

FRAGMENT OF FOLIO MS. OF ARCHDEACONRY
COURTS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
OF 1494-5.

CONCLUDING PAPER.

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In addition to the reasons given in the last instalment of these articles for shortening the publication, one more came in premonitions of the results of advancing years and a series of ailments this winter of 1924. There is an amount of work which I have undertaken, and which must be got through unless I wish, as I do not, to have the gatherings of years thrown away; and my work must be husbanded I find. In many of the cases reported in these Archdeaconry Courts only the names of those cited are given, and these are mentioned as not appearing, or having made peace afterwards, without any particulars about the cases, and there is a wearisome repetition; the only point of interest being that names of denizens of different parishes are given at a time when parish registers had not been thought of; but in some of the cases we have what gives us a realisation of the state of morals of the country at a time when the reign of Henry VII., in the person of a Welsh successor of the English Sovereigns, began Tudor tyranny, and instances occur which tell the state in which Churches and Churchyards were by neglect; though ceremonial had developed, as so often in periods of decay. These to those who care for history should be worth considering. I found that it was possible to consult restrictions of expense and space—necessary matters now—by condensing the reports of the cases in the Courts, giving portions in the very words of the clerk of the Courts, but cutting out unessential and redundant words, and not repeating matters which were always implied—these can be filled in from the fuller reports of my earlier articles. I thus give the whole essentials in about one-fifth of the space. But the interesting wills which come in this last section I give in full,

as ought to be done, except that in place of giving Roman numerals in dates and amounts which cause printers trouble I have consented to descend to the Arabic, though I did not like this. It shortens work and therefore cost. The wills in themselves are a picture of old days and manners and thoughts, and show that for all our modern conceit of progress we have in some ways not advanced, and are not advancing—but are perhaps going back.

A few comments on some of the cases brought into Court call for remark in this introduction. When, as in the Hogston case of defamation [p. 323], there was any objection to the persons chosen by the accused as his compurgators, and others had to be chosen to satisfy the accusers of the man who was cited, and the official assented to this being done, we get some amusement at the substitution of one proctor after another, but have to be content with this, for there are no particulars which explain. With compurgators, however, this was not all. There were fees to be paid. This we learn from the Bledlow case [p. 329] "between Joan Andrew and Thomas Humfray. The purgation was done and the Court applied for the "feoda manuum," nor was the accused set free till these were paid. We are not told whether these were fees to pay the compurgators or the Official of the Court. But judging from things in general I should suggest that they were divided between them.

From the case of Thomas Goodridge [p. 323] we learn an interesting particular about the payment of Peter's pence. He had refused it, we are told, but it is clear that more was being demanded from him than he thought he ought to pay. He had been required to pay on two tenements, whereas he was in occupation, he claimed, of only one. This tells us that Peter's pence was then being assessed at so much per tenement—or at least that such was the attempt at assessment at that time. Originally it was a payment for each house occupied, and apparently was of the same amount from each, and I do not know that it has been made clear that any variation in the amount was thought of. It was the payment for each house as the abode of one family. But if a man had two or more

houses he was not supposed to have more than one wife at a time, i.e., more than one household, which he moved about. Still it made a nice law question. However, it seems as if Thomas Goodridge gained his point.

The case of the Vicar of Chesham [p. 323] answering for the fees due for the probate of the will of a parishioner reminds us that one of the duties which used to be those of the parish priest was to see that they made their wills, unless some absolutely forbidding hindrance prevented its being done; and in the instances of poor persons, to carry the probate through. The chief reason for this was that the Church required some legacy in all cases in which there was anything to leave, and not only a legacy for the parish church to which the deceased belonged, but one for the mother church of the diocese in which that parish was, as well. We realise this from the probates of the wills which come in these reports of the Courts.

Folios CCLXXVI.-CCLXXVIII. are cut away, and only the inner edge remains, with the first letters of the names of some of the places, or the ends of the lines of the entries made; and nothing is to be learnt of what went on in what were then the deaneries of Buckingham, Newport, and Mursley, except that the Visitations were held in those deaneries; for from the fragment remaining we can tell that the Courts were held in these. From the wills given we learn how the fashion had increased of burning lights in the Churches on the special days dedicated to certain Saints, and the will of Thomas Pesenest, of Stony Stratford, gives us plain hints that priests from outside the parish of the deceased were in the habit of flocking to the funeral ceremonies of any person of possessions on the chance of some stray boon being theirs if they were present. The provision would not have been made unless such had become the fashion, though the position of Stony Stratford with its two parishes and its portion across the river in Old Stratford was peculiar enough and might give more colour to the idea. The will of Lawrence Wycombe is a specimen of the way in which legal tautology and involved sentences came in more fully with the Tudors than before,—it became sicken-

ing later on. This was the second period in which as I have noticed this development happened. The earlier was in the reign of the weak King Richard II., and out of it grew the worse jumble which continued during the Wars of the Roses, when titles to the Throne were disputed. The jumble was made flourishing in the time of Henry VII., whose officials and he himself were conscious that he was a new man. And the Tudors never lost sight of their weakness to their title, though their personal idiosyncracies were strong enough to overcome opposition. The will of Lawrence Wycombe, besides, as well as that of Lady Anne Cheyne, shows us that there were other documents connected with the estates they were arranging for, which are not given and would not naturally be given in the Archdeaconry Court of probate. They both mention their feoffees; and the conditions given in their wills show themselves as partly dependent on the actions of these feoffees. In fact, the usual way of entailing land, or of parting with its possession nominally or entirely, was by putting in someone as freeholder who was subjected to some small service to the enfeoffer, and was thus made the immediate occupier or possessor. When the land was transferred either entirely or nominally thus, the transaction had usually to receive the Royal assent by means of final concords in the King's Courts, so that an estate would not be cut up in a way which would fritter to little or nothing the services due to the Sovereign. I do not say that this was the whole reason, nor that it was the origin of those final concords and their records. I do not think it was. But that is an investigation outside of the present matter. When the enfeoffment thus made was made in order to bring in new arrangements of entail, and was only an arrangement for a time, the feoffees had, all the same, to have the estate put entirely into their hands for the time being, because only in this way could the change be done effectually, and all claims of those who had or thought they had hereditary rights in it could be completely barred, and when the temporary or interim feoffees handed back to the donors, as they were termed, their estates with the new arrangements of entail, their power, as well

as their possession was over. Very many of these interim feoffees were priests or chaplains, and it speaks well for them that there are so few—if any—instances of any abuse of the temporary power or of betrayal of trust that can be found. When the arrangement which they were to follow and carry out was a partition amongst heirs in any way they were said to “make a state” for those concerned, that is, to arrange that an estate, however small it was, should be settled on the heirs or legatees. Land was handed over in this way, and could not ordinarily be left merely by will. But without the documents which do not come down to us through Archdeaconry Courts and probates and may now have been long lost, it is not easy even to guess how the law of handing down inheritances or altering entail was in the instances of these wills fulfilled, except in the one instance of land held at the will of the lord. This, called copyhold, was done by surrender to the lord of the manor according to the particular custom of the manor, and when the surrender had been accepted could be handed down by will, as by his consent. This never interfered with the rights of the lord of the manor, nor his overlord, nor with the royal rights, for the true freehold remained as that of the manorial lord, and the copyhold tenancies, though grants which could go down to the posterity of the copyholder, were merely subsidiary arrangements; the lord of the copyhold had the same rents or services whoever was in personal possession of the bits of land by copyhold. Not a few of those who held land held in all the various ways, viz., superior lordship of a freehold, immediate holding as under freeholder, and copyholding also, but in different estates. The dignity of the freeholder was not compromised by his being copyholder besides.

