Greenwich;" and afterwards, "the Honour and Manor of East-Greenwich."

/9 Records in the Augmentation-office.

/10 Ibid. The office of steward of the manor was afterwards **successively** held, (with that of keeper of the palace and ranger of the park,) by Henry Earl of Holland, Henry Earl of St. Albans, and Charles Earl of Dorset. Henry Earl of Romney, Matthew Lord Aylmer, and Sir John Jennings, were **successively** rangers of the park and chief stewards of the manor. After this, John Roberts Esq. had the office of steward only. No steward has been appointed for several years.

/11 Pat. 1 Ja. II. pt. 17. N/o 1.

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Domesday, and called, some centuries afterwards, the manor of Pleasaunce. Greenwich-palace.

same which is described in the record of Domesday, as having been formerly two manors held by Earl Harold and Brixii, but afterwards consolidated, and, at the taking of the survey, held of Odo Bishop of Baieux, by the Bishop of Lisieux /12. It seems not unlikely that this manor, which was seized by the King on the disgrace of the Bishop of Baieux, continued from that time to be vested in the Crown. We have traces of a Royal residence at this place as early as the year 1300, when Edward I. made an offering of 7s. at each of the holy crosses in the chapel of the Virgin Mary, at Greenwich, and the Prince made an offering of half that sum /13.

King Henry IV. resided much at this place, and dates his will in 1408, from his manor of Greenwich. King Henry V. granted this manor for life, to Thomas Beaufort, Duke of Exeter, who died at Greenwich in 1417 /14. It was granted soon afterwards to Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, the King's uncle, who in 1433, had the Royal licence to fortify and embattle his manor-house, and to make a park of 200 acres /15. Soon after this the Duke rebuilt the palace, calling it Placentia, or the Manor of Pleasaunce; he inclosed the park also, and erected within it a tower /16 on the spot where the observatory now stands. Upon the Duke of Gloucester's death, which happened in 1447, this manor reverted to the Crown.

Rebuilt by Humphrey Duke of Gloucester.

King Edward IV. took great pleasure and bestowed much cost in finishing and enlarging the palace: in 1466, he granted the manor, with the palace and park, to his Queen, Elizabeth, for life /17. In this reign the marriage of Richard, Duke of York, with Anne Mowbray, was solemnized at Greenwich with great splendor /18. King Henry VII. resided much at this place; where his second son

Residence of the Kings of England at Greenwich.

Birth of
Henry VIII.

(afterwards Henry VIII.), and his third son, Edmund Tudor /19 (created Duke of Somerset,) were born. Lambard^e says, that he beautified the palace by the addition of a brick front towards the water-side /20. Stow mentions his repairing the palace in 1501 /21. King Henry VIII. was born at Greenwich June 28, 1491, and was baptized in the parish church by the Bishop of Exeter, Lord Privy Seal; the Earl of Oxford and the Bishop of Winchester (Courtney) being his god-

/12 This manor is thus described in the survey:
– The Bishop of Lisieux holds of the Bishop (of Baieux) Greneviz, which is taxed at two sulings. On the demesne lands there are two ploughs. The villans, who are 24 in number, have 4 ploughs; there are also four bordars, one cottar, and five slaves; there are four mills, rented at 70 shillings; 22 acres of meadow; 40 acres of pasture, and pannage for ten hogs. These sulings were, in the time of Edward the Confessor, two manors, held by Earl Harold and Brix; they are now consolidated. They were valued in King Edward's time, and afterwards, at 81.; now at 12l.

/13 Royal Household Expences, published by the Society of Antiquaries, p. 30.

/14 Dugdale's Baronage, vol. ii. p. 126.

/15 Pat. 11 Hen. VI. pt. 1. m. 14.

/16 Lambard^e's Perambulation, p. 338; and Philipott's Survey, p. 162.

/17 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 20.

/18 Ibid.

/19 He was born in 1498; Sandford, p. 447.

/20 Perambulation of Kent, p. 339.

/21 Annals, p. 807, 4to. edit.

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Great feasts
held at
Greenwich
by that monarch.

fathers /22. This monarch, from partiality perhaps to the place of his birth, neglected Eltham, which had been the favourite residence of his ancestors, and bestowed great cost upon Greenwich, till he had made it, as Lambard^e says, "a pleasant, perfect, and princely palaice /23." During his reign it became one of the principal scenes of that festivity for which his court was celebrated. King Henry's marriage with his first Queen, Katherine of Arragon, was solemnized at Greenwich, June 3, 1510 /24. On May-day 1511, and the two following days, were held tournaments, in which the King, Sir Edward Howard, Charles Brandon, and Edward Neville challenged all comers /25. In 1512, the King kept his Christmas here "with great and plentiful cheer /26;" and again in 1513, "with great solemnity, dancing, disguisings, and mummers, in a most princely manner:" at this celebrity was introduced the first masquerade ever seen in England /27. On the 13th of May 1515, the marriage of Mary, Queen Dowager of France, (Henry's sister,) with Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, was publicly

First mas-
querade in
England.

/22 Sandford, p. 449.

/23 Perambulation of Kent, p. 339. – Leland thus describes the beauties of this palace in his Itinerary, vol. ix. p. 16.

"Ecce ut jam niteat locus petitus,
Tanquam sidereæ locus cathedræ!
Quæ fastigia picta! quæ fenestræ!
Quæ turre vel ad astra se efferentes!
Quæ porro viridaria, ac perennes
Fontes! Flora sinum occupat venusta
Fundens delicias nitentis horti.
Rerum commodus æstimator ille,
Ripæ qui variis modis amenæ,
Nomen contulit eleganter aptum."

/24 Stow, p. 815. 4to.

/25 Holinshed, vol. iii. f. 1469.

/26 Stow's Annals, p. 821. 4to.

/27 Hall's account of the festivities of this Christmas is as follows: "The Kyng this yere kept the feast of Christmas at Grenewiche, wher was suche abundance of viandes served to all comers of any honest behavior, as hath been fewe times seen: and against New yeres night was made, in the hall, a castle, gates, towers, and dungion, garnished with artilerie, and weapon after the most warlike fashion: and on the frount of the castle was written, Le Fortresse Dangerus; and within the castle wer six ladies clothed in russet satin laide all over with leves of golde, and every owde knit with laces of blewe silke and golde: on ther heddes, coyfes and cappes all of gold. After this castle had been caried about the hal, and the Quene had behelde it, in came the Kyng with five other appareled in coates, the one halfe of russet satyn, spangled with spangels of fine gold, the other halfe rich clothe of gold; on ther heddes cappes of russet satin embroudered with workes of fine gold bullion. These six assaulted the castle; the ladies seyng them so lustie and coragious wer content to solace with them, and upon farther comunicacion to yeld the castle, and so thei came down and daunced a long space. And after the ladies led the Knightes into the castle, and then the castle sodainly vanished out of their sightes."

"On the daie of the Epiphanie at night, the Kyng with xi other wer disguised after the maner of Italie, called a maske, a thing not seen afore in Englande; thei wer appareled in garmentes long and brode, wrought all with gold, with visers and cappes of gold; and after the banquet doen, these maskers came in with six gentlemen disguised in silke, bearing staffe torches, and desired the ladies to daunce; some were content, and some that knewe the fashion of it refused, because it was not a thyng commonly seen. And after thei daunced and commoned together as the fashion of the maske is, thei tooke their leave and departed, and so did the Quene and all the ladies." Hall's Chronicle – Hen. VIII. fol. 15, b. 16, a.

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Three
Queens at
Greenwich.

solemnized at Greenwich /28. A solemn Christmas was kept **there** in 1518, at which were present three Queens; Katherine of Arragon; Margaret Queen of Scots, the King's aunt; and his sister, Mary Queen of France /29. Solemn tournaments were held there in 1517 /29, 1526, and 1536 /30. The King kept his Christmas at Greenwich in 1521, "with great nobleness and open court /31;" and again in 1525 /32. In 1527, he received the French embassy at this place /33: the same year he kept his Christmas here, "with revels, masks, disguisings, and banquets royal /34;" as he did again in 1533 /35, in 1537 /36, and in 1543 /37: the last-mentioned year he entertained twenty-one of the Scottish nobility whom he had taken prisoners at Salom Moss, and gave them their liberty without ransom /38. **King** Edward VI. kept his Christmas at Greenwich, in 1552-3; George Ferrers Esq. of Lincoln's Inn being "Lorde of the merrie disporte /39." This amiable young monarch closed his short reign at Greenwich palace on the 6th of July following /40.

Birth of Queen Mary.

Birth and christening of Queen Elizabeth.

A muster of the citizens, and tilting, before the Queen in Greenwich-park.

Queen Mary was born at Greenwich, Feb. 8, 1515, and was baptized the Wednesday following, Cardinal Wolsey being her godfather, the Lady Katherine, and the Duchess of Norfolk, her godmothers /41. Queen Elizabeth was born at this place, Sep. 7, 1533, "and christened with great state on the Wednesday following, in the Friars' church, the Duchess of Norfolk bearing her to the font. Her godfather was Archbishop Cranmer; her godmothers, the old Duchess of Norfolk, and the old Marchioness of Dorset: Garter King of Arms cried aloud, "God of his infinite goodness send prosperous life, and long, to the high and mighty Princess of England, Elizabeth." Over the font, which was of silver, (and stood in the midst of the church, three steps high,) hung a square canopy of crimson velvet fringed with gold, another being likewise borne over the child's head /42." On the second of July 1559, Queen Elizabeth was entertained by the city of London with a muster of 1400 men in Greenwich-park, the gunners were dressed in shirts of mail, the others in coats of velvet, with chains of gold, being armed "with moris pikes, halberds," &c. At five o'clock in the afternoon a mock fight was exhibited in the park, the Queen viewing it from the

/27 Stow's Annals, p. 497. fol.

/28 Holinshed's Chronicle, Vol. iii. f. 838.

/29 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 20.

/30 Kilbourne's Survey, p. 115.

/31 Holinshed's Chron. vol. iii. f. 1500.

/32 Collins's Peerage, vol. i. p. 145. (edit. 1768).

/33 Fiddes's life of Wolsey, p. 405.

/34 Stow's Annals, 4to. p. 886.

/35 Ibid. p. 946.

/36 Holinshed, vol. iii. f. 1571.

/37 In the interval of the two years last-mentioned, it appears by some minutes of council in the library of the Marquis of Buckingham at Stowe, that the King was at Greenwich, from April 5 to May 5, May 20, 21; from May 22, to May 27, and from September 3 to October 7, 1541; from December 28, 1541, to the 8th of January ensuing and from April 6 to May 23, 1542.

/38 Kilbourne's Survey of Kent, p. 115.

/39 Stow, p. 1027.

/40 Sandford, p. 472.

/41 Ibid. p. 473.

/42 Ibid. p. 482.

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gallery over the park gate: "three onsets were given in every battle, the guns discharged on one another, the moris pikes encountred together with great alarm; each ran to their weapons again, and then they fell together as fast as they could, in imitation of close fight; after which Mr. Chamberlain, and divers of the commons of the city, came before her Grace, who thanked them heartily, and all the city: whereupon immediately was given the greatest shout that ever was heard, with hurling up of caps /43." On the 10th of the same month there was tilting before the Queen, "a goodly banquetting house being set up in the park, made with fir poles, and decked with birch branches, and all manner of flowers, both of the field and garden, as roses, julyflowers, marygolds, and all manner of strewing herbs and rushes /44." The challengers were the Earl of Ormond, Sir John Perrot, and Mr. North. At five in the afternoon the Queen, with the ambassadors, &c. came and stood over the park gate to see the exercise; after this Her Majesty took her horse and rode to the banquetting-house, and so to supper. The evening concluded with "a mask, a great banquet, great casting of fire, and shooting of guns, till 12 at night /45." The same year a council sat at Greenwich, in which it was determined to be contrary to law for any Nuncio from the Pope to enter this realm /46.

Her residence there.

Greenwich became **one of** the Queen's favourite residences /47. In Queen

Elizabeth's Progresses, (published by Mr. Nichols,) there is a curious account of the order of the Maundy, as observed by Her Majesty, at Greenwich /48, March 19,

/43 Strype's Annals of the Reformation during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, vol. i. p. 194.

/44 Ibid.

/45 Ibid. p. 195. In Queen Elizabeth's Progresses, (anno 1559, p. 5–48.) there is printed an account of the charge of the dinners at this muster. There was another muster of the citizens before the Queen on May-day 1572. Queen Elizabeth's Progresses, anno 1572, p. 12.

/45 Strype's Annals, vol. i. p. 112.

/46 See Queen Elizabeth's Progresses, anno 1560, p. 69. – 1566, p. 111. – 1568, p. 115. – 1573, p. 31–35. – 1577, p. 54. – 1579, p. 110, 111, 112. – 1585, p. 214. – 1586, p. 225. – 1597, p. 1. – 1598, p. 7. It appears by some volumes of the minutes of council, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, (in the Marquis of Buckingham's library) that the Queen was there from June 23 to September 21, 1581; from February 18 ensuing to June 24, 1582; from February 20, 1585-6 to July 10; from December 23, 1806, to April 29, 1587; from January 25 to May 30, 1590; and again from June 7 to July 27; from February 15, 1591, to May 2; again from May 23 to July 29; and from May 7 to July 30, 1598.

/47 It had been a very ancient custom for the sovereigns of this kingdom on Maundy-Thurs-day, in imitation of our Saviour's humility, to wash the feet of a certain number of poor persons (corresponding with the years of their own age.) In Lambard's detail of this ceremony, as performed by Queen Elizabeth at Greenwich, we find that Her Majesty being then 39 years of age, the same number of poor persons attended in the hall, their feet were first washed by the yeomen of the laundry with warm water and sweet herbs, afterwards by the sub-almoner, then by the almoner, and lastly by the Queen; the person who washed making each time a cross on the pauper's foot above the toes, and kissing it. This ceremony was performed also by the Queen kneeling, being attended by 39 ladies and gentlewomen. Clothes, victuals, and money were then distributed among the poor. Queen Elizabeth's

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Her reception of Embassadors at Greenwich.

Hentzner's description of her court.

1572-3, from a MS. of Lambard's. Here, on the 29th of June 1585, she received the Deputies from the United Provinces, who then presented to Her Majesty the sovereignty of the Low Countries /49. In the month of May, the year ensuing, she received the Danish Ambassador at Greenwich /50; and on the 25th of July 1597, Paulus de Jaline, Ambassador from the King of Poland /51. Hentzner, a German traveller, who visited England in 1598, gives so curious and interesting a description of Queen Elizabeth's court at Greenwich, that, although it has been more than once printed, yet, as it may be new to many of my readers, and is so immediately pertinent to a history of this parish, I shall not hesitate to print it at length in the notes /52. The latest mention that I have found of Queen

Progresses, anno 1572, p. 37, 38. James the Second is said to have been the last of our monarchs who performed this ceremony in person.

It was afterwards performed by the almoner. The dole to the poor is still kept up.

/49 Queen Elizabeth's Progresses, anno 1585, p. 215.

/50 Ibid. anno 1586, p. 225.

/51 Ibid. anno 1597, p. 1.

/52 "We arrived next at the Royal Palace of Greenwich, where Elizabeth, the present Queen, was born, and where she generally resides, particularly in summer, for the delightfulness of the situation. We were admitted, by an order Mr. Rogers procured from the Lord Chamberlain, into the presence-chamber, hung with rich tapestry, and the floor, after the English fashion, strewed with hay, through which the Queen commonly passes in her way to chapel: at the door stood a gentleman dressed in velvet, with a gold chain, whose office was to introduce to the Queen any person of distinction that came to wait on her: it was Sunday, when there is usually the greatest attendance of nobility. In the same hall were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, a great number of counsellors of state, officers of the crown, and gentlemen, who waited the Queen's coming out, which she did from her apartment when it was time to go to prayers, attended in the following manner: first went gentlemen, barons, earls, knights of the garter, all richly dressed and bareheaded; next came the chancellor bearing the seals in a red silk purse between two, one of which carried the Royal sceptre, the other the sword of state, in a red scabbard, studded with golden fleurs de lis, the point upwards: next came the Queen, in the sixty-fifth year of her age, as we were told, very majestic; her face oblong, fair, but wrinkled, her eyes small, yet black and pleasant; her nose a little hooked; her lips narrow, and her teeth black (a defect the English seem subject to from their too great use of sugar); she had in her ears two pearls with very rich drops; she wore false hair, and that red; upon her head she had a small crown, reported to be made of some of the gold of the celebrated Luneborough table. Her bosom was uncovered as all the English ladies have it till they marry, and she had on a necklace of exceeding fine jewels; her hands were small, her fingers long, and her stature neither tall nor low; her air was stately, her manner of speaking mild and obliging. That day she was dressed in white silk, bordered with pearls of the size of beans, and over it a mantle of black silk, shot with silver threads; her train was very long, the end of it borne by a marchioness; instead of a chain she had an oblong collar of gold and jewels. As she went along in all this state and magnificence, she spoke very graciously, first to one, then to another, whether foreign ministers, or those who attended for different reasons, in English, French, and Italian; for, be-

sides being well skilled in Greek, Latin, and the languages I have mentioned, she is mistress of Spanish, Scotch, and Dutch; whoever speaks to her, it is kneeling; now and then she raises some with her hand. While we were there, W. Slawata, a Bohemian baron, had letters to present to her, and she, after pulling off her glove, gave him her right hand to kiss,

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Elizabeth's residence at Greenwich is in 1600; when Rowland White, writing to Sir Robert Sidney, June 11, says, "The Queen dined yesterday at my Lady Lumley's in Greenwich, and uses to walke muche in the parke and great walkes out of the parke, and about the parke /53." The princess Mary, daughter of James I. was christened with great solemnity at Greenwich, in 1605 /54. In 1613, Greenwich-house was settled on Queen Anne (of Denmark) for life /55. The brick-work, towards the garden, was built by her; and she laid the foundation

sparkling with rings and jewels, a mark of particular favour; wherever she turned her face as she was going along, every body fell down on their knees. The ladies of the court followed next to her, very handsome and well shaped, and for the most part dressed in white. She was guarded on each side by the gentlemen pensioners, fifty in number, with gilt battle-axes. In the antichapel next the hall, where we were, petitions were presented to her, and she received them most graciously, which occasioned the acclamation of Long live Queen Elizabeth! She answered it with, I thank you, my good people. In the chapel was excellent music; as soon as it and the service was over, which scarce exceeded half an hour, the Queen returned in the same state and order, and prepared to go to dinner. But while she was still at prayers, we saw her table set out with the following solemnity /*. A gentleman entered the room bearing a rod, and along with him another who had a tablecloth, which, after they had both kneeled three times with the utmost veneration, he spread upon the table, and after kneeling again they both retired. Then came two others, one with the rod again, the other with a saltseller, a plate and bread; when they had kneeled as the others had done, and placed what was brought upon the table, they too retired with the same ceremonies performed by the first. At last came an unmarried lady (we were told she was a countess), and along with her a married one, bearing a tasting knife, the former was dressed in white silk, who, when she had prostrated herself three times in the most graceful manner, approached the table and rubbed the plates with bread and salt, with as much awe as if the Queen had been present: when they had waited there a little while, the yeomen of the guard entered bareheaded, clothed in scarlet, with a golden rose upon their backs, bringing in at each turn a course of twenty four dishes served in plate, most of it gilt; these dishes were received

by a gentleman in the same order they were brought, and placed upon the table, while the lady-taster gave to each of the guards a mouthful to eat, at the particular dish he had brought, for fear of any poison. During the time that this guard, which consists of the tallest and stoutest men that can be found in all England, being carefully selected for this service, were bringing dinner, twelve trumpets and two kettle-drums made the hall ring for half an hour together. At the end of this ceremonial, a number of unmarried ladies appeared, who with particular solemnity, lifted the meat off the table and conveyed it into the Queen's inner and more private chamber, where, after she had chosen for herself, the rest goes to the ladies of the court. The Queen dines and supps alone with very few attendants; and it is very seldom that any body, foreigner or native, is admitted at that time, and then only at the intercession of somebody in power."

/53 Sidney Papers, vol. ii. p. 201.

/54 Collins's Peerage, vol. iv. p. 131.

/55 Pat. 11 Jac. I. pt. 13. Feb. 9.

/* The Earl of Orford (Horace Walpole), from whose translation of part of Hentzner's Itinerary (printed at Strawberry-hill) the above extract is taken, makes the following observation in a note upon this passage: "The excess of respectful ceremonial used at decking her Majesty's table, though not in her presence, and the kind of adoration and genuflection paid to her person, approach to Eastern homage. When we observe such worship offered to an old woman, with bare neck, black teeth, and false red hair, it makes one smile; but makes one reflect what masculine sense was couched under these weaknesses, and which could command such awe from a nation like England."

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The House of Delight.

of the "House of Delight /56," in the park, now **enlarged and converted into the Naval Asylum**. King Charles the First resided occasionally at Greenwich, before the breaking out of the civil war: his Queen, Henrietta Maria, employed Inigo Jones /57 to finish the building, which Anne of Denmark had begun. It was completed in 1635, as appears by a date still to be seen on the front: the ceilings were painted by Horatio Gentileschi /58, and the whole house was furnished so magnificently, that it surpassed, as Philipott says, all others of the kind in England /59.

Circumstances relating to the palace during the civil wars.

On the third of November 1642, three companies of foot, and a troop of horse, were sent by the Parliament at night, to search the palace and town of Greenwich for concealed arms; they found only a few two-handed broad-swords without scabbards /60. When the ordinance for the sale of Crown-lands was passed, in 1649, Greenwich-house and park were reserved: Sir Bulstrode Whitlocke being made keeper and steward of the manor /61. On the 21st of December 1651, it was resolved that Greenwich house should be kept for the Lord Protector /62; the next year, the necessities of the state requiring money for defraying the expences of the Navy, the House of Commons resolved (Nov. 27,) that Greenwich-house, with the park and lands, should be sold for ready money /63. In pursuance of this resolution, an Act was passed, on the 31st of December, for the sale /64; a survey was taken, and an estimate made. Several of the offices and other premises adjoining to the palace were accordingly sold to various persons /65; but the house itself and the park remaining unsold in 1654, it was again declared to be a fit mansion for the accommodation of the Protector; and on the 20th of December that year, an ordinance passed, by which it was reserved for him and his suc-

cessors /66. Notwithstanding this ordinance, after Cromwell's death, (June 18, 1659,) it was referred to a committee to treat with the city of London about the exchange of Greenwich for the new (Richmond) park /67; but it does not appear that the exchange ever took place. After the Restoration, Greenwich palace, park, and manor came again into the hands of the Crown, and Henry Earl of St. Alban's was made keeper and steward /68. It being found that the old building,

The old palace pulled

/56 Philipott's Survey, p. 162.

/57 Anecdotes of Painting, vol. ii. p. 152.

/58 Ibid. p. 114.

/59 Survey of Kent, p. 162.

/60 England's Memorable Accidents, Nov. 7, 1642.

/61 Whitlocke's Memorials, p. 385.

/62 Ibid. 610.

/63 Mercurius Politicus, Dec. 2, 1652.

/64 Ibid. Jan. 6, 1653.

/65 The priory buildings to Richard Babington; the hobby stables to Robert Tichborne; several of the offices to Richard Salmon and Thomas Griffin; part of the tilyard, with a messuage adjoining, to Henry Hene. — Particulars of sale in the Augmentation office.

/66 Several Proceedings of State Affairs, Dec. 20–27, 1654.

/67 Public Intelligencer, June 13–20, 1659.

/68 Pat. 14 Car. II. pt. 7. N/o 21.

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down, and a new one begun by Charles II.

which, since its first erection by Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, had been from time to time enlarged and repaired, was become greatly decayed, the King ordered it to be pulled down; intending to build on its site a magnificent palace of freestone, one wing of which was completed, at the expence of 36,000l. /69 Here he occasionally resided; but no farther progress was made in the work, either by him or his successor James. In the early part of the following reign, a project was formed for providing an asylum for seamen, disabled by age, or maimed in the service of their country. The idea of this humane and politic institution is said to have originated with the Queen. After Their Majesties had resolved to found an hospital /70 for this purpose, various places were recommended for its site. Sir Christopher Wren proposed that the unfinished palace at Greenwich should be converted to this use, and enlarged with new buildings. His advice was adopted; and in the year 1694, the King and Queen, by their letters patent, granted the said palace, with other buildings and certain parcels of ground adjoining, to the Lord Keeper Somers, the Duke of Leeds, and others, in trust, "to be converted and employed to and for the use and service of a hospital to be there founded, for the relief and support of seamen of the Royal Navy, who, by reason of wounds or other disabilities should be incapable of further service at sea, and unable to maintain themselves; and for the sustentation of widows, and the education of children of such seamen as should be slain or disabled in the King's service." The following year, the King (Queen Mary being then dead) appointed commissioners /71 for the purpose of considering (with the assistance of the Surveyor-general and other artists) what part of King Charles's palace, and the other buildings granted for that purpose, would be fit for the intended hospital, and how they might be best prepared for that use; of procuring models for such new buildings as might be required; of preparing, (with the assistance of the Attorney and Solicitor General,) a charter of foundation, with statutes and orders for the management of the hospital; and for other purposes. The King, by the said patent, granted the sum of 2000l. yearly towards carrying this noble work into effect. The commissioners held their first meeting at Guildhall, on the 17th of May 1695; when a committee was appointed to view the premises granted for the use of the hospital, who reported that King Charles's unfinished

Charles II.'s unfinished palace converted into a hospital for seamen, founded by King William and Queen Mary.

The King's donation.

/69 Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 22.

/70 Almost the whole of the account of Green-

wich Hospital, as here given, is abstracted from the History of the Hospital, published in 1789, by the Rev. J. Cooke, and the Rev. J. Maule, the chaplains.

/71 The commissioners, who were upwards of 200 in number, consisted of the great officers of state, and other official persons; the archbishops and bishops; the judges; the lord mayor and aldermen; the master, warden, assistants, and elder brethren of the Trinity-house (most of them for the time being); and several of the nobility and gentry.

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A subscrip-
tion opened
for carrying
on the work.

palace might, by the addition of a building on the west side, be made capable of receiving, conveniently, between three and four hundred seamen. On the 31st of the same month, at a meeting of the committee in Guildhall, the preamble of a subscription-roll was drawn up, but the subscription fell very short of what might have been expected from the liberal example of the founder, and the magnitude, policy, and benevolence of the institution. Some individuals contributed generously /72, but the whole of the subscription did not amount to 8000l.; and it is remarkable, that the names of two persons only, (Isaac Loader Esq. of Deptford, and Dr. Plume, vicar of Greenwich,) who were not among the commissioners, appear on the list. I believe it may be affirmed, without any undue compliment to the present age, that the event of such a subscription would now be very different. Sir Christopher Wren, who was appointed the architect, (to his honour be it spoken,) contributed his time, labour, and skill, and superintended the progress of the work, for several years without any emolument or reward. The foundation of the first new building was laid on the 3d of June 1696, from which time the Hospital has been gradually enlarged and improved, till it has arrived at its present splendor and magnificence.

Sir Christo-
pher Wren,
the architect.
The new
building be-
gun.

Description
of Greenwich
Hospital.

Greenwich Hospital, in its present state, consists of four distinct piles of building, distinguished by the names of King Charles's; Queen Anne's; King William's, and Queen Mary's. King Charles's and Queen Anne's are those next the river: between them is the grand square 270 feet wide; and in front by the river-side a terrace 865 feet in length. The view, from the north gate, which opens to the terrace in the midway between the two buildings, presents an assemblage of objects uncommonly grand and striking. Beyond the square are seen the hall and chapel, with their beautiful domes, and the two colonnades, which form a kind of avenue, terminated by the **Naval Asylum** in the park; on an eminence of which appears the Royal Observatory amidst a grove of trees. In the centre of the great square above mentioned is a statue of George the Second, by Rysbrach, carved out of a single block of white marble, which weighed eleven tons, taken from the French by Sir George Rooke. The statue was presented to the Hospital by Sir John Jennings, a former Governor. On the pedestal

The great
square.

Statue of
George II.

/72 Some of the principal contributions were as follows: – The Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Tenison); the Lord Keeper Somers; the Dukes of Leeds, Shrewsbury, and Devonshire; the Earls of Pembroke, Dorset, and Portland, 500l. each: the Earl of Montagu, 300l.; the Earls of Romney, Monmouth, and Godolphin, 200l. each; Sir Richard Smith, 126l.; Lord Ranelagh, Sir William Trumbull, Sir J. Trevor, Sir Stephen Fox, Sir J. Holt, Sir J. Lowther, Sir T. Lane, Sir George Trevor, Sir Robert Rich, Sir J. Houblon, Sir Patience Ward, Sir Wm. Ashurst, Sir R. Onslow, Sir George Rooke, Sir Thomas Trevor, Charles Montagu Esq. J. Smith Esq.; H. Priestman Esq., and R. Austen Esq., 100l. each.

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are some inscriptions /72, drawn up by Mr. Stanyan, author of the Grecian History.

King Charles's building.

King Charles's building stands on the west side of the great square; the eastern part of it, which is of Portland stone, was erected in 1664, by Webb, after a design of his father-in-law Inigo Jones. The front towards the east has in the centre a portico, supported by four Corinthian columns; and at each end a pavilion formed by four columns of the same order. In this range of buildings is the council-room, with an antichamber. In the antichamber are some sea-pieces, given by Thomas Harman Esq. representing the exploits of his ancestor Captain Thomas Harman, in the reign of Charles II.; and a series of small pictures, representing the loss of the Luxemburgh galley, (commanded by Captain William Kellaway,) which was burnt in her passage from Jamaica to London in 1727; and the subsequent distresses of part of her crew who escaped in the long-boat, and were at sea from June 25 to July 7, without any victuals or a drop of liquor /73. In the council-room are portraits of King William and Queen Mary, by Kneller; King George II.; the first Earl of Sandwich, by Sir Peter Lely; Lord Torrington, by Davison; Sir John Jennings, by Richardson; Robert Osbaldeston Esq. a liberal benefactor to the Hospital; Captain Clements, (a former Lieut. Governor,) by Greenhill; and the late Earl of Sandwich, by Gainsborough. In this room also are several of Sir James Thornhill's original sketches for the great hall. The north front of King Charles's building, which is towards the river, contains the apartments of the Governor and Lieut. Governor. This and the south front have each two pavilions similar to those in the east front. The west side of this building, comprehending the north-west and south-west pavilions, was originally all of brick /74. It was the first addition to King Charles's palace, being called the bass building. The foundation was laid in 1696, and it was nearly completed in 1698. The whole of what is now called King Charles's

Council-room and antichamber.

Council-room.

/72 On the east side:

"Hic requies senectæ
Hic modus lasso maris et viarum
Militiæque."

On the west side:

"Fessos tuto placidissima portu
Accipit."

Underneath the Royal Standard:

"Imperium Pelagi."

On the north-side:

"Hic ames dici pater atque princeps."

On the south side.

"Principi potentissimo Georgio II/do Britanniarum Regi, cujus auspiciis et patrocinio augustissimum hoc hospitium ad sublevandos militantium in classe emeritorum labores – a regiis ipsius antecessoribus fundatum auctius indies et splendidius exurgit.

"Joannes Jennings, eques, ejusdem hospitii præfectus, Iconem hanc pro debita sua erga principem reverentia et patriam charitate posuit, anno Domini MDCCXXXV."

/73 The whole number in the boat was 23; William Boys, who was one of six only who survived the distresses of the voyage, was afterwards Lieutenant-Governor of Greenwich Hospital.

/74 The north-west pavilion was taken down and rebuilt with stone in 1712; the south west pavilion in 1769.

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Queen Anne's building.

building, contains fourteen wards, in which are 301 beds. Queen Anne's building, on the east side of the great square, nearly corresponds with King Charles's on the opposite side. The foundation of this building was laid in 1698: the greater part of it was raised and covered in before 1728. In this building are

several of the officers' apartments; and twenty-four wards, in which are 437 beds.

King William's building.

The vestibule and hall.

King William's building stands to the south-west of the great square. It contains the great hall, vestibule, and dome, designed and erected by Sir Christopher Wren, between 1698 and 1703: to the east of these adjoins a colonnade, 347 feet in length, supported by columns and pilasters of the Doric order, 20 feet in height. In the vestibule of the hall is the model of an antique ship, found in the Villa Mattea (given by Lord Anson). The great hall is 106 feet in length, 56 in width, and 50 in height. In the frieze is the following inscription: "Pietas augusta ut habitent secure et publice alantur qui publicæ securitati invigilant, regia Grenovici Mariæ auspiciis sublevandis nautis destinata, regnantibus Gulielmo et Maria, 1694." The painting of this hall was undertaken by Sir James Thornhill in 1708, and finished in 1727. It cost 6685*l.* being after the rate of 3*l.* per yard for the ceiling, and 1*l.* for the sides. This price the directors agreed to pay, after consulting some of the most eminent artists of that time; who declared the performance to be equal in merit to any thing of the kind in England, and superior in the number of figures and ornaments. On the ceiling are portraits of the Royal founders William and Mary, surrounded by the cardinal virtues, the four seasons of the year, the English rivers, the four elements, the arts and sciences relating to navigation; and other emblematical figures, among which are introduced, portraits of Flamsteed, the Astronomer Royal, and his pupil Mr. Thomas Weston. The sides are adorned with fluted pilasters, trophies, &c. The ceiling of the upper hall represents Queen Anne and Prince George of Denmark, accompanied by various emblematical figures; the four quarters of the globe, &c. The subjects on the sides are the landing of the Prince of Orange at **Torbay**; and of George I. at Greenwich /75. At the upper end of the hall are portraits of King George I. and his family, with many emblematical figures; among which Sir James Thornhill has introduced his own portrait.

Funeral of Lord Nelson.

In this hall the remains of that illustrious naval hero, the lamented Lord Viscount Nelson, having been landed at Greenwich, lay in state on Sunday January 5th, 1806, and the two following days. On Wednesday the 8th they were removed by water to the Admiralty. It was computed that at least 30,000 persons were

/75 The King remained after his landing at the Governor's lodgings, till he made his public entry into London.

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admitted into the hall each day; notwithstanding this immense concourse of people, the whole was conducted with most excellent order; the Greenwich Volunteers, who were placed during the time on permanent duty, received the thanks of Lord Hood for their effectual assistance upon this occasion. The car which bore the corpse of the immortal Nelson to the place of interment, was given to the Hospital by the Earl of Dartmouth, whose perquisite it was as Lord Chamberlain, and has been placed in the Hall. The west front of King William's building, which is of brick, was finished by Sir John Vanburgh, about the year 1726. This building contains eleven wards, in which are 551 beds.

