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# Domesday Book:

A POPULAR ACCOUNT

OF THE

EXCHEQUER MANUSCRIPT SO CALLED,

WITH

*Notices of the Principal Points of General  
Interest which it contains.*

BY

WALTER DE GRAY BIRCH, F.S.A.

ETC.

ETC.

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# DOMESDAY BOOK.

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## CHAPTER I.

### INTRODUCTORY NOTICE OF DIVISION OF LAND IN ENGLAND.

THE division of land into allotments or districts, the profits and produce of which were recognised as proper to individuals subject to the paramount rights of the sovereign, undoubtedly reaches back into remote antiquity, and it is probable that, at first, very similar conditions existed over the whole civilised world. The title to the land lay solely in the fact of the presence of the occupier by whose prowess inimical entry was resisted. Reprisals, probably common enough at first, soon taught mutual forbearance, and thus was started the groundwork of a system which has been elaborated without ceasing until the present day.

Of the laws, written or unwritten, which affected the occupation of land in England much is known, either positively or by induction, from an examination of the phraseology of Charters conveying land from the king, or the governing body, to private individuals or corporations; and much may be gathered from



the writings of those who have made Anglo-Saxon history an especial object of research. In the seventh century grants relating to the transfer of land were vague, irregular, and often ambiguous or apparently inconsistent.<sup>1</sup>

The person to whom the drawing up of the deed was entrusted, appears to have considered his duty well performed if he succeeded in stringing together foreign words with little apparent utility, and in many instances producing a text which it would be difficult to translate according to the recognised rules of grammar and syntax. Gradually, to this epoch of vagueness succeeded that of order and method ; the eighth and ninth centuries are found to be periods of transition, when the archaic form, derived from types of transfer deeds current at a more remote period in southern and central Europe, exists side by side with the conventional form adopted, built up on models almost classical in their antiquity, and systematised for local requirements by Anglo-Saxon notaries. In the tenth century we find that the form has become with few exceptions fixed, and after a preamble or proem of greater or less length, as the caprice of the scribe or draughtsman inclined, the employment of the important terms in which the legal transfer was contained follows with certain unimportant variations. This was the usual form of title-deed carrying with it the possession of landed property, which obtained in

<sup>1</sup> Texts of these may be consulted in the first volume of my "Cartularium Saxonicum," which embraces all known from the earliest times to A.D. 837.

England at the close of the tenth and beginning of the eleventh century ; and those who held the land, whether king, religious or secular corporation, or private individual, and whether the land so held was by a lease for life, or for a series of lives, or for ever, “imperpetuum,” held it by virtue of a *hoc* or “charter,” setting forth the manner in which they had become so possessed and the terms under which it was henceforth to be held.

It would be, probably, impossible to state the proportion of lands falling into the four classes of (1) folk or peoples’ common lands, (2) king’s or crown lands, (3) monastic and religious holdings, (4) private owners’ lands. The second of these roughly divided classes grew out of the first (but yet in some cases it would seem that the whole domain belonged to the king, a principle which is commonly found current among savage tribes of the present day) ; and the third and fourth were in the main derived from the second. Nevertheless the Church owed much to the munificence of private owners, who not unfrequently bequeathed land in reversion to ecclesiastical and religious bodies in return for the expressly stipulated support of those on whose intercession they looked with so much confidence. Actual extent or area was apparently secondary to productive capability ; every foot of arable or pasture required to be reclaimed from forest and woodland ; and from the fact that in the earliest cases the grant usually sets forth the number of families settled on the estate it is tolerably evident that land considered merely as land, without resident husbandmen or



agricultural occupiers, was a worthless and undesirable possession.

Simple and unassuming as they doubtless were in the earliest days of Christianity in England, episcopal and monastic institutions gradually acquired vast landed possessions in proportion as their moral influence, teaching, and example made themselves felt and respected. It was but natural, after all, that to the Church, to which, as to a central point of light, religion, science, literature, education, sanctuary, hospital, and many other humanising elements naturally and necessarily gravitated, a gradual control over the lands in the vicinity of her precincts should accrue, whether as the result of gratitude for spiritual ministrations and moral elevation, and for services growing out of the superior opportunities they possessed (which none but the Church could so aptly confer on those who sought her assistance), or as the result of a dread and awful veneration of the unseen power which she claimed to wield at will.