The entry under the Chapter held at Adyngton on 21 April, 1494, is written in the document in a confused way, and it took some thinking to understand what it was all about. Some little light is given by the succeeding entry wherein we find four of those whose names occur in the confused entry with figures next their names. Putting things together by means of this help we can find a way through the confusion.

Evidently the rector had died, and an inventory of his effects and of the debts owed by him and those due to him and to the benefice was wanted. The names of the parishioners who were stated to owe dues were entered one after another by the clerk with the expectation of being able to place alongside of their names the amounts they would bring. They did not appear in the order in which he entered them, and perhaps called for them, and the payments made or acknowledged as due were set down thus in some disorder. Some seem to have brought or admitted part only of what was claimed, and to have made admissions of portions later. But I found it possible to reduce the confused entries to some sort of probable arrangement. After the Court was over it was evidently clear that the matter had not been effectively or sufficiently done. Hence the four jurors, John Gadbury, William Glasur, John Heyward, and William Sumpnour, were ordered to show a true inventory of the goods and grain crops belonging to the deceased rector in the next Court. It looks as if he had been ill for some time, and a vacancy in the living had ensued. And the items of the debts as given in the confused entry, which are all we have to go upon—for there is no particular given of the result of the second Court—are interesting as instances of agricultural prices and some other prices in those times. So far as I could judge the first numerals following the names which were not entered in all the instances are entries for tithes. Then follow in most cases the entries of the produce due from the debtor to the rector's estate. John Arden, for instance, has no entry down for tithes, but he owes, and I think the hieroglyphic attached means that he brought 5 bushels of corn worth 2s. 1d. for the five bushels, and two bushels of rye worth 8d.

Robert Arden brings, or admits, if possibly the hieroglyphic means this, that he owes 3 quarters of malt (or barley for malt) worth 5s., one quarter of oats worth 16d. and 2s., 4d. in offerings; but from Robert Arden is also obtained an admission of owing or a statement of payment of 12d. for tithes, 12d. in offerings, 22d. for a calf, and a goose worth 2d. John Gadbury produces 4s.

(tithes), 3 fleeces of wool worth 3d., 10d. in hay, 3 porklings worth 6d., and 8 geese worth 16d. William Glasyer, 4d. in tithes, 12d. in hemp, and 2 bushels of mixed corn worth 9d. Others bring or admit smaller amounts, and some have no sum entered against their names; then comes William Sumpnour 4d. (probably tithes) and Chirchelly 2d. (tithes), and then a whole long bill from William Glasyer, but from it we have to guess what had occurred. While the services had to be provided for during the incumbent's illness, or the vacancy or both, he had done the churchwarden's part. And he was evidently one of the chief farmers in the parish. His tithes for milk amount to 9s., and out of this he claims allowance in payment for bread and wine provided, and wax (12d.) for 4 lights, also wax candles for lights for prayers in front of altars "beting candles." He had paid to Mr. Thomas, of Claydon, 6d. (for ministrations), to the priest of Adstock 8d., to Mr. Thomas Morley 3s. 2d., to Mr. James 17d. (these except Morley are Christian not Surnames); he had paid for the cartage of hay 4s. 4d., and for the "table" for a priest for 13 weeks 10s. 10d.; for the carriage of (?) tithes corn 15s 4d.

Such is what I make of this confused entry. The prices are clear, but as no further information is given, there is much left that we should like to ask about, and there is no voice to answer our questions nor any to regard us.

I now come to the last items of this introduction: the arrangements made in the provisions of Lady Anne Cheyney's will for the prayers for her soul with placebo, dirige, and commendaciones at each mass. The commendacio was a long Litany to God, the Virgin, and to Saints—a long list—by name; then some responses and prayers and the recitation of certain psalms. There were both vigils and services for Matins and Mass. Those mentioned in the will were evidently from the Sarum Missal, as incidental evidence shows. In the early days of that Missal Mr. Eustace F. Bosanquet, who knows far more about liturgical matters than I do, thinks that these services were shorter and simpler. But by the end of the 15th century, as is shown by the revived formulas in the

Marian service manual for occasional services in 1554, they had been developed to great length. Lady Anne Cheyney wanted to make sure that the whole of these services were gone through during the specified period mentioned in her will.

The dirige is so called because in Psalm V., verse 8, one of the psalms to be recited according to the Sarum usage, has "Dirige in Conspectu Tuo viam meam," "Make Thy way plain before my face." The Psalms were not all numbered as they are in Modern Bibles, and the Placebo is so named because in one of these to be recited come the words "placebo Domino in regione vivorum (now Psalm 116, verse 9)," in Modern Bibles, "I will walk before the Lord in the land of the living."

The directions in the Manual are that the Psalm "Dilexi quoniam" to "ad Dominum cum tribularem" is to be recited in the service. This would be in the old Bibles, Psalms 114 to the end of 118, for the modern 116th Psalm was divided into two, numbered 114 and 115. The modern numbering of the Psalms to be recited is Psalm 5 and Psalms 116 to the end of 119 and the portion of 120 having those words. So long a set of services explains the stipend provided for by one who thought her happiness depended on it when the days of this transitory life were over.

FOLIO CCLXIII. Continued.

Wyng	Willm Blakenall ad instanciam Johis Collynrigge in c. fidei lesionis et perjurii.
North Merston	Thomas Carter ad inst. Thome Pede de Chilton—fatetur 3s. 4d.
Ludgersale	Johes Nicols ad inst. Johis Bocher de Brehill—fidei lesionis.
Dorton	Johes Whitebury ad inst. Henrici Foliat et Elizab. Goodeson.
Ovyng	Testamentum nuncupativum Willi Hawes probatur. Administracio committitur Johanne relicte ejusdem et dimittitur in forma pauperis.
	Capitulum in ecclesia de Wyng 18 Feb 1493-4.
Hogston	Willm Collys constituit M. Ricardum Carpenter procuratorem in causa diffamacionis.

- Henr. Turnam, Joh Turpelard, Ric. Turnam
objecerunt contra purgacionem Willi Collys et
constituerunt M. Willm Comberford procuratorem.
Mr. Comberford substituit M. Robertum Honyrood,
Johem Fesay et [] Hourde.
- Donyngton Thomas Pygot (no particulars).
Capitulum in ecclesia de Bekynsfeld. 20 Feb.
1493-4.
- Hucham Isabella Felby ad inst. Thome Kenner in c.
matrimoniali.
- Chesham Robt. Twychen ad inst. Johis Atkyn in c. impedi-
menti ultime voluntatis Johis Brandon defuncti.
- Ever Thomas Gooderigge recusat solvere denarios Petri:
negat quod tenet duo tenementa. Pax et dimiss.
- Colbroke Henricus Bereaker junior petit divortium ab uxore
sua pro &c. uxor negat [articulum]. Vir ad prob-
bandum et purgandum se 6ta manu pro adulterio.
Pax et dimiss.
- Chesham Andreas Hardyng ad inst. executorum Ric. Stoket.
Boys
- Chesham Thomas Nele, yconomus, excommunicatus. Obtulit
satisfactionem.
- Farnham Willus Lorkyn nuper de Fulmere decessit sine
sacramentis ecclesia in defectu rectoris de Farn-
ham ut dicitur. [Rector] declaravit pro se cum
testibus quod non fuit in culpa. dimiss.
- Chesham Ds. Johes Nykson vicarius fidejussit pro feodis
probationis testamenti Johannis Smyth nuper de
Chesham, et etiam pro quadam commissione dilapi-
dationis mansi vicarie sue. Solvit pro probatione
testamenti et commissione et dimiss.
- Agmonde- emanavit commissio administrationis [bonorum]
sham Roberti Braytoft nuper ab intestato defuncti,
directa Johi Fisser et Juliane relicte Roberti.
Feoda non soluta solverunt.
Capitulum in ecclesia paroch. de Wycombe 21 Feb.
1493-4.
- Wycombe Thomas Baydon ad inst. capellanorum cantarie
carnarium¹ ibidem: rea allegat solutionem. Pax.