Queen Mary's building.

The foundation of the eastern colonnade (which is similar to that on the west side) was laid in 1699; but the chapel, and other parts of Queen Mary's building which adjoin to it, were not finished till 1752. This building, which corresponds to that called King William's, contains thirteen wards, in which are 1092 beds.

Dreadful fire which consumed a great part of the building. The new chapel.

On the 2d of January 1779, a dreadful fire happened in this building which destroyed the chapel, with its dome, part of the colonnade, and as many of the adjoining wards as contained 500 beds. The whole has been since rebuilt. The former chapel, which was destroyed, was designed by Ripley; the present chapel, by the late James Stuart, well known by his interesting publications on the antiquities of Athens. It is 111 feet in length, and 52 in width: the portal is extremely rich; and the interior part fitted up in the most elegant style of Grecian architecture. On the sides are galleries for the officers and their families, and beneath, seats for the pensioners, nurses, and boys. Over the altar is a large painting, (25 feet by 14) representing the shipwreck of St. Paul, by West. Over the lower windows are paintings in chiaro oscuro, by Rebecca and other artists. The pulpit is very richly ornamented with carved work, representing scripture subjects. The organ, which is esteemed a very fine one, was made by

Green.

The two pavilions at the extremities of the terrace were erected in 1778, and dedicated to their present Majesties. The east and west entrances into the Hospital are formed by two piers of rustic work. On those at the west entrance are placed two large stone globes, each six feet diameter.

The Infirmary.

In 1763, it having been determined to erect an Infirmary without the walls of the Hospital for sick pensioners, Mr. Stuart gave a design for the building, which was immediately completed by Mr. Robinson, then clerk of the works. It is a quadrangular brick building, 198 feet in length, and 175 in breadth, containing 64 rooms, each formed so as to accommodate four patients; every room having a chimney-place and ventilator. This building contains also a chapel, hall, and kitchen; apartments for the physician, surgeon, apothecary, matron, &c.

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Helpless Ward.

Within the walls are hot and cold baths. A building of one floor 256 feet in length, was erected as an appendage to the Infirmary in 1809. This building, which is called the Helpless Ward, being humanely intended for those whose infirmities prevent them from going up and down stairs, without inconvenience and distress, will accommodate 150 pensioners.

School-house, and dormitory.

In 1783, a school-house, with a dormitory for the boys, was built without the walls of the hospital; the wards which the boys formerly occupied being appropriated to the reception of an additional number of pensioners. This building was designed by Mr. Stuart, and erected under the superintendence of Mr. Newton, clerk of the works. It is 146 feet in length, and 42 in breadth, exclusive of a Tuscan colonade in front, which is 180 feet long, and 20 broad. The school-room, 100 feet by 25, is capable of containing 200 boys. In the upper stories are two dormitories of the same length, furnished with hammocks. There are apartments also for the guardian, nurses, and other attendants; and, at a small distance, a house for the schoolmaster.

Other out-buildings belonging to the hospital are, a large brewery, the officers' stables, &c.

Qualifications of the pensioners.

The pensioners, who are the objects of this noble charity, must be seamen disabled by age or maimed (either in the King's service, or in the merchant service, if the wounds were received in defending or taking any ship, or in fight against a pirate /76). Foreigners, who have served two years in the British Navy, become entitled to receive the benefits of this charity in the same manner as natives. The widows of seamen, pursuant to the intention of the Royal founder, are provided for in this establishment, enjoying the exclusive privilege of being appointed nurses in the hospital.

In the month of January 1705, the Royal Hospital at Greenwich was first opened for the reception of pensioners, when forty-two seamen, qualified as above mentioned, were admitted. Their number has since been gradually increased to 2460, which is the present complement /77. The pensioners are provided with clothes,

/76 At first it was confined entirely to seamen in the King's service; but, in 1712, all seamen having been made liable to the duty of sixpence a month, imposed before only on seamen in the King's service, the benefits of this charity, in aid of which the duty was granted, was extended as above-mentioned.

/77 Between 1705 and 1708, the number was increased from 42 to 300
Between 1708 and 1709 it was increased to 350

1709	1728	450
1728	1731	900
1731	1738	1000
1738	1751	1300
1751	1755	1550

Between 1755 and 1763 it was increased to 1720

1763	1764	1783
1764	1770	2000
1770	1782	2350

1782	1799	2410
1799	1807	2460

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diet, and lodging; and have a small allowance for pocket-money /78. The number of nurses now employed in the hospital, including the boys' nurses, is **150**; they must be widows of seamen, and under 45 years of age at the time of their admission. They are allowed **11l.** per annum as wages, and are provided with clothing, diet, and lodging. About **18,300** pensioners, and **790** nurses, have been admitted into the Hospital since its first establishment.

Out pensioners.

In 1763, in consequence of an application from the Commissioners of Greenwich Hospital, assembled at a general court, an Act of Parliament passed, enabling them (after defraying the necessary expences of the Hospital) to grant pensions to such poor seamen (worn out and become decrepit in the King's service) as could not be received, for want of room, into the Hospital. In pursuance of this Act, 1400 out-pensioners were appointed to receive 7l. per annum: their numbers having gradually decreased, by death, or admission into the Hospital, 500 more were appointed in 1782. The present number of out-pensioners is **5400**, who receive from 4l. to 18l. per annum, according to the period of their service, or the nature of their disability. Besides these pensions to common seamen and marines, it was resolved at a general court in 1806, to allow certain pensions to officers incapable of service, viz. 80l. per annum to ten captains; 65l. per annum to fifteen commanders; and 50l. per annum /79 to 50 lieutenants.

Officers' pensions.

Education of seamen's sons.

From the first beginning of the institution, in compliance with the Royal Founder's intention, a certain number of seamen's sons have been educated in the Hospital; at first, ten only; in 1731, they were increased to 60; and at length, to **200**; which is the present complement. The boys must be, at the time of their admission, between eleven and thirteen years of age; objects of charity; of sound body and mind, and able to read. They are lodged, clothed, and maintained three years; during which time they are instructed in the principles of religion by the chaplains; and in writing, arithmetic, navigation, (and drawing, if they shew any genius for it,) by the schoolmaster. Each boy has a Bible and Prayer-book given him on his entrance into the school, and is supplied, during his stay there, with all necessary books and instruments; which he is allowed to take with him when he leaves the school. He is then bound out for seven years to the sea-service: an excellent branch this of the charity, which answers the double purpose of providing for the sons of poor seamen, and of making them useful to their country. About **3600** boys have been educated from the first establishment of this charity to the present time. The master, who is appointed

/78 The common sailors have a shilling a week; the boatswains 2s. 6d.; the boatswains' mates 1s. 6d.

/79 From information obligingly communicated, with other particulars, for the present edition, by John Dyer Esq. secretary, through the favour of Lord Aukland.

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by the directors, has a salary of **160l.** per annum, and a house. The present master is **Mr. Thomas Lancey**.

Revenue of the Hospital.

The funds which have sufficed to raise the magnificent buildings of this Hospital, and to increase, from time to time, the establishment to its present extent, have been derived from the following sources:

The sum of 2000l. per annum, granted by the King, in 1695; about 8000l. subscribed as before-mentioned, in 1695; a duty of 6d. per month, to be paid by every mariner, either in the King's or in the merchants' service; granted by Parliament in 1696, and in 1712 /79; the sum of 19,500l. being fines paid by certain merchants for smuggling, given by the King, in 1699; the sum of 600l. being the produce of a lottery, (in the year 1699,) from which much greater gains were expected; the profits of the market at Greenwich, given by Henry Earl of Romney, in 1700; the sum of 6472l. 1s. being the effects of Kid, a pirate, given by Queen Anne, in 1705; the moiety of a large estate bequeathed by Robert

Osbalston Esq. in 1707, (valued at 20,000l.), and the profits of his unexpired grant of the north and south foreland lighthouses (since renewed for 99 years to the Hospital); forfeited and unclaimed shares of prize-money, granted by Queen Anne, in 1708; six thousand pounds per annum, granted by Queen Anne, in 1710, out of the duty on coals, and continued for a longer term by George I.; the wages and allowance of the chaplains of the Hospital, as chaplains of Deptford and Woolwich Dock-yards, granted to the Hospital in 1714, an increase of salary having been given in lieu to the chaplains; the half-pay of all the officers belonging to the Hospital from the year 1728, when salaries were assigned them in lieu; ten thousand pounds granted annually by Parliament in 1728, and for several years following; an estate given by Mr. William Clapham of Eltham (1730), consisting of wharfs and warehouses near London-bridge, (after the death of his sister without issue); the estates forfeited by the Earl of Derwentwater /80, given by Act of Parliament in 1735, with certain monies received on account of the said estates, and then remaining in the Exchequer; the sum of 1l. 13s. 4d. per cent. on the net proceeds of all prizes, granted by

/79 See note, p. 506.

/80 The rental was then about 6000l. per annum, subject to certain incumbrances, which were paid off by the commissioners in 1749.

The estates consist of manors, lands, mines, &c. chiefly in the counties of Cumberland, Durham, and Northumberland. The advowson of the rich living of Simonbourn, in the latter county, now upwards of 3000l. per annum, is in the patronage of the Commissioners and Governors. It is intended to renew an application to Parliament for powers to divide this great benefice into 4 or 5, to be given to naval chaplains.

By an Act of Parliament passed 22 Geo. II. the sum of 30,000l. was granted for the relief of James Bartholomew Radcliffe, and other children of Charles Radcliffe, who was attainted in 1715.

In 1788, on a petition from the Earl of Newburgh, an Act of Parliament passed, granting to his Lordship, and his heirs male, a rent-charge of 2500l. per annum, to be paid by the treasurer of the Hospital.

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His present Majesty, in 1805; and benefactions of private persons at various times, (subsequently to the subscription already mentioned,) amounting in the whole to about 20,670l. /81, including the liberal sum of 10,000l. 3 per cent. consol. given by an anonymous benefactor in 1802.

The present revenue of the Hospital arises from such of the grants and benefactions above-mentioned as were of a permanent nature, and from fines for fishing with unlawful nets, and other offences committed on the river Thames.

Funds of the school.

The expences of the school are not paid out of this revenue, but it is supported solely by the following incidental funds: viz. money received for shewing the hall, chapel, and other parts of the building; mulcts, absences, cheques, &c. of the pensioners and the nurses; profits on provisions purchased of the pensioners; sale of old household stores; and unclaimed property of deceased pensioners and nurses. These funds have proved adequate to the expences of the establishment, and have produced a balance of savings invested in the stocks.

Constitution and government of the Hospital.

King William's first commission relating to Greenwich Hospital has been already mentioned, a second commission passed the Great Seal on the 25th of September 1695. In 1703, Queen Anne issued a commission (dated July 21) which directed that seven commissioners should form a general court, whereof the Lord High Admiral, the Lord Treasurer, or any two Privy Counsellors should be a quorum; general courts were to be held quarterly; the Governor and Treasurer of the Hospital to be appointed by the Crown, all the other officers by the Lord High Admiral, having been recommended to him by the general

court: the same commission appoints twenty-five directors to be a standing committee, to meet every fortnight; it vests the internal regulation of the Hospital in the Governor, and such a council of the officers as the Lord High Admiral shall appoint. Such has been the constitution of the Hospital to the present day, warrants having been issued from time to time by the Admiralty forming new councils, as the increase of officers or other circumstances rendered it necessary. New commissions of the same nature as that of Queen Anne, were issued by King George I. and George II. on their accession to the throne; but it was not till the

/81 The principal benefactions were,
 Sir Josiah Child, 300l.
 An unknown person, (in malt tickets,) 1000l. 9s. 8d.
 Ralph Thoresby Esq. 500l.
 Thomas Blackman Esq. 100l.
 John de la Fontaine Esq. 3381l. 15s.
 Benjamin Overton Esq. 300l.
 Sir James Bateman, 103l.
 James Taylor Esq. 102l. 11s. 5d.
 Elizabeth Bridges, 100l.
 Mr. Evelyn, 2000l.
 Mr. William Raphe, 250l.
 Mrs. Waldron, of Greenwich, 500l.
 Mrs. Waters, 100l.
 Admiral Long, 100l.
 Captain Sharman, 100l.
 Capt. J. Mathews, 500l.
 Moiety of the balance of a subscription at Lloyd's Coffee-House, on account of the action of 11 October 1797, 210l.
 Donation of 10,000l. 3 percent. consol. from an unknown benefactor, producing 6849l. 11s. 9d.
 Donation from another unknown Person, 2600l.
 Captain Jos. Furroyman, 1110l. 11s. 9d.

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Commissioners incorporated by charter in 1775.

year 1775, that the commissioners became a body corporate, by a charter of His present Majesty. This charter grants powers to finish the building; to provide for seamen, either within or out of the Hospital; to make bye-laws, &c. &c. It is provided by the charter, that all the officers of the Hospital shall be seafaring men; the office of the directors is defined to be, to inspect the carrying on of the buildings; to state the accounts, and to make contracts; and to place the boys out as apprentices. The internal regulation of the Hospital is vested in the Governor and Council, as before mentioned. This charter was followed by an Act of Parliament, which vested in the commissioners thus incorporated, all the estates held in trust for the benefit of the Hospital.

Principal officers.

The principal officers /82 of Greenwich Hospital are a Governor, Lieutenant-Governor; four Captains, eight Lieutenants, a Treasurer, Secretary, Auditor, two Chaplains; a Physician, Surgeon, Steward, Clerk of the Checque, Surveyor, Clerk of the Works, besides assistants, and a great number of inferior officers. The Governor and Treasurer are appointed by the King's patent; the other officers by the Admiralty, except the Surveyor and Clerk of the Works, who are nominated by the general court. The officers are allowed, in addition to their salaries, a certain quantity of coals and candles.

The cemetery.

In 1707, a piece of ground, lying on the east side of Greenwich-park, 660 feet in length, and 132 in breadth, was given by Prince George of Denmark to the Hospital for a burial ground. This cemetery has been long disused; another parcel of ground, containing about two acres and a half, having been appropriated for that purpose in 1749; when a mausoleum was built, in which are preserved the memorials of Mr. Pierce Welsh /83, the first Lieutenant of the Hospital; the

Rev. Philip Stubbs, archdeacon of St. Alban's, chaplain of Greenwich Hos-

/82 The present officers are,
The Governor – Right Hon. Lord Hood.
Lieut. Gov. – **Wm. Browell Esq.**
Captains **Sam. Arden.**
Jos. Ellison.
Wm. Edge.
F. Lynn.
Lieutenants C. Besson,
G. Spearing /*.
Fred. Bedford.
Jos. Dewsnap.
T. Lynne.
T. Williams.
John Rickman.
R. Aitcheson.
Treasurer – Admiral Sir John Colpoys, K. B.
Secretary – **John Dyer Esq.**
Auditor – Rt. Hon. Lord Auckland.
Surveyor – John Yenn, Esq. **R. A.**
Physician – **Rob. Robertson, M. D.**
Surgeon – William Miller.
Steward – John Godby.
Chaplains – Rev. J. Cooke.
Rev. J. Maule.
Clerk of the Checque – **Richard Smith Esq.**

/83 Inscription: – “Here lies the body of Mr. Pierce Welsh, Lieutenant of His Majesty's ship Salisbury: in the year 1703, on the 10th of April, they engaged a part of the Dunkirk squadron, in which he lost his lower jaw and part of his tongue, by a musket ball, after which he lived six years, four months, and twelve days, by liquids only. He was the first lieutenant of the Royal Hospital at Greenwich, and died the 22/d day of August 1709, aged 59 years.”

/* See an account of this Gentleman's extraordinary escape from a coal-pit, in the Gentleman's Magazine for August 1793.

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pital &c.; and other persons who were buried in the old ground. In the new cemetery, are among others, the monuments of Francis Dansays Esq. Lieut. Governor of the Hospital, who died in 1754; John Bouchier Esq. Lieut. Governor of the Hospital, who died in 1808; and Thomas Main, Quartermaster's mate of the Leviathan, whose remarkable fortitude in the glorious battle of Trafalgar is recorded in an inscription which will be found in the note /84. In this cemetery was interred, June 26, 1774, Nicholas Tindal, the translator of Rapin's History of England. He published also a continuation of it to the end of George the First's reign, and was author of some other works. Mr. Tindal was appointed one of the chaplains of Greenwich Hospital in 1738.

Nicholas
Tindal.

Average
number of
pensioners
buried.

The average number of pensioners buried yearly, during the last 20 years, is somewhat more than 200. As the register of burials does not record their ages, I have had no other opportunity of ascertaining any instances of longevity which may have occurred in the Hospital, than from the obituaries in periodical publications, which mention the death of Mr. Baker of Greenwich Hospital, March 1736, aged 101 /85; and Thomas Bond, a pensioner, Dec. 8, 1739, aged 105 /86.

Removal of
the Chest
from Chat-
ham to
Greenwich.
Royal Naval
Asylum.

The establishment called the Chest, originally instituted at Chatham in the year 1590 /87, was removed, by virtue of an act of parliament /88 passed in the year 1803, to Greenwich, where a building had been provided for that purpose near the Hospital.

The Royal Naval Asylum, lately established at Greenwich, for the education and maintenance of orphans and other children of His Majesty's sailors and

/84 "In memory of Thomas Main, Quarter-master's Mate of His Majesty's ship the Leviathan, who died, aged 39, of a wound, which he received on the twenty-first of October 1805, in the memorable and glorious battle of Trafalgar. In this, he shares but in common with many others, the praise and the glory of having died in the defence of his country; yet, he further signalized himself by a display of fortitude, which is not surpassed in the records of naval intrepidity. The severity of the wound required the amputation of his left arm! – He nevertheless hailed the triumph of British valour, by exultingly singing the patriotic song of "Rule Britannia," even while the agonizing operation was performing. This monument was erected by permission of the Governor and Directors of this Royal institution, at the request, and sole expense of an admirer of naval heroism: as well to excite emulation, as to manifest his own respect to the memory of a brave man."

/85 Historical Register. /86 Gent. Mag.

/87 It was originally for the relief of master-mariners, shipwrights, and seafaring men, when hurt or maimed, from a fund raised by small monthly contributions among themselves; the shipwrights seceded from it in 1671. In 1704, the marines became entitled (in consequence of similar payments deducted from their wages when at sea,) to the like relief for hurts or maims received on board a ship. Pensions for life are granted to those whose cases are deemed incurable, and they are paid half yearly. By an Act of Parliament in 1806, 3l. 6s. 8d. per cent, was granted to the use of the Chest, from the net proceeds of all prizes and droits of Admiralty; in consequence of which, considerable advances of pension have been made to those who have been severely maimed or wounded. There are about 9000 on the pension list. (From the information of John Dyer Esq. Secretary of Greenwich Hospital.)

/88 By this act, the Chest is placed under the direction of four supervisors, (the first lord commissioner of the Admiralty, the comptroller of the navy, the governor and the auditor of Greenwich Hospital,) who are made a body corporate; and five directors are appointed by the supervisors from among the officers of Greenwich Hospital, who meet every Tuesday to transact business.

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mariners, originated, as good frequently arises out of evil, in a fraud upon the public, by a man who in the year 1798, collected considerable sums under the pretence of supporting an institution of this nature at Paddington, which he called the British Endeavour. Some circumstances having occurred to excite suspicion, His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, who had been a subscriber to his institution, resolved, with the assistance of the Rev. Dr. Clarke /87, (now Auditor to the Naval Asylum,) and some other gentlemen, to investigate the matter. A meeting of the subscribers was convened, the fraud which had been practised became apparent, the manager of the "British Endeavour" was committed to prison, and a prosecution commenced against him. The professed intention of the late unworthy undertaker, being of such apparent utility, it was resolved to establish an

institution of a similar nature under better auspices; and as the Duke of York had signified his intension of establishing a Military Asylum, it was determined at the suggestion of Dr. Clarke, to confine this institution to the children of seamen and marines, and to call it the Naval Asylum. The Duke of Sussex having been obliged to go abroad for his health, the Duke of Cumberland graciously accepted the office of President, and under his protection, aided by the zeal and exertions of the committee, the new institution continued for some years to flourish at Paddington, the place of its original establishment; but the number of children never exceeded 70, being as many as the premises then occupied for that purpose would contain.

Made a Royal foundation.

In consequence of the papers relating to the Naval Asylum having been laid before the late Right Hon. William Pitt, then Prime Minister, and the communications made by him to His Majesty, His Majesty declared his inclination to make it a Royal foundation for 1000 children; and the necessary arrangements having been made for that purpose, it became such on the memorable day of the battle of Trafalgar. It is now managed by a board of commissioners, consisting of some of the officers of state, and distinguished officers of the navy, and the marine forces. In the year 1807 an act of Parliament passed, by which His Majesty, (who had graciously signified his intention of so doing,) was empowered to grant the palace in Greenwich-park, commonly called the King's House, Queen's house, or Ranger's Lodge, to the Commissioners of the Royal Naval Asylum. This is the same building which has been already spoken of, as begun by Anne of Denmark, and finished by Queen Henrietta Maria. It was at a later period the residence of those brave officers, Mathew Lord Aylmer, and Sir John Jennings, who successively held the double appointment of Ranger of the park and Governor of the hospital, and was afterwards the occasional retirement of the Right Hon. Henry Pelham when Prime Minister; his wife, Lady Catherine Pelham, being the ranger.

Grant of the Queen's House, or Ranger's Lodge.

/87 To whom I am indebted for the particulars relating to this institution.

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The Queen's House or Ranger's Lodge, on the front of which is still preserved the name of Queen Henrietta Maria, with the date 1635, now forms the centre of the Naval Asylum, and contains the apartments of the principal officers, and the school-rooms and dormitories of the girls: the great hall, a cube of about fifty-four feet remains as before, surrounded by a gallery. The wings, which are intended to be about 51 feet in front, and about 318 feet in depth, are united with the original building by colonnades of nearly 180 feet each, these wings, one of which is nearly finished, are intended for the school-rooms and dormitories of the boys, (who are to be 800 in number,) and apartments of some of the officers.

New buildings.

The children were removed to Greenwich in the month of November 1807, at which time there were about 70 children, of which about one third were girls. The complement of girls is now complete, but as yet there are only 100 boys.

Removal of the children to Greenwich.

In the selection of children for this asylum the general system is to prefer, first, orphans who have no mothers and whose fathers have fallen in His Majesty's service; secondly, orphans of such fathers, whose mothers are living; thirdly, children whose fathers having been wounded or maimed on board His Majesty's fleet are incapable of further service, and whose families are numerous and in need; fourthly, children whose fathers are actually employed in His Majesty's fleet, in distant service, and whose mothers have died during the fathers' absence; and fifthly, children whose fathers are actually employed in His Majesty's service, and whose families are numerous and in need. The children must be free from mental and bodily infirmity; they must not be under the age of five years; the girls must not exceed ten years, nor the boys twelve years of age. At a proper age the children are to be bound apprentices, except such of the boys as shall be placed, with their own consent, as sailors in His Majesty's service. The boys are instructed in rope making, which was carried on with good success at Paddington, and in other trades, for which convenient buildings are appropriated.

Qualifications of the children.

Officers.

The officers who hold commissions under His Majesty for the government and care of the Royal Naval Asylum, are the Governor (Captain Dacres); the Secretary (Lieutenant Baynes); the Auditor (the Rev. Dr. Clarke); the Chaplain (the Rev. William Morgan); the Surgeon (Mr. William Gladstone); and the Steward (Mr. Charles Brewer); there are also a Matron, Deputy Matron, and other infe-

rior officers, besides the schoolmaster and mistresses. Upon the first establishment of the Naval Asylum as a Royal foundation, the committee of the patriotic fund offered to give the sum of 40,000*l.* towards its support on certain terms, which were approved of by His Majesty's commissioners; in consequence of which the committee of that fund are entitled to recommend children to the Asylum /88. Under

/88 The other most considerable pecuniary benefactions to this establishment, have been the sum of 1245*l.* given by the committee of Lord Duncan's victory; 2600*l.* by the Jews through the hands of Messrs. Goldsmids; and 1000*l.* by Earl St. Vincent.

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the act already mentioned, a house within the park at the foot of Maize-hill, some time in the occupation of Admiral Braithwaite, and afterwards in that of Sir John Douglas, Knt. was granted to the Commissioners of the Asylum, and is the residence of the surgeon of the establishment: another house, not far from the Ranger's Lodge, which had been occupied by the Maitre d'Hotel of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, was included also in the same grant, and has been improved and appropriated to the residence of the Rev. Dr. Clarke, the Auditor, to whose unremitting zeal and exertion from the first moment of its original establishment, this noble national institution has been under the highest obligations.

Greenwich-park.

Greenwich palace having been converted into an hospital for seamen, as has been **already** related, the park remained, as it still does, in the Crown. It was walled round with brick by King James the First /89, and laid out in Charles the Second's time, under the direction of Le Notre. This park contains 188 acres; it is planted chiefly with elms and Spanish chesnut trees, of the latter there are a great number fit for timber; one in particular measures **seventeen feet seven inches** in girth at three feet from the ground.

The scenery of the park is very beautiful; and the views from it, particularly from One-tree-hill and the Observatory, uncommonly magnificent; affording one of the best prospects of the metropolis, its populous eastern suburbs, and the serpentine windings of the river, with its numerous shipping, for a great extent /90.

/89 Kilburne's Kent, p. 115.

/90 The following just description of the view from Greenwich-hill, is taken from a work published in 1614, intitled "Barclaii Icon Animorum." (p. 24–27.) – "Mons imminet Regiæ modico supercilio subjectum oppidum fluviumque despiciens. Brevibus tumulis in illum ascenditur; verticemque deinde ingenti ambitu planities extendit. Forte in eum bene mane conscenderam; et solitudo circum erat, ut nemo interpellare posset cogitationum ludum dulcissima libertate errantium. Sed memorabilis amoenitas pene citius animum quam oculos diffudit, aspectu non Britannia tantum, sed fortasse tota Europa pulcherrimo. Ingens planities aliquot suspensu colliculis rursus montes in orbem effusi, neque cito castigabant oculos, neque illos per immensum coelum spangebant. Tamesis lætissima ubertate in viciniam exudat, et ad radices montis redeuntibus in girum fluctibus insulam pene molitur. Passim toto alveo naves, & omnis generis onerariæ; ut proximas quidam totas aspicerem, cæterum longius stantes, aut sub altiori ripa, ex malis antennisque tanquam nudam et brumalem sylvam cognoscerem. Nihil illa plaga viridius. Pascuorum utilitas eam frugibus ab-

stulit: & vix alibi fæcilior in gramina terrarum luxuries. Privatorum quoque fundos, de more patrio, perpetuæ fossæ, & pleræque in marginibus arbores sæpiunt: maxime vias publicas altissimæ populi a lateribus tuerentur, ut de monte despicienti perpetua facies hortorum videatur, saltuumque factorum ad ambulationis voluptatem. Præcipua est tam varia viriditas, pene in diversos colores distributa. Nam quæ longius absunt velut cærulea incumbentis coeli facies opacat: propria, densiore fronde in arboribus nigra sunt, vel humi tenui herbarum virore nitentia. Sed pulcherrimum spectaculum præbebat ipsa urbs, inter eximias Europæ celebrata, Londinum, innumeris domibus, vix

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Ancient tower in the park, called Mirefleur, or Greenwich-castle.

On the eminence in Greenwich-park, where now stands the Observatory, was a tower built by Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, and repaired or rebuilt by Henry VIII. in 1526 /91. This tower was sometimes a habitation for **some of** the younger branches of the Royal family; sometimes the residence of a favourite mistress; sometimes a prison; and sometimes a place of defence. Mary of York, fifth daughter of **King** Edward IV. (betrotted to the King of Denmark), died at the tower in Greenwich-park, **in** 1482 /92. "The King," (Henry VIII.) says Puttenham, in his Art of English Poesy, "having Flamock with him in his barge going from Westminster to Greenwich, to visit a fayre lady whom the King loved, who was lodged in the tower of the park; the King coming within sight of the tower, and being disposed to be merie, said, Flamock, let us run /93." In Queen Elizabeth's time, this tower was called Mirefleur; and is supposed, says Hentzner, to have been that mentioned in Amadis de Gaul /94. The Earl of Leicester was confined **in it**, when he had incurred the Queen's displeasure by marrying the Countess of Essex /95. Henry, the learned Earl of Northampton, had a grant from King James of the castle in Greenwich-park, which he enlarged and beautified; making it his chief residence /96. Elizabeth Countess of Suffolk died at the tower in Greenwich-park, in 1633 /97. In 1642, being then called Greenwich castle, it was thought of so much consequence, as a place of strength, that immediate steps were ordered to be taken for securing it /92. Some years after the Restoration, **in the year 1675**, King Charles II. **ordered** the old tower **to be taken down**, and founded on its site a Royal Observatory. The foundation owed its origin to the following circumstance: Monsieur de St. Pierre, a Frenchman, who came to London in 1675, having demanded a reward from King Charles II. for his discovery of a method of finding the longitude by the moon's distance from a star, a commission was appointed to examine into his pretensions. Mr. Flamsteed, who was appointed one of the commissioners, furnished St. Pierre with certain data of observation by which to calculate the longitude of a given place. This he was unable to do; but excused himself by

Foundation of the Royal Observatory.

tamen populi sui capax: quippe ad alteram Tamesis ripam late effusum est; vicinisque annexum oppidis, & pene continua ædificia per quatuor millia portendens. Per hoc spatium non privatæ tantum domus; sed et fana crebro fastigio eminent, & media civitas tanquam umbone, ita præcipui templi mole distincta est." – This view has been most admirably delineated for Boydell's publication of the History of English Rivers, by the accurate pencil of Mr. Farington, which will convey to posterity a just idea of the increased magnitude of the metropolis in 1795, and of the new and magnificent objects which have graced the view from Greenwich-hill since Barclay's description.

/91 Stow's Annals, 4to. p. 885.

- /92 Sandford's Genealogy, p. 396.
 /93 P. 224.
 /94 Hentzner's Itinerary, printed at Strawberry-hill.
 /95 Dugdale's Baronage, vol. ii. p. 221.
 /96 See Philipott's Survey, p. 163; and Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 21.
 /97 Funeral Certificates, Heralds' College.
 /98 Acts of Parliament, 1642.

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asserting that the data were false; Mr. Flamsteed contended that they were true, but allowed that nothing certain could be deduced from them, for want of more exact tables of the moon, and more correct places of the fixed stars, than Tycho's observations, made with plain sight, afforded. This being made known to the King, he declared that his pilots and sailors should not want such an assistance. He resolved, therefore, to found an observatory, for the purpose of ascertaining the motions of the moon, and the places of the fixed stars, as a means of discovering that great desideratum, the longitude at sea; and Flamsteed, who was recommended to His Majesty, by Sir Jonas Moor, was appointed Astronomer Royal /99. Several places were talked of for the site of the observatory, as Hyde-park, the Polemical College at Chelsea, (now the Hospital,) &c. Mr. Flamsteed went to see Chelsea College, and approved of it; but Sir Christopher Wren having recommended Greenwich-castle, that situation was preferred. The King allowed 500*l.* in money towards the building; bricks from Tilbury-fort, where there was a spare stock, and materials from the castle, which **had been** pulled down; promising to grant any thing further that should be necessary. The foundation was laid August 10, 1675; and in the month of August the next year, Flamsteed was put in possession of the Observatory, which, from him, has acquired the name of Flamsteed-house. In September, he began to make observations with a sextant of six feet radius, contrived by himself, and such instruments as were then in use. He resided there many years, doing ample justice to the Royal choice; and shewing himself so eminently qualified for his office that, as has very justly been observed /100, he seemed born for it. Meanwhile he was walking in an almost untrodden path, being one of the first who made use of telescopic sight: and it was not till 1689, that he had the advantage of a mural quadrant; and even then, it was not such as is now in use, but one contrived and divided partly by himself, without any help but the strength of his own genius /101. Flamsteed died at Greenwich, Dec. 31, 1719; when he was succeeded by Dr. Halley, who was an astronomer also of great eminence. Finding upon his appointment, the Observatory bare both of instruments and furniture /102, he began immediately to furnish it anew, and to fix a transit instrument. A mural quadrant of eight feet radius, constructed under the direction of Graham, was put up at the public expence, in 1725 /103. Dr. Halley's observations were principally directed to the moon: he died at the Observatory in 1742, aged 85,

Flamsteed
the first
Astronomer
Royal.

Dr. Halley.

- /99 Prolegomena (prefixed to the third vol.) of Flamsteed's *Historia Celestis*, p. 101, 102.
 /100 Preface to Flamsteed's *Observations*, published after his death.
 /101 Wollaston's Preface to the *Astronomical Catalogue*, p. x.
 /102 These had been taken away by Flamsteed's executors as put up at his expence.
 /103 *Biograph. Brit.*

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and was buried at Lee, near Greenwich, being succeeded as Astronomer Royal by Dr. Bradley; whose discoveries, have justly ranked him among the first astronomers of the present age. To enter into any detail of the circumstances **attending the publication of his Observations** would be foreign to the nature of this work; but my relationship to Dr. Bradley will, perhaps, be regarded as an excuse (when treating of the Royal Observatory) for saying a few words in reply to a

Dr. Bradley.

charge (made by a very ingenious gentleman /103, who, **no doubt, was** misinformed upon the subject) which censures the representatives of the late Astronomer Royal, as regardless of his fame, and as having done an injustice to the public by withholding his Observations. After Dr. Bradley's decease, the guardians of his only daughter, then a minor, thinking that she had a right to any profits which might accrue from her father's labours, took possession of his MSS. A suit being instituted against them a few years afterwards in His Majesty's name for the recovery of these papers as the property of the public, they were advised by eminent counsel not to abandon their claim; but in the year 1776, the **late** Rev. Samuel Peach having married Dr. Bradley's daughter and sole heir, and being in consequence possessed of the right which she might have in her father's MS. observations, threw himself, the suit being then undetermined, upon the generosity of Government, and presented them to Lord North, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, being at that time Chancellor also of the University of Oxford, gave them to that learned body, **on condition of their printing and publishing them.** After a tedious delay, which was much lamented by all who wished well to the cause of science, or felt interested for Dr. Bradley's fame, **the first volume was published by the Rev. Dr. Hornsby, Professor of Astronomy at Oxford, in the year 1799.** In Dr. Bradley's time, some very valuable additions were made to the instruments at the Observatory; a new mural brass quadrant of eight feet radius, a transit instrument of eight feet length; and a moveable quadrant of forty inches radius, by Bird; an astronomical clock, by Shelton; a Newtonian reflecting telescope of six feet focal length, by Short, &c. /104 Dr. Bradley died on the 13th of July 1762, at the house of his wife's brother, Samuel Peach Esq. at Chalford in Gloucestershire, and was buried in the churchyard of Minchinhampton, in that county. His immediate successor at Greenwich was Nathaniel Bliss, M. A. who died in 1764; when he was succeeded by the present Astronomer Royal, Nevil Maskelyne, D. D. who **has ever since filled** that situation with great ability. Since his appointment, the Observatory has been furnished with an excellent achromatic telescope of 46 inches focal length, with a treble object-glass, together with a divided achromatic object-glass micrometer, by Dollond; and the whole apparatus has been much improved by Dollond, Nairne, and Arnold /105. An

/103 Mr. Wollaston, in the Preface to his Astronomical Catalogue.