The terrible denunciations and imprecations which form the customary exordium of the Anglo-Saxon Charter, directed against those who interfere with the provisions expressed in the grant were, undoubtedly, sufficiently powerful to deter any one from endeavouring to annul or divert the possession of the property thereby conveyed.

In another place<sup>1</sup> I have recorded a list of no less than two hundred and forty religious establishments

<sup>1</sup> "Fasti Monastici Aevi Saxonici, or a List of Heads of Religious Houses in England previous to the Norman Conquest." 1872.

which originated in England before the coming of the Normans. Several of these institutions were, it is true, poor and insignificant, but the greater number grew apace, and if we may take the extant Chartularies of Worcester,<sup>1</sup> Bath,<sup>2</sup> Glastonbury,<sup>3</sup> Canterbury,<sup>4</sup> and Winchester,<sup>5</sup> or the Inquest of Ely,<sup>6</sup> as fairly indicating the extent of land in the power of these respective foundations at the close of the Saxon and Danish dynasties, it will be obvious that a very large proportion indeed of the area of the realm was thus bestowed.

It has been shown by a learned writer<sup>7</sup> on Saxon history, how the early Church was planted and propagated in England. One great cause of the multiplication of the sacred edifices lay in the fact that in all likelihood, every *mark*, or district, had its religious establishment, its *fanum*, *delubrum*, *sacellum*, or *templum* (according to the copious phraseology of the Latin authors), or its *hearh*, as the Anglo-Saxons in one instance quoted<sup>8</sup> designated it; and that the priest, or body of priests, serving these ancient centres of local divine worship, had lands which had been gradually acquired by purchase, gift, or bequest, and perhaps also drew support from the freewill obla-

<sup>1</sup> Cotton MS., Tiberius, A. XIII.

<sup>2</sup> Corpus Christi Coll., Cambr., No. CXI.

<sup>3</sup> Bodley Libr., Oxford, Wood MS. I.

<sup>4</sup> Cotton MS., Claudius, D. X.

<sup>5</sup> Add. MS., 15,350.

<sup>6</sup> Cotton MS., Tiberius, A. VI.

<sup>7</sup> J. M. Kemble, "Saxons in England," vol. ii., chap. ix.

<sup>8</sup> Kemble, "*Codex Diplom.*" No. DCCCCXCIV. A.D.

tions of their congregations. A well-grounded plan, according to this writer, of turning the *religio loci*, or local religious bias, to account was acted on by all ancient missionaries, and wherever a substantial building was found to be in existence, as at St. Pancras Church, Canterbury, for example, it was taken possession of for the benefit of the new religion. This subject will be found treated with greater detail in a subsequent part of this work.

As for the land held by private owners, however absolutely it was held in the first case, when paramount power fell into the hands of a ruler who had sufficient support to enable him to enforce obedience in his own locality, the private owner would only have held peaceable possession of his fields on condition of giving something in return for guaranteed security. This, in the days of old, days of unrest and constant watchfulness at best, days of anxious dread and unceasing precaution, of sudden invasion, of cruel and overpowering incursion, of merciless extermination, rapine, and massacre, could but be a military service, that is a compact of mutual assistance, defence, and protection, which, however rude, irregular, and uncertain at the beginning, was not long in developing into a more regular system in England, long before the coming of the Normans.



## CHAPTER II.

## THE MANUSCRIPT SURVEY OF ANCIENT TERRITORIES.

## THE BEADDINCTUN CHARTER.

THE division of England into counties and hundreds, as we know them to-day, or even as they were known in the eleventh century,<sup>1</sup> has been attributed by many archæologists to King Alfred. For example, it has been recently shown by Mr. H. E. Malden that there was no southern boundary of Surrey except the undefined track of the virgin forest of the vast Andredes weald. In the same way, the contiguous county of Sussex had but a doubtful boundary on the north, and these facts led to some curious results in the work of the commissioners. Dr. Pauli, the author of the excellent "Life of Alfred the Great," however, considerably qualifies the general idea in stating that "it may be supposed that Alfred, after the spoliation of public and private property, during the Danish incursions, re-arranged the boundaries, although the assertion that he caused a formal survey and measurement of the lands to be made, seems to have been taken from the History of the Domesday Book."<sup>2</sup> Kemble, in like manner, in his masterly

<sup>1</sup> Not quite the same thing, for boundaries in many instances could not have been so well defined as they now are.