¹ What the origin of these chantries, the Charnels, was I am sorry to say I do not know. Thomas Baydon had not paid his contribution, or at least was accused of that. He said he had. We are told no more particulars, but that the matter was set at rest.

Hamelden Robt. Floure ad inst. Rogeri Water de Aston Moleyns in c. impedimenti ultime voluntatis Beatricis nuper relicte Hugonis Bostok defuncti.

Testamentum nuncupativum Johis Milys probatur, administracio committitur Isabella relicte ejusdem in forma pauperis.

Wycombe Thomas Paytefere ad inst. Thome Wokebank Ricardus Birde ad inst. ejusdem Th. Wokebank Robertus Asshbroke ad inst. Johis Jesop in c impedimenti ultime voluntatis Walteri Jesop. Ad reddendum comptum, sub pena ex comm.

Fol. CCLXV.

Sanderton Ric. Ford ad inst. Henrici Kane als Mere et uxoris ejus.

Wycombe Alicia Wokebanke relicta Johis Godfrey ad inst. Johis Person in c impedimenti ultime voluntatis ejusdem Johis defuncti. Compromiserunt in Nicholaum Grove et Johem Hammond et M. Officialem ad standum eorum laudo.²

Marlowe Cristiana Marchall ad inst. Willi de Longmyre.

Hamelden

Reginald Davy.

In Dei nomine Amen. In festo Sti Andree Apostoli A.D 1493 ego Reginaldus Davy de Hamelden compos mentis saneque memorie condo testamentum meum in hunc modum. In primis lego animam meam Deo omnipotenti beate Marie et omnibus Sanctis, corpusque meum sepeliendum in cimiterio ecclesie parochialis de Hamelden predicta. Item lego matri ecclesie Lincoln. 2d. Item lego ecclesie de Hamelden antedicta 8d. Item lumini sancte crucis ejusdem ecclesie 4d. Item cuilibet aliorum luminum in dicta ecclesia 2d. Item fabrice cancelli ecclesie predicte Sti Nicholai quatuor modios brasii. Item lego ecclesie de Tyngehurst quatuor modios brasii. Item capelle Ste Margarete de la More duos modios brasii. Item Roberto Penycok unam ovem. Item cuilibet filiorum meorum et filiarum mearum 4d. Item Isabelle filie mee unam vaccam. Item lego Thome Rede unam vaccam. Item Katerine Rede unam juvenulam. Item Thome Davy fino meo unum boviculum. Residuum vero bonorum superius non legatorum post debita mea soluta et hujus testamenti mei executionem do et lego Alicie uxori mee et Roberto filio meo, ipsosque Aliciam et Robertum facio et constituo meos executores ut ipsi inde ordinent et disponant pro salute mea prout eis melius videbitur expedire. Datum die et anno predictis.

² Agreed to abide their award.

Provisions of the Will of Reginald Davy.
 Of Hambleden, made on St. Andrew's Day 1493.
 He bequeathes his soul to God, St. Mary and all the Saints; his body to be buried in the Church-yard of Hambleden. He bequeathes to the mother church of Lincoln 2d. to Hambleden Church 8d., to the light of the cross therein 4d., to each other of the lights therein 2d., to the fabric of the Chancel of St. Nicholas therein—(which must be the side chapel since the Church is dedicated to St. Mary)—4 bushels of Malt; to Fingest Church 4 bushels of Malt, and to the chapel of St. Margaret de la More 2 bushels of Malt. (The More must be Parmoor hardly two miles away.) To Robert Penycok he leaves a sheep, to each of his sons and daughters 4d., to his daughter Isabel a cow, to Thomas Rede a cow, to Catherine Rede a calf, to his son Thomas Davy a heifer. All else he bequeathes to Alice his wife and his son Robert and he makes them his executors to dispose for his soul's safety as shall seem best.

Walter Jesop.

Wycombe

In Dei nomine Amen. AD 1493, 10 die Aprilis ego Walterus Jesop de Chepyng Wycombe, compos mentis saneque memorie condo testamentum meum in hunc modum. In primis lego animam meam Deo Omnipotenti Beate Marie et omnibus sanctis, corpusque meum sepeliendum in cimiterio. Omnium Sanctorum ecclesie parochialis de Wycombe predictae. Item lego matri ecclesie Lincolnensi 4d. Item summo altari de Principis Rysburgh pro decimis et oblatiis 8d. Item ecclesie de Ulsewyke 20d. Item ecclesie de Ilmere 20d. Item gilde beate Marie de Wycombe predictae 20d. Item lumini Sancte Crucis de Principis Rysburgh predicto 4d. Item lumini Beate Marie ejusdem ecclesie 4d. Item lumini Sancti Nicholai ejusdem 4d. Item lumini Ste Katerine ejusdem ecclesie 4d. Item Johanni filio meo duo paria linthiaminum et secundum patellam post optimam. Item lego filio meo Ricardo duo paria linthiaminum et secundam ollam post optimam, terciam patellam et unam suppellectele. Item lego Agneti filie mee duo paria linthiaminum et unum suppellectile. Item Alicie filie mee unam patellam ferro ligatam unam magnam ollam et cacabum, tria paria linthiaminum unam gausipe bancarum et unum suppellectile. Et omnia alia bona mea non legata do et lego executoribus meis ut ipsi de eis bonis ordinent et disponent pro salute anime mee sicut ipsis melius videbitur. Executores hujus testamenti mei ordino facio et constituo Johannem Jessope filium meum naturalem et Robertum Asshbroke generum meum; datum anno mensi et die supra dictis. Hiis testibus Johanne Messynger confessore meo, Johanne Causton, canonico, Johanne Bayle et aliis.

Walter Jesop. Provisions of the Will. Of Chepyng Wycombe made 10 April 1493. He bequeathes to God, St. Mary and all the Saints his soul. His body to be buried in the Churchyard of All Saints Wycombe. He bequeathes to the Mother Church of Lincoln 4d., to the high altar of Princes Risborough for tithes and offerings 8d., to Oulswick³ Church 20d., to Ilmer Church 20d., to the guild of St. Mary of Wycombe 20d., to the light of the Holy Cross in Princes Risborough 4d., to the light of St. Mary in the same church 4d., to the light of St. Nicholas there 4d., to the light of St. Catherine there 4d., to his son John two pairs of (linen) sheets, and his second best pan, to his son Richard two pairs of linen sheets and his third best pan and a bed cover; to his daughter Agnes two pairs of linen sheets and a bed cover, to his daughter Alice a pan iron-bound, a large tankard and a kettle, 3 pairs of linen sheets, a bench cover, and a bed cover. All else he leaves to his executors to dispose for the safety of his soul. As executors he appoints his son John Jessop and his son-in-law Robert Ashbroke. Witnesses John Messynger his confessor, John Causton canon (incumbent), John Bayle and others.

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| Magna
Marlow | Testamentum nuncupativum Johis Lawrens probatur: administracio committitur relicte ejusdem, in forma pauperis.

