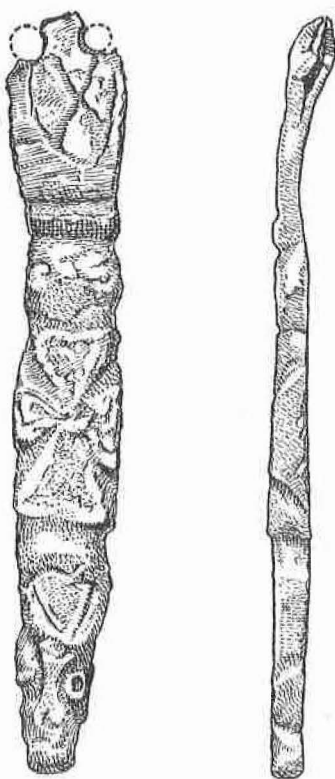


NOTES

AN ANGLO-SAXON STRAP-END FROM
BLEDLOW, BUCKS

Interesting evidence of continuity of occupation is afforded by a bronze strap-end found by the writer in Coney (or Conygra) Lane, Bledlow, some 120 yards below a chalk-pit, yielding late Saxon burials, near the Warren.



(Twice actual size).

The ornamentation, as will be seen from the admirable illustration by Mr. W. F. Grimes, is much worn and corroded, but sufficient remains for the work to be assigned to the close of the 9th century or perhaps the early years of the 10th. The design and dating

is discussed more fully by the writer in a note to the *Antiquaries Journal*, Vol. xxii, p. 221.

Coney Lane is a very old trackway leading from Bledlow village up to the Chiltern Hills. In its course it passes the Saxon burials from the above-mentioned chalkpit, and crossing the Upper Icknield Way, continues past the Cop round barrow which has yielded Saxon burials both by cremation and inhumation of apparently early date. (*Records of Bucks*, Vol. xiii, 313). From thence it continues above the Bledlow Cross turf cutting to the comb of the hills.

J. F. HEAD.

GREY FRIARS OF AYLESBURY

Dr. Little's valuable paper on the Grey Friars of Aylesbury (vol. xiv., p. 77 fol.) records the gift (indenture dated 1386) of Alice Giffard, widow of Thomas de Langele, John Giffard and William de Thymylby, merchant.

In a paper of "Nowers of Wymington" (Publications of the Bedford Historical Record Society, vol. xiv, 1931), I showed that this lady was a de Montfort, and that she married (1) Richard de Nowers, lord of the manors of Churchill, Oxon, and Wymington, Beds; (2) Sir Thomas de Langley, keeper of Wychwood Forest; (3) Sir John Giffard of Twyford, Bucks; and (4) William de Thymelby of Lincolnshire.

The late Dr. F. N. Macnamara in his excellent account of "King John's Palace at Little Langley, Oxfordshire,"¹ first showed that Alice the wife of Thomas de Langley married afterwards John Giffard, and from the heraldry on a window once in the church of Shipton-under-Wychwood, deduced her de Montfort ancestry. From the fact that in 1354 Sir Thomas de Langley and Alice his wife remitted and quitted claim to Sir John de Nowers (brother and heir of the above Richard who d.s.p.) and his heirs for

¹ *Berks, Bucks and Oxon Arch. Journ.*, 1899.

ever, Alice's dower in the manor of Churchill, I deduced that she was widow of the said Richard. Her last marriage to William de Thymelby was shown by Mr. G. Andrews Moriarty, who has written an elaborate pedigree of the Giffards of Twyford², proving their descent from Osbert Giffard of the Brimsfield family, which can be traced back to the Conquest.

It is curious that Alice's indenture given by Dr. Little mentions only her last three husbands. But her first marriage to Richard de Nowers seems to follow from what has been said above. The seal on one of her deeds in the British Museum bears the garbs of Nowers of Churchill and the inscription "s (N)OWERS."

E. ST. JOHN BROOKS.

BUCKS CHARTERS AT THE BODLEIAN

From a note in *The Bodleian Library Record* of May, 1943, we learn that some 400 deeds, ranging from the 13th to the 17th century, have been acquired for "Bodley." They came from the Thoresby Park collection, and largely relate to Beaconsfield. They have still to be catalogued.

² *New England Hist. & General. Regr.*, vol. 75, 1921.