<sup>2</sup> Translation by Thorpe (Bohn's Series), p. 120.

work on the "Saxons in England," in a chapter which treats of the territorial organisation in *marks*, and in the *ga* or *scir*, based upon the natural conformation of the country, of the soil and usufruct of its produce, with their separate jurisdictions and executive officers, shows the gradual development of areal distinction to have been of far higher antiquity. He says,<sup>1</sup> "Looking to the permanent character of land divisions, and assuming that our present hundreds nearly represent the original in number and extent, we might conclude that if in the year 400 Kent was first divided, Thanet then contained only one hundred heads of houses, or *hydes*, upon three thousand acres of cultivated land, while in the time of Beda, three centuries later, it comprised six hundred families or *hides*, upon eighteen thousand acres. It is a common saying that we owe the institution of shire, tithing, and hundred divisions, to Ælfred. Stated in so broad a manner as this, I am compelled to deny the assertion. . . . Not one word in corroboration of it is to be found in Asser or any other contemporaneous authority, and there is abundant evidence that the system existed long before he was born, not only in other German lands, but even among ourselves." Kemble continues, however, to show that he is unwilling to declare the tradition to be absolutely without foundation, and thinks it probable that, after the confusion and devastation which were the natural outcome of the Danish wars, the king was compelled to make a new muster or regulation of

<sup>1</sup> Birch's Edit., vol. i., p. 247.

the tithings, and even in some cases to cause a fresh territorial division to be established on the new principle. But the strongest argument against all this, is the total silence of all contemporary writers. It has, however, been long well known<sup>1</sup> that previous to the erection of counties, or even of conglomerations of contiguous hundreds, there were territorial divisions of large or small areas, within the great kingdoms, neither well known by name nor well defined by strict boundaries, and probably for the most part isolated from each other by the neutral forest lands which allowed them thereafter that elasticity which enabled them to subsist, for a time at least, unaltered. These were, so to speak, *oases* of primæval civilisation and human habitation, under the shadow of the almost universal forest with which pre-historic England was clad. How these territories first sprang into being it is difficult at this distant period to decide. Nor is it necessary for the scope of the present work to enquire too deeply:

No doubt various causes operated in many ways towards the clustering of individual families. Inter-marriages, the attraction of a heroic name, the subjugation of the weak by the strong, and many other ways readily suggest themselves to our consideration as anciently operating in this way. To them succeeds the transitional or secondary period, when the groups of homesteads and villages, thus united each to other by friendship, kinship, or accident

<sup>1</sup> *Journal of the British Archaeological Association*, vol. xl., 1884. "An Unpublished MS. List of some early Territorial Names in England," by W. de G. Birch.



of locality, made themselves feared and recognised abroad, and for convenience's sake, received peculiar and appropriate designations by which each group thus constituted was known to those who had need of its intercourse, availed themselves of its protection, or dreaded its ravages. We may, by means of a record which was accidentally discovered only two years ago, trace even in present names the echoes of the early names of some at least of these primæval areas. The manuscript to which I refer is of the late tenth or early eleventh century, written on a fly leaf in a copy of Ælfric's "Latin Grammar," for the use of Anglo-Saxon students. Spelman, Kemble, Gale, Pearson, and other writers, have printed somewhat similar lists of territorial names from late and faulty Latin translations of this Anglo-Saxon text, but of all the manuscripts which I have been able to trace, the one here referred to in the British Museum Harley MS. 3,271, folio 6 *b*, is the oldest and best text, and indeed the only Anglo-Saxon copy. From certain indications, which tell their own tale, such as, for example, the division of words at the wrong place, there can be little doubt that this MS. is a copy of an older one now lost. It appears to represent, in its first place, a memorandum written down, about the seventh or eighth century, by an early surveyor or commissioner, of those tribes and their territorial or political areas, by no means all in existence in his day, with which he was more or less personally acquainted. In the Venedotian Code (printed among the ancient laws of Wales, in the Record Commission, 1841, p. 185, 8vo. edit.), a manuscript written after