/104 Preface to Maskelyne's Observations, (1777,) p. 2.

/105 Ibid.

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additional room has been lately erected for the reception of a six feet mural circle by Mr. Edward Troughton, and a transit clock by William Hardy. In 1767, His Majesty issued an order that the observations made by the Astronomer Royal at Greenwich should be published annually, under the inspection of the Royal Society /106. The Observatory undergoes a visitation also once a year from the Society.

Residence of the Princess of Wales.

Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, who came to inhabit Montagu House, Blackheath, in the year 1798, as tenant to the Duchess of Buccleugh, has, till within the last twelve months, made it her principal residence /107. Having been appointed, in 1806, Ranger of Greenwich Park, Her Royal Highness has inclosed a part of the park at the back of Montagu House as a lawn and pleasure ground. The adjoining mansion, (formerly called Chesterfield, now Brunswick-House,) is occupied by Her Serene Highness the Dowager Duchess of Brunswick, who purchased the lease of it in 1807.

The manor of Old-court.

The manor or manor-farm of Old-court, containing 237 acres, I suppose to be the site and demesne of the ancient manor of Greenwich, which, having belonged to the priory of St. Peter in Ghent, and afterwards to the convent of Shene, came into the hands of King Henry VIII. by exchange /108. That monarch retained in his own hands the manor, altering its style, and creating it into an honor; his palace of Placentia he made the manerial residence, and granted Old-court and certain demesne lands (in 1539) to Richard Long Esq. for life /109. King Edward VI. in 1547, granted the manor of Old-court for life to Sir Thomas Speke /110. In 1550, he gave it to John Earl of Warwick, who conveyed it to

the King again the same year /111. In 1551, it was granted for life to Thomas Lord Darcy, of Chiche /112. It was leased, in 1554, to Sir Henry Jerningham; in 1572, to Sir George Howard; in 1580, to Sir Christopher Hatton; in 1594 to Thomas Lord Buckhurst (afterwards Earl of Dorset); in 1604, to Robert Lord Cranbourne (afterwards Earl of Salisbury); and in 1611, to John Eldred and William Whitmore. In 1613, it was settled on Anne of Denmark for life. In 1619, it was granted to Sir John Waller, and others, in trust for Prince Charles; and in 1629, to the trustees of Queen Henrietta Maria /113. **Having been** seized among the Crown-lands, it was sold, in 1650, to Robert Tichborne Esq. /114 After the Restoration it reverted to the Queen-mother, and in 1672 was

/106 They are published on the Society's anniversary, the 30th of November.

107 When apartments were fitted up for Her Royal Highness in Kensington Palace; but she still continues to reside occasionally at Blackheath.

/108 See p. 497.

/109 Record in the Augmentation-office.

/110 Record in the Augmentation-office.

/111 Ibid.

/112 Ibid.

/113 The leases and grants abovementioned are recited in a report relating to this manor in the Land-Revenue-office.

/114 Particulars of sale in the Augmentation-office.

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settled on Queen Catherine /114. In 1676, a lease of 99 years was granted to Sir William Boreman /115, of whose heirs Sir John Morden Bart. purchased the unexpired term in 1699. The same year he obtained a grant of the perpetuity /116, and by his will, bearing date 1708, vested it in trustees for the use of his newly-erected college on Blackheath.

Manor of East-Combe, or Nether-Combe.

The manor of East-Combe, alias Nether-Combe, passed for several centuries with the manor of Greenwich, and became at the same time a part of the Royal demesnes. In 1613, it was settled on Anne of Denmark for life /117.

King Charles I. in 1631, granted it for three lives to John Cooke, and Thozazine his wife /118. In 1636, the King, in consideration of the great damage which the said lessees had received by a breach of the Thames wall, granted them a farther lease of 31 years, after the decease of three nominees /119. The same year (1636), John Cooke assigned his interest in both these grants to Peter Fortree, Gent. /120 When the Crown-lands were seized and surveyed in 1649, Leah, widow of Mr. Fortree was in possession of the lease. In 1650, the estate was sold (subject to her interest therein) to Thomas French Esq. /121 At the Restoration the fee reverted to the Crown. James Fortree, son of Peter, had a new lease in 1663 /122; which, in 1665, he assigned to James Hayes Esq. In 1691, Grezilla, widow of James Hayes, joined with John her son, and Elizabeth her daughter, in an assignment to Ralph Sanderson Esq. to whose family the lease was several times renewed. Lady Sanderson (relict of Sir William Sanderson, Bart.), since deceased, had a renewal in 1772 for nine years, to commence in 1793. She left, by will, her interest in this lease to the Right Hon. Frederic Montagu, who assigned it to the late John Campbell Esq. Lord Lyon King of Arms for Scotland. **Since the expiration of the lease, the East-Combe estate, which consists of 286 acres of land, has been divided and variously disposed of; about 130 acres have been granted to J. J. Angerstein Esq. in perpetuity; and about 26 acres more on lease for thirty years and a half, from April 5, 1803. A lease of East-Combe farm-house, and about 90 acres, has been granted for the same term to Peter Lawrie Esq., who is about to assign his interest in it to William Forman Esq. A messuage, called the Clock-house, generally known by the name of East-Combe-house (situated at the extremity of the parish**

East-Combe-house.

/114 Recital, as above quoted, in the Land-Revenue-office.

/115 Pat. 28 Car. II. pt. 7. N/o 17.

/116 Records in the Land-Revenue-office (in a report relating to Old-court).

/117 Records in the Land-Revenue-office.

/118 Parliamentary Surveys, Augmentation-of fice. The rent was 42l. 16s. 8d. per annum, fifty loads of good, dry, and well-made hay, for the King's horses; besides which, a heriot of 66s. was to be paid on the decease of each of the nominees.

/119 Ibid.

/120 Ibid.

/121 Particulars of sale in the Augmentation-office.

/122 The account of the manor of East-Combe from this period is taken from records in the Land-Revenue-office.

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towards Charlton /121) which was for several years the residence of the Sanderson family, and afterwards successively of Robert Campbell Esq. the late General Fraser, and Richard Edwards Esq., was granted in perpetuity in 1802, to David Hunter Esq. /122, who has built a new house attached to the old one, now converted into offices.

Manors of West-Combe and Spittle Combe.

The manors of West-Combe and Spittle-Combe (held of the manor of Dartford by a quit-rent of 9s. 2d.) belonged in the reign of Henry III. to the church of Westminster /123. It is probable that they came by exchange to the Crown. In the reign of King Edward II. they were the property of Bartholomew Lord Badlesmere, on whose attainder they became forfeited /124. King Richard II. granted them to Sir Robert Belknap /125, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, attainted in 1387. Soon afterwards they were granted to Robert Ballard (the King's grand butler), and his heirs in fee /126; they continued in his family till about the year 1553, when Nicholas Ballard alienated the manor of West-Combe (including, I suppose, Spittle-Combe) to John Lambard Esq., Alderman of London /127, whose son, the learned William Lambard, inherited and resided at West-Combe. His descendant, Thomas Lambard Esq. being a Royalist, was obliged to pay a very heavy composition for his estates in 1648; about which time he sold this manor to Hugh Forth, who soon afterwards conveyed it to Theophilus Biddulph Esq., created a Baronet by King Charles in 1664 /128. Not long after the death of Sir Michael Biddulph in 1718, his heirs sold it to Sir Gregory Page, Bart. /129, whose great-nephew, Sir Gregory Osborne Page Turner, Bart. is the present proprietor.

West-Combe park and house.

West-Combe-park, the site of this manor, was granted by Sir Gregory Page on a long lease to Captain Galfridus Walpole /130, (younger brother of Sir Robert,) who built the present house /131. The lease of West-Combe-park afterwards came into the possession of Charles, third Duke of Bolton, who resided there for several years with Lavinia Fenton, the celebrated Polly Peachem, whom he married on the decease of his Duchess. The Duke died in 1754; Lavinia Duchess of Bolton in 1760, when West-Combe-park became the property of her son, the Rev. Mr. Powlett, in whom the remainder of the lease (which expires in 1824) is now vested. Since the Duchess's death West-Combe has been in the successive occu-

/121 The old house stood partly in Charlton parish.

/122 From Records in the Land-Revenue-office, communicated by J. Pillar Esq.

/123 Widmore's MS. Index of Records belonging to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster.

/124 Philipott's Survey, p. 163.

/125 Ibid.

/126 Philipott's Survey, p. 163.

/127 Ibid.

/128 Ibid. and Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 18.

/129 Hasted.

/130 Captain Walpole, who was an officer of distinguished gallantry, and had lost his right arm in an engagement continued with great spirit against an enemy of superior force, was appointed Treasurer of Greenwich Hospital in 1715.

/131 The old house stood where the stables and offices now are. It has been said erroneously that West-Combe-house was built by the Earl of Pembroke: perhaps he gave the design for it.

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pation of Lord Clive, the Marquis of Lothian, his widow the Marchioness, the Duchess of Athol, Mr. Halliday the banker, William Petrie, Esq., William Holmes, Esq., Alexander Baring Esq., and Henry Goodwyn Esq. It is now the residence of William Forman Esq., who is lessee under Mr. Powlett. West-Combe-house is situated on the verge of a steep hill, agreeably diversified with plantations, and commanding a fine view of the river.

Woodlands. Woodlands, the seat of John Julius Angerstein, Esq. (between East-Combe and West-Combe), occupies a situation uncommonly beautiful. The surrounding scenery is very picturesque; and the distant view of the river, and the Essex shore, is broken with good effect by the plantations near the house. The grounds were laid out, and the house built about the year 1772, by the present proprietor, who has some valuable pictures at this place /131; among which Sir Joshua Reynolds's celebrated portrait of Garrick between Tragedy and Comedy; and the Venus, a well known picture, by the same artist, claim particular notice. The green-house is to be remarked for its collection of heaths.

Valuable pictures.

Mr. Angerstein has of late years considerably enlarged his demesne, by the purchase of lands from the Crown as before-mentioned.

Villas on Blackheath.

Adjoining to Greenwich-park, on the west side, are Montagu-House and Brunswick-House, now in the occupation of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and Her Serene Highness the Duchess of Brunswick as already mentioned, and the villa of Lord Lyttelton. The site of these three houses was leased in 1694 for 99 years to Nicholas Lock, Merchant, being described as a piece of ground on which were three houses then lately built by Dr. Snape /132. Montagu House was so called from the Duke of Montagu, who had an assignment of that mansion about the year 1714; the remainder of the lease which is now expired, became vested in the Duchess of Buccleugh, as heiress of the late Duke. Philip Earl of Chesterfield, well known by his Letters to his Son, purchased in 1753 the lease of that part of the premises above-mentioned, on which was a house then lately belonging to Dr. Stephen Waller; this house he improved and enlarged /133, making it for several years his occasional residence. The present Earl, in 1782, assigned it to Richard Hulse Esq. (brother of the late Sir Edward Hulse, Bart.), who died in 1805. The lease which had been renewed for 17 years, to take place from 1804, was purchased of his executors by John Symmons Esq., and in 1807, assigned to the Duchess of Brunswick. Lord Lyttelton's villa was formerly the residence of Major General Edward Wolfe, and occasionally of his son, the conqueror of Quebec; it was

Montagu-House.

Chesterfield-House.

/131 His choice collection of first-rate pictures by the old masters is at his house in Pall-Mall.

/132 The date of this lease and the subsequent assignments and renewals, are taken from records in the Land-Revenue-office.

/133 The gallery, which was built by Lord Chesterfield, is 75 feet by 20, except in the centre, where it is 30 feet in width by the addition of a bow.

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afterwards in the successive occupation of Henry Drax Esq., Robert Scott Esq. and the widow of the latter. Certain pieces of waste on Blackheath, adjoining to Greenwich park wall, were granted on lease, in 1719, to Harriet Duchess of Bolton, and James Thornhill Esq., (afterwards Sir James) the celebrated painter, for 31 years, with power to erect dwelling houses thereon.

Bastile-house and Minced-pie-house.

In the year 1717, Sir John Vanburgh took a long lease /134 of a piece of land on Maize or Maze-hill, containing about 12 acres, of Sir Theophilus Biddulph, on which he built two houses; one of these which he called the Castle, and which afterwards obtained the name of the Bastile-house, was purchased in 1752, of Lady Vanburgh, relict of Sir John, by Miss O'Hara, daughter of Lord Tyrwley, it has since passed through several hands, and is now the property of Robert Holford Esq. The other, which from its being of a whimsical form, obtained the appellation of the Minced-pie-house, was built by Sir John Vanburgh for his own residence /135. The late Edward Vanburgh Esq., Sir John's representative, bequeathed the remainder of his lease of this and other houses in Vanburgh-fields, which expires in 1819, to William Raven Esq. The Minced-pie-house is now in the occupation of Mrs. Webber, relict of William Webber Esq.

Eminent inhabitants.

William Courtney, Earl of Devonshire, who, to his own misfortune, and to the ruin of his family, married a daughter of King Edward IV., after he was released from prison by King Henry VIII., resided at Greenwich, and died there in 1512 /136. Bishop Gastrell resided in this parish before he was promoted to the see of Chester /137. Dr. Johnson had lodgings in Church-street in 1737; and composed a great part of his *Tragedy of Irene* as he walked in the park /138.

Dr. Johnson at Greenwich.

Monastery said to have been founded by Edward III.

Foundation of a convent of observant friers by Henry VII.

King Edward the Third is said to have founded a religious house at Greenwich in 1376, by the persuasion of his Treasurer Sir John Norbury; but I can find no record relating to such foundation; and there is great reason to believe that no such house existed, but that it has been confounded with the priory at Lewisham /139. King Henry VII. by his charter, bearing date 1486, after reciting that his predecessor Edward IV. had, by the Pope's licence, given to certain minorites or observant friers of the order of St. Francis, a piece of ground adjoining to his palace, on which were some ancient buildings; and that these friers having taken possession, and having laid the first stone with great solemnity, began

/134 For 99 years. From papers in the possession of the late Fysh De Burgh Esq., of Drayton, in Middlesex.

/135 Ibid.

/136 Funeral Certificates, Heralds' College.

/137 Swift's Letters, 4to. vol. iii. p. 182.

/138 Bowsell's Life of Johnson, 8vo. vol. i. p. 81.

/139 The accounts given by writers who slightly mention this priory are in many respects contradictory, and none of them refer to any charter or record, nor, as I have mentioned above, can I find any. It is true that in the list of alien priories printed in Dugdale's Monast. vol. i. 1035. Greenwich is mentioned, but when Lewisham occurs it is added, see Greenwich, which seems to intimate that they were the same. It should be observed also, that Sir John Norbury was not Lord High Treasurer till the first year of King Henry IV.'s reign.

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to build several small mansions in honour of the Virgin Mary, St. Francis, and All Saints; granted and confirmed the said premises, and founded a convent of friers of the order above described, to consist of a warden and twelve brethren at the least /140. It is said that he afterwards rebuilt their convent for them from the foundation /141. In the year 1512 "the Lady Muryol Vicountesse Lysle, wiff to Syr Thomas Knevet, and seconde daughter to therle of Surrey, Thomas Lord Trezor, and Maryshall of England," the previous funeral ceremonies of dirige, requiem, &c. having been performed in Lambeth church, (in which parish she died,) was buried in the friers' church at Greenwich, with great funeral pomp /142. Katherine (Henry VIII.'s first Queen) was a great favourer of this convent, and their order: she appointed one of the monks of Greenwich, Father John Forrest, to be her confessor; and used, whilst resident at this place, to rise at midnight and join the monks in their devotions /143. They returned this friendship by openly espousing her cause when the business of her divorce was agitated;

The convent suppressed.

which so far enraged the King, that he suppressed the whole order throughout England. This convent was dissolved Aug. 11, 1534 /144. On the accession of

/140 Cart. 1 Hen. VII. N/o 24.

/141 History of the English Franciscans, p. 216.

/142 "All the nobles and other mourners who attended the funeral, having partaken of a right sumptueux dyner at the Lord Trezorer, her fadyrs place at Lambeth, returned to the churche, wher the corps laye, wiche was alwayes accompaned with gentilwomen and certein yemen. Thabbot of Westmester re-vested hym in the revestry, and in pontificalibus preceded the corps to the barge, wiche was covered with black and with a whit crosse; in the wiche barge was the morners, the abbot, mynestres, and officiers of arms, and twelve staff torches about the corps.

"Item, in another barge wer the lords, knyghts /*, and gentilmen, and certein gentilwomen, havng lyvere and servints.

"Item, in the thirde barge, covered alsoo with black, were 60 poore men, havng black gownes w/th hoddes, beryng 60 torches, wiche brent contynually from Lambith tyll she was buryed; and in the same barge were certein gentilmen, servintz, and in this ordre landed at the Fryres steyles at Greenwich were taryed her comyng the father and the other fryres of that place, and so went thorough the church-yerd that the qwene and the ladyes myght see them, and soo conveyed into the churche, and the mynystres saying immediatly the service of burying, for dirige was doon before.

"And when they came to the blessing of the grave, the ladyes went to Master Ryseley hows, wher they had waffirs, Ipocras, and other wynes and spyces.

"The abbot of Westmester dyd the servyce, the fadyr of the place beyng to hym assistant, the lordes and certein gentilmen taryed the burying, and after went to the said hows of Master Ryseley, wher they had lyke dyet, and this manner was buryed the said noble Lady /†."

/143 History of the English Franciscans, p. 216.

/144 Holinshed, vol. iii. 1563. – Kilburne says, that after the observant friers were suppressed, some monks of the Augustine order were for a time placed in their convent at Greenwich. – Survey of Kent, p. 115.

/* The Lords and Knights present at the funeral were Lord Howard, Lord Fitzwalter, Lord Dacre, Lord Cobham, Lord Berners; Sir Henry Guldeford, Sir Philip Tylney, Sir Thomas Bryan, Sir Philip Calthorpe, Sir Robert Brandon, Sir Richard Wyngfield, and Sir Robert Wyngfield. There were present also the Countess of Essex, Lady Howard (daughter of the Duke of Buckingham), Lady Elizabeth Boleyne, Lady Ann Vere, Lady Dacre, and Lady Bryan. **Funeral Certificate, Heralds' College.**

/† Funeral Certificate, in the Heralds' College.

Restored, and again suppressed.

Queen Mary to the throne, the observant friars appeared again in public, and returning to Greenwich, began to form themselves into a community. The Queen reinstated them in their possessions, newly founded their monastery, and repaired it at her own cost; out of gratitude for their unshaken attachment to her mother /145. Queen Elizabeth expelled the friars, and suppressed their monastery again on the 12th of June 1559 /146. The priory buildings were made use of after this as a part of the Royal palace. In 1652, they were sold, by the Parliamentary Commissioners, to Richard Babington /147. It is probable that they were **taken** down when Charles II. began to rebuild Greenwich palace; a part of the Royal Hospital (King Charles's building,) now stands on the site.

Site of the priory.

Parish church.

The old church falls down and is rebuilt.

The old church of St. Alphege at Greenwich having become very ruinous by length of time, the roof fell in on the 28th of November 1710, about midnight /148. The inhabitants petitioned the House of Commons for relief towards rebuilding it; in consequence of which petition, it was expressly provided, in the Act of the 9th of Queen Anne, that one of the 50 new churches, then about to be built in the city of London and its suburbs, should be in the parish of Greenwich. John James was the architect of the new church, which was consecrated the 18th of September 1718. It is a handsome stone structure: at the west end is a square tower, over which is a cupola, supported by Corinthian pillars, and over that a small spire. The inside is fitted up in the Grecian style; **the pews are of oak**. On the north wall hangs a painting on board, representing a monumental effigy of Queen Elizabeth, beneath a canopy supported by Corinthian columns. Underneath is this distich,

Olim parva fuit Grenovicum villa, sed ortu
Virginis Augustæ, clarior urbe micat /149.

Monuments on the outside of the church.

On the south wall is a picture of King Charles the First, at his devotions, given by Mrs. Mary Squibb; on the east wall are portraits of Queen Anne and **King** George I. There are no monumental inscriptions within the church; on the outside, against the east wall, are **among others**, monuments in memory of Sir William Henry Sanderson, Bart., (only son of Sir William Sanderson, Bart. of East-Combe, by Charlotte, daughter of Sir Richard Gough of Edgbaston, and the last heir male of the family,) who died in 1760, aged 15; Sir James Creed, Knt. (of Greenwich), 1762 /150; and **Christopher Mason Esq., Vice Admiral of the White, 1802; his epitaph describes him as the last heir male of a**

/145 History of the English Franciscans.

/146 Strype's Annals of Queen Elizabeth, vol. i.

p. 141.

/147 Particulars of sale, Augmentation-office.

/148 Hasted, vol. i. p. 33.

/149 In the Gentleman's Magazine for July 1759, there is a translation and paraphrase of the above distich.

/150 He had four daughters married into the families of Fisher, Birch, Farr, and Campbell, of whom there are memorials.

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family that had filled various offices in the state, &c. from the reign of King Edward III.

Tombs in the old church. A widowhood of 72 years. Thomas Tallys the musician. William Lambard the topographer.

In the old church was a portrait of Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, in **painted** glass, which has been engraved as a head-piece in the Catalogue of English MSS.; and there were **among others**, memorials /151 of Clement Adams, master of the children of the chapel, 1516; his wife is said to have survived him 72 years, dying in 1588 /152; Thomas Tallys /153, musician in the chapel in the reigns of **King** Henry VIII., Edward VI., Queen Mary, and Queen Elizabeth, (ob. 1585); William Lambard Esq. of Lincoln's-Inn /154, 1601; Sir Multon Lambard, his

/151 They are preserved in Strype's Circuit Walk, annexed to Stow's Survey of London. See p. 91-93.

/152 It is said in his epitaph that he was seventy years of age, and his wife fifteen years younger;

if therefore Strype has given the date of her death accurately, she must have lived to the age of 117 years.

/153 His epitaph, which was as follows, is printed from Strype's Circuit Walk, p. 92.

“Entered here doth ly a worthy wyght,
Who for long tyme in musick bore the bell,
His name to shew was Thomas Tallys hyght,
In honest vertuous life he did excell.
He served long tyme in chappell with grete
praysse,
Fower sovereynes reygnes, (a thing not often
seen,)
I mean Kyng Henry and Prynce Edward's
dayes,
Quene Mary, and Elizabeth our Quene.
He maryed was, though children he had none,
And lyved in love full thre and thirty yeres
Wyth loyal spouse, whos name yclypt was
Jone,
Who here entombed him company now bears.
As he did lyve, so also did he dy,
In myld and quyet sort, (O! happy man;)
To God ful oft for mercy did he cry,
Wherefore he lyves, let death do what he can.”

Tallys set a great deal of church music, and was esteemed the father of the Collegiate style. Among other pieces he composed a motet, in five parts for forty voices. See Hawkin's History of Music, vol. iii. p. 261–263.

/154 This learned writer was born in 1536, being the son of John Lambard Esq. alderman of London. He was bred to the law, and, in 1556, admitted of Lincoln's Inn, of which Society he afterwards became bencher. Lambard was much esteemed by Lord Burleigh, Lord Cobham, and other great men of his time, who appointed him to several employments, particularly suited to his abilities and turn of mind, all of which he discharged with honor to himself, and advantage to his country. The records at the Rolls Chapel were committed to his care by Sir Thomas Eger-ton; and the Queen herself, with whom he had the honour of an interview, appointed him keeper of the records in the Tower in 1600. His works are, a collection and translation of the Saxon laws, intitled <Archaionomia>; the Perambulation of Kent, published in 1576 (being the earliest county history); treatises on the office of justice of peace, and on the duties of constables, tythingmen, &c.; and Pandecta Rotulorum, or an Account of the Records in the Tower. these were all published in his lifetime. He left also several works in MS. His Archeion, or a discourse on the High Courts of Justice, was published by his grandson in 1635. His collections for a general history of English antiquities were published in 1730, under the title of a Topographical Dictionary. In 1576, Mr. Lambard founded an hospital at Greenwich, of which some account will be given hereafter. He died at West-Combe, in this parish, and was buried in the old church, where was the following short

inscription upon his monument: "William Lambard of Lincoln's Inn, sometime Master in

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son, 1634 /155; Ralph Dallans, organ builder, who died whilst making the organ at Greenwich, 1672; and Sir William Hooker /156, 1697.

Tombs in the churchyard.

In the churchyard **among others, is** the tomb of Sir John Lethieullier, Knt. /157, 1718. Strype mentions /158 **some tombs which have been** either removed or are become illegible; **among which were several of the family of Warner, successively masters of the barges to the Kings and Queens of England, during almost the the whole of seventeenth century.**

Tombs in the burial ground.

In a larger cemetery, nearly adjoining to the churchyard, are, **among others, memorials for the Rev. A. W. Boehm /159, 1722; Frederic Slare, M. D. Fellow of**

Chancery, Keeper of the Rolls and Records within the Tower, of the Office of Alienations to Queen Elizabeth, founded the college of the poor at Greenwich, and endowed it. Obit 1601, Aug. 19, at West-Combe in East-Greenwich." His monument, with the above inscription, and a memorial for his son, Sir Multon Lambard, was removed from Greenwich when the old church was pulled down, and put up at Sevenoaks in Kent, where also are the following inscriptions: "Hic situs est Gulielmus Lambard, Londinensis, in hospitio jureconsultorum Lincolniensi paredrus; in alma cancellaria magister; ad tempus custos rotulorum et recordorum infra Turrim London. ab alienationibus (quas vocant) Augustissimæ Anglorum Reginæ Elizabethæ, cujus sacræ memoriæ & nomini consecratum, suo sumptu solus, et fundavit, et annuo reditu dotavit collegium pauperum Grenovici in Cantio. Obit A. D. 1601, Aug. 19, apud West-Combe, in East-Greenwich.

"Archaionomia, 1568.

"Perambulation of Kent, 1570.

"Justice of the Peace, 1581.

"Pandecta Rotulorum, 1600.

"Archeion, 1591.

"Instaurata funditus vetusta Grenovicensi ecclesia, exulantibus quæ inibi erant, monumentis, marmor hoc, abavi, proavique memoriæ sacrum huc veluti in portum, e communi naufragio evasit et cognati cineris libenter se in tutelam tradidit, curante Thoma Lambard, armigero, Gulielmi filio, Thomæ Nepoti, anno Domini MDCCXXXIII."

/155 Multon Lambard Esq. their descendant, is one of the trustees of Bromley College.

/156 He was sheriff of London during the year of the great plague (1665), and at the time of the dreadful fire in 1666. In 1674, he served the office of lord mayor. Sir William Hooker resided at Greenwich in a capital mansion which had been Sir Lancelot Lake's. (Survey of Greenwich in the Land-Revenue-office made in 1697.)

/157 He married Anne daughter of Sir William Hooker, by whom he was father of John Lethieullier Esq. of Aldersbroke; **and** William Lethieullier Esq. of Beckenham.

/158 In the Circuit Walk, annexed to Stow's Survey, p. 93.

/159 Mr. Boehm, who was a native of Oestorff, near Pymont, came to England in 1701, and settling in London, established a German school in Bedfordsbury: in 1705, he was made chaplain to Prince George of Denmark, (whose funeral sermon he published,) and reader of the German chapel at St. James's. He was author of a volume of discourses and tracts; plain directions for reading the bible, **and** numerous religious treatises in English and German: he published also several translations from the German, and was editor of other works. He died at the house of his friend Dr. Slare, at Greenwich. Some memoirs of him were published in 1735, by J. C. Jacobi, from the German of Rambach. The following inscription **is on a tablet placed against the wall of the burial ground.** "To the memory of the Rev/d Anthony William Boehm, Chaplain to George Prince of Denmark, and reader of the German chapel at St. James's, born at Oestorff in Germany, A. D. 1673, educated at Halle in Saxony, under Professor Francke, the pious founder of the orphan-

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the College of Physicians /160, and F. R. S. 1727; Richard Akerman, Keeper of Newgate /161, 1754.

The church of Greenwich is in the diocese of Rochester, and in the deanery of Dartford.

Rectory and advowson.

The rectory, the advowson of which had always been annexed to the manor, was appropriated to the abbot and convent of Ghent by Benedict Bishop of Rochester, and confirmed by Richard de Wendover, in 1239: it was included in the grant to the monastery of Sheen, and in the conveyance from that convent to **King** Henry VIII. /162, since which time it has passed through the same hands as the manor of Old-court /163, being now vested in the trustees of Morden College. In 1345, this rectory was taxed at twenty marks /164.

Advowson of the vicarage.

The vicarage is rated in the King's books at 21l. The advowson has been in the Crown ever since it was granted to **King** Henry VIII. by the prior and convent of Sheen.

Chantry of the Holy Cross.

There was a chantry in the old church of St. Alphege dedicated to the Holy Cross, and a guild or fraternity of that name, to which belonged a messuage and four acres of land /165.

Vicars. Thomas Plume. John Turner.

Thomas Plume, who was presented to this vicarage by Richard Cromwell /166, subscribed to the Act of Conformity, and died vicar of Greenwich in 1704. His successor, John Turner, was master of the school on Blackheath, and afterwards prebendary of Canterbury, and of Lincoln. He published a set of sermons preached

house at Glauche: This good man lived under the influence of the religion he professed, being singularly pious towards God, universally charitable to men, zealous in promoting Christian knowledge, and after an exemplary life, died on Sunday May 27, A. D. 1722, in hope of a blessed immortality."

/160 **Dr. Slare** was author of "Observations on Bezoar Stones and Sugar," 1715. This work was attacked in a pamphlet, entitled, "A Nice Cut for the Demolisher, or Dr. Slare's Experiments on the Bezoar, &c. ripped up." Dr. Slare wrote also on the Pymont Waters, 1717. **On his tomb is** the following inscription:

“Hic reliquias suas deponi voluit Fredericus Slare, M. D. peritissimus, benignus, pius, Collegii Regalis medicorum Londinensis socius senior elector; Regiæ societatis socius; societatis de promovendo Evangelio in partibus transmarinis socius, necnon unus ex illorum communitate qui se sponte sua et pro viribus devinxere ad doctrinam & virtutem Christianam ubique terrarum, adjuvante Deo, promovend: Obiit 12/o Septembris A. D. 1727, ætatis suæ 80/mo. Juxta fratrem doctissimum jacet hic soror ejus dilectissima Domina Jane Slare, quæ obiit 4/to die Aprilis 1734, ætatis suæ 80.”

“Bona fecit et meliora habet.”

/161 Inscription: – “Oh! Virtue, these are thy offerings! Sacred may be the remains of Richard Akerman, the vigilant, the humane keeper of Newgate, who was summoned to a better world, on Sunday, March 31, 1754, the Christian sabbath, or day of rest; he then ceasing from his labours, with the comfortable hope of enjoying eternal rest, aged 53.”

/162 See p. 497.

/163 See p. 522.

/164 See Hasted’s Kent, vol. i. p. 32.

/165 See Cl. 51 Edw. III. m. 16.

/166 Proceedings of the Committees, Lamb. MS. Lib. vol. xxxv. p. 73.

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Ralph Skerret. at Boyle’s Lectures, and several single discourses. Mr. Turner was succeeded, in 1720, by Ralph Skerret, D. D. who published several single sermons, most of which were preached upon public occasions.

Samuel Squire. Samuel Squire, instituted to the vicarage of Greenwich in 1751 (on the death of Dr. Skerret), was a native of Warminster in Wiltshire. He received his education at St. John’s College in Cambridge; at which university, in 1749, he took the degree of D. D. On the establishment of His present Majesty’s household, as Prince of Wales, Dr. Squire was made clerk of the closet. In 1760, he was appointed to the deanery of Bristol, and in 1761 promoted to the see of St. David’s. He held this vicarage in commendam till his death, which happened in 1766. Besides several single sermons preached on public occasions, Bishop Squire published an edition (with an English translation) of Plutarch de Isi et Osiride; an essay on the Anglo-Saxon government in England and Germany; a vindication of the history of the ancient Hebrews; essays on the Greek Chronology, and the origin of the Greek language; a treatise on the importance and harmony of natural and revealed religion; an explanation of the church catechism; **a character of Archbishop Herring, &c. &c.** /157.

The present vicar is Andrew Burnaby, D.D. instituted in 1769, on the promotion of Dr. John Hinchliffe, the late vicar, to the see of Peterborough.

Meeting-houses. The Roman Catholics have a chapel in Greenwich: there is a meeting house belonging to the **Baptists**, and two belonging to the Methodists.

Parish Register. The earliest date of any register of baptisms, burials, and marriages now extant, is 1616.

Comparative state of population.	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1630 – 1639.	117(9/10)	118(1/5)
1680 – 1689.	182(1/5)	190(1/2)
1730 – 1739.	236(2/5)	291(3/5)
1780 – 1784.	276(4/5)	305(1/5)
1784 – 1789.	295	275
1790 – 1794.	312	327(1/5)
1795 – 1799.	328(2/5)	348

1800 – 1804.	358(1/5)	354(3/5)
1805 – 1809.	397(2/5)	370(1/5)

The number of houses in 1794 was about 1850; according to the returns

/167 See an account of his life and writings, *Gent. Mag.* May, 1766.

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made to Parliament under the population act, there were then 2067 inhabited houses in Greenwich, 54 uninhabited houses, and 14,339 inhabitants. The present number of houses is about 2200.

Burials in the plague years.

In 1625, there were 274 burials; 154 persons are recorded to have died of the plague that year; 74 persons died of the plague in 1630. In 1665, there were 416 burials; in 1666, 423. It appears that the plague was more fatal in the latter year both at this place and at Deptford.

Extracts from the Register.

Child born without arms.

“Francis North, son of Samuel North, (being born without arms, his hands growing out of his shoulders /168,) baptized July 4, 1619.”