Capitulum celebratum in ecclesia parochiali de Crendon 6 Martis AD 1493. |
| Brehill | Johanna Baron publice diffamata super crimine fornicationis, ut asseritur, commisso cum quodam Trussell, negavit articulum et purgavit se cum Elizabeth Forster Elina Godynton Alicia Fuller et Alicia Pym. Judex admisit eam ad suam purgacionem et restituit eam sue bone fame. |
| Wodesdon | Georgius Greve, quia voluit habuisse rem tacitam cum Elizabeth Smewen.—Comparuit cum David Long, Edwardo Chapman, Thoma Stevens, Legitime purgavit se. Ricardus Smewen ad instanciam Walteri Curson. Patetur 4s. Ad solvendum citra festum pache. |
| Chilton | ds. Robertus Stoddeham ad instanc. yconomorum. Pax. |
| Falley | Memorandum quod yconomi de Dodyngton et Johannes Owen de Huccot sunt suspensi; feodis non solutis. Solverunt. |

³ Oulswick once Ulmeswyk. There are no traces of the chapel, I understand, which was destroyed in the Civil Wars.

- Tho. Roks senior de Falley pro adulterio ut dicitur commisso cum Alicia Powlyn. Fiat citatio directa canonico parochiali.⁴
- Capitulum in Capella de Langley Marris 7 Ap. 1494.
- Hucham Isabella Filby ad inst. Thome Kener in causa matrimoniali. Pax.
- Ever Testamentum nuncupativum Willmi. Wode probatur. Administracio committitur Johanne relicte (ejus) in forma pauperis.
- Colbroke Henricus Bereaker pro adulterio ut dicitur commisso cum quadam Margeria. Fatetur. Injungitur quod non adhereat suspiciose de catero, dicte Margerio sub pena excommunicationis.
- Chesham Testamentum nuncupativum Agnetis Crakelow probatur.
- Leycestr Administracio committitur Magistro Cristofero Rudde, vicario ibidem; in forma pauperis.
- Visitacio venerabilis viri M. Johannis Bourghier Archid. Buck. exercita in decanatu de Wendover in ecclesia parochiali de Magna Missenden die Martis proximo post dominicam qua cantatur officium "quasi modo geniti"⁵ per ejus officium M. Nicholaum Treble. AD 1494 [8 April.]
- Weston Mansum rectoris ibidem est ruinosum in defectu rectorio ibidem.
- Turvile
- Codyngton Robtus Grey ibidem propter non reparacionem cimiterii pro parte quo tenetur reparaturus.
- Magna Johannes Glasyer pro adulterio commisso cum Missenden Marione Smyth. Peregit penitentiam et dimiss.
- Johanna Crispe als Cowper super certis articulis—ret.

⁴ This means, of course, that the incumbent who happened to be a canon was to direct her to obey the citation as well as to tell her of it.

⁵ The Sundays were named from the opening words of the officium (the service). These on Low Sunday, the Sunday after Easter, are as given in the Sarum Missal "quasi modo geniti," a quotation from 1 Peter, ii., 2: "As new born babes desire, etc." Easter Sunday in the year which we now call 1494 was 30 March. Low Sunday was therefore 6 April; and the visitation in Great Missenden was on Tuesday after that; 8 April, the day after the chapter held in Langley Marris chapel.

- Johanna Carter peperit nuper puerum et nescitur quis est pater. ret.
- Isabella Brewer quia venit suspiciose de Abathia⁶ temporale brumali circa horam novenam nudis pedibus. Purgavit se et dimiss est.
- Stone Cancellus ibidem est ruinosus in defectu Abbatis de Oseney et vicarius permittit animalia habere pasturam in cimiterio, illud deturpanda et proster-nanda clausum dieti cimiterii. Pax.
- Mursley Visitacio in decanatu de Mursley in ecclesia de Whitechirche die Mercurii post dominicam ante-dictam.⁷
- Mursley Johes Birt ad instanciam Mathei Bochir. Non comp. Oliverus Milward ad instanc. ejusdem Mathei. ob. sta.
- Messe-worth dns Thomas Powly vicarius ibidem tenet Aliciam Startewode in domo sua et habet accessum sus-pectam multociens ad eam in parochia de Tryng: et cancellus ibidem est ruinosus in defectu prioris de Caldewell proprietoris ibidem. [Vicarius] comparuit et negat articulum. Legitime purgavit se et dimiss est.
- Wyng Vicarius ibidem habet exhibere tres lampadas ardentis in ecclesia ibidem et non facit. Pax.
- Wotton Robertus Nele ad instanc. Willi, Canon de Cren-don. Pax.
- Wodesdon dns Thomas, capellanus Ricardi Sprite⁸ quia publice predicat sine auctoritate; et ad exhibendum literas ordinum. Exhibuit et submitis se officiali.
- Ikford Testamentum nuncupativum Johanne Bourne pro-batur. Committitur administracio Willo Bourne marito suo.
- Capitulum in ecclesia paroch de Adyngton. 21 Ap. 1494.
- Johes Ardern [] 5 modios frumenti pret. 2s. 1d.
2 modios sigalis pret. 8d.

⁶ The surname of the Abbot of the Augustine Abbey in 1494 does not occur, his Christian name was Henry; but no reason is shown for the woman's cold journey in bare feet, and she cleared herself of any suspicion.

⁷ Wednesday, April 9.

⁸ I have seen no other record of the family of Sprite. He must have been a tenant of the Courtenay family, and well off to have a chaplain of his own.

- Robe Ardern [] 3 quat. ordii pret. 5s. 1 quat.
 avene pret. 16d. et oblata 2s. 4d.
 de Robto Ardern pro decimis 12d. in oblatiis 12d.
 pro uno vitulo 22d., 1 auca 2d.
 Johes Gadbury 4d., 3 lana 3d., in feno 10d, 3 porcell
 6d., 8 auce 16d.
 Will Glasyer 4d. in canabo 12d. 2 modios frumenti
 mixti 9d.
 Johes Heyward 4d. ordii 12d.
 Johes Cowper pro decimis 4d.
 Johes Long als Kempe.
 Will. Michell.
 de Johe Heyward 5½d.
 Will. Michell.
 de Sompnour 4d.
 de Robto Kempe.
- Will. Sompnour 4d., Chirchelly 2d. de Willo Glasyer
 3d., in decimis lactis 9s., unde petit allocari
 pro pane vino et 4 ceriis 12d., pro ceriis 12d.
 pro beting candell et cet. 5d., solutis dno
 Thome de Claydon 6d., presbytero de Adestoke
 8d.; dno Thome Morley 3s. 2d., dno Jabobo 17d.;
 pro vectura feni 4s. 4d. Item solut. pro tabula
 unius presbyteri pro 13 septimanis 10s. 10d.,
 pro vectur. farr. decimal. 13s. 4d.⁹
- Adyngton Johannes Gadbury, Willus Glasur, Johes Heyward
 et Willus Sampner jurati ad exhibendum fidele
 inventarium de bonis et granis pertinentibus
 rectori ibidem.
- Wodesdon dns Johes Thomson canonicus ibidem ad inst. Johis
 Cowper.—Pax.
- Aeley rector ibidem citatur. Non comparuit. Idcirco ex-
 communicetur.
- Acta in ecclesia paroch. de Aston Clinton 22 Ap.
- Hertwell Agnes Temple ad inst. Willi Hayle in causa
 diffamacionis. Pax.
- Agnes Snewen ad inst. dicti W. Hayle. Pax.
- Bledlow Johanna Andrew ad inst. Thome Humfray Johis
 Rowens et Johis Spyre ac Thome White in causa
 diffamacionis. Ad purgandum se 4ta manu in
 proximo. Habent purgacionem; vocantur ad solven-
 dum feoda manuum. Solverunt et dimissi sunt.
- Parva Willus Mortemer ad inst. Willi Egilton. Fatetur
 Kymbell 7½d. Ad solvend.
- predicta Johanna Andrew submitit se gratie
 Officialis et peregit penitenciam.

⁹ For remarks on this see the Introduction (p. 320).