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## Table continued —

8.	North Gyrwa	...	...	600 hides.
9.	East Wixna...	...	...	300 „
10.	West Wixna	...	...	300 „
11.	Spalda	...	...	600 „
12.	Wigesta	...	...	900 „
13.	Herefinna	...	...	1,200 „
14.	Sweordora	...	...	300 „
15.	Gifla	...	...	300 „
16.	Hicca	...	...	300 „
17.	Wiht gara	...	...	600 „
18.	Nox gaga	...	...	5,000 „
19.	Oht gaga	...	...	2,000 „
20.	Hwinca	...	...	7,000 „
21.	Ciltern sætna	...	...	4,000 „
22.	Hendrica	...	...	3,500 „
23.	Unecung ga	...	...	1,200 „
24.	Aro sætna	...	...	600 „
25.	Færpinga	...	...	300 „
26.	Bilmiga	...	...	600 „
27.	Widerigga	...	...	600 „
28.	East willa	...	...	600 „
29.	West willa	...	...	600 „
30.	East Engle...	...	...	30,000 „
31.	East Sexena	...	...	7,000 „
32.	Cantwarena	...	...	15,000 „
33.	Suth Sexena	...	...	7,000 „
34.	West Sexena	...	...	10,000 „

Of these we may fairly conjecture the following localities:—

1. Mercia, or the eight counties of Gloucester,

Worcester, Hereford, Warwick, Oxford, Cheshire, Stafford, and Salop.

2. The Hundred of Woking. The parish of Woking, the principal and eponymic place, was in Saxon times part of the royal demesne.

3. Westerna I cannot localise.

4. The Settlers, in the Peak land of Derbyshire.

5. The region of Elmet, near Leeds. There is still a village of "Barwick in Elmet."

6. Lindsey, or the "Parts of Lindsey," the "Lindo" of the Antonine Itinerary, with Hatfield, in the West Riding of Yorkshire.

7, 8. The Fen districts of Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, and Huntingdonshire.

9, 10. The "Weeks," now scattered throughout Hants and Somerset, or—if one may follow the late Mr. J. B. Davidson—Week St. Germans, and Week St. Pancras, in Devonshire.

11. Spalding, and its neighbourhood.

12. Wigesta I cannot localise.

13. Perhaps the district of Harvington, in Worcestershire, a place signalled by the recent discovery of Celtic and Anglo Saxon remains.

14. Perhaps Swerford in Oxfordshire.

15. The Yeovil district in Dorsetshire.

16. Worcestershire, the territory of the Huuiccas or Huiccii.

17. The Isle of Wight.

18. Knook in Wiltshire. "Knook Castle," the centre of the area, is an ancient and very extensive earthwork of great military strength and importance.

19. Ot Moor, a marshy tract of considerable extent in Oxfordshire.

20. Wincanton, in Somersetshire, with Roman remains and the British fort of "Kennewilkins Castle." The first part of this word is apparently connected with the "*Cuno*-" of British names; the latter, with the territorial name of Hwinca.

21. The Chiltern range of chalk hills, extending across England from Wiltshire, through the counties of Berkshire, Oxfordshire, and Buckinghamshire, to Suffolk, is probably too extensive a tract for these settlers; but there are two parishes of Chiltern or Chittern, in Wiltshire, which may be identical with it. That of Chiltern All Saints is situated near the River Wiley, and in the vicinity of Knook Castle, referred to at No. 18 above.

22. Hendrica is of difficult identification, but if it may be referred to "Hendre," that form enters into the composition of many places in the West. On the other hand, Henbury, near Bristol, may satisfy the conditions. The union of the British *hen* or *hean* (old), with the Saxon *burg* or *byrig*, is analogous to that found in other names, as, for example, in Glastonbury.

23. Unecung-ga may be the *ga*, or district, about the River Onny, which is a small stream in Shropshire, running into the River Teme.

24. The Aro-sætna point to the lands on the confines of the River Arrow in Warwick.

25. For Færpinga I cannot suggest any explanation.

26. Bilmiga, of which a variant Birminga is found



in the British Museum, Hargrave MS., 313, f. 15 b. (a late copy of this early list of territories), may possibly refer to Birmingham, the oldest seat of the iron manufacture in England although unnoticed in our ancient records, but I am unwilling to speak positively as to its identity. The “Billings,” on the other hand, like the “Weeks,” now represent a disintegrated, or never unified, clan, who have left traces of their eponymic hero among the place names of many midland towns and villages scattered over the realm, from Yorkshire and Lincolnshire to Sussex, from Salop to Kent. Far away to the north the parish of Bellingham, in Northumberland, of the enormous extent of upwards of twenty thousand two hundred acres, chiefly moorland, on the River Tyne, with numerous remains of ancient circular earthworks and fortifications in its vicinage, offers itself to reasonable consideration in respect of this ancient place name.