/168 Several instances of such births have occurred, and the wonderful acquirements of persons thus **imperfectly formed**, have often been the subject of public astonishment, and proved a source of gain to themselves or their relations. Giraldus Cambrensis speaks of a young woman born without arms, whom he saw at Chester in the reign of Henry the Second. He mentions her working very dextrously with her needle. (*Itin. Cambrens. lib. ii. c. 11.*) Stow gives an account of a Dutchman born without arms, who in 1581 exhibited surprising feats of activity, in London, such as flourishing with a rapier, shooting an arrow near a mark, &c. (*Annals, 4to. p. 1168.*) Bulwer, in his *Artificial Changeling* (p. 302), speaks of John Simons, a native of Berkshire, born without arms or hands, who could write with his mouth, thread a needle, tie a knot, shuffle, cut, and deal a pack of cards, &c. He was **publicly** shown in 1653. I have a handbill of John Sear, a Spaniard, born without arms, shown in London in King William’s reign, who professed that he **could** comb and shave himself, fill a glass, thread a needle, embroider, write six sorts of hands, and play on several instruments of music. Matthew Buchinger, a German, born without arms or legs, who was in England the beginning of **the last** century, wrote **very neatly** (many specimens of **his penmanship** are extant), and performed several wonderful feats. He died in 1722, aged 48. Thomas Pinnington, a native of Liverpool, born without legs or arms, performed much the same feats as Sear, in 1744 and several years ensuing; since which Miss Hawtin from Coventry, born without arms, **Mrs. Morrell**, and others, whose names have not been mentioned, have exhibited themselves at Bartholomew-fair and other places. Thomas Inglefield, born without arms or legs, at Hook in Hampshire, (**in the year** 1769,) died in London, **about the year** 1790. He was not publicly shown, but got his bread by writing and drawing. There are two portraits of him, one of which was etched by himself. There is now living a farmer,

at Ditcheat in Somersetshire, born without arms, William Kingston, of whom frequent mention has been made in the public papers. He surpasses, according to accounts which seem very well attested, all that have been yet spoken of. He transacts all the business of his farm, can milk his cows, make his hay, catch his horse, bridle and saddle it, dress and undress himself, comb and shave, write out his bills, &c. **He goes about to the neighbouring markets and fairs on horse-back, directing the bridle with his mouth.**

It is said too that he is a good boxer, and has been victorious in a pitched battle, **defending himself by the use of his feet, and adroit manner of throwing his head as a battering ram against his opponents, who, when on the ground experience but little compassion from him.** On the 17th of June 1790, he was married to Elizabeth Elford of Chetnole, Dorset, by whom he has several children, born perfect. The officiating clergyman wrote the following memorandum on the back of the licence. "The bridegroom was without hands and arms, gave the ring with his right foot, and held it on the finger with his toes, wrote his name very legibly by holding the pen between his toes."

Miss Sarah Beffin, who was born without arms or legs, at East-Quantockshead in Somersetshire,

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Sir Richard Stainer.

"The Countess of Carrick /169, (Elizabeth Stewart,) buried Jan. 31, 1645-6."
"The Lady Stainer, buried Mar. 21, 1660-1; S/r Richard Stainer, Nov. 28, 1662." This brave officer was commander of a ship of war during the protectorate of Cromwell, and distinguished himself by some actions of singular gallantry. In 1656, having three frigates under his command, he fell in with the Spanish flota, consisting of eight sail: notwithstanding the disproportion of numbers, he attacked them, and with such success, that in the space of a few hours he burnt one, sunk a second, captured two, and drove two others on shore. The treasure on board his prizes amounted to 600,000l. sterling. The next year, in company with Admiral Blake, who had the chief command, he attacked and destroyed the Spanish flota in the bay of Santa Cruz; "an act so miraculous," says Clarendon, "that all who knew the place wondered how any men, with what courage soever endowed, could have undertaken it: indeed, they could hardly persuade themselves to believe what they had done; whilst the Spaniards comforted themselves with the belief that they were devils, and not men, who had destroyed their ships." For his share in this gallant exploit, Captain Stainer was knighted by Cromwell at Whitehall, June 11, 1657; and soon afterwards made a vice-admiral. Sir Richard Stainer was one of the commanders who went with Admiral Montague to bring over Charles the Second. He was knighted by the King, and made Rear-Admiral of the fleet; but did not long enjoy his honours. Leaving no issue, he bequeathed his large property to his brother; who, by involving himself in a law-suit with the Salt Company at Droitwich, lost the greater part of his

on the 25th of October 1785, has been exhibited to the public during the last three or four years. The following account of the singularity of this lady's form is given in her own words, from a letter with which she favoured me on the subject, written very neatly, as may be seen by the annexed fac simile of her signature, and in a manner that does much credit to her talents and sentiments. "My height is very little more than thirty-seven inches; my upper extremities are

about six or seven inches, without any joint from the shoulder; each terminating in a small point, which enables me to amuse myself on the piano forte. My lower extremities are about eight or nine inches in length, with a joint which enables me to walk; at the bottom of those extremities I have a substitute for feet, which, though quite imperfect, enables me to stand steady. I always have had a very great objection to walk before company; because it attended with some degree of danger, having no means of saving myself if I was to fall forward, and because I consider it the most unpleasant part of my appearance. I feel a wonderful pleasure in being exhibited, and will go so far as to say, that I think it my duty. I do not regret my situation, I thank God that he has been pleased to make me as I am, nor do I envy the enjoyments of others," &c. &c.

<S. Beffin>

Under such singular disadvantages of form, Miss Beffin has not only acquired the art of penmanship as before-mentioned, but that of miniature-painting also, and is most wonderfully adroit with her needle and scissars, in the use of which, as well as of the pen and pencil, she is assisted principally by her mouth.

/169 The Scotch earldom of Carrick became extinct in 1652.

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fortune, and grew distressed: his son, the nephew and representative of the gallant Sir Richard Stainer, was, **some** years ago, in the workhouse at Birmingham /170.

Sir John Lawson.

"S/r John Lawson, carried away June 27, 1665." – This brave officer, who, during his splendid naval career, had been frequently the scourge of the Dutch, died at Greenwich of the wounds which he received in the great sea-fight with that nation in the month of May 1665. The event was a complete victory on the side of the English, which scarcely compensated for the loss of Sir John Lawson, and other gallant officers who fell in that engagement. Sir John Lawson was in sentiment a republican, and his first services were performed under that form of government; but it was a maxim which he ever maintained, and by which he constantly guided his conduct, that an officer had nothing to do with political discussions or speculative opinions concerning government; but that his sole object should be to serve his country /171.

Sir William Jennings.

"S/r William Jennings's child, buried Feb. 23, 1665-6; Lady Jennings, Nov. 17, 1673." – Sir William Jennings distinguished himself during the reign of King Charles II. as a naval officer of great merit and gallantry. Being devoted to the interests of King James, he accompanied that Monarch to France, and afterwards served as a captain on board the French navy /172.

Dr. Boreman.

"Dr. Robert Boreman, buried Nov. 18, 1675." Author of a life of Alice Duchess of Dudley; a life of Freeman Sondes Esq.; Sir George Sondes's narrative of the death of his two sons (one of whom was hanged for the murder of his brother); some sermons, and religious tracts /173. He was rector of St. Giles's in the Fields, and, it is probable, brother of Sir William Boreman, who was buried at Greenwich in 1697.

Dr. Wells.

"Dr. Wells, buried Ap/l 13, 1678." Author of a treatise on the gout, see p. 462.

Thomas Philipott.

"Mr. Thomas Phillipott, buried Sep. 30, 1682." I suppose this to have been Thomas Philipott who, in 1659, published the Survey of Kent, from the papers of his father John Philipott, Somerset Herald, and assumed the merit of that work to himself. Anthony Wood says he died about 1684. Thomas Philipott was author also of a volume of Poems and Elegies; treatises on the origin and growth

of Heraldry; on the origin and growth of the Spanish Monarchy; and a life of Æsop. Anthony Wood attributes to him some theological works; but it is more probable that they were the production of his contemporary Thomas Philpott, D. D. Rector of Turveston and Akeley, Bucks.

/170 The anecdotes relating to Sir Richard Stainer are taken from Charnock's *Biographia Navalis*, vol. i. p. 45, 46; and Noble's *Memoirs of the Cromwell's*, vol. i. p. 444.

/171 *Biograph. Navalis*, vol. i. p. 20–25.

/172 *Ibid.* vol. i. p. 106–108.

/168 *Ant. Wood's Athen.* Oxon. vol. ii. *Fasti.*

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- Singular marriage, and instance of longevity. "Nov. 18, 1685 – John Cooper of this parish, alms-man in Queen Elizabeth's college, aged 108 years, and Margaret Thomas of Charlton in Kent, aged 80 years, married by licence of the Lord Bishop of Rochester, and leave of the Governors of the Drapers." – "Ould Cooper, buried Oct. 31, 1686."
- Three children at a birth. "Edward, Henry, and Randall, the three sons at one birth of Mr. Edward Humberston, purser, and Mary his wife, baptized Aug. 11, 1710."
- Sir Richard Raines. "S/r Richard Raines, Kn/t, and Doctor of Laws, buried Jan. 3, 1710-1." He was Judge of the Prerogative Court.
- Instance of longevity. Richard Newcourt. "M/rs Thomasine Adams, widow, aged 102, May 7, 1712."
"M/r Richard Newcourt, Gent. buried Feb. 26, 1715-6." Author of the "*Repertorium Londinense, or the Ecclesiastical History of the Diocese of London* /174." His wife was buried at Greenwich on the fifth of the preceding month.
- John Flamsteed. Matthew Lord Aylmer. "The Rev/d Mr. John Flamsteed, buried at Burstow, Jan. 12, 1719-20 /175."
"The R/t Hon. the Lord Aylmer, buried Aug. 23, 1720." Matthew, second son of Sir Christopher Aylmer of the kingdom of Ireland, was at first in the army, and afterwards page to George Villiers, the second Duke of Buckingham of that name, who encouraging him to enter into the sea-service, he was, in 1672, appointed Lieutenant of the Charles Galley, and gradually rose to the highest honours of his profession. He was one of Admiral Russel's seconds in the celebrated battle of La Hogue. In 1709, he was made admiral, and commander in chief of the fleet; to which situation he was a second time appointed, on the accession of King George the First /176. In 1714, he was made governor of Greenwich Hospital, and about the same time ranger of the park, and keeper of the palace at Greenwich called the Queen's House; where, from that time, he resided. In 1718, he was created an Irish baron, by the title of Lord Aylmer. – "Philip, son of L/d Aylmer, buried Sep. 6, 1728; Lady Elizabeth Aylmer /177, Jan. 20, 1749-50; R/t Hon. L/d Aylmer /178, July 4, 1754; R/t Hon. Harry L/d Aylmer /179, Oct. 16, 1766."
- Sir John Leake. "S/r John Leake, buried at Stepney, Aug. 30, 1720." This brave officer, whose naval career had been marked by the most signal successes, being deprived of all his appointments on the accession of King George the First, retired to a villa which he had built for his own residence at Greenwich; there he passed most of the latter days of his life, and died on the 21st of August 1720 /180.
- /174 He was 27 years register of that diocese, and afterwards one of the procurators in the Court of Arches.
- /175 See p. 520.
- /176 *Biograph. Navalis*, vol. ii. p. 35–40.
- /177 Wife of Henry Lord Aylmer, and daughter of Henry Priestman Esq.
- /178 Henry, the second Lord Aylmer.
- /179 The third Lord Aylmer, a captain in the navy.
- /180 Life of Sir John Leake.

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"The R/t Hon. the L/d Lisburne /181, buried Ap/l 5, 1721."

"Elizabeth, daughter of the R/t Hon. Baptist Earl of Gainsborough, baptized

Oct. 10, 1713; Baptist L/d Campden /182, baptized July 12, 1740.”

“Dame Elizabeth Hardy, buried July 3, 1735; S/r Charles Hardy, Kn/t, Dec. 6, 1744.” Sir Charles Hardy was knighted in 1742, made a flag-officer in 1743, and was one of the lords of the admiralty.

“S/r Philip Honeywood /183, carried to Portsmouth, June 25, 1752.”

“The Hon. Miss Grace Pelham, spinster, third daughter of the R/t Hon. Henry Pelham Esq. of Arlington-street in the city of Westminster, and the Hon. Lewis Watson Esq. of the parish of St. George, Hanover-square, were married at M/r Pelham’s house in Arlington-street, by D/r Squire, Oct. 12, 1752.”

General Wolfe.

“Major Gen/l James Wolfe, buried Nov. 20/th, 1759.” This celebrated officer was born at Westerham in this county in 1727. He fell in the moment of victory, at the capture of Quebec, Sept. 13, 1759. His body being brought to England, was interred at Greenwich, with that of his father Lieut. Gen. Edward Wolfe, who was buried on the second of April preceding. There is no memorial for him at Greenwich; but a cenotaph has been put up to his memory in Westminster Abbey at the public expence, and there is another at Westerham, the place of his nativity /184. Lieut. Gen. Wolfe resided in Montague-walk, Blackheath, at the house which is now in the occupation of Lord Lyttelton.

Lavinia (Fenton) Duchess of Bolton. Remarkable success of the Beggars’ Opera, and popularity of Miss Fenton.

“Lavinia Duchess of Bolton, buried Feb. 3, 1760.” The year 1728 is famous in theatrical annals, for having produced the favourite burletta of the Beggars’ Opera. Its success surpassed all precedent: it was acted more than sixty nights the first season. The part of Polly was performed by Lavinia Fenton, a young actress, whose real name, in some publications of that day, is said to have been Beswick. Her performance of this character raised her very high in the opinion of the public; and it is uncertain whether the opera itself or Polly Peachem had the greater share of popularity /185. Her lovers, of course, were very numerous:

/181 John Viscount of Lisburne of the kingdom of Ireland, so created in 1695.

/182 He succeeded his father as Earl of Gainsborough, and was brother to the present Earl.

/183 He was a general in the army and K. B.

/184 Inscription: — “James, son of Colonel Edward Wolfe and Henrietta his wife, was born in this parish, and died in America, Sep. 13, 1759, conqueror of Quebec.

“While George in sorrow bows his laurel’d head,

And bids the artist grace the soldier dead;
We raise no sculptur’d trophy to thy name,
Brave youth! the fairest in the lists of fame;
Proud of thy birth, we boast th’ auspicious year;

Struck with thy fall, we shed the general tear;

With humble grief inscribe one artless stone,
And with thy matchless honours date our own.”

/185 Most of the principal performers who had parts in the Beggars’ Opera, when they advertised their benefits this year, announced them as the benefits of Polly Peachem, Captain Macheath; Lockit, and his daughter Lucy, &c.; and I have seen advertisements of other plays during this period, in which one of the principal cha-

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she decided in favour of the Duke of Bolton, who, to the great loss of the public, took her from the stage, to which she never returned; and on the sixty-second night of the performance, a new Polly, to the great surprise of the audience, who expected to see their old favourite, was introduced on the boards. After the death of his first wife, from whom he had been long separated, the Duke (in 1751)

married Miss Fenton; who, surviving him a few years, resided at West-Combe-park in this parish, and died Duchess-dowager of Bolton, in the month of January 1760.

Admiral
Townshend.

"Admiral Isaac Townshend, carried out Nov. 29, 1765." – Made an Admiral in 1744. In 1746, he had the command at the Leeward Islands, and drove a French fleet ashore at Martinico. In 1754, he was appointed Governor of Greenwich Hospital.

Richard
Jones.

The Rev/d Richard Jones, buried Sept. 14, 1800." Mr. Jones, who had been a pupil of Dr. Doddridge, was many years pastor of an independent congregation at Peckham. He published a Treatise on Friendship with God, and some Sermons.

There are entries in the register relating to the families of the following Baronets, Biddulph, Booth, Corbet, Coryton, Lumley, Napier, Page, and Prettyman.

Bishop
Duppa.

Brian Duppa, Bishop of Salisbury, is erroneously supposed to have been a native of this place /186, and it is said in his epitaph that he was so; but he himself mentions in his will that he was born in the parish of Lewisham, where the entry of his baptism occurs in the register. It is probable that his father lived on Blackheath, where there are houses belonging to both parishes, which might occasion the mistake.

Jonathan
Goddard.

Jonathan Goddard, Oliver Cromwell's physician, is said to have been born at Greenwich /187. Some of his family appear to have been baptized there; but his name does not occur in the register. Dr. Goddard represented the University of Oxford in the Parliament of 1653, and was made, by Cromwell, Warden of Merton College, from which situation he was ejected in 1660: he afterwards resided chiefly at Gresham College, where he was Professor of Physic. He was an active member of the Royal Society, and author of some medical tracts, and several papers on natural history in the Philosophical Transactions. It is said /188, but scarcely credible, that Dr. Goddard sold his secret for making a medicine called the Guttæ Anglicanæ /189, to King Charles II. for 5000l.

racters has been announced to be played by Miss Polly. There is an engraving of a scene in the Beggars' Opera, with portraits of the original performers, from a painting of Hogarth's.

/186 Ant. Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. ii.

/187 Ibid.

/188 See Biograph. Brit. (old edit.)

/189 The principal ingredients of which this medicine was composed, were, "five pounds of human cranium, taken from persons who had been hanged or had died a violent death; five pounds of dried vipers; two pounds of hartshorn, and two pounds of ivory." It was said to be a cure for lethargies; apoplexies, &c.

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Queen Elizabeth's College founded by William Lambard Esq.

In the year 1576, William Lambard Esq. (author of the Perambulation of Kent) founded and endowed an hospital at this place for twenty poor persons, calling it the College of Queen Elizabeth, **of which the Master of the Rolls for the time being was appointed president, and the two senior wardens of the Drapers' Company governors** /190. The pensioners are to be thus appointed: one by the Master of the Rolls; one by the two elder wardens of the Drapers' Company; one by the steward of the manor of Greenwich, out of the poor of that parish; one by the Drapers, from Greenwich, six from Greenwich, by the vicar and parish officers; one from Deptford; three from Lewisham; one from Lee; three from Eltham; one from Charlton and Kidbrook; and one from Woolwich. They must be poor, honest, **and** godly persons, who have been three years resident in the parish whence they are chosen; they may be either men or women; married or unmarried: the preference to be given in the first place to the aged, who are past their work; secondly, to those who have been maimed, either in the service of their country or by other misfortune; thirdly to the blind; fourthly, to such as have been impoverished by casualty; fifthly, to those afflicted by any continual sickness not contagious; and lastly, to such as are burdened with a numerous

Qualifications of the pensioners.

family. Other secondary preferences are laid down also, to be observed among those in other respects of equal pretensions, such as a man to be preferred before a woman; the married before the unmarried; the person who has been longer of the household of faith, before him who has continued later in popish idolatry, &c. All the pensioners to be examined at their admission, whether they can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments. The founder composed a form of Morning and Evening Prayer, (with consent of the Bishop of Rochester,) which he ordains always to be used; and makes his endowment void, if it should become unlawful by the statutes of the realm to use it. The original allowance to the pensioners was six shillings per month. Since the foundation, the following benefactions have been left to this hospital:

Benefactions to the College since its foundation.

Date.	Donors Names.	Value.	
1587.	Joan Tallys,	10s. per annum.	
1596.	Ralph Rookby,	5l. per annum.	
1610.	William Stanton,	2l. per annum.	
1720.	Edward Waldron,	1000l. South-Sea Ann.	Vested, together with savings from the charity, in the purchase of 1500l. Old South-Sea Annuities.
1752.	Peter Watton,	2l. per annum.	For the pensioners belonging to Greenwich parish.
1762.	Mr. Dyer,	A reversion of 500l. which has since become payable.	
1769.	Mrs. Dennis Chappell,	280l. South-Sea Ann.	Being the residue of her effects unbequeathed.

/190 Pat. 17 Eliz. pt. 10. Nov. 25. The licence for the foundation at the request of Sir C. Howard, William Lambard, and the principal inhabitants of Greenwich.

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In 1744, the whole income of this charity was 203l. 16s. 8d.; the pensioners were then allowed 9s. per month, and half a chaldron of coals yearly. In 1776, their pensions had been increased to 13s. 4d. per month, with the same allowance of coals. The pensioners now are allowed 1l. 8s. per month, and a chaldron and a half of coals yearly; besides 10s 6d. each, given by the Drapers' Company at the time of their visitation. This hospital is situated to the south-west of the town, where the roads branch off to London and Lewisham.

Trinity Hospital, or Norfolk College founded by Henry Earl of Northampton.

There is another hospital, commonly called Norfolk College, founded in 1613, by Henry Earl of Northampton, and by him dedicated to the Holy Trinity. He endowed it with lands and revenues for the support of a warden and twenty pensioners; twelve of whom are to be of this parish, and eight of the parish of Shotisham in Norfolk. They must have been inhabitants four years of the parish whence they are chosen, unmarried, 56 years of age at the least; able to repeat the Creed, Lord's Prayer, and Ten Commandments; neither common beggars, drunkards, or otherwise of immoral behaviour; neither ideots, blind, or in any way so impotent as to be unable to attend divine service in the chapel daily; and not having lands, fee, or annuity, above the clear value of 20s., or in goods and chattels exceeding 20 marks at the most /190. The management of this College was entrusted by the founder to the Mercers' Company. The pensioners have 10s. a week for commons, the warden a double allowance; besides which they have lodging, salaries variable at the discretion of the Company, and a livery hat and gown. The annual revenue of this College, in 1794, was about 1100l.: it is most probable that it has been since much increased, but I have not been able to procure any account of its present income.

Description of the College. The chapel.

Norfolk College stands by the river side, at the east end of the town. It is a brick structure, forming a small quadrangle. The chapel, which is 56 feet by 26, was consecrated Feb. 4, 1616-7, by the Bishop of Rochester, and by him dedicated to the Holy Trinity, in the presence of Thomas Earl of Arundel, Richard Earl of Dorset, the Bishops of London, Ely, and Lincoln, &c. /191 In the east window is a representation of the Crucifixion, in stained glass; and some coats of

Monument
of the
founder.

arms exhibiting the alliances of the Howard family. At the south-east end of the chapel is a handsome monument of the founder, which was removed (with his body) from the chapel at Dover-castle, where he had been buried. On a table tomb, under a canopy supported by eight square pillars, stands a black sarcophagus, on which are inscriptions enumerating the titles and charities of the deceased /192. At the four corners of the monument are the cardinal virtues; and

/190 In consequence of the decrease of the value of money, the electors have increased the former to 5l. the latter to 20l.

/191 Precedents and forms of consecration, &c. in a diocese book formerly belonging to Mr. Dwight, registrar to three bishops of Chester, now in the possession of Mr. White of Fulham.

/192 "Henricus Howardus, Henrici comitis Surriæ filius, Thomæ secundi Ducis Norfolkiciæ nepos; Baro Howard de Marn-hill, Privati

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over the canopy is the effigies of the Earl, in armour, with the robes of the Garter, in a kneeling posture. At the west end are the arms of Howard quartering Brotherton, Warren, and Mowbray. On the south wall of the chapel is a tablet commemorating the foundation of the College /193; and on the north wall, one relating the circumstance of removing the founder's body and monument hither. The ceiling is ornamented with the arms and quarterings of Howard, as on the monument.

Jubilee Alms-
Houses.

An alms-house for four poor widows has been built at Greenwich, in memory of the Jubilee celebrated the 25th of October 1809, on occasion of His Majesty's entering into the fiftieth year of his reign: it is intended to apply the collections at an annual charity-sermon to their support.

Roan's, or the
Grey-coat
School.

In the year 1643, Mr. John Roan gave the reversion of all his lands and houses in Greenwich /194 to trustees, for the purpose of educating "poor towns' born children of East-Greenwich," and clothing them till fifteen years of age; allowing for the clothing of each, 40s. per annum /195. Sir William Hooker, in 1691, gave 6l. per annum to this school. Dr. Thomas Plume, vicar of Greenwich, who died in 1704, gave to the parish some tenements at Deptford (now producing only 10l. per annum /196), applied in aid of Roan's charity. Sir Peter Dennis gave bank-stock producing 8l. 11s. per annum (now 285l. 3 per cent. consol.) to Roan's school; and Mr. Swete the interest of 123l. 5s. 2d. India annuities. In this, which is called the Grey-coat School, 60 boys are now clothed and educated. The ground on which the school-house stood being wanted by the governors of the hospital, an exchange of its site took place, and a new school-house was built at the expence of the governors, on ground purchased by them for that purpose; it was opened on the 25th of October 1809, being the

Sigilli Custos, Castri Doverensis Constabularius, Quinque Portuum Custos, Cancellarius et Admirallus, Jacobo Magnæ Britanniae Regi ab intimis Conciliis, Periscilidis Eques Auratus et Academiae Cantabrigiensis Cancellarius, inter Nobiles literatissimus in spem resurgendi in Christo pie conditur. Ob. 15 Junii 1614."

(N. B. The above inscription is on the side of the monument next the wall, and cannot be seen without much difficulty.) On the other side:

"Inclutus hic comes tria hospitalia fundavit et latifundiis dotavit, unum Grenovici in Cantio in quo viginti egeni & Præfectus; alterum Cluni in comitatu Salopiæ in quo 12 egeni cum præfecto, tertium ad Castrum-Rising in comitatu Norfolkiciæ, in quo 12 pauperculæ cum Gubernatrice, in perpetuum alantur." On another part of the monument: "Joanni Griffith huic comiti ab epistolis curante, positum."

/193 "Deo Patri Domini nostri Jesu Christi omnipotenti, glorioso, sempiterno et primæ Trinitatis individuae personæ, Henricus How-ardus trinæ et unius Majestatis cultor obsequen-tissimus festo quo natus erat Matthiæ Apostoli devotissime sua manu posuit, A. D. 1613. Feb. die 25."

/194 A piece of ground belonging to Roan's Charity was, in 1773, purchased for an addition to the burial-ground by the parish for 500l. which is vested in the 3 per cent. **consols, in the name of the Accountant-General** for the benefit of the School.

/195 There is now allowed for clothing the sum of 150l.

/196 Dr. Plume left six houses, but only two are are now known.

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day on which the 50th anniversary of His Majesty's accession was kept as a Jubilee; on which occasion the boys had a dinner of beef and plum-pudding. The present income of Roan's school is 406l. 2s. 10d. which will soon be nearly double on the determination of certain leases which are nearly expired.

Sir William Boreman's, or the Green-coat School.

Sir William Boreman, in the year 1672, founded another school at Greenwich (called the Green-coat School), for the education, maintenance, and clothing of twenty poor boys of this parish; who are to be instructed in writing, accounts, and navigation. He endowed it with certain lands, tenements, and fee-farm rents, committing the management of it to the Drapers' Company. The sum of 300l. given by Sir William Langhorne, Bart. in 1715, to that Company for charitable uses, was, by them, applied in aid of this charity. In 1709, its revenue was 297l.; the master's salary was 20l. the matron's 16l. In 1774, the revenue was only 280l. 18s. 11d. **These sums were obtained from the vestry clerk's office at Green-wich; what its present revenues are is known only to the Drapers' Company.** When the account of charitable donations was given in to the House of Commons, the value of these charities was returned unknown. A new school-house was built for this charity about the year 1788.

Girls' school.

A charity-school for girls, instituted in this parish about the year 1700, is still continued, being supported by the ladies with an annual subscription, aided by the collection at a charity-sermon. The children are clothed and educated; their number is continually varying.

Black-heath.

Adjoining to Greenwich /200 is a heath, partly in this parish, and partly in those of Lewisham /201 and Charlton, called, as some think, from the appearance of the soil, or, as others suppose, from its bleak situation /202, Blackheath. On this heath is dug a kind of gravel in great request for making garden walks. The principal villas on the heath, which are in this parish, have been already mentioned /203.

Roman an-tiquities.

The Roman road from London to Dover is supposed to have crossed Black-heath nearly in the same direction that the present road does. Dr. Plot says, that in his time its course appeared pretty plain /204. **A curious glass urn and other Roman antiquities have been found on the edge of the heath, not far from Greenwich /205: in the year 1802, several urns, figures of which are engraved in the XVth volume of the Archæologia, were found in the Earl of Dartmouth's kitchen garden at Blackheath. In the park near the gate which leads to Croom's-**

/200 There are two roads of rather steep ascent from Greenwich to the heath, the one at the east and the other at the west end, called Maize-hill and Croome's-hill, on each of which are several villas which command very beautiful prospects.

/201 The fair held on Blackheath is in the parish of Lewisham, as is the school; the **late** Earl of Dartmouth's seat, &c.

/202 See Philipott's Survey.

/203 See p. 525.

/204 See Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 27.

/205 Bagford's Letter, prefixed to Leland's Collectanea.

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hill, is a range of about fifty tumuli, or barrows, which were opened in the month of January 1804, by the Rev. James Douglas, F. S. A. There were found in them some spear heads, a few beads, pieces of woollen and linen, cloth, and some braids of human hair /206 very perfect. Lambard speaks of some barrows on Blackheath, which he says were raised over the rebels in the reign of Henry VII.

Encampments on Blackheath.

In the early part of the eleventh century, the Danes are said to have been encamped on Blackheath. Their fleet lay at Greenwich in 1012, 1013, and 1014; their army being stationed on the hills above, most probably about East-Combe and West-Combe /207. In West-Combe-park the traces of entrenchments are still visible. In 1381, Wat Tyler, Jack Straw, and their associates, were encamped upon Blackheath /208. Jack Cade, the counterfeit Mortimer, twice occupied the same station in 1450 /209. On the 23d of February 1451, the King was met at Blackheath by a great number of Cade's deluded followers in their shirts, who humbly, on their knees, craved for pardon /210. In 1452, King Henry VI. pitched his tent upon Blackheath, when he was preparing to withstand the forces of the Duke of York (afterwards Edward IV /211). In 1471, the bastard Falconbridge encamped there with his army /212. In the year 1497, Lord Audley and the Cornish rebels pitched their tents upon Blackheath, where they waited the arrival of King Henry VII. and his army: a battle ensued on the 22d of July. The rebels were overthrown, and their chiefs taken and executed /213. The site of Michael Joseph's tent (one of the ringleaders) was shown when Lambard wrote his Perambulation: it was commonly called the smith's forge, Joseph having been by trade a blacksmith /214.

Battle of Blackheath.

Triumphal processions and ceremonial meetings on Blackheath.

Blackheath has been the scene also of triumphal processions and ceremonial meetings, attended with much splendid pageantry. Here, in 1400, King Henry IV. with great parade and magnificence, met the Emperor of Constantinople, when he arrived in England to solicit assistance against Bajazet Emperor of the Turks /215. – Here, on the 23d of November 1415, the Mayor and Aldermen of London, with 400 citizens, clothed in scarlet, with red and white hoods, met their victorious Monarch returning from the field of Agincourt /216. Here, in 1416, the citizens met the Emperor Sigismund, who came to mediate a peace between France and England; conducting him hence to Lambeth, where he was met by the King /217. In 1474, the citizens met King Edward IV. on Blackheath, as he returned from France /218. In 1519, a solemn embassy, consisting of the Admiral of France, the Bishop of Paris, and others, with 1200 persons in their

/206 See Mr. Douglas's *Nænia Britannica*.

/207 See p. 497.

/208 Holinshed, vol. iii. 430.

/209 Stow's Annals, p. 643, 644. 4to.; and Holinshed, vol. iii. f. 1280.

/210 Stow, p. 648.

/211 Ibid. Folio edit. p. 393.

/212 Holinshed, vol. iii. 690.

/213 Stow's Annals, 4to. p. 802.

/214 Lambard's Perambulation, p. 34.

/215 Holinshed, vol. iii. 519.

/216 Ibid. 556.

/217 Ibid.

/218 Ibid. p. 701.

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train, was met by the Lord Admiral of England, attended by a numerous retinue /219. The same year Cardinal Campeius, being sent by the Pope into England, as his Legate, was received upon this heath by the Duke of Norfolk, and a great number of prelates, knights, and gentlemen, who conducted him to a rich tent of cloth of gold: there he arrayed himself in his Cardinal's robes, and

Anne of Cleve, met on Blackheath.

rode thence, in much state, to London /220. A still more magnificent procession was that which appeared upon Blackheath at the meeting between **King Henry VIII.** and the Lady Anne of Cleve, on the 3d of January 1540-1.

The Chronicles tells us that she came down Shooter's-hill at twelve o'clock, and alighted at a tent of cloth of gold prepared on the heath for her reception. The King having notice of her arrival, went through the park to meet her, attended by most of the nobility, the bishops, the heralds, foreign ambassadors, &c. The procession from the heath to Greenwich palace was attended by those in the King's and the Princess's train, being in number 600, by 1200 citizens and others, clad in velvet with chains of gold, by most of the female nobility, and a great number of ladies. All the city barges were on the water near the palace, and the procession was saluted with peals of artillery from the tower in the park. The marriage ceremony was performed in the chapel at Greenwich /221. The cross on Blackheath is mentioned in Holinshed's account of the interview between **King Henry VIII.** and Anne of Cleve.

Mock fight between the Cavaliers and Round heads in 1645.

On the 1st of May 1645, "Col. Blunt, to please the Kentish people, who were fond of old customs, particularly May-games, drew out two regiments of foot, and exercised them on Blackheath, representing a mock-fight between the Cavaliers and the Roundheads. The people (says the writer of the Diurnal, whence this extract is taken) were as much pleased as if they had gone a Maying /222."

Mount for trying mortars.

On Blackheath, between the south-west corner of Greenwich-park and the windmill, is a mount raised on a square platform, formerly used for trying mortars /223.

Magazine for gun-powder.

The magazine for gunpowder /224, belonging to Government, which was built in Greenwich Levels about the latter end of the **seventeenth** century, was removed to Purfleet, (in consequence of a petition from the inhabitants of Greenwich,) and the site, with some adjoining lands, leased, in 1770, to Henry Vansittart Esq. /225.

/219 Holinshed, vol. iii. p. 848.

/220 Fiddes's Life of Wolsey, p. 191. (edit. 1726.)

/221 Holinshed, vol. iii. p. 948-950.

/222 Perfect Occurrences, May 1, 1645.

/223 Survey of Greenwich in the Land-Revenue-office, bearing date 1697.

/224 Called in the Survey just mentioned the new magazine.

/225 From the information of **the late** Mr. Harrison of the Land-Revenue-office.

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Soldiers' matches.