Hertwell Ric. Hayle, Joha Hayle ejus filia et Willus Hayle diffamati quod consentivent ad murderacionem et mortem Agnetis Hayle: super quo crimine petierunt se purgari. Et juxta terminum sibi in hac parte assignatum comparuere cum Robto Jenyn, Ric. Fermour. Ric Horton et Thoma Temple. Et facta proclamatione et c. Judex admisit ad purgacionem et restituit ad pristina bone fame et c.

CCLXXV.

Capitulum in ecclesia paroch. de Tirfeld 23 Ap. 1494.

West Testamentum Willi Stephyns probatur. Administra-
Wycombe tracio committitur Agneti, relicte ejusdem, in forma pauperis.

Sanderton Ric. Brent ad inst. Thome Kebil in c. fidei
lesionis. Pax.

West

Hen. Martyn.

Wycombe

In Dei nomine Amen. 13^o die mensis Martii AD 1493. Ego Henricus Martyn compos mentis saneque memorie condo testamentum meum in hunc modum. In primis lego animam meam Deo omnipotenti, Beate Marie matri sue ac omnibus sanctis et corpus meum sepeliendum in cimiterio ecclesie parochialis de West Wycombe. Item do lego et concedo omnes redditus et fructus provenientes de domo mea situata in parochia de Stone in Comitatu Buck. et omnes redditus et fructus provenientes de omnibus terris et possessionibus quas habeo in parochiis de Stone et Hertwell in comitatu predicto, Isabelle uxori mee et Alicie matri mee ad terminum vite ipsarum duarum ut hujusmodi fructus et redditus secundum discretionem et veram moderationem Roberti Jany n inter eas equaliter dividantur et participentur quam diu vixerint. Si vero una ipsarum citius altera diem clausit extremum, volo quod extunc predicti redditus et proventus remaneant viventi ad terminum vite sue et post mortem ipsius ultime viventis volo quod supradicte domus terre et possessiones per prefatum Robertum Jany n ad verum valorem vendantur, et de pecuniis inde provenientes, inveniatur honestus sacerdos per terminum duorum annorum ad celebrandum pro salute anime mee parentumque meorum et omnium fidelium defunctorum De residuo pretii ipsarum domus et terrarum volo quod donetur ecclesie parochiali de Stone 6s. 1½d.

et ecclesie parochiali de Hertwell 20d. Cetera bona mea do et lego Isabelle uxori mee et Roberto Jany n quos ordino facio et constituo meos executores ut presens meum testamentum fideliter exequantur et cum effectu perimpleatur. Hiis testibus M. Johe Gamage vicario de West Wycombe, Willo Clerk et Hugone Helyer, cum aliis datum die et anno supradictis.

Provisions of the Will of Henry Martyn
(of West Wycombe).

Made 13 March 1493 gives his soul to God, St. Mary his Mother and All the Saints, and his body to be buried in the Churchyard of West Wycombe. He bequeathes all profits and fruits from his house in Stone and all profits and fruits from all his lands and possessions in Stone and Hartwell to his wife Isabel and his mother Alice for the term of their lives to be parted between them equally by the discretion and true moderation of Robert Janyn. The survivor is to have all for the remainder of her life, and after that, all is to be sold by Robert Janyn at its true value and from the proceeds an honest priest is to be found, to hold services for the safety of his soul, for those of his parents and all the faithful departed. From the rest of the proceeds the church of Stone is to have 6s. 1½d., Hartwell Church 20d. All else of his goods he leaves to Isabel and to Robert Janyn and he makes them his executors to fulfil his will faithfully. Witnesses Mr. John Gamage, Vicar of West Wycombe, William Clerk and Hugh Helyer.

Capitulum in ecclesia parochiali de Shobyndon.
26 Ap. 1494.

- Crendon Thomas Baldwyn ad inst. Thome Pakenton in c., fidei lesionis et perjurii. [Pars] rea dicit quod solvit Henrico 3s. Ad probandum in proximo. Comparuit cum Johe Hudde et Willo Aplard et fecerunt juramentum de solutione 25 Junii apud North Merston.
- Ikford Thomas Peperwhite ad inst. Ricardi Tynker in. ca. diffamacionis. Ad purgandum se 4ta manu—vacat¹⁰ pro feodis manuum. Pax.
- Crendon Tho. Adam ad inst. Nichi Anthony et Nichi Pedes obtulit satisfactionem et dimiss. est.
- Wyngrave Willus Perys ad inst. dni Thome Croston. Pax.
Capitulum in ecclesia de Bekynsfeld 26 May 1494.
- Horton Robtus Clerk pro adulterio ut dicitur commisso cum quadam muliere famula Thome Dony. Ad purgandum se 4ta manu. Purgavit se et dimiss. est.
- Colbroke Henricus Bereaker ad instanc. yconomorum de Ever in causa subtractionis juriu ecclesiastici. Ob. sat.

¹⁰ The case not put on record because the fees were not paid, but afterwards recorded because the payment had been made. This hints to us that the records were kept to refer to.

- Hucham Isabella Filby ad instanc. Thome Kener in causa matrimoniali.¹¹ Compromiserunt in M. doctorem Mondvile Johem Waghan Thomam Gate et Johem Scotte ad instandum eorum laudo sub pena 10 marcarum proviso quod laudum feratur citra festum S. Thome Martyris prox. futurum. Compromisarii non tulerunt laudum et Thomas Kener produxit M. Johem Vaghan dn. Ricum Chamberlayn et Johem Mason in testes. Causa conscribitur postea in alio loco.¹² Pax.
- Agmondesham Johes Clerk ad instanc. Henrici Gardener. Pax.
- Bekynsfeld Alicia Bereaker habet terminum ad purgandum secum 4ta manu de et super crimine adulterii ut asseritur commisso cum diversis personis. Deficit in purgacione et peregit penitenciam et dimissa est.
- Capitulum in ecclesia parochiali de Wodesdon 3 Jun.
- Ikford Nichus. Eustas¹³ ad inst. rectoris ibidem. Fatetur 8s. 4d.; injungitur ad solvendum citra festum nativitatist Sti (Johis) Bapt. sub pena excommunicationis. Non satisfecit. Idcirco excommunicetur; Emanavit executio. Postea obtulit satisfactionem et dimissus est.
- Oceley Willus Bayle ad inst. Prioris Sti Frideswide Oxon in causa subtractionis decimarum. Fatetur 13s. 4d. et ultra fatetur pro decimis unius prati 8s. Ad solvendum citra festum nativitatist Sti Joh Bapt. 13s. 8d., et 6s. 8d. infra mensem post dictum festum, sub pena excom. Solvit et dimiss. est.
- Policot paroch de Ashenden Isabella Palmer ad inst. Matilde Palmer. Compromiserunt in Thomam Ivers, Ricm. Bull, Henricum Rol et Willm Davy ad standum eorum laudo sub pena excom. ad finiendum citra festum. Relinquantur.¹⁴ pax est et dimiss.

¹¹ This was a case of agreement to marry and withdrawing from the agreement: "breach of promise." Though the notes of the Court say that it is reported elsewhere, it is not in any of the remains of the record.

¹² The further report does not exist if it was ever made.

¹³ Nicholas Eustas is not one of those recorded as in debt in Ikford during the investigation into the inventory of the deceased rector. The new rector had evidently got into the saddle and was prompt with defaulters.

¹⁴ The 3rd Sunday after Midsummer day. In 1494 this was July 6.

Isabella Ivel als Ivers ad inst. Johanne Rollys in causa fidei lesionis et perjurii. Compromiserunt in Ricardum Bull et Willm Miles ad standum eorum laudo sub pena 10s. proviso quod laudum feratur citra dominicam Reliquiarum. Pax

Capitulum in ecclesia de Bledlow 4 Jun. anno ut supra.