27. Witheridge Hundred in Devonshire, full of ancient vestiges, may be conjectured.

28, 29. The neighbourhood of the River Wylye, or Wily, an affluent of the great River Avon, and eponymic of the county of Wilts, is probably that here indicated by East and West Willa. The extensive district watered by this ancient river glitters with diverse evidences of early settlement.

30. The remaining territories of the East Saxons ; 31. The East Saxons ; 32. The men of Kent ; 33. The South Saxon ; and 34, The West Saxons, present no difficulty ; but we cannot say that their early extent, given in the manuscript, is in agreement with

the sites ascribed in later times to these respective designations. It is not unlikely that these entries have been interpolated by the scribe who copied the original list into the blank page of Ælfric's Grammar, with a view of bringing a list, which he knew to be antiquated, up to the standard of his own times.

Among the earliest forms of survey of individual holdings, which appear to foreshadow the comprehensive work of the Domesday, is that of the land of Beaddinctun (which Kemble and Thorpe, following him, identify with Bedhampton, in Hampshire, called Betametone in Domesday, but I see no reason why it should not be Beddington in Surrey),<sup>1</sup> contained in a letter of Denewulf, Bishop of Winchester, to King Edward, about A.D. 901-908. The Latin text is a faulty translation of the Anglo-Saxon original: both copied into the celebrated "Codex Wintoniensis," or Anglo-Saxon chartulary of Winchester Cathedral, British Museum, additional MS. 15,350, f. 96 b. The Anglo-Saxon text is as follows:—

“Ic DENEWULF bisceop kyðæ EADWARDE kyninge minum hlafurdæ ymb þæt land on BEADDINCTUNE þæ ðu mæ firmdig to pæræ ðæt ic þæ lendæ . þonnæ min leof hæbbe ic nú æt ðam hipum fundæn on Wintæ ceastræ gæ æt gieldran gæ æt giengran þæt hie mæ mid ealræ æstæ unnun his mæ ðæt to bociunnæ þinnæ deg spuðæ to brucannæ spuðum to lænannæ ðæ þæ leofust bið.

þonne his pæs lonðæs hund seofontig hida . and is

<sup>1</sup> Both these sites are in the diocese of Winchester.

<sup>2</sup> “Cartularium Saxonicum,” No. 618, 619.



nu eall ge ƿæred and ðu hit æst min laford mæ to læt .  
 ƿu ƿæs hit ierfælæas and mið æðnum folce aburod .  
 And ic ðu sælf ƿæt ierfæ to ge strindæ . ƿæt ðær mon  
 siððun bi ƿæs . And ƿæ his ƿæ nú spyðæ eadmod-  
 licæ unnon . Þonnæ min leóf siondon bipun nu firm-  
 dīge ƿet hit æfter ƿínum degæ to ƿæræ stopæ æft  
 agyfæn síe . Ðonnæ is ƿær nú irfæs ƿæs ƿæs stranga  
 ƿintær læfæd hæfð . nigon ealð hriðru . and feoper . and  
 hund æendlæftig ealdra spina . and fiftig ƿæƿæra  
 butan þam scipæ and spinum ƿæ ða hirdas habban  
 sculon . ðara is tƿæntig ealdra . And ƿær is hund  
 endlæftig ealdra sceapa . 7 seofæn ƿeopæ mæn . And  
 tƿæntig flicca . and næs ƿær cornæs mare þonne  
 ƿær ƿæs bisceopæs færm gæ gearƿodu . and ƿær  
 hund niogontig gæ saƿenra æcæra.

Þonne biddæð ƿæ bisceop 7 ƿa hipan on Wintan  
 ceastræ ðæt to ælmæssan for Godæs lufan and for  
 ðæræ haligan cirícean . ƿæt ðu ƿære stopæ londæs  
 maræn ne ƿillnīe . for ðam ƿe him ðyncð ynbæ dune  
 hæs . ƿæt naðær ne ƿæ ne ús God ne ƿurfa on cunnan  
 for ƿæræ ƿaniungæ on urum dæge for þam ƿe ðæræ ƿæs  
 spiðæ micel Godes bæbodd ƿa mæn ƿa lond to ƿære  
 stoðæ ge sealdæ.”