The matches used by the soldiers for their muskets, before the invention of firelocks, were fabricated at Greenwich /226. In a survey of Greenwich, bearing date 1697, mention is made of the Armoury-mills, "heretofore used by potters for grinding their colours." One of these, **which was for some time** a flour-mill, **has been taken down**, the other **has been much enlarged**, and is used for the manufacture of **gun-barrels**.

Armoury-mills.

Millington's iron wharf.

Near the water-side, adjoining to Norfolk College, is the spacious iron wharf of Millington and Co., formerly belonging to the Crowleys. **A considerable number of** smiths are generally employed here to supply such goods as are wanted in greater haste than they could be forwarded from their great manufactory in the north /227. The ancient mansion, now belonging to the Earl of Ashburnham, and in the occupation of **Thomas Vardon Esq. (one of the partners in the iron trade)**, was purchased in 1704, of Nicholas Cooke by Sir Ambrose Crowley, Alderman of London, and was for some time the residence of that family.

/226 Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 28.

/227 There is a **particular** account of this manufactory in Hutchinson's History of the County of Durham.

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HAYES.

Name. This place, called in old writings, Hese; lies in the hundred of Ruxley,
Situation. twelve miles from London, and two from Bromley. The parish is bounded
Boundaries. by Bromley on the north and east; by Keston on the south-east; West-Wickham
Quantity of on the south and south-west; and Beckenham on the north. It contains about
land, and 1000 acres of cultivated land; which are divided nearly in an equal proportion
how occu- between arable and pasture. The latter has been for some years past gradually in-
pied. creasing. There are 200 acres of waste. The soil in this parish is various; clay
Soil. and gravel abound most; there is a considerable portion also of sand and loam.

Hayes lies within the manor of West-Wickham, but Sir John Dyke claims some manerial rights within it, as appertaining to his manor of Orpington.

Manor of Baston. The manor or manor-farm of Baston, in this parish, was formerly the property of the Squeries. It was sold by Richard Mervin Esq. (who had married the heiress of that family) to the Scropes, and passed, as is supposed, with the neighbouring manor of West-Wickham to the Lennards /1. In 1723, Robert Thorpe sold his moiety of this manor to John Wood, in whom the other moiety was then vested. Richard and Anthony Wood, being co-heirs in gavelkind, alienated it in 1762 to John Luxford Esq., of whom it was purchased in 1795 by James Randell Esq. the present proprietor /2.

Manor of Pickhurst or Heaver. The manor, or reputed manor, of Pickhurst or Heaver /3, was in 1693, the property of Matthias Wallraven, whose grandson Peter, in 1757, alienated it to William Cowley. It was purchased of the latter in 1765, by Mariabella Eliot, sister of Mr. J. Eliot, the present proprietor /4. This estate is in the tenure of John Bowdler, Esq. who resides in the mansion belonging to it.

Hayes-place the residence Hayes-place (near the church) was formerly the seat of the Scotts. In 1698,
/1 Hasted, p. 111.

/2 The descent from 1723 is taken from title-deeds obligingly communicated by the present proprietor. – Mr. Randell purchased the house with about sixty-five acres of land. About two hundred acres in the parish of Hayes (half of which was parcel of the Baston estate) were purchased at the same time by George Norman Esq. of Bromley common.

/3 In the year 1466, Katherine, daughter and heir of Richard Shotte, conveyed to John Hever her right in certain lands and tenements in the parish of Hese in Kent. Cl. 5 Edw. IV. m. 15.

/4 The descent of this estate is given from title-deeds communicated by favour of the present proprietor.

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of the late Earl of Chatham. Stephen Scott Esq. alienated it to John Harrison: in 1757, it was purchased of the Harrisons by the Right Hon. William Pitt, afterwards Earl of Chatham /5) who built the present mansion. When he became possessed of Burton-Pynsent, he sold this place, in 1766, to the Hon. Thomas Walpole, who cased the house with white brick, and otherwise much improved it. Lord Chatham being afterward very desirous of returning to Hayes, Mr. Walpole was prevailed upon to gratify him, and it was accordingly re-conveyed to his Lordship in 1768. Here, after his retirement from public affairs, this great statesman spent much of the evening of his days amusing himself with improving from time to time, his favourite residence. After his death, Hayes-place was sold by the Countess Dowager and the present Earl of Chatham, (in 1785,) to James Bond Esq. (afterwards Sir James Bond), of whom it was purchased in 1789, with about 100 acres of land, by the Right Hon. George Viscount Lewisham, (now Earl of Dartmouth) who, after a few years residence there, alienated it (in 1797) to Philip Dehany Esq. father of Mrs. Dehany the present proprietor /6.

Sir Vicary Gibbs, the present attorney general, has a villa upon Hayes common.

Parish-church. The parish church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small building, (of flint and stone,) consisting of a chancel and nave. At the west end is an embattled tower, on which is a very low spire. There are no monuments worthy of notice.

On the **chancel** floor are the **grave-stones** of John Osteler and Sir John Andrew /7, rectors of Hayes about the latter end of the fifteenth century /8; John Heygge, rector, 1523; Robert Garret, rector, 1560; John Hoare, rector, (a brass plate, with a figure of the deceased) 1584; Sir Edmund Scott, 1597, (**covered by a pew**); Sir Stephen Scott, Knt., Gentleman Pensioner to **King Charles I.** 1658; **and several others of that family.** The banners borne at the public funeral of the late Earl of Chatham are In this church.

The rectory. Hayes is a rectory in the peculiar jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and in the deanery of Shoreham. The patronage has been from time immemorial vested in the rectors of Orpington, to whom the rectors of this parish **formerly paid** an annual pension of 6s. 8d. /9 In 1287, this rectory was rated at 10 marks /10: in 1650, it was valued at 40l. being stated to have 16 acres of glebe /11, **which is**

/5 Lord Chatham's original purchase consisted only of the old mansion, which he pulled down, and a few acres of land. By subsequent purchases, the estate has been considerably increased.

/6 Title-deeds communicated by William Dunn Esq. **for the first edition**, through the favour of Lord Lewisham (noe Earl of Dartmouth.)

/7 Inscription: – "I beseche you all that passith here by,
For the sowle of S/r John Andrew that here doth lye,
Say a pater noster and an ave."

/8 They were the immediate predecessors of John Heygge, who died in 1523.

/9 Bacon's Liber Regis, p. 863.

/10 See Hasted, vol. i. p. 106.

/11 Hasted; from the Parliamentary Surveys at Lambeth.

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the present quantity. It is a discharged living in the King's books of the clear certified value of 49l. per annum.

Rectors. Robert Davidson, rector of this parish, in 1707, published a thanksgiving sermon upon the Union. The present rector is John Till, LL.B. instituted in 1777, on the death of Francis Fawkes, M. A.

Parish register. The register of baptisms, marriages, and burials commences in 1539.

Comparative state of population.	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1580 – 1589.	8(1/2)	5(7/10)
1630 – 1639.	6(1/2)	4(2/5)
1680 – 1689.	7	8(2/5)
1730 – 1739.	7(1/5)	8(1/10)
1780 – 1789.	7(7/10)	7(1/10)
1790 – 1794.	9(4/5)	8(1/5)
1795 – 1799.	9(3/5)	5(4/5)
1800 – 1807.	12(3/4)	7(7/8)

The number of houses in 1795 was 62 /12; in 1801, 72; the present number is 81.

In 1603, there were ten burials; in 1625, two; in 1665 none are entered.

Extracts from the Parish Register.

"John /13, son of the Hon. William Pitt and Lady Esther Pitt, born Oct. 10, baptized Nov. 7. 1756."

Birth of the Right Hon. William Pitt. "William, son of the Hon. William and Lady Esther Pitt, born May 28, baptized July 3, 1759." It would be encroaching too much on the province of the historian to enter into the particulars of the life and political character of that great statesman, whose birth is here recorded, and whose administration formed so distinguished a feature in the history of this country, during a most interesting period of nearly twenty years. Suffice it to say that here, during his early years,

under the immediate tuition of his illustrious father, he laid the foundation of that eminence as a public speaker, and as a minister, which has placed him in the first rank of English statesmen. Several biographical accounts of this great political character have been published since his death, which happened to the inexpressible loss of his country, at a villa then occupied by him at Putney, Jan. 23, 1806, at the early age of 47. The most comprehensive history of his life and political character is that by John Gifford Esq.

/12 From the information of the Rev. Mr. Till, to whom I have been indebted for other particulars relating to this parish.

/13 The present Earl of Chatham.

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“Charles L/d Visc/t Mahon, (now Earl Stanhope,) and the R/t Hon. Lady Hester Pitt, married Dec. 19, 1774.”

“James Bruce /13, Esq. of Lincoln’s Inn, and Adriana Allen, married Feb. 3, 1754.”

Some of the daughters of the present Earl of Dartmouth were born and baptized at Hayes during his Lordship’s residence at that place. In the early part of the register there are several entries of the family of Scott.

School.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lloyd, in the year 1693, gave a rent-charge of 3l. per annum for teaching children to read. Mrs. Elizabeth Harrison, in 1738, gave 2l. per annum for the same purpose; and 10s. /14 to be distributed on Good Friday among those who should say their catechism best. A school was erected in 1791, and a master and mistress appointed to teach all the poor children in the parish to read, and the girls to work: the expence of which, except the aid from the above-mentioned benefactions, is defrayed by voluntary subscriptions.

/13 The Abyssinian traveller.

/14 Her executor who was charged with the payment of this benefaction, to exonerate himself from further trouble made over to the parish in lieu of it the sum of 100l. 3 per cent. stock. (From the information of Mr. Till.)

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LEE.

Situation.
Boundaries.

This village lies in the hundred of Blackheath, at the distance of six miles from London, and one from Greenwich. The parish is bounded by Eltham; the extra-parochial hamlet of Mottingham; Bromley; Lewisham; Charlton, and the extra-parochial hamlet of Kidbrook. It contains about 1060 acres of land, of which about 520 are arable, about 460 meadow and pasture, and about 80 woodland; there is no common. The soil, in the upper part of the parish, towards Bromley, is a stiff clay; in other parts, gravel.

Quantity of land, and how occupied.

Soil.

The manor of Lee, with its appendages, Shrofholt and Bankers.

The manor of Lee was held of Edward the Confessor by Alwin. William the Conqueror gave it to his half-brother Odo, Bishop of Baieux and Earl of Kent; of whom it was held by Walter de Douay /1. In the reign of Edward I. it was the property of John de Banquel, or Bankwell, who, in the year 1302, had a charter of free-warren in all his lands at Lee, Lewisham, and Bromley /2.

In the year 1387, Sir Richard Stury and Robert Bankwell gave the manors of Lee, and of Bankers and Shrofholt, (in Lee,) which they possessed by an infeoffment from William, son and heir of Thomas de Bankwell, to Richard Dudlie and James Vanel; which Richard and James, the same year, conveyed them to Sir Richard Stury and his heirs /3. They appear to have been in possession of the Stury family as late as the year 1452 /4; soon after this they became the property of Richard Widville, Lord Rivers /5, who was beheaded at Banbury in 1469. His son Anthony, Earl Rivers, shared the same fate at Pomfret, in 1483, being succeeded by his younger brother Richard, who died in 1491, seised of the manors of Lee, Lee-Shrofholt, and Bankers /6; which he devised, by will, to his nephew Thomas Grey, Marquis of Dorset /7. In 1511, Thomas Marquis of Dorset (son of

/1 The manor is thus described in the record of Domesday: – Walter de Douay holds Lee of the

Bishop (of Baieux). It is rated at half a suling. The arable land is four carucates. On the demesne lands are two ploughs. There are eleven villans and two cottars, who have between them two ploughs. There are two slaves, five acres of meadow, and pannage for ten hogs. In the time of Edward the Confessor, and when the bishop came into possession, it was valued at 3l.; now at 100s. Alwin held it of King Edward.

/2 Cart. 31 Edw. I. N/o 47.

/3 Cl. 10 Ric. II. m. 24 and 40.

/4 Sir Thomas Stury in that year presented to the rectory, which was appendant to the manor.

/5 Philipott's Survey of Kent, p. 212.

/6 Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 65. The manor of Lee was held of the King; the manors of Lee-Shrofholt, and Bankers, of the prior and convent of Shene.

/7 Hasted.

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the former) granted these manors to King Henry VIII., in exchange for lands in Leicestershire /8. Various leases of houses and lands, parcel of these manors, were granted from time to time by the Crown /9; Queen Elizabeth, in 1597, granted the site of the manor of Lee to Bryan Annesley and John Wildgoose (his son-in-law) for life /10. The manors of Lee, &c. were granted for a term of years to Thomas Lord Buckhurst, whose grandson, Richard Earl of Dorset, surrendered his interest in them to **King James I.** /11 King Charles, in 1641, granted the fee-simple of these manors, subject to a rent of 87l. 10s. 2d. to Ralph Freeman Esq. /12, afterward a Knight; and, in 1633, Lord Mayor of London. Joan, only daughter and heir of Sir Ralph Freeman, married Sir George Sondes, K. B., afterwards created Earl of Feversham; who had issue by her two daughters. Mary, the eldest, married Lewis Duras, Marquis of Blanquefort; who, by virtue of a remainder in the patent, succeeded to the title of Earl of Feversham, and was in right of his wife, proprietor of these manors. On his death, without issue, in 1711, they devolved to Lewis Watson, Earl of Rockingham, who married Catherine, the other daughter and co-heir of George Earl of Feversham. Thomas, the second Earl of Rockingham, having no issue, devised these manors to the Hon. Lewis Monson, second son of John Lord Monson (by Margaret, youngest daughter of Lewis Earl of Rockingham); which Lewis Monson (who, pursuant to the will of the Earl of Rockingham, **took** the name and arms of Watson) was, in 1760, created Lord Sondes. **In 1798 the manors of Lee-Shrofholt (or, as it is now called, Shroffield) and Bankers, with about 550 acres of freehold land, were purchased of Lord Sondes by Sir Francis Baring, Bart. the present proprietor. Sir Francis had before purchased an estate of above 400 acres of the representatives of Thomas Lucas Esq., with a mansion built by that gentleman about the year 1770, which is now one of his seats.**

Little Bankers, &c.

There were certain lands also called Little Bankers and Great Hatchfield, partly in this parish and partly in Lewisham, which, having passed to the Crown with the manors above-mentioned, were in 1543, granted to Henry Byrd, and continued for some time in his family /13. They have for many years passed with the manor of Catford in Lewisham.

Lee-place, and other villas.

Lee-place, an ancient mansion in this village, has belonged, for more than a century, to the family of Boone. It is now the property of Charles Boone Esq., and in the occupation of **his brother Thomas Boone Esq.** The **late Dowager Lady Dacre had** a villa at this place, which was the seat of her father, Sir Thomas Fluyder, Knt.; **it is now the property and residence of Trevor Roper Esq.** The

/8 Record in the Augmentation-office.

/9 Leases in the Augmentation-office.

/10 Pat. 39 Eliz. pt. 15. Dec. 3.

/11 Hasted.

/12 Fee-farm rolls in the Augmentation-office.

The account of the manor from this period is given principally from Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 66.

/13 See Hasted's History, vol. i. p. 66 and 74.

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Papillon family have long had a seat here, now the property of **Thomas Papillon, Esq.**

Parish church.

The parish church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is an ancient building of flint and stones, consisting of a nave and chancel. At the west end is a low tower, the upper part of which has been re-built with brick, and is roofed over with red tiles. **So long ago as the seventeenth century**, it was in agitation (as appears by papers now extant) to re-build this church, which was then represented to be in a state too ruinous to admit of repair. The measure **was** again agitated **about fifteen years ago**, but no steps have as yet been taken for that purpose, **although a new building is much wanted, not only on account of its decayed state, but from its inadequacy to contain one-half of the parishioners who might wish to attend divine service.**

Monuments.

On the south wall of the chancel is an inscription /14 to the memory of Nicholas Ansley, or Annesley Esq. who died in 1593: above is an upright figure (**on a brass plate**.) of the deceased, in armour, kneeling at a desk. On the north side of the chancel is a handsome monument of marble and alabaster, supported by Corinthian columns, to the memory of Bryan Annesley Esq. /15 (son of Nicholas) Gentleman Pensioner to Queen Elizabeth, who died in 1604; and his wife Audrey, (daughter of Robert Tirrell Esq., of Burbrooke,) who died in 1591. On the floor is the **gravestone** of Abraham Sherman, rector, (who, in 1636, rebuilt the parsonage-house,) ob. 1654. In the nave **is the gravestone** of Elizabeth Couhyll (with a small figure **on** brass of the deceased), 1513.

Tombs in the church-yard.
Dr. Halley.

In the church-yard are, **among others**, the tombs of **several of the family of Crutchley**; the Hon. Joseph Pilgrim, Chief Judge of the Common Pleas in the Island of Barbadoes, 1733; Edmund Halley, LL.D. /16, 1742; William

/14 "When the Quene Elizabeth full five yeres had rain'd,
Then Nicholas Ansley, whos corps lyes here interred,
At fyve and twenty yeres of age was enter-tayned
Into her servis, where well himselfe he carred
In eche man's love, till fifty and eight yeres ould,
Being Sergant of her Seller, death him contrould."

/15 Under an elliptic arch, ornamented with a mosaic pattern studded with roses, lie the effigies of Bryan Annesley, in armour, and his wife, in a gown and ruff, both recumbent; beneath are the effigies of their son, who died in his infancy, and three daughters; Grace, married at Lee, October 16, 1587, to Sir John Wildgoose, Knt.; Christian, married to Lord Sandys (she must have been second wife of William Lord Sandys, of the Vine); and Cordell, who married Sir William Hervey, Knt.

/17 Inscription: — "Sub hoc marmore placide requiescit, cum uxore carissima, Edmundus Halleius, LL. D. Astronomorum sui sæculi facile princeps, ut vero scias lector, qualis quantusque vir ille fuit, scripta ejus multifaria lege, quibus omnes fere artes et scientias, illustravit, ornavit, amplificavit — æquum est igitur ut quem cives sui vivum tantopere coluere, memoriam ejus posteritas grata veneretur.

Natus est A. C. 1656.

Mortuus 1741-2.

Hoc saxum optimis parentibus sacrarunt duæ
filiæ pientissimæ, anno Christi 1742.”

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Sir Samuel
Fludyer.
Thomas
Spencer, a
painter.
Lord Dacre.
Parsons, the
comedian.

Pate /17, 1746; **some of the families of Boone and Lucas**; William James, Esq.,
F. R. A. S. 1786; Sir Samuel Fludyer, Bart. /18, 1768; Jane, his first wife,
1757; Sir Thomas Fludyer, Knt. 1769; Thomas Spencer /19, 1776; Lieut.
Col. Roper (only brother of Lord Dacre), 1788; Trevor Charles Roper, Lord
Dacre /20, 1794; **Mary his relict, 1808**; William Parsons, the late celebrated co-

/17 Inscription: – “Hic jacent reliquiæ
Gulielmi Pate viri, propter ingenii fæcundita-
tem et literarum peritiam haud minus eximii
quam ob morum urbanitatem suavitatemque
dilecti. Hunc lapidem sequente apothegmate
aureo incisum tumulo imponi jussit. Epichar-
mion illud teneto nervos atque artus esse
scientiæ. – Non temere credere. Obiit nono die
Decembris, anno ætatis suæ octogesimo, æræ
Christianæ 1746.” – This gentleman, who was
much connected with Pope, Swift, and other
wits of their day, received his education at
Trinity-hall, Cambridge. He afterwards entered
into trade. Swift in his letters calls him the
learned woollen draper.

/18 Inscription: – “Sir Samuel Fludyer, Knt.
and Bart., Alderman of Cheap Ward, and
Burgess in Parliament for the borough of Chip-
penham in Wiltshire, died Jan. 18, 1768, aged
63 years. By indefatigable industry, and un-
common abilities for business, he carried the
woollen manufacture of this kingdom to the
greatest height. He filled with dignity the
high office of Lord Mayor of the city of Lon-
don, which he entered upon Nov. 9, 1761, at
which time he had the honour of entertaining
their Majesties, King George the Third, and
Queen Charlotte, at the Guildhall of the city.
He was most deservedly loved as a relation and
as a friend; of great politeness and affability
in the social intercourses of life, and acted in
every public capacity upon principles of a strict
loyalty and firm attachment to the Protestant
succession of the House of Hanover, and a
steady adherence to the liberties of the English
constitution. By his second wife Caroline
Brudenell, eldest daughter of the late Ho-
nourable James Brudenell, he left two sons,
Samuel and George.”

/19 Inscription: – “Sacred to the memory of
Mr. Thomas Spencer, a native of the kingdom
of Ireland, in whom the character of a tender
father and sincere friend was blended with the
artist; distinguished for his peculiar turn in the
style of painting (horses, &c.), and whose
performances are sufficient eulogiums to his
memory. He departed this life Dec. 29, 1776,
aged 74.”

/20 Inscription (**on a monument of white mar-
ble**): – “Sacred to the memory of the Right
Hon. Trevor Charles Roper, Baron Dacre,

born June 25, 1745; married, the 2d of March 1773, Mary Jane, daughter of Sir Thomas Fludyer, Knt.; and died at his seat in this parish, the 3d of July 1794, aged 49, most universally and deservedly lamented. He was a most devout and pious Christian, strictly attentive to the performance of every duty to God and man, a loyal and faithful subject, a zealous supporter of his King and country, a dutiful son, affectionate brother, a gentle master, sincere friend, humane benefactor to the poor, and a firm protector to the distressed: he was a most kind, constant, and tender husband to his truly afflicted widow, who, as a testimonial of their distinguished unclouded union for upwards of twenty-one years, their unexampled happiness, and of the unbounded confidence in which they lived, and as a sincere token of her real gratitude for his uniform endearing affection, and particular generosity, her deepfelt sorrow, and tenderest remembrance, has erected this unadorned monument, and herself inscribed these well known truths to his beloved memory: convinced they are most consonant to the purity of his life, his mild disposition, his amiable temper, and genuine character; and that his numberless virtues, his great benevolence, and engaging manners, are so universally allowed; their loss so truly regretted by every rank; and that her unabating attachment and sincere affection are so fully known, there can be no stronger acknowledgment of his eminent perfections, and her heartfelt grief. The meek Christian adorned with perfect faith; the virtuous man accompanied by good works, relied, through divine mediation, with humble hope upon the mercy of his God. The resigned Christian submits with pious faith to the will of her God; and trusts

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median /21, 1795; and **William Chivers Esq. of Battersea Rise, aged 86, who was murdered by his gardener, January 24th 1807.**

Rectory.

Lee is a rectory, in the diocese of Rochester, and in the deanery of Dartford. The advowson was held with the manor till the year 1641, when **King Charles I.** granted the latter to Sir Ralph Freeman, reserving the patronage of the rectory to the Crown, in which it is still vested /22. In 1287, this rectory was taxed at ten marks /23. In 1650, being then stated to have fifteen acres of glebe, it was valued at 70l. /24 In the King's books it is rated at 3l. 11s. 8d.

Rectors.

John Ovington, D. D. Rector of Lee, who had been chaplain to Queen Anne, published several single sermons: he died in 1731. The present rector is **the Rev. George Locke, M. A., instituted in 1803, on the death of the Right Rev. Henry Reginald Courtenay, Bishop of Exeter.**

Parish register.

The earliest date of the register of baptisms, burials, and marriages, is 1579.

Comparative state of population.

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1580 – 1589.	3(3/10)	5(1/5)
1630 – 1639.	3(3/10)	3(1/5)
1680 – 1689.	2(9/10)	4(9/10)
1730 – 1739.	7(1/10)	14(1/5)
1780 – 1789.	8(1/2)	33(3/5)
1790 – 1794.	12	31(3/5)
1795 – 1799.	13(3/5)	25(4/5)

1800 – 1804. 13(1/5) 21(4/5)
 1805 – 1809. 17(4/5) 27(3/5)

The disproportion between the burials and baptisms arises from the great number of persons brought here to be interred from other parishes. The number of houses in Lee in the year 1795, was about 50; in 1801, 70; the present number is 97.

through the same intercession to his mercy, with brightest hope of re-union in eternal bliss." The following has been added in memory of the late Lady Dacre, whose extraordinary attachment to the memory of her deceased Lord, was among other marks evinced by almost daily visits to his tomb for several years /*. "His faithful and mournful widow, survived her beloved and deeply lamented husband fourteen years, two months, and eight days, and died at her seat in this parish the 11th September 1808, aged 53. Her conduct evinced meek resignation, firm faith, constant affection, and sincere remembrance, and she lived a striking example of submission and trust, of attachment and hope."

/21 Inscription: – "Here lies the body of William Parsons Esq. who died Feb. 3, 1795, aged 59.

"Here Parsons lies, oft on life's busy stage
 With nature, reader, hast thou seen him vie;
 He science knew, knew manners, knew the
 age,
 Respected knew to live, lamented die."

/22 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 68.

/23 Ibid.

/24 Hasted; from the Parliamentary Surveys at Lambeth.

/* See Gent. Mag. 1808. p. 86.

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Plague years. In 1603, there were seven burials; in 1625, seven; in 1665, two only are entered. The collections at the monthly fasts during the last great plague, from August 1665, to May 1666, are entered in the register; the largest sum collected was 1l. 10s. 10d.; the smallest 5s. 6d.

Extracts from the Register.

Lady Mohun. "The R/t Hon. the Lady Phillipa Dowager Mohun, buried Mar. 2, 1714-5." Daughter of Arthur Earl of Anglesey, and **mother** of Charles Lord Mohun, who was killed in a duel with the Duke of Hamilton (which was fatal also to the Duke) in 1712.

Margaret Hewes. "M/rs Margaret Hewes, from Eltham, buried Oct. 15, 1719." It is not improbable that this was the same Mrs. Margaret Hewes /25, or Hughes, was a vocal actress of some eminence, and mistress to Prince Rupert /26.

Dr. Halley. "D/r Edmund Halley, of East-Greenwich, buried Jan. 20, 1741-2. He was Doctor of Law, Savilian Professor of Geometry at Oxford, Astronomer Royal at Greenwich, Honorary Member of the Academy of Sciences, and Vice-President of the Royal Society." This eminent astronomer was born at Haggerston, in the parish of St. Leonard, Shoreditch. He was educated at Queen's College in Oxford, where, at an early age, he distinguished himself in his favourite science, by publishing, when only nineteen years of age, a treatise on the direct and geometrical method of finding the aphelia and eccentricity of comets. Soon afterwards he went to St. Helena, for the purpose of observing the stars near the South Pole. In 1682, he began (being then resident at Islington) to observe the motions of the moon, to which, during the remainder of his life, his observations were chiefly directed, with a view towards ascertaining the longitude at sea. In 1698 and

1699, he made two voyages as captain of the Paramour Pink, for the purpose of making observations on the variation of the compass. In his last voyage he traversed the Atlantic Ocean, and on his return published the result of his observations in a general chart. In 1702, he made another voyage to observe the course of the tides in the British channel, of which he published a map. In 1703, he became Savilian Professor at Oxford; in 1713, Secretary of the Royal Society; and in 1719, succeeded Flamsteed as Astronomer Royal at Greenwich, where he died on the 14th of January 1741-2. Besides the publications already mentioned Dr. Halley was author also of the Theory of the Variation of the Magnetical Compass; tables showing the value of annuities for lives (1692); translations of Apollonius's Geometrical Works, and numerous papers in the Philosophical Transac-

/25 Her name is so written under her portrait.

/26 See p. 262.

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tions. His astronomical tables were published in 1752. Dr. Halley was the first who discovered the method of measuring heights by the barometer /27.

"S/r George Wynne, Bar/t, of Greenwich, buried Aug. 8, 1756."

"The Rev/d Mr. Nathaniel Bliss, of East-Greenwich, buried Sep. 4, 1764."

Mr. Bliss succeeded Dr. Bradley as Astronomer Royal at Greenwich in 1762.

"M/r William Parsons (the comedian), from St. Mary's, Lambeth, buried Feb. 15, 1795." This excellent comedian was the son of a builder in Bow-lane. He was born Feb. 29, 1736, and educated at St. Paul's school: being intended for an architect, he was placed as a pupil with Sir Henry Cheere /28; but his inclinations strongly leading him to the stage, he quitted the study of that art and made his first appearance at the little Theatre in the Haymarket, in the part of Kent in King Lear, in 1756 /29, but it was not till some years after that he established himself on the London stage. He had an engagement for a short time at York, whence he removed to Edinburgh: there he remained till he had acquired so much fame that Garrick was induced to invite him to Drury-lane Theatre: he made his first appearance **upon that stage** in Filch in the Beggars' Opera, Sep. 21, 1763. After the secession of Yates he succeeded to most of his characters and established himself a fame which may vie with any of his contemporaries or predecessors. His features were so truly comic, and his power of exciting laughter so irresistible, that his brother performers have frequently found it extremely difficult to preserve sufficient gravity to do justice to their own parts. Among a great variety of characters, in which he shone without a competitor, may be mentioned, as perhaps some of the most striking, Corbaccio in the Fox; Forefight in Love for Love; Moneytrap in the Confederacy; Don Manuel in She Would and She Would Not; Hardcastle in She Stoops to Conquer, and Dogberry. His last performance was Sir Fretful Plagiary in the Critic (in which also he much excelled), Jan. 19, 1795. He had long been troubled with an asthmatic complaint, which in the latter part of his life rendered his appearance on the stage less frequent; and his attacks were so sudden that the public were often disappointed of seeing him, even when his name was announced in the bills. He died, after a short confinement, on the 3d of February.

"John Charnock Esq., buried May 21, 1807." Mr. Charnock, who was a native of Barbadoes, was educated at Winchester school, and was afterwards a gentleman commoner of Merton College in Oxford. He served for a short time as a volunteer in the navy, which he wished to have made his profession. Mr. Charnock who was F. A. S. published the Biographia Navalis, in six volumes octavo;

/27 Biograph. Brit. whence the above account of Dr. Halley is taken.

/28 Europ. Mag. 1795.

/29 Ibid.

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a History of Marine Architecture in three volumes, quarto (1802); a Life of Lord Nelson, (1806); and some political pamphlets.

Harris says, that Samuel Purchas resided at Lee, and there wrote a great part of that collection of travels which is called his Pilgrims /30.

This parish has a right of sending one boy to the school at Blackheath, founded in 1656 by Abraham Colfe, vicar of Lewisham /31.

Nathaniel Bliss.

Parsons, the comedian.

John Charnock.

Samuel Purchas at Lee.

Alms-house and school founded by Charles Boone Esq. and Mary his wife.

In the year 1683, Charles Boone Esq., and Mary his wife, founded an alms-house with a chapel adjoining, and a school-house for six poor persons, and a school-mistress, endowing it with lands and rents, then producing 57l. per annum. The Founders committed the care of this charity to the Merchant Taylors' Company, appointing the annual income to be thus disposed of: To a chaplain 10l.; to a clerk, 2l.; to the school-mistress, 9l.; to the pensioners, 15l. 12s. (being 1s. a-week each); for fuel, 4l. 10s.; for clothing, 4l. 10s.; books and other necessaries for the children, and books for the chapel, 2l. The remainder to be used for repairs, or, if more than wanted for that purpose, to go towards augmenting the allowances of the chaplain, clerk, school-mistress, and pensioners. The Founders gave also the sum of 100l. to the Merchant Taylors, for the purpose of defraying the expences of an annual visitation of the alms-houses on the first Thursday in July. Rules and ordinances for this charity were made to the following purport: The rector of Lee to be chaplain, or, on his refusal, the vicar of Lewisham: prayers to be read in the chapel twice a-week; the clerk to be parish-clerk of Lee, or, on his refusal, the parish-clerk of Lewisham; the school-mistress to be fifty years of age at the least, a parishioner of Lee or Greenwich: she is to teach twelve children (presented by the rector and church-wardens of Lee) to read, or, if girls, to sew, knit, and mark; the boys to continue in the school till eleven years of age, the girls till twelve; the pensioners to be men or women chosen from among the poorest people of Lee, such as have lived orderly, and supported themselves by honest labour in their younger days, and can say the Lord's Prayer, Creed, and Ten Commandments, or are willing to learn them within two months after their admission. If such persons cannot be found in Lee, they are to be chosen from Lewisham, or if there should be none there thus qualified, from Greenwich. The present revenue of this charity is 73l. per annum; the chaplain's salary is now 12l.; the mistress's, 9l. (with 2l. 2s. for fuel); the clerk's, 4l.; the pensioners have 2s. per week each, besides a small allowance of fuel and clothes, as directed by the Founders.

The alms-house stands in the village, at the corner of the road which leads up to the church. Over the door are the Founders' arms.

A small rivulet, which takes its rise in this parish, falls into the Ravensbourne in the adjoining parish of Lewisham.

/30 History of Kent, p. 176.

/31 See the account of that parish.

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LEWISHAM.

- Eymology.** In the most ancient Saxon records this place is called Levesham, that is, the house among the meadows; leswe, læs, læse, or læsew, in the Saxon, signifies a meadow, and ham, a dwelling. It is now written, as well in parochial and other records as in common usage, Lewisham.
- Situation.** The village is situated on the road to Bromley, and extends nearly a mile in length. The church, which stands about the centre of the village, is not far from the six-mile stone. The parish, which lies in the hundred of Blackheath, is bounded by Lambeth, Camberwell, and the hamlet of Penge in Surrey, and by St. Paul's Deptford, Greenwich, Lee, Charlton, Eltham, Bromley, and Beckenham, in Kent. I have not been able to obtain the quantity of cultivated land, of which about two thirds are said to be arable. The woodlands are about 200 acres, the waste on Sydenham-common, Blackheath, &c. nearly 1000.
- Quantity of land, and how occupied.** **There are about forty acres cultivated by market gardeners, and about 130 as nursery grounds in the occupation of Messrs. Russel and Wilmot, who have probably** the most extensive concern of that kind in the kingdom. The soil is various, principally loam, clay, and gravel.
- Soil.**
- The priory.** There was formerly a Benedictine priory at this place, which was a cell to the abbey of St. Peter in Ghent. The time of its foundation is uncertain /1, but it is probable that it was soon after the manor was given to that abbey by King Alfred's niece, as will be shown below. The prior of Lewisham is mentioned in records of the time of **Kings** Henry II. and III. /2 This priory paid a yearly pension or acknowledgment of 40s. to the abbey of Ghent, as its superior /3. It was suppressed with the other alien priories by **King** Henry V. in 1414, and the site granted to the prior and convent of Shene /4.

The manor of Lewisham.

The manor of Lewisham /5 was given by Elthruða, niece of King Alfred, (about

/1 Weever says that John Norbury founded a priory at Lewisham, which he replenished with black monks from Ghent, but this is evidently a mistake, since the priory is known to have existed long before Norbury's time, who was Lord Treasurer in the reign of Henry IV.