Missenden Johannes Glasyer als Strodeuike pro adulterio cum
Magna Marione Smyth. Negavit. Ad purgandum se 6ta manu. Defecit in purgacione et submitit se gratie Officialis; peregit penitentiam et dimissus est.

Johes Pendeleggh pro pronebatia inter Elenam Gilmyrn et alias. Negat. Ad purgandum se 6ta manu. Legitime purgavit se et dimissus est.

Fol. CCLXXXVI.—CCLXXXVIII. (cut away).

Folio CCLXXXIX.

Capitulum in ecclesia paroch. de Bekynsfeld. 15 Jan. 1494(-5).

Langley Edwardus Stile ad inst. decani et capituli Collegii Sti Georgii [de] Windsor in ca. subtractionis mortuarii¹⁵ Partes comparuere. Actrix per Robtum Dukstede firmarium decani et capituli, et rea personaliter. Judex decrevit quod si aliquis persona obierit in Langley antedicta, quod tunc ecclesia debet primo eligere mortuarium.

Colbroke Katrina Martyn uxor Ric Richemonde detinetur Officio de et super incantacionibus illicitis contra determinacionem universalis ecclesie. Submitit se gratie Officiali et dimiss est.

Colbroke Ric Orchard pro adulterio ut dicitur commisso cum Agnete Smyth uxore Johis Smyth: et ut asseritur idem Johes est proneba inter dictum Ricardum et uxorem suam. Negavit. Purgavit se et dimissus est.

Wyrardes- Johes New ad instanc. Vicarii de Wyrardesbury in
bury causa subtractionis decimarum. Pax.

¹⁵ For the general question of mortuaries see the introduction to my last paper, Vol XI., p. 145. In this Langley case the Impropiators, the Dean and Canons of Windsor attempted to claim it. But the Court rightly decided that it was the right of the Church. It belonged to the Church where the deceased had received the sacraments when he was at home, by traditionary usage and law.

Wycombe Testamentum nuncupativum Johis Asshley probatur. Commissa est administracio Agneti relicte, in forma pauperis.

Bradnam Testamentum nuncupativum Willi Cobler [probatur]. Commissa est administracio Isabelle relicte ejusdem; dimittitur in forma pauperis.

Laurens Wycombe.

In Dei nomine Amen. 27 die mensis Octobris. AD 1494 Ego Laurencius Wycombe de Evere in Com. Buck. Lincoln Dioc. in bona et sana memoria existens, laudetur Deus, condo facio et ordino presens testamentum meum ac meam ultimam voluntatem in hunc modum. In primis lego et recomendo animam meam Deo omnipotenti Creatori et Salvatori meo, Beateque Marie Virgini Matri ejus et omnibus Sanctis, corpusque meum sepeliendum in ecclesia Sti Petri de Evere predicta quo corpore meo sepulto, lego volo et ordino primo et principaliter ac pre omnibus ceteris rebus quibuscumque quod omnia debita mea in quibus de jure teneor fideliter et integraliter persolvantur. Et postmodum lego summo Altari predicte ecclesie pro decimis et oblacionibus meis oblitis et detentis in anime mee exonerationem 12d. Item lego cuilibet lumini, per se, in dicta ecclesia de Evere existenti 4d. Item lego ad opera ejusdem ecclesie ubi major necessitas est 20s. Item volo quod Elizabet uxor mea habeat immediate post decessum meum totum illud messuagium meum in Evere predicta vocatum Huntres cum uno clauso vocato Tythingrove ac cum alio clauso vocato Lentislese cum omnibus alijs terris arabilibus pratis, pascuis, pasturis clausis aquis, ripariis, boscis, subboscis communibus in moris et brueris eidem messuagijs pertinentibus sive spectantibus ac cum omnibus alijs terris meis per me non legatis ut melius apparet post, cum omnibus pertinentiis durante vita ejusdem Elisabethe uxoris mee. Ita quod post decessum dicte Elisabethe omnia supradicta messuagia vocato Huntres et Tythingrove Lentislese ut superius cum omnibus supradictis terris arabilibus pratis pascuis pasturis clausis aquis ripariis boscis subboscis communibus in moris et in brueris, remaneant Henrico filio meo ac heredibus de corpore suo legitime procreatis in perpetuum. Et pro defectu hujusmodi exitus predicti Henrici omnia messuagia cum omnibus predictis terris ut supra, remaneant Thome filio meo ac heredibus de corpore ipsius Thome legitime procreatis in perpetuum. Et pro defectu hujusmodi exitus ejusdem Thome omnia predicta messuagia vocata Huntres et Tythingrove cum omnibus supradictis terris ut supra dictum est remaneant Johanni filio meo juniore ac heredibus de corpore ipsius Johannis legitime procreatis in perpetuum. Item volo quod predictus Thomas filius meus habeat

sibi et heredibus de corpore suo legitime procreatis totum terminum meum venturum de et in illo messuagio vocato Walsshes nuper Willi Herbert cum omnibus illis terris pratis pascuis pasturis et sive ceteris partium quibuscumque eidem messuagio vocato Walsshes pertinentibus sive spectantibus ut melius patet per unam indenturam inde factam, et pro defectu hujus exitus ejusdem Thome de corpore suo legitime procreati durante termino predicto sive venturo tunc volo quod predictum messuagium vocatum Walsshes cum suis pertinentiis, ut supra, remaneat prefato Henrico filio meo et heredibus de corpore suo sic legitime procreatis durante termino predicto sic venturo; et pro defectu hujus exitus de corpore ipsius Henrici ut supra totum terminum predictum de et in Walsshes predicto remaneat prefato Johanni filio meo juniore ac heredibus de corpore ipsius Johannis sic legitime procreatis, durante termino predicto. Item volo quod prefatus Johannes filius meus junior habebit totum illud tenementum meum vocatum Sherwynnes cum omnibus terris redditibus et serviciis eidem tenemento pertinentibus simul cum omnibus illis terris que nuper fuerunt Nicholai Gape; ac etiam dictus Johannes habebit illas quinque acras terre cum una grava vocata Russheyte que nuper perquisivi de Willimo Godfray sibi et heredibus de corpore ipsius Johannis sic legitime procreatis in perpetuum. Et pro defectu hujus exitus de corpore predicti Johannis tota pars sua ut predictum est remaneat prefato Henrico filio meo ac heredibus de corpore ipsius Henrici sic legitime procreatis in perpetuum. Et pro defectu hujus exitus ejusdem Henrici, ut supra, tota pars predicta Johannis per me sibi legata remaneat Thome filio meo in feodo talliato ut supra. Ac etiam volo quod prefatus Henricus filius meus habebit sibi et heredibus de corpore suo legitime procreatis, simili modo ut supra dictum est, in feodo talliato omnia illa terras et tenementa que nuper fuerunt Willmi Forde senioris cum uno clauso nominato Reyners que nuper perquisivi de Willimo Gardener jam defuncto. Et etiam volo quod Elizabeth uxor mea habeat omnia illa terras et tenementa que vocantur Palmers lands in perpetuum post decessum meum. Et superius volo quod feoffati mei ac omnes illi qui feoffantur aut statum vel possessionem habent in omnibus terris meis et tenementis redditibus et serviciis quibuscumque, permittant et quilibet eorum permittat Elizabeth uxorem meam habere tenere et occupare omnia eadem terras et tenementa cum omnibus eorum pertinentiis ac redditus reverciones et proficua inde proveniencia colligere percipere et habere, tam de et in omnibus predictis terris et tenementis meis liberis redditibus vel serviciis cum suis pertinentiis quam de et in omnibus illis terris et tene-