/2 See Regist. Roffens. p. 648 – and Cart. 13 Hen. III. m. 12. – A grant of liberties, &c. to the prior of Levesham.

/3 Esch. 12 Ric. II. N/o 72.

/4 Dugdale's Monast. vol. i. p. 975.

/5 It is thus described in the Survey of Domesday. – The abbot of Ghent holds Levesham of the King, and he held it of King Edward the Confessor; it was then, and now is, rated at two sulings. The arable land is fourteen carucates. There are two ploughs on the demesne lands, and there are fifty villans with nine bor-

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the year 900,) to the abbey of St. Peter in Ghent, and was confirmed to them by King Edward the Confessor, and succeeding monarchs /6. In 1275, the Bishop of Rochester had the Royal licence for purchasing this manor /7; and, in 1281, the Archbishop of Canterbury seems to have been in treaty about a purchase or lease /8; but the abbey of Ghent continued in possession of it till the suppression of alien priories, when it was seized by the Crown, and granted by King Henry V., together with the site of Lewisham priory, to the prior and convent of Shene. In 1531, King Henry VIII. procured a conveyance of this manor (and Greenwich), from the monastery of Shene, in exchange for other lands /9. The lease of it was then in the hands of Edward Ford Esq. for the remainder of a term of forty years, granted in 1525, to John Cheseman Esq. /10 In 1538, the King granted the stewardship of this manor to Richard Long Esq. /11, the next year he granted the reversion to Sir Anthony St. Leger. Mention is made of a grant of the manor of Lewisham, in 1547, to Thomas Lord Seymour /12, yet it appears that the stewardship was given by the Crown the same year to Sir Thomas Speke, and in 1551, to Thomas Lord Darcy of Chiche /13. The manor was afterwards granted by King Edward to John Duke of Northumberland /14, who was beheaded in 1553. Queen Elizabeth, in 1563, granted it for life to his brother, Sir Ambrose Dudley /15; the same year she gave it for twenty-one years in reversion to Henry Knolles Esq. /16 The lease was renewed twice to the Knolles family /17. In 1624, King James granted this manor in fee to John Earl of Holderness /18. His nephew, John Ramsey, is said to have sold it, about the year 1645, to Reginald Grahme Esq. /19, who had a new grant or confirmation from the Crown in 1664 /20.

dars, who have between them seventeen ploughs. There are three slaves, and eleven mills, with the rent of the socmen, yielding 8l. 12s. Of the profit of the haven, 40s. (this must relate to Greenwich). There are thirty acres of meadow, pannage for fifty hogs. The whole was valued in King Edward's time at 16l.; its value afterwards fell to 12l., it is now 30l.

/6 See Cart. 10 John m. 2. (this is a confirmation with grant of free-warren); Cart. 11 Edw. II. N/o 83. – Pat. 20 Edw. III. pt. 1. m. 15. – Pat. 48 Edw. III. pt. 2. m. 17.

/7 Pat. 3 Edw. I. m. 26.

/8 Registers of the see of Canterbury at Lambeth. – Peckham, fol. 172. a.

/9 See p. 497.

/10 Records in the Augmentation-office.

/11 Pat. 30 Hen. VIII. pt. 1. Feb. 4.

/12 Grants and exchanges of lands by King Henry VIII. and Edw. VI. Harleian MSS. British Museum, N/o 7389.

/13 Records in the Augmentation-office.

/14 Ibid.

/15 Ibid.

/16 Pat. 5 Eliz. pt. 3. May 8.

/17 Pat. 18 Eliz. pt. 6. July 20. (to Sir Francis Knolles for twenty-one years); Pat. 3 Jac. pt. 6. March 21. (a lease for forty years to Sir Francis). It appears that Edward Alleyne, the celebrated tragedian, and founder of Dulwich College, purchased the manor and parsonage of Lewisham in 1620, for 1000l. (See his Diary, vol. i. p. 86, of this work.) This purchase could have been only for the remainder of Knolles's lease.

/18 Pat. 22 Jac. pt. 11. June 29. The grant is in the names of Edward and Robert Ramsey.

/19 Philipott's Survey, p. 217.

/20 Pat. 16 Car. II. pt. 1. N/o 1. Ap. 14. This grant is to Grahme at the nomination of Ramsey.

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Lord Dartmouth's seat on Blackheath.

In the year 1673, Mr. Grahme conveyed this manor to George Legge Esq. /21, Admiral of the Navy, afterwards created Lord Dartmouth. From him it descended to his son William, who, in 1711, was created Earl of Dartmouth; and to his great grandson, the late Earl, who died at his seat on Blackheath, (within the bounds of this parish and manor), **July 25, 1801**. In this house are portraits of King Charles II. and James II., the first Lord Dartmouth, Lord High Admiral of England, the late Earl of Guildford, the late Earl of Dartmouth, Lord Lewisham, now Earl of Dartmouth, (by Zoffanii,) and a few other family portraits. This house is now occupied by Simon Fraser Esq. The present Earl of Dartmouth resides occasionally at a villa on Blackheath, which he inhabited before the death of his late father and has much improved. The old manor house, which was also, as I suppose, the site of the priory, stood to the south of the church, where is now the manor-farm.

Manor of Catford.

The manor of Catford, in this parish, was anciently, according to Philipott's account, the property of the family of Abel /22. Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham, died seized of it in 1311 /23. In 1330, William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, had a grant of this manor /24, and the next year a charter of free-warren in it /25. In the year 1339, this manor was given by the Earl to the master and chaplains of the chapel of Corpus-Christi, near the church of St. Laurence in Candlewyke-street /26, (founded by Sir John Pulteney, and afterwards called Pulteney, or, corruptly, Pountney College). Upon the suppression of chantries it was sold, in 1548, to Henry Polsted /27. In 1577, it was sold by Francis Polsted to Bryan Annesley, Esq. /28; since which time it has passed through the same hands as the manor of Kidbrook /29, and is now the property of the Right Hon. Edward Lord Eliot.

Brockley-farm.

That part of the manor of Brockley which is in this parish, called Brockley-farm, or Forest-place, has descended in the same manner as Kidbrook and the Catford estate.

Manor of Billingham.

The manor of Billingham, in this parish, was parcel of the possessions of the Cistercian monastery of Stratford-Langthorne /30 in Essex, at the dissolution of

/21 From the information of William Dunn, Esq., (for the first edition) by permission of Lord Dartmouth.

/22 See p. 217. — John Abel had a grant of free-warren in Lewisham, in 1294; but no mention is made of Catford. See Cart. 23 Edw. I. N/o 21.

/23 Esch. 4 Edw. II. N/o 45.

/24 Cart. 4 Edw. III. N/o 2.

/25 Cart. 5 Edw. III. N/o 18. Catford and

Lewisham are mentioned in this grant.

/26 Pat. 13 Edw. III. pt. 1. m. 36. In this record, which is a pardon of alienation, the estate is said to consist of a messuage, a mill, 300 acres of arable, 20 of meadow, 60 of pasture, 40 of wood, and 26s. 8d. rents of assize.

/27 Records in the Augmentation-office.

/28 Cl. 20 Eliz. pt. 10.

/29 See p. 439, 440.

/30 It was held under the monks of Canterbury, and was confirmed to this convent by Henry II. See the Inspeximus of King Henry the Second's charter in Pat. 8 Hen. V. m. 8.

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which it came to the Crown; and was granted by Queen Mary, in 1554, to Richard Whetely /31, whose daughter and heir Philippa married John Rochester, and levied a fine of this manor in 1575 /32. In 1584, it was sold by Emery Rochester to John Leigh, who, in 1598, alienated it to James Altham, Esq.; a daughter of Sir James Altham brought it in marriage to the family of Stidolfe. Sir Richard Stidolfe, by his will bearing date 1676, bequeathed his estates between his two daughters, Margaret the wife of James Tryon Esq., and Frances married to Jacob Lord Astley. Frances Lady Astley left her estates to her nephew Charles Tryon Esq., in whom the whole being vested, he sold it to Thomas Inwen Esq. father of Sarah Lady Falkland, who died in 1776. It is now under her will, the property of Francis Motley Austen Esq. of Sevenoaks.

Manor of Sydenham.

Manor-house, usually called Place-house.

The manor of Sydenham was given by John Besvile to the prior and convent of St. Andrew in Rochester /33. What became of it immediately after the dissolution of religious houses, I have not been able to learn; but, in 1641, it was vested in George, Abraham, and Robert Edmonds, as co-heirs, in gavelkind, of George Edmonds. The demesne land, and the manor-house, a great mansion, generally known by the name of Place-house, were then divided between the three brothers; but soon afterwards Robert sold his share to the other two. Abraham Edmonds, in 1679, sold his moiety to William Grimett. This moiety was afterwards subdivided into moieties in the Grimett family. Both of these were purchased by Richard Brooke Esq.; the one in 1763, of Francis Grimett Esq. the other in 1765, of Mrs. Christian Hunt, widow, great-grandaughter of William Grimett above mentioned /34. George Edmonds's moiety passed through several hands, and was for many years in litigation between persons claiming under different wills. A decree in Chancery having been at length obtained, it was purchased by Mr. Jonathan Sabine, (the present proprietor,) who pulled down his moiety of the house /35. The eastern moiety, which was standing till within the last twelve months, was inherited (with the lands belonging to it) by Mr. Brooke's niece, the widow of John Secker Esq. The site, with some of the land, is now the property of John Forster Esq.; the remainder of this moiety belongs to William Allen Esq. Place-house is said to have been one of the seats of the Earl of Essex, Queen Elizabeth's favourite; but I cannot find any authority for the tradition.

/31 Pat. 1 Mar. pt. 6. June 11.

/32 Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 74.

/33 Regist. Roffens. p. 116.

/34 A house and some lands, parcel of this estate, were sold to the late Edward King Esq.

/35 The house, by the partition-deed between the Edmonds's, was very inconveniently divided, some of the rooms belonging to one share being over those belonging to the other; but there was a covenant between the parties, that if one moiety of the house should be pulled down, the party who pulled it down should put the other moiety in a state of sufficient repair.

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Little Bankers, and Hatchfield.

The manor or farm of Little-Bankers, in this parish and Lee, was the property of Thomas Banquel, who died in 1361 /36. In 1545, being vested in the Crown, it was granted to Henry Byrd, who was possessed also of another estate in this parish called Great-Hatchfield, both of which descended to his grandson George /37. They afterwards became attached to the Catford estate /38, and are now the property of Lord Eliot.

Near the church is a large mansion built by Sir John Lethieullier in 1680; it has recently been sold, and is about to be divided into two tenements; several small houses are to be built on the adjoining premises.

Parish church.

The old parish church of Lewisham (dedicated to St. Mary) being much decayed, an Act of Parliament was obtained in 1774, for powers to rebuild it. The present structure, which is of stone, consists of an oblong square, with a small circular recess at the east end for the altar. On the south side is a portico supported by four columns of the Corinthian order. At the west end stands an ancient square tower the upper part of which has been rebuilt. The inside is neatly fitted up. **On the east wall is a tablet in memory of the Rev. George Stanhope, D. D. 38 years vicar /39, who died in 1727; and a handsome monument by Flaxman, with an inscription from the pen of Mr. Hayley to the memory of Mary daughter of William Lushington Esq. /40, who died in 1797, aged 16. Her mother is represented prostrate on the ground as a mourner; an angel points to the consoling text, "Blessed are they that mourn," &c. inscribed above. At the**

/36 Esch. 35 Edw. III. N/o 30.

/37 Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 74.

/38 They were sold with the Catford estate, Kidbrook, &c. to the Craggs's.

/39 Inscription: – "In memory of the very Reverend George Stanhope, D. D. 38 years vicar of this place, and 26 of the neighbouring church at Deptford, Dean of Canterbury, A. D. 1703, and thrice Prolocutor of the lower House of Convocation; whose piety was real and rational; his charity **was** great and universal, fruitful in acts of mercy, and in all good works. His learning was elegant and comprehensive, and his conversation polite and delicate: grave without preciseness, facetious without levity. The good Christian, the solid divine, and the fine gentleman in him were happily united, who, though amply qualified for the highest honours of his sacred function, yet was content with only deserving them. In his pastoral office a pattern to his people, and to all who shall succeed him in the care of them. His discourses from the pulpit were equally pleasing and profitable, a beautiful intermixture of the clearest reasoning with the purest diction, attended with all the grace of a just elocution. As his works from the press have spoke the praises of his happy genius, his love of God and men, for which generations to come will bless his memory. He was born March 5 /*, he died March 18, 1727, aged 68 years."

/40 Inscription: – "Blame not ye calm observers of distress,

A mother sorrowing to a fond excess!
True filial excellence of life so brief,
Claims the full tribute of no common grief;
Here friendship form'd by nature's sweetest tie,
And hallow'd e'en by Heav'ns approving eye,
Laments the dearest joys affection gave,
Lost in the darkness of a daughter's grave.
Pity absolves the parent thus o'ercome;

Her reason crush'd, her resignation dumb.

/* The year of his birth is not mentioned.

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Monuments
of the Petrie
family.

west end is an organ given by Mr. Spencer, whose arms are on the front. On each side of the organ is a very handsome monument put up by the Petrie family. That on the north side is to the memory of Anne Dick, wife of John Petrie Esq., who died in 1787; and John, her only son, who died in 1789. This monument consists of a bas relief, of white statuary marble, inclosed within a border of dove marble, representing, in figures of the natural size, the deceased lying on her death-bed, and her husband and children lamenting. It was executed in Italy. The other monument, on the south side of the organ, was put up by William Petrie Esq. in memory of his mother, Margaret, relict of the Rev. Robert Petrie, who died in 1791. This monument is the work of Mr. Banks, and represents Mrs. Petrie dying in the arms of Religion supported by Faith and Hope.

Monument
of Mrs. Colfe.

On the north wall of the church, under the gallery, is a tablet in memory of Margaret relict of Jasper Valentine, and wife of Abraham Colfe /41, vicar of Lewisham, 1643; over the gallery are the monuments of William Innes Esq., 1719, and Joseph Innes Esq. (with a medallion of the deceased), 1779; and Lady Mary Churchill, 1801. On the south wall, among others, is that of William Larkin Esq. sometime accountant general of Fortwilliam in Bengal, 1800.

Monuments
in the vault
removed
from the old
church.

In the vault, under the church, are placed several monuments, removed from the old church. On the floor at the entrance of the vault are the gravestones of John Peter, Gent. /42, 1684, and others.

Against the south wall of the church, on the outside, is a tablet in memory of Abraham Colfe, minister, who died in 1657.

Tombs in
the church-
yard.

In the churchyard, among many others, are the tombs of James Purcell Esq., governor of the Virginia Islands, 1759; Catherine Isabella, wife of Edward

No human comforters such pangs controul,
But seraphs whisper to the mourner's soul;
Raise thy sunk eye to her in sainted rest,
Whose beauty charm'd thee, whose perfection
blest;
Whose voice now joining the seraphic quire,
To thee was soothing as devotion's lyre;
See her exalted from the mists of earth,
To radiant recompence for spotless worth!
And let her merit (still thy grateful pride,)
Prove to the throne of truth her parent's
guide." Hayley.

/41 Inscription: – "Margaret first wife to Jasper Valentine, after married thirty-three years to Abraham Colfe, pastor of Lewisham, having been above forty years a willing nurse, midwife, surgeon, and in part physician, to all both rich and poor, without expecting reward, and having left an annual gift of 20s. to the poor, being near 79 years old, was buried here the 19th of March, anno Dom. 1643."

/42 Probably the same John Peter who published an account of the mineral water at Sydenham in 1681. In the title page he is styled physician; and he dates the dedication "E Musæolo meo Lewishamiæ, 8 die Maii 1680." It appears by a passage in the book, (p. 81.) that he settled at Lewisham in the year 1678. At the conclusion of his pamphlet, he gives notice that he will give advice gratis to all persons who may wish to consult him either at the wells, or at his own house, before ten o'clock, on the subject of drinking the water, and he announces that he has a variety of medicinal preparations appro-

priated to the several distempers that the water was to be used for.

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Benjamin
Martyn.

Rectory and
vicarage.

Dr. Stan-
hope, vicar.

Johnson Esq. only surviving daughter of Sir Thomas Langley, Bart., and grand-daughter of Sir Roger Langley (foreman of the grand jury which acquitted the seven bishops), 1760; the Rev. Samuel Walker /43, curate of Truro in Cornwall, 1761; Benjamin Martyn Esq. /44, 1763; and the Rev. William Lowth, M. A. (brother of Bishop **Lowth**), 55 years vicar, 1795.

Lewisham is a vicarage in the diocese of Rochester, and in the deanery of Dartford. The advowson of the church belonged at a very early period to the abbot and convent of Ghent, to whom, in the reign of **King** Henry II. the great tithes were appropriated /45. They have since passed with the manor, being now the property of the Earl of Dartmouth, in whom also the advowson of the vicarage is vested. In 1287, the church of Lewisham was rated at twenty marks; the vicarage at ten marks. In 1431, the vicar of this church made an agreement not much to the advantage of his successors, by giving up his claim to the tithe of hay and underwood on the demesne lands, in consideration of receiving one half of the wax offered in the church on the feast of **the** Purification /46. In 1650, this vicarage (with the house and fifty-four acres of glebe /47) was valued at 170l. per annum /48. In the King's books it is rated at 23l. 19s. 2d.

The learned and pious Dr. Stanhope, who was presented to this vicarage by Lord Dartmouth in 1689, was a native of Hertishorn in Derbyshire /49. He received his education at Eton and at King's College in Cambridge. In 1697 he commenced D. D. and in 1703 was promoted to the deanery of Canterbury. His writings /50 are held in great esteem, particularly his Comments upon the Epistles and Gospels. His printed sermons are very numerous; they were much admired when delivered by himself from the pulpit, the purity of their diction being graced with the most happy elocution. Dr. Stanhope died in 1728, and was buried at Lewisham. His monument, the inscription on which has been

/43 Author of a course of practical sermons, intitled, The Christian, several single discourses; a tract called Practical Christianity; and two volumes of sermons (published after his death), on the Baptismal Covenant, the Creed, Ten Commandments, &c. being fifty-two in number, one for each Sunday in the year.

/44 Inscription: – "Here lies the body of Benjamin Martyn Esq. who died Oct. 1763, aged 64. He was a man of inflexible integrity, and one of the best bred men in England, which, with a happy genius for poetry, procured him the friendship of several noblemen not more distinguished by their illustrious births than by their public virtues and private morals. He was the first promoter of the design of erecting a monument to the memory of Shakespear in Westminster Abbey, which was carried into execution by him, with the assistance of Dr. Mead and Mr. Pope, by the profits of a play; the prologue spoken on that occasion was wrote by him."

/45 Regist. Roffens. p. 470.

/46 Ibid. p. 472.

/47 The glebe is sixty-five acres.

/48 Hasted; from the Parliamentary Surveys at Lambeth.

/49 Nichols's Life of Bowyer, p. 7.

/50 Dr. Stanhope published, besides the works mentioned above, the Parson's Christian Directory; an edition of St. Augustine's Meditations; Thomas à Kempis; Epictetus; Rochefoucault's

Maxims; and Charron's Three Books of Wisdom, (from the French).

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already given /51, has been removed since the first edition of this work, from the vault under the church, and put up in the chancel on the east wall.

The present vicar is the Hon. and Rev. Edward Legge, LL. D. dean of Windsor, instituted in 1797 on the resignation of the Rev. Hugh Jones.

Chantries. There were formerly two chantries in the church of Lewisham, one founded by Richard Walker for a priest to celebrate mass daily at the altar of the Trinity for the founder's soul; the other by Roger Fitz, who by his last will, bearing date 1502, gave two houses on the Bankside to endow a chantry at the same altar for the good of his soul /52.

Chapels. Mrs. Susanna Grahme, widow, (who died in 1698,) built a chapel on Blackheath, and endowed it with 20l. per annum for a reader, 2l. for ringing the bell, and 3l. for repairs charged on the great tithes. There is another chapel also on Blackheath within this parish, built in 1791, and licenced as a chapel of ease, at which the Rev. Theophilus Lane, M. A. prebendary of Hereford, is preacher. At Sydenham is a chapel, which was formerly a meeting-house for Presbyterian dissenters. Dr. John Williams, author of a Concordance of the Greek Testament, an Inquiry concerning the Discovery of America, and other works, was above 40 years minister there. It is now the property of Dr. French, who provides a minister to perform the service of the church of England /53.

Parish register. Comparative state of population. The earliest date of the register of baptisms, burials, and marriages is 1559.

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1580 – 1589.	30(3/5)	30
1630 – 1639.	30(9/10)	35(1/2)
1680 – 1639.	32	36(3/10)
1730 – 1739.	44(4/5)	55
1760 – 1769.	52(1/2)	66(1/5)
1770 – 1779.	65(1/5)	73(3/5)
1780 – 1789.	68	76(7/10)
1790 – 1794.	77	74(2/5)
1795 – 1799.	95(4/5)	67(3/5)
1800 – 1804.	112(2/5)	78(2/5)
1805 – 1809.	119(1/5)	73(2/5)

The number of houses in this parish in 1795 was about 530; according to the returns made to Parliament in 1801, there were then 686 inhabited houses, 36

/51 See p. 562.

/52 Philipott's Survey of Kent, p. 218.

/53 From the information of the Rev. Mr. Jones, to whom I have been indebted for several other particulars relating to Lewisham. – The principal hamlets in this parish are Sydenham, in which, and on the common, there are about 120 houses, and South-End, in which are about forty. There are considerably above 100 in and near Blackheath, within this parish.

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uninhabited houses, and 4.007 inhabitants. The present number of houses is about 1000.

Burials in the plague years. In 1603, there were 117 burials at Lewisham; in 1625, 103; in 1665, 56; and in 1666, 52.

Extracts from the Register.

"June 2, 1560, S/r Peter Marton, parson of Clomnyng, was murdered in the little lane from South-end to Bromley, and is buried at the porch door."

Birth of Bishop Duppa. "Brian, son of Jeffrey Duppa, baptized Mar. 18, 1588-9." Anthony Wood in his account of Bishop Duppa, in the Athenæ Oxonienses, says, that he was born at Greenwich. He saw, nevertheless, the above entry in the register at

Lewisham; but supposed the Brian here mentioned to have been an elder brother of the Bishop, and that his father, Jeffrey, was then vicar of Lewisham; yet it is well known that Bishop Duppa died in 1662, in the 74th year of his age, which sufficiently determines this to be the record of his baptism. Jeffrey Duppa, his father, was married at Lewisham in 1580, to Lucrece Maresall, and several of his children were baptized there; but he certainly was not vicar, nor is he in the register described as a clergyman. Brian Duppa was made Bishop of Chichester in 1638; translated to Salisbury in 1641, and to Winchester immediately after the Restoration of King Charles II., when he was also made lord almoner. Bishop Duppa published several sermons and devotional tracts.

Queen Elizabeth's visit to Richard Bulkeley.

"Richard, son of S/r Richard Buckley, jun/r, baptized June 16, 1606." It appears by Queen Elizabeth's Progresses (published by Mr. Nichols), that, in 1602, "on Mayday the Queen went a-maying to Mr. Richard Buckley's at Lewisham." This Mr. Buckley was Richard (afterwards Sir Richard) Bulkeley, chamberlain of North Wales, and ancestor of the present Viscount Bulkeley.

Sir William Wild.

"Frances, daughter of S/r William Wild, recorder of London, baptized July 10, 1664, buried Dec. 6, 1666: Anne, daughter of S/r William Wild (then Bar/t, and Justice of the Common Pleas), buried Ap/l 30, 1668." Sir William Wild lived in an ancient mansion in the village now pulled down /53.

"George L/d Visc/t Lewisham /54, son of William and Frances Catherine, Earl and Countess of Dartmouth, baptized Oct. 26, 1755."

Benjamin Martyn.

"Benjamin Martin Esq. buried Oct. 31, 1763." Mr. Martyn (for so he spelt his name) was son of Mr. Richard Martyn, agent for the South-Sea Company at Buenos Ayres. He was very active and instrumental in establishing the colony of Georgia (of which he has published an account) about the year 1733; having been secretary to a society of noblemen and gentlemen formed for that purpose. He wrote a tragedy called Timoleon, and left behind him in MS. a life of the

/53 Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 74.

/54 The present Earl of Dartmouth.

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first Earl of Shaftsbury, which has been since published. Mr. Martyn's epitaph /55 informs us that he was the first promoter of the design of erecting a monument to the memory of Shakspeare in Westminster Abbey, and that he wrote the prologue /56 spoken at a play acted at Drury-lane for defraying the expences of that undertaking.

Woman of remarkable size.

"Elizabeth Fearman, aged 55, whose coffin was six feet and ten inches long, three feet five inches wide, and two feet six inches deep, buried June 20, 1791, from Sydenham-Wells."

David Henry.

"David Henry, many years editor of the Gentleman's Magazine, buried June 13, 1792." Mr. Henry was the principal writer, editor, and proprietor of a periodical publication in 1758 and 1759, called the Grand Magazine of Magazines. He published also "The Tell-Tale," or Anecdotes and Stories, and some abridged Accounts of the Tower, St. Paul's, &c., printed in eighteens, for children. Mr. Henry lived several years at Beckenham, at a house which is now the seat of George Grote Esq.

Three children at a birth. J. Booth, inventor of the polygraphic art.

"Jacob and Esau Man, two of three children at a birth, buried June 9, 1793."

"Joseph Booth (inventor of the polygraphic art, and of making cloth without weaving,) aged 51, buried Feb. 6, 1797, from Lambeth."

"Caroline Sydney, daughter of S/r John Douglas, Knt. and Charlotte his wife; Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, Her Grace the Duchess of Athol, and S/r Sydney Smith, sponsors, Aug. 22, 1802."

"S/r John Boyd, Bar/t, aged 84, from Danson, Bexley, buried Feb. 1, 1800."

"Lady Maria Churchill, aged 76, buried Sep. 4, 1801." – daughter of Sir Robert Walpole, the first Earl of Orford, and wife of Charles Churchill Esq.

There are several entries relating to the ancient family of Stoddard, the last heir male of which, Nicholas Stoddard Esq., was buried Dec. 21, 1755. There are entries also of the baptisms of the children of Sir Thomas Maryon Wilson, Bart., 1801, &c.

Instances of Longevity.

"Alice Baylis, alias Pheasant, widow, aged 106 years, buried May, 14, 1726; Jane

Willoughby aged, as on the coffin, 110, buried Ap/l 4, 1729; Jane Tilt, from Sydenham, aged 109, Ap/l 6, 1794; Jane Cotterel of South-end, aged 100, buried Jan 24, 1802." There are also entries of 5 persons of 90 years of age; one of 91; one of 93; one of 94; two of 95; and two of 98 years of age.

Free school intended by John Glyn.

John Glyn, vicar of Lewisham, by his will, bearing date 1568, gave the sum of 100l. to a free school in this parish. This benefaction is recorded in the register, but nothing is now known of it, or of the school to which it alludes.

/55 See p. 564.

/56 This prologue is printed in the General Dictionary (in 10 vols. fol.), under the article Shakspeare.

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Abraham Colfe's charities.

Foundation of Blackheath school.

Children from whence chosen.

Election and salary of the master.

Abraham Colfe, vicar of Lewisham /57, by his will, bearing date 1656, bequeathed the greater part of his real and personal property /58 to the Leathersellers' Company in trust, to be bestowed in charitable uses, principally for the benefit of this parish, and the hundred of Blackheath. In his life-time, he had founded a grammar-school on Blackheath (within the parish of Lewisham), which was opened in the month of June 1652 /59. By his will he gives the following directions relating to this school: that it shall be for the education of thirty-one boys, five of whom shall be of the parish of Lewisham /60; ten of Greenwich, eight of Deptford, one of Lee, one of Charlton, three of Eltham, and three of Woolwich, to be chosen in the several parishes at a public meeting of the chief parishioners. In addition to this number, every incumbent minister in the hundred of Blackheath, and also the minister of Chislehurst, to have the privilege of sending their sons to the school for education, but no minister to have more than one son in the school at a time. The master is to be examined and approved by the head masters of Westminster, St. Paul's, and Merchant Taylors' schools, by the president of Sion College, the ministers of the hundred of Blackheath, and the minister of Chislehurst; and to be chosen by them, in conjunction with the Wardens of the Leathersellers' Company, and the Lord of the manor, who has the privilege of nominating a Westminster scholar, to stand in election with one, two, or three candidates nominated by the other electors. The master is not to undertake any church duty, without leave of the trustees, by whom he may be displaced if he be guilty of any notorious misbehaviour /61. After a vacancy, the election of a new master must

/57 Mr. Colfe first came to reside at Lewisham as curate to Dr. Hadrianus Sadriana, in 1604. In 1610, he was presented to the vicarage. See his printed will, p. 10.

/58 Consisting of lands, &c. in Lewisham and Edmonton, now let at about 270l. per annum, and 1100l. in money in the hands of the Leathersellers' Company. This sum, which was to have been laid out in lands, was sunk many years ago, and a very considerable debt incurred, as I was assured by the late James Hutchinson Esq. clerk of the Company, by repairs and other extraordinary expences, which, though much reduced, has not yet been liquidated. On this account several of the benefactions intended by the donor have been dropped.

/59 He procured a grant of the ground in 1647, at which time Reginald Grahme Esq. the lord of the manor, stipulated for several privileges for himself and his successors, as will be seen in the account of the school. See Colfe's will, p. 29.

/60 One of these is to be nominated by the lord of the manor from among his tenants' sons, the others are to be chosen from the reading school founded by Mr. Colfe at Lewisham (as will be hereafter described), in preference to any others.

/61 The causes for which the master shall be displaced are thus summed up by the founder (see p. 31 of his printed will): "If he give scandal or evil example to the scholars or others, by being a gamester or diver, or a frequenter of taverns and alehouses, or a drunkard or whore-monger, or given to wanton dalliances and unseemly behaviour with women, or lavish in unnecessary expences in following vain gaudy fashions of apparel, or if he wear long, curled, or ruffin-like hair, or if he be a swearer or a curser, or if he be unsound in the faith, or corrupt in religion; either Papist, or popishly affected, or an Armenian, or Socinian, or

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The usher, or second master.

Government of the school.

Exhibitions for the Universities.

be within eighteen days. The master's salary is fixed at 30l. per annum, with a house for his residence, which, as it was built large and commodious, that he might enjoy the advantage of taking boarders, the founder directs that he shall keep in repair. The founder's relations (being duly qualified) are to have the preference, if candidates for the master's place. The usher, or second master, for whom also a house was built adjoining to the school /62, is to be examined and approved by the same persons as the head-master, and also by the head-master himself, after which, being presented to the Wardens of the Leathersellers' Company, he is to be admitted by them. The usher must be a single person, and continue unmarried; his salary is fixed at 20l. per annum /63. A writing master also is appointed with a salary of 11l. per annum. Various regulations relating to the internal government of the school; the rewards, punishments, and recreations /64 of the scholars, are prescribed also by the founder in his will, and public disputations and trials of skill are appointed to be held once a-year, when prizes are given to the three best scholars, and the best writers. A scholar from the grammar school having been examined and chosen by one of the chief school-masters in London, and the ministers of Lewisham, Lee, Greenwich, Deptford, and Chislehurst, is to be sent every year to one of the Universities (Oxford or Cambridge), and to have an exhibition of 10l. per annum during seven years. These exhibitioners /65 are to be children of persons not reputed to be worth 500l.; natives of Lewisham to be preferred. Provision is made in case at any time a scholar fit

Anabaptist, or one holding or broaching heresies, and gross erroneous opinions, contrary to the articles of our Christian faith, and of the true religion established of the Church of England, and confirmed by public authority of public laws and statutes; or if he delight, and being admonished to the contrary, do yet continue to teach the scholars such books and such parts in the books, either of Latin or Greek authors, whether poets or others, and do not withal shew them the errors and vices to be avoided, which may draw youth to popish superstition, to Epicureism, licentiousness, profaneness, and Atheism, and not induce them to godliness and leading a holy life."

The boys also are strictly forbidden to wear "long, curled, frizzled, or powdered, or ruffin-like hair; but enjoined on the contrary to cut their hair, and wear it in such sort and manner that both the beauty of their foreheads may be seen, and that their hair shall not grow longer than above one inch below the lowest tips of their ears." – See p. 32 of the will. The master of the English school at Lewisham, and

his scholars, are forbidden also “to wear any long ruffin like hair on the head or forehead, neck or cheeks, above one inch below the lowest tips of the ears.” See p. 15 of the will.

/62 For which he is charged with the payment of 6s. per annum, due to the parish of Lewisham, for the herbage of the ground on which the school stands.

/63 There is no usher now of the description mentioned in the founder’s will. – An assistant who teaches writing, has 10l. per annum and a house.

/64 “Their play may be shooting in long bows, stool-ball, running, wrestling, leaping, and other inoffensive exercises, but money-plays not to be suffered.” P. 52 of the will.

/65 The exhibitioners are to promise to take upon them the function of the ministry, and that before the end of ten years they will preach one or two sermons in Lewisham church; that they will set forth some sermons also in print, and do their endeavours to write some learned commentaries upon the Scriptures. – There have been no exhibitioners for many years.

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for the University should not be found in the school at Blackheath, that an exhibitioner shall be chosen from among the children of persons belonging to the Leathersellers’ Company; if there be none qualified, then from the free-school within the precincts of Christchurch, Canterbury; or, in failure of a fit scholar there, from Christ’s Hospital. The sum of 13s. 4d. is allowed for an anniversary sermon at Lewisham or Greenwich, in Whitsun-week, being the time when the school was opened; 20s. for the annual election dinner, and the like sum for a dinner at the election of a schoolmaster. The great room over the school is appropriated by the founder for a library, to which he gives, by will, all his books in folio, quarto, and thick octavo: he allows 1l. per annum, for the purchase of new books, 5s. to the usher as librarian, and 7s. to buy chains. He enjoins the exhibitioners above mentioned to present to the library a copy of all books which they shall publish, and devises some other small funds for the augmentation of the library. The present master of **this school is the Rev. Theophilus Lane, Prebendary of Hereford.**

Library.

Foundation of the English school at Lewisham.

Mr. Colfe founded also an English school in Lewisham for thirty-one boys, who are to be taught reading, writing, psalm-singing, and the accidence. The master (whose salary is fixed at 20l. per annum) is to be chosen by the Leathersellers’ Company. The founder gave also, by will, 3l. per annum, for the purchase of Bibles and other books, and necessaries for the school; and 6s. for mending the Bibles. In the former part of his will, he gives 3l. per annum towards apprenticing the boys; and afterwards allots the sum of 440l. to be laid out in the purchase of 24l. yearly rent /66, for the purpose of apprenticing six scholars annually from this school.

Foundation of the alms-houses.

Mr. Colfe directed also, by his will, that a certain sum of money should be laid out in building five alms-houses /67, (to be begun in the month of April 1662,) for poor godly householders of this parish, 60 years of age or upwards, and able to say the Creed, the Lord’s Prayer and the Ten Commandments. The allowance fixed for the pensioners is 1s. 9d. a week, and 18s. for a gown once in two years. These alms-houses are on the west side of the village of Lewisham, to the south of the church. Over the door are the arms of the founder, and of the Leathersellers’ Company. Other annual benefactions given by Mr. Colfe’s will to the parish of Lewisham **are enumerated in the note /68.**

/66 This purchase was not made, and only 3l. per annum is now paid for apprenticing children.

/67 The chapel having been converted into a dwelling-house, there are now six pensioners.

£. s. d.

/68 Bread (in lieu of a donation intended by his wife /*), 1 6 0
Bread (being the quit-rent for the school-house), 0 6 0

/* See her epitaph, p. 563.

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Girls' school. A girls' school was instituted in 1699, to which Dr. Stanhope bequeathed 150l., and Mrs. Stanhope 50l. To the interest of this money is added two-thirds of the sacrament collections (pursuant to an order of the Bishop of Rochester in 1699), forming, together, a salary of twenty guineas per annum for the mistress, besides coals and candles. **There are now about 30 girls in this school, and about 40 boys and girls in a school of industry, established in the year 1795, and supported by voluntary contributions.**

Three of the places in Queen Elizabeth's College at Greenwich, founded by William Lambard Esq. in 1576, are filled by pensioners from this parish /69.

Sydenham. Sydenham, a considerable hamlet in this parish, lies to the south-west of Lewisham, on the borders of Surrey. This place is celebrated for its mineral springs, discovered in the year 1640, **upon Sydenham or Westwood Common.** They are of a mild cathartic quality /70, and nearly resemble those of Epsom. A treatise on **Lewisham Wells, (now grown very scarce,)** was published by John Peter, "Physician," in 1681; and another by Dr. Allen, in 1699. They have been usually, though improperly, called **Lewisham or Dulwich Wells:** a mineral spring

£. s. d.

Bread on the fifth of November, 0 1 0
Towards maintaining a weekly lecture /* on a working day, 1 0 0
A sermon on the fifth of November, 0 10 0
To the minister for catechising children 40 weeks, 1 0 0
To the children in rewards (the overplus to go towards apprenticing children from the school /†), 2 0 0
To the parish clerk for taking care of the boys' Bibles at church, 0 4 0
To the parish clerk for keeping the church clock in order, 0 2 8
—— ——— for his attendance Nov. 5, 0 0 6
To 40 poor householders, who can say the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and Ten Commandments, 1 0 0
To the man who hears them, 0 1 0
For the marriage of one or two maid servants /‡, 0 5 0
For mending foot-paths, and making drains, 1 0 0
For defraying expences of warrants for hedgebreakers, &c. 0 10 0
To the churchwardens, 0 10 0

Mr. Colfe gave also the sum of 5l. to the parish as a stock to keep poor children to knitting. This has been long disused.

/69 See p. 539.

/70 Impregnated with calcareous glauber, and sea salt; mostly with the former. — Monro on Mineral Waters, vol. i. p. 138, 139. **Dr. Peter supposed the water to consist principally of nitrous salt, alum, and some sulphur. — See his Treatise, p. 78.**

/* If the parish of Lewisham refuse to establish such lecture, this benefaction is left to Greenwich, Deptford, or Bromley; and if they all refuse it, is to go in aid of the pious uses of his will.

/† Not paid at present.

/‡ This payment has been discontinued.

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has been since discovered at Dulwich, in 1739. Between Lewisham and Brockley is a well of the same quality as those at Tunbridge: a woman attends to serve the water, which is delivered gratis to inhabitants of the parish. The spring is the property of Lord Dartmouth. At the well-house **were held, some years ago,** the

Sydenham Common Inclosure.

meetings of the St. George's Bowmen, a society of archers established in 1789. A spacious common, called Westwood and Cooper's-wood, or Sydenham Common, adjoins to Sydenham; from the upper part there is a very extensive and beautiful prospect: it is about to be inclosed under the powers of an Act of Parliament just passed /71.

Manufactures.

At South-end is a mill, formerly used by Mr. Ephraim How for making his famous knife-blades; it is now a mustard mill in the occupation of Mr. Batley. At Lewisham is a mill sometime occupied by Mr. Waters, for making cloth without weaving, now used as a washing mill for Greenwich Hospital. These mills are upon the Ravensbourne, which runs through the parish, and the village from south to north. At the five milestone from London, there is a bridge over it.

Market and fairs on Blackheath, within this parish.

A considerable portion of Blackheath is in this parish, including Dartmouth-row, and that part of Blackheath which is called Lewisham-hill. In the year 1682, Lord Dartmouth obtained a grant of a market, to be held twice a-week upon Blackheath, within this parish, and two annual fairs, each to last three days, the 12th, 13th, and 14th of May; and the 11th, 12th, and 13th of October /72. The fairs are now held for cattle only only on the 12th of May, and the 11th of October. The market has been for several years discontinued.

/71 In April 1810. All other commonable lands and waste grounds in the parish of Lewisham, except such part of Blackheath as is in that parish, are to be inclosed under this Act; together with certain Lammas or half-yearly lands, containing about 350 acres.

/72 Pat. 34 Car. II. pt. 9. N/o 19.

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PLUMSTEAD.

Situation. Boundaries. Quantity of land, and how occupied.

This village lies in the hundred of Little and Lesnes, at the distance of ten miles from London, and one from Woolwich. The parish is bounded by Woolwich, Eltham, East-Wickham, Erith, and by the river Thames. It contains about 2380 acres of land; of which about 510 are arable, about 400 woodland, about 980 marsh /1, 100 upland pasture; about 90 market gardens, (including about 50 usually cultivated for green peas,) about 100 acres in orchards /2, and about 200 waste. The soil is various; but in the uplands principally gravel: there are some chalk-pits.

Soil.

Market and fair.

Plumstead had formerly a market on Tuesdays, and an annual fair for three days, on the eve and festival of St. Nicholas, and the day after /3.

The manor.

King Edgar, in the year 960, gave the manor of Plumstead to the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, in Canterbury /4. It was taken from them by Goodwin Earl of Kent, who gave it to his son Tostan. King Edward the Confessor restored it to the monastery /5; but on his death in 1066, it was again seized by Tostan; who was afterwards slain in rebellion against his brother Harold, and all his estates seized. King William gave this manor to Odo Bishop of Baieux and Earl of Kent; who was persuaded, through the intercession of Archbishop Lanfranc, to restore a moiety of it to the abbot and convent of St. Augustine, which grant of the bishop's was confirmed by the Conqueror's charter /6. In 1074, he

/1 In the year 1279, the abbot and convent of Lesnes inclosed the great marsh at Plumstead; and fourteen years afterwards, the smaller marsh. (Stow's Survey, 4to. p. 307.) From this time frequent commissions were issued by the Crown for viewing and repairing of the banks; notwithstanding which, in 1527, two great breaches were made by the river, the one at Plumstead, and the other at Erith; and it appears that, in 1563, there were above 2000 acres inundated in these two parishes. One Jacob Acontius, an Italian, undertook at that time to recover them upon the terms of having half the lands so recovered. An Act of Parliament passed accord-

ingly for that purpose; and a commission being appointed a few years afterwards, to inquire into the progress of the work, it was found that, in 1566, 600 acres had been recovered. In 1587, the undertaking having meanwhile been in various hands, 1000 acres more had been secured; but still 500 remained under water. In 1606, an Act passed for vesting William Burrell with power for recovering these, on the same terms. Plumstead, and the other marshes in this neighbourhood, have long been under the direction of a Commission of Sewers, extending from Lumbard's wall near Greenwich, to Gravesend.

/2 Principally cherry orchards.

/3 Cart. 54 Hen. III. m. 10.

/4 Regist Roffens. p. 520, 521.

/5 Ibid. 521.

/6 Ibid.

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gave the other moiety /7 to the monastery; from which time the monks continued in uninterrupted possession of both till the dissolution of their convent. King Henry VIII. granted it, in 1539, to Sir Edward Boughton /8; of whose descendants it was purchased, in 1685, by John Michel Esq. of Richmond in Surrey /9; who by his will, bearing date 1736, devised this manor, with other estates, to the provost and scholars of Queen's College in Oxford, for the purpose of maintaining eight master fellows and four bachelor scholars, to which were added in 1769, by an Act of Parliament, four under graduate exhibitioners.

The abbey of St. Augustine had a grant from King John of very extensive liberties and privileges within this manor, which have been confirmed and enlarged by the charters of succeeding monarchs /10. The manor of Plumstead, for which a court-leet and court-baron are held, extends over this parish and **most** part of East-Wickham. The fee-farm rent of 4l. to which it has been subject since the grant of **King** Henry VIII. is now in consequence of alienations of lands, parcel of the manor, by the Boughtons, paid partly by Queen's College, and partly by other land-owners /11. Sir Edward Boughton, in 1540, procured an Act of Parliament for disgavelling his lands at Plumstead and elsewhere /12.

Bartholomew Lord Burgherst, who died in 1355, was seised of an estate called, in the inquisition then taken, the manor of Plumstead /13, since the manor of Borwash, or Burwash-Court. His son sold it, in 1369, to Sir Walter Paveley, K. G. /14 After this it passed, in the same manner as Foxgrove in Beckenham, to the families of Vaux and Grene /15. Sir Thomas Grene died seised of it in 1465 /16. Thomas Grene Esq. sold it, in the reign of **King** Henry VIII. to Sir Edward Boughton /17;

/7 The two moieties are thus described in the survey of **Domesday**: – The abbot has a manor named Plumstead, which was taxed at two sulings and one yoke. The arable land is On the demesne lands there is one plough. There are seventeen villans, and six cottars, who have six ploughs. There is pannage for five hogs. In the time of King Edward the Confessor, and afterwards, this manor was valued at 10l. It is now valued only at 12l. yet it yields 14l. 8s. 3d.

The abbot of St. Augustine holds, under the Bishop of Baieux, Plumstead, which was taxed at two sulings and one yoke. The arable land is five carucates. There is one plough on the demesnes. There are seventeen villans and three cottars, who employ four ploughs. In King Edward's time this manor was valued at 10l. when it came into the possession of the convent at 8l., yet the tenant pays 12l. Brixi Cilt held

Manor of
Borwash, or
Burwash-
Court.

it of King Edward.

/8 Pat. 30 Hen. VIII. pt. 6. Mar. 13.

/9 **Communicated by** the Rev. — Thompson, Fellow of Queen's College, **for the first edition.**

/10 See Cart. 54 Hen. III. m. 10. Pat. 6 Edw. II. pt. 1. m. 10; and Cl. 19 Edw. II. m. 15. King John's charter is recited in one of Edward the Second's grants. The principal rights and privileges granted by these charters, are the cognizance of all breaches of the peace; power of taking up and imprisoning thieves; toll on land and water; free-warren, view of frank-plege; a market and fair; the chattels of felons; the waif and wreck of the river, &c.

/11 See Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 181.

/12 Ibid. p. 180.

/13 Esch. 29 Edw. III. N/o 44.

/14 Philipott, p. 277.

/15 See Hasted; and p. 410, 411. of this volume.

/16 Esch. 4 Edw. IV. N/o 21.

/17 Hasted.

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whose descendants, about the middle of the **seventeenth** century, alienated it to Mr. Rowland Wilson /18; Mr. Wilson's daughter married, first, Dr. Crisp /19, and afterwards Colonel Rowe /20 of Hackney. The daughter and heir of Sir Rowland Crisp, in whom this estate became vested, married Nathaniel Macey Esq. who left a daughter and heir, married to James Pattison Esq. The present proprietor of the manor of Burwash is Nathaniel **Maxey** Pattison Esq. The manor-house is situated in the western part of the parish, adjoining to Woolwich, and has an avenue of trees leading up to it.

Manor of
Borstall,
Borstall, or
Boston.

The manor of Borstall, or Bostall, now called Boston /21, was, at the beginning of the sixteenth century, the property of John Cutte, who, in 1504, sold it to the abbot and convent of Westminster /22. It was afterwards, when the convent was dissolved, made parcel of the possessions of the dean and chapter /23, who leased it to Sir Edward Peckham; but in the year 1545, in consideration of their being discharged from the maintenance of certain students in the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, they conveyed this manor to the King /24; who the same year, granted it to Joan Wilkinson /25. In 1546, she obtained a licence to alienate it to Thomas Bowes, Gent. and the heirs of Martin Bowes his father /26. In the year 1567, it was alienated by Thomas Bowes to George and John Barne /27. Elizabeth, daughter of the latter, having, in 1578, married Edward Altham Esq., this manor was settled on them and their issue /28. It was afterwards sold (but by whom or at what period I have not been able to learn) to the Clothworkers' Company, in whom it is now vested /29. **The house belonging to this estate, called Bramble-bury, is in the tenure of Captain Thomas Dickinson, superintendant of Ordnance shipping.**

Manor of
Plumstead-
Upland, or
Acon.

In the year 1461, Richard Bond, clerk, and others, conveyed to the master and brethren of the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, a messuage, ninety acres of marsh land, sixty of arable, and fifty of wood, with certain rents and services, **then** lately the property of John Erith, Gent. /30 This estate was purchased by Erith and his ancestors of various persons, principally by Robert Erith, in 1366, of Edmund

/18 Philipott, p. 277.

/19 Ibid. Most probably Tobias Crisp, D. D. who died in 1643, ætat. 42.

/20 Philipott. — This I suppose was Colonel Owen Rowe, one of the regicides, who died in the Tower, and was buried at Hackney in 1661.

/21 Boston, or Bostall, is a hamlet of Plumstead, containing several houses.

/22 Pat. 18 Hen. VII. pt. 1. July 20. See also a very beautiful MS. in the British Museum,

being an Indenture between the King and the Abbot and Convent of Westminster. Harl. MSS. N/o 1498. fol. 54. b.

/23 Pat. 34 Hen. VIII. pt. 5. Aug. 5.

/24 Records in the Augmentation-office.

/25 Pat. 36 Hen. VIII. pt. 20. April 2.

/26 Pat. 37 Hen. VIII. pt. 8. July 5.

/27 Cl. 9 Eliz. pt. 10.

/28 Pat. 20 Eliz. pt. 3. Nov. 20.

/29 Probably in trust for some charity; but the Committee of the Company, to whom I applied for that purpose, refused to favour me with any information upon the subject.

/30 Register of the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, Cotton MSS. Brit. Mus. Tiberius, v. 4.

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Lambyn /31. After the surrender of the Hospital it was granted, by the name of the manor of Plumstead-Upland, late parcel of the possessions of the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, to Martin Bowes /32. It was included in the alienation from Thomas Bowes to the Barnes. The subsequent descent I have not been able to learn, but it is probable that it passed with the manor of Bostall to the Clothworkers' Company.

Suffolk-place-farm.

Suffolk-place-farm was sold, in 1535, by Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, to Sir Martin Bowes. It passed with Bostall to the Barnes and Althams. James (son of Sir Edward Altham, by his second wife Joan, daughter of Sir John Leventhorp, and grandson of Elizabeth Barne) sold it, in 1650, to Sir Robert Josselyn Knt.; it was conveyed **by Sir Robert**, in 1665, to the Company for the Propagation of the Gospel in New-England and parts adjacent /33; in which Company it is now vested.

Sir John Pulteney had an estate in this parish, called, in the inquisition taken after his death, (in 1349,) the manor of Plumstead, which seems to have been the property of the Lambyns /34.

Plumstead-park-farm.

Plumstead-park-farm, a considerable estate in this parish, was purchased of the heirs of Mr. Joshua Lomax by — Derbyshire; **having passed by successive purchases to — Curtis /35 and William Coltman Esq.** it was sold by the latter to Richard Bowzer Esq. and by Mr. Bowzer to Andrew Strahan Esq. M. P. the present proprietor. It is not improbable that this might have been the estate which belonged to the hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, but Mr. Strahan's title-deeds are not of sufficient antiquity to determine that point.

Villas on Shooters'-hill.

On the side of Shooters'-hill which lies in this parish, are some handsome villas commanding a very beautiful prospect. Shrewsbury-Lodge, built by the Earl of Shrewsbury was in the occupation of Her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte, from 1799 to 1801; it is now the property and residence of Mr. Windsor, patentee of the gas lights. The house, which was built by John Lidgbird Esq., was some time the residence of the late Earl of Roslyn, when solicitor general. In 1794, it was in the occupation of John Stanley Esq., now in that of Colonel Hay in the East India Company's service. Major General Sir Thomas Blomefield, of the Royal artillery, who was created a Baronet in 1807, for his services at Copenhagen, has a seat at Shooters'-hill.

The church.

The parish church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, exhibits the architecture of various ages. The south wall, which is the most ancient, has some narrow-

/31 Register of the Hospital of St. Thomas of Acon, Cotton MSS. Brit. Mus. Tiberius, v. 4.

/32 Pat. 31 Hen. VIII. pt. 5. Ap. 16.

/33 From an abstract of the title, obligingly communicated by **the late Benjamin Way, Esq.**

/34 See Cl. 15 Edw. III. pt. 3. m. 22.; and Esch. 23 Edw. III. N/o 45.

/35 Hasted.

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pointed windows. In the early part of the **seventeenth** century the roof fell in, and the church lay in a state of dilapidation for nearly twenty years; till at length it was repaired through the care and industry of Mr. John Gossage /36, **who died in 1572**. The north aisle, which is of flint and stone, still continues in ruins.

Monuments.

At the west end of this aisle stands a lofty tower, built of brick, and embattled. On the east wall of what is now the chancel (for the old chancel became dilapidated, and was never rebuilt) is the monument of Peter Denham, Esq. 1736. On the east wall of the south aisle is the monument of John Denham Esq. 1760. On the north wall of the nave is an elegant monument to the memory of John Lidgbird Esq. of Shooters'-hill, 1771.

In the churchyard are the tombs of **Lieut. Col. Francis Whitworth, (only brother of Lord Whitworth,) 1805, several Field, and other Officers, of the Royal Artillery; John Rollo /37, Surgeon General and Inspector of the Royal Artillery, 1809, &c. &c.**

Rectory and vicarage.

Plumstead is a vicarage in the diocese of Rochester, and in the deanery of Dartford. The great tithes were appropriated to the monastery of St. Augustine, near Canterbury, about the year 1260, for the use of their almonry /38. Long before this period the rectors of Plumstead had paid a pension of 10s. per annum to the convent for the same purpose; which pension, in 1236, was increased to 10l. or a certain equivalent portion of the great tithes /39. After the dissolution of monasteries the appropriated rectory, and the advowson of the vicarage were granted to Sir Edward Boughton with the manor /40; from which, having been afterwards (about the year 1633 or 1634) separated /41, they were both (in 1650) vested in the representatives of — Poole, then lately deceased. At what time they became separated I have not been able to find. The tithes of corn and grain since the beginning of this century, or perhaps earlier, have been vested in the family of Denham, and are now **in the family of Cookes in consequence of the marriage** of the Rev. Thomas Cookes with Anne, daughter of John Denham Esq. The advowson of the vicarage was for some time the property of John Michel Esq. who purchased the manor in 1685. It was sold by him some years before his death, and was afterwards in the families of Hodgson and Farr. It was

/36 It is so recorded on his tomb in Plumstead church.

/37 Author of an account of the Royal Artillery Hospital at Woolwich, with observations respecting the preservation of the health of Artillery Soldiers.

/38 Regist. Roffens. p. 522, 523. There appears to have been a rector as late as 1254.

/39 Regist. Roffens. 524, 525.

/39 William Boughton presented to the vicarage in 1619. Regist. Lambeth. Abbot, pt. 2. fol. 313, b. Edward Boughton was instituted to the vicarage in 1632. (Hasted). William Clapham was presented by William Clapham sen. in 1635. Regist. Lamb. Laud, f. 231. a.

/40 Parliamentary Surveys, Lambeth.

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purchased, in 1763, of Mrs. Abbott, daughter and heir of Mr. Farr, by Henry Kipling Esq. /41, whose son, the Rev. Henry Kipling, is the present proprietor.

The vicarage was endowed in the year 1292, by a deed /42 enrolled in the Register-book of the monastery of St. Augustine.

The rectory of Plumstead was taxed at 44 marks in 1287; the vicarage at ten marks /43. In the King's books the vicarage is rated at 61. 18s. 4d. In 1650, it was valued at 140l. per annum /44.

The present vicar is the Rev. Henry Kipling, M. A. who succeeded Jukes Egerton in 1772.

Parish register.

The earliest date of any register of baptisms, burials, and marriages now extant, is 1654.

Comparative state of population.

Average of Baptisms.

Average of Burials.

1680 – 1689.	11	16(1/2)
1730 – 1739.	19(1/10)	28(2/5)
1780 – 1789.	25(3/5)	37(3/5)
1790 – 1794.	31(4/5)	38(2/5)
1795 – 1799.	33(1/5)	52(2/5)
1800 – 1804.	34(1/5)	47(1/5)
1805 – 1809.	40(3/5)	61(1/5)

The disproportion of burials arises from the number of persons brought hither to be interred from other parishes, principally from Woolwich.

The number of houses at Plumstead in 1795, was about 120; in 1801 according to the return then made to Parliament, there was 214; the present number is about 320. The increase has been in that part of the parish which is contiguous to the town of Woolwich.

Extracts from the Register.

A dwarf.	“William Butler, a dwarf, two feet and a half in length, aged 40 years, buried July 25, 1737.”
Instances of longevity.	“James Irwin, aged 94, buried Feb. 23, 1794; John Horton, aged 94, Mar. 26, 1794; John Roberts, aged 90, Feb. 1, 1796.”
Sunday-school.	A school-house for this parish was built in 1797, at the expence of Henry Lidgbird Esq. In the year 1807, William Cole Esq., of Dulwich, gave the sum of 1000l. as an endowment for the Sunday-school.

/41 From the information of the Rev. Mr. Kipling.

/42 It is printed in the Decem Scriptorum, fol. 2100.

/43 Hasted, vol. i. p. 189.

/44 Parliamentary Surveys.

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EAST-WICKHAM.

Name.	This place is so called to distinguish it from Wickham near Hayes. It lies in
Situation.	the hundred of Little and Lesnes, at the distance of eleven miles from
Boundaries.	London, and about a mile to the south of the high road to Dover. The parish,
Quantity of land.	which is bounded by Bexley, Plumstead, and a very small part of Eltham, contains about 700 acres, principally arable and woodland. The soil is chiefly gravel;
Soil.	in some parts, clay.
The manor.	Robert Burnell, Bishop of Bath and Wells, had a charter of free-warren in this parish, anno 1284 /1; he died seised of three parts of the manor in 1292 /2. From him they descended, with the estates described in Eastham and Westham, to the families of Handlo and Lovell /3. William Lord Lovell died seised of the manor in 1455 /4: on the death of his son, Francis Viscount Lovell, who was slain in battle, in 1488, it was inherited by Henry Lovell, Lord Morley; and on his decease, in 1490, it escheated to the Crown /5. King Henry VIII. granted it, in 1512, to Sir John Pette for 60 years /6; and, in 1514, gave the reversion to Thomas Duke of Norfolk /7; the Duke's great-grandson, in 1562, conveyed it to Richard Carell and John Hutchinson; who, by his direction, alienated it to John Olyffe Esq. Alderman of London /8. Mr. Olyffe's daughter and sole heir married John Leigh, Esq. of Addington in the county of Surrey, in whose family this manor continued till the death of Sir John Leigh, in 1737; when a suit in Chancery commenced relative to the inheritance of his estates, which, in 1742, was determined in favour of Mary, wife of John Bennett Esq. and Anne, wife of Henry Spencer Esq. daughters of Wooley Leigh Esq. younger brother of the deceased /9. The decree was confirmed by an Act of Parliament. In 1767, a division of the estates took place; when this manor was allotted to the Bennett family /10, and is now the property of the Rev. John Leigh Bennett. The old

/1 Cart. 12 Edw. I. N/o 16.

/2 Esch. 21 Edw. I. N/o 50; the upland was then valued at 4d. an acre, the marsh at 12d.

/3 See the account of those parishes.

/4 Esch. 33 Hen. VI. N/o 28.

/5 Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 169.

- /6 Pat. 3 Hen. VIII. pt. 1. June 6.
- /7 Pat. 5 Hen. VIII. pt. 2. Feb. 1.
- /8 See Pat. 4 Eliz. pt. 9. Dec. 8.; and Pat. 4 Eliz. pt. 9. Feb. 12.
- /9 Hasted, p. 175.
- /10 Ibid.

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manor-house, which was for some time the residence of the Leighs, has been pulled down.

Welling, a hamlet of East-Wickham.

At Welling, a hamlet on the road to Dover, (partly in this parish /11,) is a house, which was formerly the seat of the Denhams. The Rev. Thomas Cookes, who married Anne, only daughter and heir of John Denham Esq. sold **the lease of this house** to Mr. Benjamin Winkworth /12; **it is now occupied as a school.** In the village of Wickham is the seat of Lieutenant Colonel Jones, which was formerly the residence of Sir J. Eardly Wilmot, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas.

The church.

The parish church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a small ancient structure, of flint and stone, consisting of a chancel and nave. At the west end is a small turret and a wooden spire. The font is octagonal, ornamented with quatrefoils. On the floor of the chancel is a brass plate (with small half-length figures) in memory of John de Bradigdone and Maud his wife. Some brass plates in memory of William Payne, yeoman of the guard, 1568, and his three wives, Elizabeth, Joan, and Joan /13, have been covered with a pew. On the south wall of the nave is a monument in memory of Catherine, daughter of John Barton, serjeant at law, wife, first of John Leigh Esq. of Addington; secondly, of William Walsham Esq. of the Inner Temple. She died in 1715, and her second husband, William Walsham, in 1728.

Chapelry.

East-Wickham is a chapel of ease to Plumstead, being always held by the vicar of that place; who is instituted to his vicarage, with the chapel of East-Wickham annexed. The great tithes of this parish passed with those of Plumstead till the year 1575, when they were conveyed by Sir Edward Boughton to John (afterwards Sir John) Hawkins, who settled them on his hospital for decayed mariners at Chatham /14. They are now in the tenure of Mr. Christopher Chapman.

Register of baptisms, &c.

There is no register of baptisms extant of an earlier date than 1730; nor of burials, than 1715.

Comparative state of population.

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1730 – 1739.	5	6(2/5)
1780 – 1789.	7(1/2)	6(1/10)
1790 – 1794.	12(4/5)	7
1795 – 1799.	9(4/5)	6(3/5)
1800 – 1804.	9(3/5)	7(3/5)
1805 – 1809.	11(3/5)	8(2/5)

/11 The houses on **one** side of the road, nearly twenty in number, are in East-Wickham; those on the **other** side of the road in Bexley.

/12 Hasted, p. 176.

/13 Thorpe's Regist. Roffens. p. 992.

/14 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 176.

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The number of houses in this parish in 1795 was thirty-four; in 1801, 37; the **present number is 39.**

School founded by Mr. Foster.

Mr. William Foster of Croydon, in the year 1728, founded a school at this place, for the education of twenty poor children of East-Wickham and Welling; endowing it with some lands at Croydon, now **let at 42l.** per annum.

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WEST-WICKHAM.

Name.

This place, to which the addition of West is given to distinguish it from the

Situation.	parish last treated of, and from another of the same name in the county, lies within the hundred of Ruxley, about four miles from Bromley, and four from Croydon in Surrey. The principal part of the village is nearly twelve miles from London-bridge: the church and the manor-house are a mile further.
Boundaries. Quantity of land, and how occupied. Soil. Market and fair.	The parish of West-Wickham is bounded on the west and south by Addington in Surrey, on the north by Beckenham, and on the east by Hayes and Keston in Kent. It contains about 2600 acres of land, chiefly arable: there are about twenty acres of common /1. The soil is various; sand, loam, chalk, and clay. West-Wickham had formerly a market on Mondays, and an annual fair on the eve and festival of St. Mary Magdalen; granted to Sir Walter de Huntingfield, in the year 1318 /2. Both of these have been discontinued; but there is an annual fair on Easter Tuesday.
The manor.	In the reign of Edward the Confessor, the manor of West-Wickham (then only distinguished by the name of Wicheham in the hundred of Ruxley) was held of the King by Godric. King William the Conqueror granted it to Odo Bishop of Baieux and Earl of Kent; of whom, when the survey of Domesday was taken /2, it was held by Adam Fitz-hubert. Robert Burnell, Bishop of Bath and Wells, had a charter of free-warren in this parish, in 1284 /3; but whether he had the manor does not appear. Peter de Huntingfield died seised of the manor in 1313 /4. John de /1 On a part of what is usually called Hayes-common /*, within this parish, is an entrenchment, said to have been cast up by Sir Christopher Heydon in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. (Dr. Holland in his notes on Camden.) See Harris's Kent, p. 333. /2 Cart. 11 Edw. II. N/o 23. /3 It is thus described in that survey. Adam (Fitz-hubert) holds of the Bishop (of Baieux), Wicheham, in the hundred of Ruxley. The land is . . . carucates. On the demesne lands are two ploughs, and there are twenty-four villans, who employ four. There are thirteen slaves, a church, and a mill of twenty-pence yearly rent, and a wood which yields pannage for ten hogs. In the reign of Edward the Confessor this manor was valued at 8l., afterwards at 6l., now at 13l. Godric held it of King Edward. /4 Cart. 12 Edw. I. N/o 16. /5 Esch. 1 Edw. II. N/o 12. /* The land, on which is the above mentioned entrenchment, is not common although not inclosed.

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Huntingfield, son of William, left two daughters, coheirs: one of **these** (Joan) brought this manor, in marriage, to John Coppledike, who was possessed of it in 1399 /6. The Squeries were in possession of it as early as the year 1413 /7. John Squerie, as appears by his will /8, bearing date 1449, sold it, with the manors of Keston and South-Court, some time before his death, for the sum of 200 marks, to John Trevelian /9; who, in 1469, alienated it to Richard Scrope /10. It was again alienated to Henry (afterwards Sir Henry) Heydon, before the year 1477, when John Squerie (son it is probable, of John above mentioned) quitted all claim in the premises /11. About the latter end of the sixteenth century, Sir William Heydon sold the manor of West-Wickham to John Lennard Esq. /12, from **him** it descended to Sir Samuel Lennard, Bart.; **Sir Samuel** dying without lawful issue, in 1727, bequeathed this estate to his natural son Samuel Lennard Esq. /13; **his** only daughter, Mary, married John Farnaby Esq. **who, on the death of his brother the late Sir Charles Farnaby Radcliffe, succeeded to the title of Baronet, and has since deceased.** Lady Farnaby is Lady of the manor of West-Wickham and South-Court, patroness of the living, and has the principal landed property in the parish.

Manor house. The manor-house, which stands near the church, was built by Sir Henry

Heydon, in the reign of **King Henry VII.** /14 It has undergone various alterations and repairs; but a considerable part of the original structure, with an ancient turret at each corner, still remains. In the window of the hall are the arms of Sir Henry Heydon and his wife Anne, daughter of Sir Geoffrey Bulleyne, the arms and quarterings of Hussey; and several other coats. Over the chimney are the arms of Lennard. This mansion was for some years in the occupation of the late Samuel Beachcroft, Esq. It is now inhabited by **Lady Farnaby.**

The liberty of the Duchy of Lancaster claims a jurisdiction over this manor, and the lands called Spring-park, Old-park, Frithwood, and Chambers'-grove /15.

In the village of West-Wickham is a house which was some time the residence

/6 Philipott's Survey, p. 362; but it appears by a deed of 47 Edw. III. (1373). Cl. Rot. m. 22. that Isabel, relict of Thomas de Huntingfield, released her right of dower in the manor of West-Wickham that year to John Carru, Walter Walsh, Robert de la More, and their heirs.

/7 See Cl. 14 Hen. IV. m. 23, 24.

/8 Enrolled on the first close roll referred to in the next note.

/9 Cl. 27 Hen. VI. m. 18; and Cl. 35 Hen. VI. m. 3.

/10 Cl. 8 Edw. IV. m. 24 and 27.

/11 Cl. 16 Edw. IV. m. 21. d.

/12 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 108.

/13 Ibid.

/14 Leland says, "Henry Heydon purchased 300 marks of land yn yerely rent whereof an hunderith li. by yere is at Wikam by Lewisham in Surry, towards Croydon, where he buildid a right fair manor place, and a fair chirche." Itin. vol. iv. p. 9.

/15 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 107.

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of the great Earl of Chatham, and is now occupied by Baron de Rehausen, formerly ambassador to this country from the King of Sweden.

- The church. The parish church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, was rebuilt by Sir Henry Heydon, in the reign of **King Henry VII.** It consists of a chancel, nave, and north aisle: on the south side, at the west end, is a low square tower.
- Monuments. On the south wall of the chancel is a tablet to the memory of John Lang, thirty-seven years rector, 1619: on the floor are brass plates (with the effigies of the deceased) in memory of William de Thorpe, rector, 1407, and John Stokton, 1515. In the nave, **among others, is the gravestone of Sir Thomas Wilson, Knt.** /16 1775. In the east window of the north aisle is the representation of a skeleton, in a kneeling posture, with a label issuing from its mouth /17, intended for that of Sir Henry Heydon, founder of the church, as appears by the helmet and shield, with his arms, lying at the feet. In the same window are **the** figures of the Virgin Mary, and St. Anne, with some coats of arms. In the south windows are the figures of St. Christopher, St. Catherine, &c.; some coats of arms, and the crest of Hussey, viz. a boot, with a golden spur, over which are represented two hands holding a human heart, with this inscription, Cor mobile, Cor mobile /18. On the east wall of this aisle is the monument of Sir Samuel Lennard, 1618. On the south wall is a piscina.
- Rectory. The church of West-Wickham is a rectory, in the diocese of Rochester and in the deanry of Dartford. The advowson was always an appendage of the manor, till Sir Samuel Lennard separated them, **in** 1727, by bequeathing the advowson to his younger son Thomas Lennard Esq. /19 It has since been again united to the manor, and is now the property of **Lady Farnaby.**
- This rectory was rated, in 1287, at 25 marks /20; in the King's books at 11l. 10s. 10d. In 1650, it was valued at 70l.