mentis que teneo per copiam sive ad voluntatem domini secundum consuetudinem manerii, durante minore etate predictorum Henrici Thome et Johannis filiorum nostrorum Henrici et Elizabeth. Et si contingat dictos Henricum Thomam et Johannem filios meos sive heredes de corporibus eorum legitime procreatos obire; quod extune volo quod omnia supradicta terre et tenementa, ut plenius patet, superius cum omnibus suis pertinentiis remaneant predicte Elizabeth uxori mee vel executoribus ipsius Elizabeth et per eam vel eos vendantur cariori pretio quo poterint et denaria ex hujus modi mendicione provenientia disponantur et distribuantur in operibus "caritatinis" juxta illius vel eorum discrecionem seu discreciones. Proviso semper quod vendicio neque vendiciones de omnibus predictis terris et tenementis cum pertinentiis nec de aliqua inde parcel'a non fiat neque fiant dum dicti Henricus Thomas et Johannes filii mei aut heres vel aliqui heredes de corporibus suis aut de corpore alterius eorum legitime procreatus sive procreati vel eorum aliqui seu aliqui superstes fuerit vel superstites fuerint. Residuum vero omnium et singulorum meorum bonorum et catalogorum quorumcunque post debita mea soluta et hujus testamenti mei completionem ac expensas funerales plenarie factas, do et lego Elizabeth uxori meo ad disponendum secundum discrecionem ejusdem Elizabeth prout melius speret Deo placere et salutem anime mee profiteri ac prout vellet quod ego per ea facerem in casu consimili. Hujus autem testamenti facio ordino et constituo dictam Elizabeth meam specialem executorem et meum dilectum amicam William Awbrey executorem et coadjutorem dicte Elizabeth circa premissa factura et facienda, et prefatus William habebit pro labore suo 6s. 8d. Hiis testibus dno. Willmo Haryson capellano, Ricardo Jonson, Roberto Martyn et aliis dat die et anno supra dictis.

Lawrence Wycombe.

Provisions of the Will.

Made 27 Oct. 1494. Of Iver. He gives his Soul in trust to God his Creator and Saviour to the Blessed Mary the Virgin His Mother and all the Saints; his body is to be buried in the Church of St. Peter of Iver. Before all things all his just debts are to be paid; this done, he bequeathes to the high altar of St. Peter Iver to exonerate his soul for tithes and offerings forgotten or held back 12d.; to each light in that Church he leaves 4d., unto work to that Church where is greatest need 20s. His wife Elizabeth is to have immediately after his decease the messuage in Iver called Huntles together with a close called Tythngrove and a close called Lentislese with the land belonging, and after her death

these were to remain for his son Henry and his heirs lawfully begotten. In default of such, to the lawful progeny of his son John. Thomas and his lawful heirs were to have the lease for the remainder of its term of the messuage named Walsshes, and in default of such heirs it was to remain to Henry and his lawful heirs and in default of such it was to remain to John. John his youngest son and his heirs are to have the tenement called Sherwynnes together with the lands which were of late belonging to Nicholas Gape, and the five acres with a ditch [?] called Russheyte which he of late acquired of William Godfray, and in default of such heirs it is to remain to Henry and his heirs, or failing these to Thomas and his heirs in fee tail. Henry and his heirs are to have in fee tail the lands and tenement which were those of late of William Forde the elder, together with a close called Reyners which the testator had lately acquired from William Gardener already deceased. His wife Elizabeth is to have all the lands and tenements called Palmers lands. His feoffees and all those who are enfeoffed or hold any estate or possession in any of his lands services and rents are to allow Elizabeth to have and occupy them all and to collect rents and profits and to receive services belonging thereto as well in these as in the lands and tenements which he held by copyhold according to the will of the lord and the custom of the manor during the minority of Henry, Thomas and John his and Elizabeth's children. Should they die leaving no heirs then the whole estate is to remain to Elizabeth and Elizabeth's executors and to be sold by her or them and the proceeds to be disposed of for charitable purposes, but not if there was no failure of heirs of his sons, nor during the life of any of them. All else after debts paid and funeral expenses discharged he leaves to Elizabeth to be disposed of for the best profit of his soul. Elizabeth is special executor together with William Awbrey who is to have 6s. 8d. for his pains. Witnesses Mr. William Haryson chaplain Richard Jonson Robert Martyn and others.

Capitulum in Capella de Brehill 9 die Feb. AD 1494(-5).

Shobyndon Testamentum Emote Bassemore probatur. Commissa est administracio Nicholao Bassemore ejus marito; in forma pauperis.

Tho. Pesenest.

In Dei nomine Amen AD 1494 Ego Thomas Pesenest de Stony Stratford, compos mentis et sane memorie 15 die mensis Januarii condo testamentum meum in hunc modum. In primis lego animam meam Deo omnipotenti, Beate Marie et omnibus sanctis cor-

pusque meum sepeliendum infra capellam Sti Egidii de Stone Stratford predictam coram imagine Sti Thome ibidem. Item lego meum principale quod justum fuerit. Item lego dicte capelle pro sepultura mea 6s. 8d. Item lego cuilibet sacerdoti extraneo qui affuerit sepulture mee 8d. Item lego ecclesie de Calverton 6s. 8d. Item lego capelle beate Marie Magdalene in villa de Stone Stratford 6s. 8d. Item ecclesie de Wolverton 3s. 4d. Item lego ecclesie de Passynham 3s. 4d. Item lego ecclesie Cathedrali Lincoln. 12d. Item summo altari in Capella Sancti Egidii predicta 20d. Item lego heremitagio Sti Johannis juxta Olde Stratford 12d. Item lego cuilibet filio meo 4d. Item lego Willmo Duraunt executori meo pro stipendio suo 10s. Item lego Thome Power executori meo nomine stipendii sui 10s. Residuum vero omnium bonorum meorum non legatorum do et lego Alicio uxori mee et executrici mee ad exequendum istud testamentum et disponendum pro salute anime mee et pro animabus omnium benefactorum meorum et omnium fidelium defunctorum meliori modo quem sciverit prout ego pro eis disposerem. Dat. die et anno supra dictis. Testibus Henrico capellano parochie ibidem, Johne Curtes capellano, ad tunc presentibus.

Thomas Pesenest.

provisions of the Will.

Of Stony Stratford made 15 Jany. 1494. He bequeathes his soul to God, the Blessed Mary and all the Saints, and his body to be buried in the Chapel of St. Giles of Stone Stratford in front of the image of St. Thomas there. His mortuary is to be what is rightly due. He bequeathes to this chapel for his burial there 6s. 8d.; to each priest from outside who comes to his burial 8d. To the Church of Calverton he bequeathes 6s. 8d.; to the chapel of Mary Magdalene in Stony Stratford 6s. 8d.; to Wolverton Church 3s. 4d. To Passenham Church 3s. 4d. To the Cathedral Church of Lincoln 12d. To the high altar in the Chapel of St. Giles aforementioned 20d. To the hermitage of St. John by Old Stratford 12d.; to each of his sons 4d. To William Durraunt his executor in payment for his trouble 10s. All else he bequeathes to Alice his wife and executrix to fulfil this testament and carry out its provisions for the safety of his soul and for the souls of all his benefactors and those of the faithful departed in the best way, in the way he would dispose of them (himself). Witnesses Henry the chaplain of the parish and John Curtes, chaplain; both present.

Aylesbury

Edwardus Miller et Margeria Brown de North Marston contraxerunt ad invicem ma[trimonium].
Pax.

Folio CCLXXXI.

Domina Anne Cheyney.