Christopher Hussey, rector.

Christopher Hussey, D. D. instituted to this rectory in 1720, published four volumes of sermons.

The present rector is **the Rev. Randolph Richard Knipe**, instituted in 1807 on **the death of the Rev. Joseph Faulder**.

Parish register.

The register of baptisms, burials, and marriages, commences in 1558.

/16 Sir Thomas Wilson was sheriff of the county in 1760. He resided at West-Wickham in a house which he afterwards sold to Mr. Hoskins; it is now the property of Lord Gwydir, and in the occupation of **William Whitmore Esq.**

/17 With this inscription: "Ne reminiscaris Domine delicta mea aut par . . ."

/18 The last should be cor immobile.

/19 Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 109.

/20 Hasted; from the Parliamentary Surveys, Lambeth.

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Comparative state of population.

Average of Baptisms. Average of Burials.

1580 – 1589.	4(3/5)	1(4/5)
1630 – 1639.	8	7(1/2)
1680 – 1689.	6(1/5)	5(2/5)
1730 – 1739.	7(1/2)	8(3/5)
1780 – 1789.	10	9(1/10)
1790 – 1794.	10(2/5)	11(1/5)
1795 – 1799.	11(2/5)	8(1/5)
1800 – 1804.	10(1/5)	13
1805 – 1809.	13(3/5)	8(4/5)

The number of houses in 1795 was about 70; in 1801, 77; the present number is 84.

Burials in the plague years.

In 1603, one burial only is entered, but the person buried was said to have died of the plague: four persons died of the plague at Wickham in 1608; two in 1609; one in 1625. That year there were ten burials; in 1665, only two are entered in the register.

Extracts from the Register.

Family of Lennard.

In the seventeenth century are numerous entries relating to the family of **Lennard**. Sir Samuel Lennard, Bart. by whose death the title became extinct, was buried Oct. 25, 1727.

Gilbert West.

"Gilbert West Esq. buried Ap/l 2, 1756." This amiable writer was son of the Rev. Dr. West; his mother was sister of Sir Richard Temple, afterwards Lord Cobham. Mr. West settled at West-Wickham /21 about the year 1729, and there, as his biographer observes, "devoted himself to learning and piety. He was very often visited by Lyttelton and Pitt, who, when they were weary of faction and debates, used to find at Wickham, books and quiet, a decent table, and literary conversation. There is at Wickham a walk made by Pitt; and what is of far more importance, at Wickham Lyttelton received that conviction which produced his 'Dissertation on the Conversion and Apostleship of St. Paul /22.'" Mr. West was, in 1752, made one of the clerks of the

/21 In a summer house at Wickham Mr. West placed the following inscription:

"Hæc mihi nec procul urbe sita est nec prorsus ad urbem,

Ne patiar turbis, utque bonis potiar;
Et quoties mutare locum fastigia cogunt
Transeo, et alternis rure vel urbe fruor."

Ausonius ad Villam.

"Not wrapt in smoky London's sulphurous clouds,

And not far distant stands my rural cot;
Neither obnoxious to intruding crowds,

Nor for the good and friendly too remote.
 And when too much repose brings on the
 spleen,
 Or the gay city's idle pleasures cloy;
 Swift as my changing wish; I change the
 scene,
 And now the country, now the town
 enjoy."
 /22 Johnson's Lives of the Poets, vol. iv.

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Privy Council. His principal works are, Thoughts on the Resurrection, for which the University of Oxford made him LL.D. by diploma; Translations of Pindar; the Institution of the Garter, and other poems, of which the most admired are his imitations of Spenser. Mr. West's house at Wickham is now the property of C. Waller Esq. and in the occupation of W. Whitmore Esq. "Temple West Esq. buried Aug. 15, 1757." Brother of Gilbert: he distinguished himself as a naval officer, particularly on the 20th of May 1756. He was made a flag officer in 1755, and was one of the Lords of the Admiralty. There is a monument to the memory of Admiral West in Westminster Abbey.

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WOOLWICH.

Name. This place, **which** in old charters is called Hulviz, Wolwiche, Wollewic,
 Situation. &c. lies on the banks of the Thames, within the hundred of Blackheath,
 Boundaries. and at the distance of nine miles from London. The parish is bounded on the
 north by the river Thames, except in that part where it extends on the opposite
 side of the river into Essex, being there bounded by Barking, and Barking-creek
 which separates it from Eastham. On the south and west, Woolwich is bounded
 by Eltham and Charlton, and on the east by Plumstead. The parish of Woolwich
 contains about 650 acres of land /1, of which about 380 are marsh on the Essex
 coast /2, 50 marsh on the Kentish side of the river, about **20** acres of arable, 50
 waste, and the remainder upland pasture. The soil, except in the marshes, is
 Soil. principally gravel. At the east end of the town is a chalk-pit, which has
 Chalk-pit. a stratum abounding with the same extraneous fossils as that at Charlton.
 Market. Woolwich had long a weekly market on Friday: **under an act passed in 1807**
there are now two market-days, Wednesday and Saturday. The market-place was
 changed within the **last** century: the gunwharf formerly occupied the spot where
 the market is now held /3. **The market-place is about to be again removed under**
the abovementioned act, and a new site has been prepared. Sir William
 Pritchard gave the old market-house (where the cage now is) for the use of the
 poor /4.
 Manor. The whole of this parish has been decreed to be within the Royal manor of
 Eltham /5: but the principal estate, which is now the property of **John Bowater Esq.**

/1 Exclusive of fifty acres leased a few years ago to Government for the site of the barracks.

/2 Harris mentions an ancient MS. in which they are stated at 500 acres. The MS. adds that there were a few houses there, and a chapel of ease. No mention is made of the date. In the year 1236, by a sudden rise of the Thames the marshes near Woolwich were overflowed in such a manner, that many of the inhabitants perished together with great numbers of cattle. In the reign of James the First another great inundation happened, by which many acres were laid under water, some of which have never been recovered. (Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 45.) All the marshes from Greenwich to Gravesend are now under the direction of a commission of Sewers. The Thames at high-tide is nearly a

mile wide at Woolwich, and the water, at the flood, salt.

/3 From the information of John Cockburn Esq. late Storekeeper of the Warren.

/4 Table of benefactions.

/5 See Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i. p. 44.

A court-leet and Court-baron are held annually

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Manor of Woolwich, or Southall in Woolwich.

was, at a very early period, considered as a manor, and called the manor of Wulewiche; afterwards the manor of Southall in Woolwich. It is supposed to have been the estate which is described in the record of Domesday as the property of Haimo the sheriff /6. King Henry the Second, about the year 1160, gave the manors of Woolwich and Modingham to the church of St. John the Baptist in England /7. Whether this is to be considered as the estate here described, or as that manorial right which now attaches to the manor of Eltham, I am not certain. Whichever it was, it did not long continue the property of that church. Eltham, with its appurtenances of Woolwich, &c. became vested in the Crown, and this estate passed through various lay hands. Gilbert de Marisco held this estate, then called the Manor of Woolwich, in the early part of Edward the First's reign /8. In the year 1324, the manor of Woolwich belonged to Sabina de Windlesore, or Windsor /9. Sir John Pulteney became possessed of it before 1327 /10; the next year, Humphrey Bohun, Earl of Hereford, executed a deed, by which he conveyed to the said Sir John all his right and interest in this estate, by the name of the Manor of Southall, in Woolwich /11. Sir John Pulteney died seised of it in 1349 /12. In 1374 and 1375, Thomas de Charlton and John Revell quitted all claim in this manor to Nicholas Lovayne, Aubrey de Vere, and others /13. About the year 1400, it became the property of William Chichele, youngest brother of Archbishop Chichele /14. It was inherited by John Chichele, (son of William,) and given by him in marriage with his daughter Agnes, to John Tattersall /15, whose daughter and coheir Anne married Sir Ralph Hastings, brother of Lord Willoughby. Sir Ralph, by his will /16, bearing date 1495, bequeathed his manor in Woolwich to his wife, to be disposed of at her will. Philipott tells us that, prior to this period, (in the reign of King Edward IV.) it was sold to the Boughtons of Burwash-court. Sir Edward Boughton sold it in 1555 to Richard Haywoode; in 1580 it was alienated by Christopher Haywoode to Richard Patrick: **This estate was afterwards in the Gilbournes.** Elizabeth,

by Sir J. G. Shaw, tenant of that manor under the Crown, for the manor of Woolwich. The inhabitants of Woolwich, as tenants of the Royal manor, enjoy the same privileges as those of Eltham and Mottingham. See Pat. 21 Edw. III. pt. 2. m. 2.; and Pat. 6 Hen. IV. pt. 1. m. 8.

/6 The said Haimo, says that record, holds 63 acres of land in Woolwich, which William the Fowler held of King Edward. There are on this estate, 11 bordars, who pay a rent of 41 pence. The whole value is 31.

/7 "Angliacensis." – Cartæ Antiquæ at the Tower, X. N/o 18.

/8 Philipott's Survey, p. 371.

/9 Philipott's Survey, p. 371.

/10 Ibid.

/11 Cl. 21 Edw. III. pt. 1. m. 29.

/12 See Cl. 48 Edw. III. m. 4, 6, 7, and 8.; and Cl. 49. Edw. III. m. 44.

/13 Esch. 23 Edw. III. N/o 45. This estate continued in the Pulteney family as late as the year 1374. See Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 44.

/14 Philipott, p. 371.

/15 John Tattersall died seised of this estate (held jointly with Agnes, his wife) anno 1447.

Esch. 25 Hen. VI. N/o 20.
/16 In the Prerogative-office.

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daughter and heir of Thomas Gilbourne, married St. Leger Scrope Esq. who sold this **estate** in 1692, to Richard Bowater the elder, and Richard Bowater the younger. It is now the property of John Bowater Esq.; the manor-house is in the occupation of **Captain Varlo of the marines**.

Manor of Jeffrys.

An estate in this parish, called the Manor of Jeffrys, was, in the beginning of Queen Elizabeth's reign, the property of Henry Cheney /17. This manor is not now known; but is supposed to be included within Mr. Bowater's estate.

Estates in the marshes.

An estate in the marshes, on the Essex side of the water, (but within this parish, and in the county of Kent,) consisting of about 100 acres, formerly belonged to the abbey of St. Mary de Graces, near the Tower, (being parcel of their manor of Poplar /18,) which manor had belonged to Sir John Pulteney /19. These lands, which had been leased in the reign of **King Henry VIII.** to John Danyell, were granted, in 1542, to Thomas Eaglesfield /20; and again in 1558, to Thomas Palmer and Andrew Castell /21.

The monastery of Stratford-Langthorne had an estate of about 50 acres called Wyck lands, in these marshes, which was granted, in 1541, to Sir Roger Cholmeley /22. The tithes of these lands belonged to the monks of Bermondsey, having been given to them by William de Eltham /23.

In 1541, King Henry VIII. granted a capital messuage, with a garden and wharf belonging to it, in Woolwich, to Sir Martin Bowes /24; who, in 1543, conveyed it to Edward Boughton /25. In 1545, it was conveyed by the latter to Sir Edward Dymock /26; in 1548, from Dymock to Thomas Stanley /27; in 1558, from Stanley to John Robinson /28; and in 1560, from the latter again to Sir Martin Bowes /29, and his heirs. By the description of this house in the last grant, it seems to have stood near the river, upon some part of the site of the present dockyard.

Parish church.

The parish church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen /30, is a brick building, consisting of a chancel, nave, and two aisles. At the west end is a plain square tower. The inside is fitted up in the Grecian style, having galleries on the north, south, and west sides, supported by pillars of the Ionic order. It was rebuilt between the years 1733 and 1740, pursuant to an Act of Parliament, by which it was included among the fifty new churches to be erected under the Acts of the ninth

/17 Hasted's History of Kent, vol. i.

/18 Minister's accounts in the Augmentation-office.

/19 See **the account of that hamlet in Vol. II.**

/20 Hasted.

/21 Ibid.

/22 Pat. 32 Hen. VIII. pt. 7. July 17.

/23 Dugdale's Monast. vol. i. p. 640.

/24 Pat. 31 Hen. VIII. pt. 5. April 16.

/25 Pat. 33 Hen. VIII. pt. 7. Oct. 29.

/26 Pat. 36 Hen. VIII. pt. 25. May 20.

/27 Pat. 2 Edw. VI. pt. 3. May 16.

/28 Pat. 4 and 5 P. and M. pt. 15. Sep. 10.

/29 Pat. 3 Eliz. pt. 3. Nov. 23.

/30 The church was formerly dedicated to **St. Lawrence**, but the feast of dedication was changed in 1429. Reg. Roff. p. 696.

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and tenth of Queen Anne, and the sum of 3000l. directed to be allowed towards the rebuilding, out of the funds raised by the said acts /31. **There are no monuments particularly worthy of notice, either in the church or church-yard.** In 1808, the church-yard was enlarged by a quarter of an acre of the glebe land, sold by the present rector, with the consent of the diocesan /32; another piece of ground containing three parts of an acre, has been since purchased of John Bowater Esq. and is to be consecrated in the month of April, this year (1810.)

Rectory.

Woolwich is a rectory, in the diocese of Rochester, and in the deanery of Dartford. King Henry I. gave this church to the Bishop of Rochester, and the priory of St. Andrew at that place /33. Bishop Gundulph, when he separated his own maintenance from that of the monks, gave them this church, with the free disposal of the vicarage /34; but his successor, Gilbert de Glanville resumed it to himself /35, allowing the monks only their ancient pension of 7s. per annum /36. Since this time, the advowson has been vested in the bishops of Rochester. The rectory of Woolwich was rated, in 1287, at ten marks per annum /37; in the King's books it is rated at 7l. 12s. 6d. In 1650, it was valued at 55l. per annum /38. The glebe lands consisted of about twenty acres of pasture, lying within a ring fence. In the year 1809, an act of parliament was obtained by the present rector, with the concurrence and kind assistance of his diocesan, by which he has been enabled to sell the old parsonage-house, which was situated near the Thames, and to build a new house for the residence of himself and his successors, upon the glebe land, on a rising spot above the church. In consequence of this act, the old house and garden were sold for 1000l.; the house has been pulled down, and on its site, and in the garden, several neat houses have been erected. The new rectory-house, which will stand in the midst of three acres of garden, orchard, and pasture, is expected to be finished in 1811. The remainder of the

/31 A brief had some years before been obtained, and the sum of 1141l. 3s. 11d. collected, besides the sum of 200l. given by Dr. Lindsay, the lord primate of Ireland; 100l. by Mr. Benjamin Hume, and about 80l. by other persons. The intention at first was only to repair and enlarge the church, but it was found necessary entirely to rebuild it on a new site. The ground was purchased, and the foundation laid in 1726, but the inhabitants found themselves unable to proceed in the undertaking till they obtained the parliamentary aid above-mentioned. After all, the work went on but slowly, for it appears that Daniel Wiseman Esq. who died in 1739, gave by will 1000l. towards completing the church of Woolwich, then unfinished.

/32 The sum given for this piece of ground to the rector was 112l., with a part of which the land-tax charged on the glebe and the tythes, was redeemed, and the remainder applied, with consent of the Bishop, to the purposes of the act for the improvement of the living.

/33 Text. Roff. p. 170.

/34 Dugdale's Monast. vol. iii. p. 1.; and Reg. Roff. p. 6.

/35 Reg. Roff. p. 53.

/36 Now paid to the Dean and Chapter of Rochester.

/37 Hasted, vol. i. p. 47.

/38 Hasted; from the Parliamentary Surveys at Lambeth.

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(17 acres of) glebe, is to be let on building leases under the act, and the rector is empowered to raise the sum of 3000l., by way of fine on leases for 99 years, for the purpose of building the new house /39.

Thomas Lindsay, instituted to this rectory in 1692, was made Bishop of Killaloe in 1695; translated to Raphoe in 1713, and to the primacy of Ireland the same year. He published a sermon preached at a county feast. Philip Stubbs, who succeeded him as rector of Woolwich, in 1695, published numerous single discourses. He resigned this living in 1699, and was afterwards chaplain of Greenwich Hospital, and Archdeacon of St. Alban's.

The Rev. George Andrew Thomas, M. A. rector of Woolwich, who suc-

Rectors.
Thomas
Lindsay.
Philip
Stubbs.

ceeded Sir Peter Rivers Gay /40, Bart. in 1791, and died in 1804, published the works of his uncle Dr. Thomas, bishop of Rochester, and a sermon on the King's recovery. The present rector is the Rev. Hugh Fraser, M. A. instituted in 1805, on the resignation of the Rev. Henry John Todd, (editor of Milton's and Spenser's works, and author of "Illustrations of Gower and Chaucer,") who succeeded Mr. Thomas.

Meeting-houses.

There are several meeting-houses in Woolwich, one formerly belonging to the English Presbyterians, which has existed ever since the reign of King Charles II., afterwards occupied by the Scotch Presbyterians, and now by the Welsh Methodists, the Scotch Presbyterians having built a new meeting-house, which was opened in 1800: there is a meeting of Baptists, established about the year 1750, and another of more modern date; a meeting-house for the Independents; two for the Calvinistic Methodists; and one for the Methodists in Mr. Wesley's connection.

Parish register.

The earliest date of the register of baptisms, burials, and marriages at Woolwich, now extant, is 1670.

Comparative state of population.

	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1680 – 1689.	71(1/2)	97(1/2)
1730 – 1739.	124(7/10)	157(1/2)
1750 – 1759.	158(3/5)	162(3/5)
1760 – 1769.	160(4/5)	185(1/2)
1770 – 1779.	180(2/5)	193(1/2)
1780 – 1789.	261(2/5)	284(4/5)
1790 – 1794.	290(3/5)	310(2/5)
1795 – 1799.	383(3/5)	374

/39 From the information of the present rector, to whom I have been indebted for several particulars for this edition.

/40 Sir Peter Rivers, who assumed the name of Gay in consequence of inheriting a considerable estate from a gentleman of that name, was one of the prebendaries of Winchester. He published a sermon preached on the anniversary meeting of the charity schools.

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	Average of Baptisms.	Average of Burials.
1800 – 1804.	403(3/5)	444
1805 – 1807.	545	538
1808.	636	748
1809.	688	746

The great increase of population, which has been in a proportion of nearly ten to one since the year 1680, is to be attributed to the proportionate increase of the dockyard and the warren, and the augmentation of the artillery, who have their head-quarters at this place. The number of houses in the parish of Woolwich in 1795, was about 1200; in 1801, according to the returns then made to parliament, there were 1341 inhabited, 21 uninhabited houses, and 9826 inhabitants in Woolwich. The present number of houses is about 1800.

Mrs. Withers's school.

Mrs. Anne Withers, in 1754, founded a girls' school, and endowed it with 33l. per annum, as a salary for the mistress. Thirty children are educated in this school.

Mrs. Wiseman's school.

Mrs. Mary Wiseman, by her will, bearing date 1758, left the sum of 1000l. O. S. S. A. now 1750l. O. S. S. A. for the purpose of educating, clothing, and putting out apprentice, six boys, sons of shipwrights who have served their apprenticeship in the dockyard at Woolwich. At first there were not found a sufficient number of boys, properly qualified, to fulfil the donor's bequest. From the increase of the dockyard they became more numerous, and the funds being adequate to it, eight boys are now educated, clothed, and apprenticed.

Sunday-school.

A Sunday school, in which there are generally about 160 children, was instituted in the year 1802. A school-room, used occasionally for the vestry-meetings, and

the meetings of the commissioners under the act for the improvement of the town, was built by subscription in 1805.

This parish has a right of sending three boys to Blackheath school, founded by Abraham Colfe, vicar of Lewisham.

Sir Martin Bowes's alms-house.

Sir Martin Bowes founded alms-houses in Woolwich for five poor widows, and committed the care of **them** to the Goldsmiths' Company. The alms-houses were built by Sir Martin Bowes, in his lifetime; in what year is uncertain. By a will, bearing date Sep. 20, 1562 /41, he gave to the wardens and commonalty of the mystery of Goldsmiths in London, certain lands and tenements; charged, among various other charities, with the payment of 7l. 12s. 1d. to the five poor folk in

/41 Sir Martin Bowes's last will, which is in the Prerogative-office, bears date Aug. 10, 1565, and was proved on the 21st of Jan. 1566-7 following (See Register, Stonard, fol. 3.). He takes no notice therein of the benefactions above mentioned, his deed of gift having rendered such mention unnecessary.

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his alms-houses /42; 6s. 8d. to the minister for a sermon at a visitation of the alms-houses by the Company, which he directs shall take place annually between Midsummer and Michaelmas; and to the priest-clerk, and to other poor people of the parish, 7s. 11d. By his indenture, bearing date Sep. 20, 1565, he vested the said alms-houses in certain feoffees (being of the Goldsmiths' Company), and their heirs, appointing them to be for the free habitation of five poor inhabitants and parishioners of Woolwich, of the age of 50 years and upwards /43.

Act for the improvement of the town of Woolwich.

An act of Parliament was passed in 1807, for the improvement and better government of the town of Woolwich, by which very extensive powers are vested in the rector and churchwardens, who are perpetual commissioners ex officio, and thirty others, who are annually elected by ballot on Easter Tuesday. These commissioners have the management of paving, lighting, and watching the town and parish, with power to remove and prevent nuisances; and they are empowered to provide for and employ the poor, to regulate the market, and to make rates for that purpose. It was under this act that the additional burial ground was bought, the site of the market altered, and the new market-days fixed. In 1808, another act passed, empowering the same commissioners to supply the town with water; the river Thames being at this place so impregnated with salt, as to be unfit for domestic use. A steam-engine has been already erected, and ground procured for the water-works; and great improvements have been made in the town under the act of 1807.

The dock-yard.

It is very uncertain when the dockyard at Woolwich was first established. Bishop Gibson supposes it to have been the oldest in the kingdom, having found that the great ship called Harry, Grace de Dieu, was built there in 1512 /44. It is possible, however, that this ship might have been built, as others were before that time, by contractors, at a private dock. The Royal dock, at this place, if established in the early part of King Henry VIII.'s reign, must have been of very small extent; for it appears that, in 1546, that Monarch purchased of Sir Edward Boughton, then proprietor of the manor of Southall, two parcels of land at Woolwich called Boughton's Docks, and two other parcels called Our Lady-hill and Sand-hill /45. The dockyard has since been considerably increased from time to time, by the addition of several pieces of marsh-land, held by Government under lease from the Bowater family /46, being parcel of the manor of Southall. This dockyard, which consists of a narrow strip of land, by the river-side, five

/42 They now receive 7l. 10s. per ann. besides coals, &c.

/43 The above account of Sir Martin Bowes's alms-houses was communicated with permission of the Company, by Thomas Lane, Esq. their clerk, for the first edition of this work.

/44 Gibson's additions to Camden's Britannia, edit. 1695, p. 230.

/45 Record in the Augmentation-office.

/46 To whom an annual rent of 400l. is paid by Government.

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furlongs and eighteen yards in length, contains two dry docks, **three** mast-ponds /47; a smith's shop, with several forges for making anchors; a mould-loft; storehouses of various kinds; mast-houses; sheds for timber; workshops for the different artificers; and houses for the officers of the yard. This dockyard, like that at Deptford, has no commissioner, but is under the immediate inspection of the Navy Board. The resident officers are, a clerk of the cheque; a storekeeper; master-shipwright, and his assistants; clerk of the survey; master attendant; surgeon, &c. The number of labourers and artificers, exclusive of the ordinary and the convicts, is about **1500**; the peace-establishment is somewhat less /48.

Rope-walk. There is a ropewalk at Woolwich, about 400 yards in length, under the direction of a clerk, for making cables of all dimensions for the Navy.

Ships built at Woolwich. The great ship called Harry, Grace de Dieu, already mentioned as having been built at Woolwich in 1512, was accidentally burnt there in 1554 /49. Some account of the celebrated ship called the Royal Sovereign, built at Woolwich in 1637 by Phineas Pett, has been already given /50. The ill-fated Royal George, lost at Portsmouth in the month of August 1782, with Admiral Kempenfelt and the greater part of her crew, was built at this dock in 1751. **The principal ships belonging to the royal navy built at Woolwich of late years, are the Ocean of 98 guns, the Centaur, the Invincible, the Plantagenet, and the St. Domingo, of 74 guns; five frigates of 38 guns; five of 36, and one of 32, besides sloops, brigs, &c./51**

Royal arsenal formerly the gun-wharf, or warren. The gun-wharf at Woolwich is of very ancient date; it formerly occupied what is now the site of the market-place. When removed to the warren, where it now is, it was for some time called by that name, but is now called the Arsenal, or Royal Arsenal. This Arsenal is the grand depôt of the ordnance belonging to the navy; the guns of most of our men of war being laid up there in time of peace: there are also mortars of all dimensions in great number, and immense stores of shells and cannon-shot. Within this warren is a foundery for brass cannon; and a laboratory /52 for making ammunition of all descriptions for the use of the army and navy, which has been of late years much enlarged. An academy for the education of young gentlemen destined for the artillery or the

/47 One of these, of large dimensions, was made in 1795 upon some additional ground (about twelve acres) taken into the dockyard about the year 1786.

/48 For access to the dockyard, and various particulars relating to it, communicated for the first edition of this work, I was indebted to Sir A. S. Hamond, Bart. then comptroller of the navy, and John Jeffery Esq. clerk of the cheque.

/49 See Hasted's Kent, vol. i. p. 46, in the notes.

/50 See p. 460.

/51 From the information of John Barrow Esq. one of the secretaries to the admiralty.

/52 The laboratory is under the direction of a comptroller, a chief fire-master, and other officers. The present comptroller is Lieutenant General Congreve.

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engineers' service, was established about the year 1750, in the Arsenal, which was for many years the head-quarters of the regiment of artillery; but in consequence of the great extension of the artillery establishment /52, the old Arsenal, which contained between fifty and sixty acres, was found very insufficient for these purposes.

Artillery barracks, &c. In the year 1775, a piece of ground containing about fifty acres was taken on lease by government of Mr. Bowater, and barracks were then built for the accom-

modation of the officers and privates of the regiment of artillery, for whom there was not room in the Arsenal. The building then erected consisted only of the eastern part of what is now the grand front of the present barracks, the whole of which extends about 990 feet from east to west. The extension of the building took place in the year 1802: the whole of the front, except what is occupied by a spacious and handsome mess-room, a valuable library and reading-room, is formed into apartments for the officers; near the east end of the grand front, extending in length towards the north, (on the site of the old mess-room) has been built a large and handsome chapel for the use of the military, which was opened in the month of December 1808. Adjoining to these barracks on the north side have been erected barracks for the horse artillery, with apartments in front for the officers, and a riding house; a very convenient forage-yard also has been constructed. The barracks for the privates, including both horse and foot, were built for the accommodation of about 3240 men; but are capable, upon an emergency, of containing 5000; there is stabling for 1100 horses. Between the barracks and the town are some buildings for the Royal field-train, under the command of Lieutenant General Farrington; and the engineers' quarters.

Horse artillery.

Royal field train, and engineers.

Artillery hospital.

To the east of the Horse Artillery barracks, between the common and the town, is the Artillery Hospital. What is now called the Old Hospital, was constructed so as to accommodate 150 patients: this is now turned into a convalescent hospital. Near this, and connected with it by two large galleries, which serve as a place of exercise for the patients in bad weather, is the new hospital, planned by General Morse of the royal engineers, and built under the immediate inspection of Dr. Rollo, the late surgeon general. The interior of this hospital, although under one roof, is separated into three divisions unconnected with each other: a most beneficial arrangement in case of the prevalence of infectious diseases. The whole of this new hospital, which has 68 wards, besides offices, surgeries, &c. will accommodate 400 patients.

/52 In 1794 it consisted of four marching battalions, and two troops of horse artillery; since which time it has been gradually increased to ten battalions of foot and twelve troops of horse, besides an invalid battalion; a corps of foreign artillery, consisting of four companies, employed wholly abroad; and a corps of gunner drivers. The corps of Royal engineers is of about the strength of four battalions.

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The wards are so ventilated, that the air may at any time, when necessary, be rendered as cold as the atmosphere; and by means of retorts placed at the back of each fire-place, any degree of heat that may be judged necessary by the attending surgeon can be introduced. The hospital is provided with a good cold bath, two warm baths, a vapour bath, and two shower baths. A good garden for vegetables, and a field of six acres are annexed: at the latter are various detached offices belonging to the hospital. The duty of the hospital is carried on under the direction of an inspector-general, and surgeon-general; there are likewise four surgeons, and twelve assistant surgeons /53.

Royal military academy.

The Royal Military Academy, for the education of young gentlemen for the artillery service and that of the engineers, has been greatly increased within the last twenty years: there are at present in this establishment 226 pupils, who are called gentlemen cadets. Of this number 120 are stationed at the new academy, which was built upon Woolwich common in 1805, from the designs of James Wyatt Esq.; 58 are in the arsenal, and 48, considered in some degree as supernumeraries, are resident at the Royal Military College at Marlow, whence they are removed, as vacancies occur in the regiments of artillery and engineers. It is intended, within a short time, to fix the regular establishment at 200, who will be all stationed at the new academy, and in the arsenal at Woolwich. The resident civil officers belonging to this establishment, are a lieutenant-governor /54, two inspectors of studies, two professors, one of fortification, the other of mathematics /55; five mathematical masters; two assistant-teachers of fortification, three drawing masters, and two French masters. The gentlemen cadets are under the

military government of two second captains and four lieutenants. The master-general of the ordnance for the time being is always governor of the academy, and captain of the company of gentlemen cadets.

Enlargement and various alterations in the arsenal.

Within these few years, several important alterations have taken place in the royal arsenal. A new wharf has been constructed, on which are a considerable number of cranes for loading ordnance store-ships, and so greatly has this improved the former means of fitting out the artillery-department, as well as that of the engineers, that within eight days all the ordnance transports attached to the fleet for the Copenhagen expedition were completely ready and dropt down to the gallions. A noble range of store-houses, constituting three sides of a square, has been built opposite to this wharf, and is appropriated to the purpose of receiving carriages for service. It should be mentioned also, that

Store-house.

/53 The above particulars were obligingly communicated by Dr. Irvine, the present surgeon general.

/54 Lieutenant Colonel William Mudge, to whom I have been indebted for the particulars relating to the Royal Arsenal. general.

/55 The present professor of fortification is Mr. Isaac Landmanj the professor of mathematics, Mr. John Bonnycastle.

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Military ferry.

a military ferry has been established from the royal arsenal to Duval's point on the opposite side of the river, by which means artillery of every description can be immediately sent from the depot at Woolwich into any part of Essex, without going through London; a new road having been made from the ferry to Romford. A very important branch of business, called the royal carriage department, is now carried on in the arsenal to a great extent; and for this purpose a great number of large shops have been built here since the year 1805, in which all the gun-carriages for the army and navy are made. This important establishment is under the direction of a comptroller /55 or head inspector, assisted by two deputies. Some buildings forming a small quadrangle, have been erected within the arsenal for the engineers' department. The school-rooms, formerly occupied by the cadets, have been converted into store-houses, and some other very useful store-houses have been erected on some ground purchased of Lady Wilson and Sir T. M. Wilson, Bart. The great magazine for holding powder has been destroyed; and, as a precaution against accidents, all the gunpowder kept for the use of the artillery-department is now deposited in small vessels anchored off the Royal Arsenal. In the year 1802, a fire broke out in the arsenal, by which, among other damage, the repository, which, contained numerous models of bridges, fortifications, &c. was burnt down, and most of the models destroyed: the well-known and accurate model of Gibraltar /56, which was partially injured, is still preserved with care, and will probably ere long be repaired. Many models of artillery, consisting of guns, carriages, &c. are now in the old laboratory of the Arsenal. The commandant of the garrison resides in the Arsenal, and the lieutenant-governor of the academy; but there are now no barracks for soldiers. The whole extent of the arsenal is now about 140 acres /47. The chief officers of the arsenal are a store-keeper, clerk of the cheque, clerk of the survey, &c. The number of labourers employed in time of war, as at present, varies between 4000 and 5000. A building near the arsenal on the opposite side of the road to Plumstead, and the greater part of it standing in that parish, which was formerly a dissenting meeting-house, and has of late years been used as a store-house, is now fitted up as a chapel for the use of the civil department of the arsenal; divine service is to be performed in it by the chaplain of the academy.

Royal carriage department.

Engineers department, store-houses, &c.

Fire in 1802.

Chapel.

/55 Colonel William Cuppage.

/56 This excellent model was constructed by two privates of the artificers, Richmond and Bland, who, for their extraordinary quickness in marking the fall of shots and shells during the siege of

Gibraltar, obtained the names of Shot and Shell. Commissions were afterwards given them for their good services.

/57 About 40 acres of ground, purchased by Government a few years ago for the purpose of enlarging the arsenal, are in the parish of Plumstead; in which parish is situated the greater part of the magnificent range of store-houses already mentioned.

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Woolwich common.

Woolwich common, containing nearly 200 acres, has been purchased by Government, for exercising-ground, and for carrying on artillery practice, and some adjoining ground to enlarge the range has been purchased of Lady Wilson and Sir T. M. Wilson, Bart. A little to the west of the barracks, is a large piece of ground, (purchased of Mr. Bowater) called the repository ground, for various branches of practice connected with the artillery service; on part of this ground are several ranges of sheds for the reception of artillery of every description, mounted on their carriages.

Repository ground.

Division of marines at Woolwich.

In the year 1805, in consequence of the vast extent of the British navy, it was thought advisable to establish a division of the royal marines at Woolwich; it was not at first so large, but has since been increased to the same extent as the three other divisions, consisting of 6200 rank and file, including 400 boys, with the usual staff, and under the command of a colonel commandant, and other officers. A large brewery, with eight acres of land on the rising ground, near the manor-house, was purchased by Government in 1806, for the accommodation of this force: the brew-houses have been converted into barracks.

Convict-hulks.

Two hulks are stationed in the river at Woolwich for the reception of convicts, who are employed in the most laborious offices at the dockyard and arsenal, having proper persons to superintend them, and take an account of their labour.

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ERRATA.

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P. 415, l. 14. after picture read has.
P. 423, l. 14, 15, and 16. for Welles read Wells.
P. 471, note 25. for Conyer's read Conyers.
P. 518, l. 14. for Le Notre read Le Nautre.
P. 551, l. ult. for Fluyder read Fludyer.

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<C.F. December 2014.>