In Dei nomine Amen. 20 die Novembris A.D. 1494. Ego domina Agnes Cheyney vidua et domina de Isenhamsteda Cheyney, sana mente et compos memorie condo testamentum meum in hunc modum In primis lego animam meam Deo omnipotenti, Beate Marie et omnibus Sanctis, corpusque meum sepeliendum in cancello ecclesie Sti Michaelis Archangeli de Isenhamstede Cheyney predictae cui Deus disponat ex sua summa misericordia. Item lego matri ecclesie Lincoln, 12d. Item lego summo altari pro decimis oblitis 10s. Item lego fabrice ecclesie predictae 20s. Item lego ecclesie de Drayton 20s. Item lego ecclesie de Cugenho 20s. Item lego £20 ad celebrandum mille missas cum placebo, dirige et commendacionibus ad quamlibet missam pro salute anime mee. Item lego honesto sacerdoti ad celebrandum pro anima mea per spacium trium annorum pro quolibet anno £6. Item volo quod executores mei secundum discretionem eorum distribuant inter servos meos £5. Residuum vero omnium bonorum meorum mobiliu et immobiliu superius non legatorum do et lego Anne Phelip consanguinee mee, quam quidem Annam et Johem Couper generosum facio ordino et constituo meos executores ut ipsi inde disponant pro salute anime mee prout eis melius videbitur Deo placeat ac anime mee magis profecerit. In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti testamento meo sigillum meum est appensum. Hiis testibus Johne Oveet, Jacobo Waleys et Willmo Norton cum aliis. Dat. apud Isenamstede prescriptam die et anno supradictis.

The Latin Will of Lady Agnes Cheyney.

Bequeathes her soul to God, the Blessed Mary and all the Saints, and her body to be buried in the Chancel of the Church of St. Michael the Archangel of Isenhamstede Cheyney in behalf of which she prays for God's highest compassion. She bequeathes to the Mother Church of Lincoln 12d.; to the high Altar (evidently of Isenhamsted) for tithes forgotten 10s.; to the fabric of the church 20s.; to the Church of Drayton (Beauchamp), 20s.; to that of Cugenho 20s.; £20 for the celebration of 1000 masses with placebo dirige and commendations at each mass, for the safety of her soul; £6 per year for three years for some honourable priest to celebrate masses for her soul during that time; £5

to be distributed at the discretion of her executors amongst her servants. All else is left to Anne Phelip her cousin, and she and John Couper gentleman are made executors to dispense therefrom for the good of her soul as may please God most. Her soul is added. Witnesses John Oveet, James Waleys and William Norton, "and others."

She was daughter of William de Cugenho, and was married as his second wife by Sir John when he was 80. After his death she married Edward Molyneux, who died about 1494. The manor of Cheneyes passed through her cousin Guy Sapcote and his daughter to Sir John Russell, Baron Russell, and later earl of Bedford.

This is the last will of me dame Agnes Cheyne of my manor of Isenehamsted Cheyne. I will that my feoffees graunte a Annuite of 100^s. yerely out of the saide manor unto the Prior and Convent of Kings Langley and to theare successours for ever or els unto odre passons to there use according to the will of my husband Sir John Cheyne and of the residue of the saide manor with the avowson of the same I will that my said feffees make a state therof unto my newew Davy Phelip and to my nece his wife and to the heires of there bodies lawfully comyng. And for defaute of heires of their two bodies comyng the remaindre therof to my cosyn Guye Sapcotes and to the heires of his body lawfully comyng, the remainder thereof to John Cheyne of the Boys and to his heires for ever. And as for my manor of Cuggenho within the Countie of Northampton I woll that my saide feffez graunte a Annuite of 10 marke goyngs oute of the saide manor unto Thomas Cheyne late of Haversham and to his heires accordinge to the will of my husband Sir John Cheyne, and also I will that my said feffez graunte a Annuite of 10 marke goinge out of the saide manor unto John Cheyne of Marlow and to his heires accordinge to the will of my saide husbonde Sir John Cheyne.

And as for the residue of the said manor with the avowson of the same I woll that if John Cheyne of the Boys distourbe nat ne let my feffez and executoures to perfourme this my last will and also the will of my husband Sir John Cheyne, that then, my saide feffez to make a state to him and to the heires of his body lawfully comyng, and if he dye without issue or else if that he distourbe let or vex and trouble my saide feffez or executours in perfourmyng or executing of this my last will that then the residue of the said manor to be sold by myn executors and the money therof comyng to be disposed for the wele of the soule of Sir John Cheyne my husband and his fader and his moder

soules, for my soule and my fader and moders and all Cristen soules by the discrecion of myn executores.

Visitatio in ecclesia parochiali de Crendon per M. Treble Officiale[m] 27 die Aprilis 1495.

¹⁶ North Merston Thomas Wyg firmarius non facit reparacionem cimiterii ibidem; et ad instanc. dni Thome Collyngson capellani de Drayton Becham. Pax.

¹⁶ Stoke Hamond Johes Rollesley fregit murum cimeterii ecclesie de Est Claydon cum biga sua. Pax

Wodesdon Johes Lome, quia vellet rapere Luciam Glover de Ham, sic quod non audent ad ecclesiam venire ad divina servicia audienda propter metum dicti Johis. (Johes) negavit, purgavit se et dimiss est.

Wodesdon Elizabeth Godday vocavit Katerinam Walrond meretricem. Submiserunt se et dimisse sunt.¹⁷

Visitacio in ecclesia parochiali de Whitechirche penultimo die Aprilis anno supra scripto.

Whitechirche Thomas Goodegame, Robertus Honer, executores testamenti Alicie Combe quia non perimplent testamentum dicte defuncte. Pax

Johes Whiche¹⁸ ibidem quia die parasives et die Annunciationis beate Marie laboravit tempore divinorum, "pesces" prendendo.

Fatetur et ter per ecclesiam nudis pedibus et capite discooperto in camisia, ferens in manu sua candelam pretii $\frac{1}{2}$ d. &c. Peregit penitentiam et dimiss est.

Notes to the entries of April, 1495.

¹⁶ It would seem from these reports as if some incumbents were holding more parishes than one. There was no other connection than this that I know of between North Marston and Drayton Beauchamp, nor between Stoke Hammond and East Claydon, but why John Rollesley's cart should be concerned with breaking down the churchyard wall of East Claydon unless he had some connection with that church I do not see.

¹⁷ The conclusion of this case shows that this was a disturbance in which both women were concerned, and the Court judged both guilty of the disturbance.

¹⁸ The case against John Whiche is that he had spent the hours in which Divine Service was being held, on Annunciation Day (March 25) and on Good

Masse- worth	Nicholaus Barton, Adam Grantham ad instanc yconomorum ibidem in causa subtractionis juris ecclesiastici. Pax.
White- chirche	Ricardus Hale ad inst. yconomorum de Harde- wike. Pax
Mursley	Cancellus ibidem non reparatur in defectu rectoris. Reparat et dimiss.
Dodyngton	Cancellus non reparatur in parietibus et tectura super altare, in culpa rectoris. Reparat et dimiss. Visitacio in ecclesia parochiali de Missenden Magna ultimo die Aprilis.
North Merston	Thomas Carter ad instanc. Edmundi Horneclife in causa fidei lesionis et perjurii Fatetur 5s. Ad solvendum citra Sti Mich. Archang. proxime ventur. Pax.

Friday (April 17) in catching fish. This was considered wrongful working on those days. "die parasives" is a 15th century mis-spelling of the Latin "die parasceves," for Greek paraskeve (genitive es); the preparation for the passover of the New Testament. The Annunciation, however, was a festival of the Church. Good Friday was not, but was a fast. The regard paid to this day in the end of the 15th century is understood by the contrast by which the Puritans and Nonconformists chose to have that day as a work day and also a feast day; relics of which re-action remained in Buckinghamshire down to the beginning of my time there in 1880. The penance done by John Whiche was that he had to go three times up and down the church with bare feet in his shirt and with his head uncovered, holding in his hands a candle worth $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Whether he was smitten also or not I could not make out from the hieroglyphic of the MS.