Thorpe's translation is as follows :—“I<sup>1</sup> bishop  
 Denewulf announce to King Eadward my Lord con-  
 cerning the land at Bedhampton, which thou wast  
 desirous that I should lease to thee. Now then,  
 my beloved, I have settled with the convent at Win-  
 chester, both with old and with young, that they, with  
 all good-will, have granted me to charter it to thee,  
 for thy day, whether to enjoy it or to lease it as to

<sup>1</sup> “Diplomatarium,” p. 162.



thee shall be most desirable. Now of this land there are seventy hides, and it is now all stocked ; and when my lord first let it to me, it was unprovided with cattle and laid waste by heathen folk ; and I myself then provided the cattle, and there people were afterwards. And we now very humbly grant it to thee. Now my beloved, the convent are desirous that after thy day it be again given up to the place. Now of cattle, which the severe winter has left, there are nine old oxen, and a hundred and fourteen old swine, and fifty wethers, besides the sheep and swine which the herds are to have, of which there are twenty old, and there are a hundred and ten old sheep, and seven serf men, and twenty fitches : and there was no more corn there than was provided for the bishop's sustenance. And there are ninety sown acres. Now the bishop and the convent at Winchester pray thee in charity, for love of God, and for the holy church, that thou wilt not desire more land of that place, because it seems to them, with reference to thy behest, that God should have no need to accuse either thee or us for its diminution in our day ; because of that the command of God was very strong when those lands were given to the place."





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the most part arranged in quaternions of four double, or eight, leaves, although this arrangement is not invariable. The rubbed and worn look of the first and last leaves of the portion containing each county appears to indicate that the returns for the several counties were kept separate for some time before being bound together in a volume as they are now. All the counties, however, do not begin a separate sheet, Cheshire for example affording an instance to the contrary. There are three leaves smaller than the others, viz. : folios 42, 76, and 81. There are also pieces of parchment added to complete an entry which could not be contained in the space allowed for it. One is a scrap cut off a page already used and ruled with the lines vertical. Another folio, 81, has been inserted in the wrong place, for it should come between folios 82 and 83.

The lines are ruled on the pages with what is called a dry point, and on the margin, as in many other manuscripts of this and other periods, may be observed minute holes made by a little prickwheel, or other instrument, which was used as a guide to the ruler. The number of lines to the pages is not uniform, but varies from fifty to fifty-nine, but the writing does not always correspond with the line, and sometimes exceeds the number of the lines ruled, a practice which has been thought to have been followed in order to rectify any miscalculation of the space allotted for the entries.

The pages of the manuscript are divided into two columns, and perpendicular lines are ruled to mark the margins and central space between the columns.

Blank pages, such as folio 126, clearly show the method of ruling, which follows the usual style employed by writers for a double-column manuscript. In volume II., which is of smaller dimensions, the dry point used for the ruling has sometimes cut through the vellum, or caused it to crack.

The writing is very clear and beautiful, the letters being all distinctly and separately formed, the only difficulty which is experienced in reading would arise from the continual abbreviations which, although very numerous indeed, are very simple in character, and, except in rare instances, no ambiguity could arise even on this score. In another place<sup>1</sup> will be found a list of the principal abbreviations and contractions.

There is no ornamentation or ornamental initial letter, and in this respect the Domesday Book differs from the great majority of manuscripts; but the name of the county under description is written at the head of each page in red ink, and a dash or stroke of the same coloured ink is employed to distinguish capital letters in the text. The names of places are also distinguished by a red line running through the middle of the letters, which must not be considered as cancelling these words.

In several places additions have been written on the side and bottom margins, the place at which they are to be inserted being indicated by marks, and there are erasures and alterations, as for example at folios 63, 64, 67, 91.

The account of Domesday Book issued by the Royal Historical Society, from which the foregoing

<sup>1</sup> See p. 325.



remarks are mainly derived, states that the same scribe was not employed throughout the surveys of Derbyshire and Yorkshire, and the “*Feodum Rotberti de Bruis*,” in folio 332*b*, being noticeably in a different handwriting. At the County of Lincoln, however, the original hand recurs.

The very character of the handwriting, which is technically called “set minuscules,” has been said to bear but little resemblance to either the bookhand or the chancery charter hand of the period, and may with great probability have been introduced by some of the foreign ecclesiastics, for writing was like other acquirements, almost exclusively confined to the churchmen who figured in the court of William the Conqueror. Some have thought that the handwriting resembles an Italian hand; and if this conjecture be correct, that the scribes were, indeed, of that country, it is quite possible that Lanfranc, the Lombard Archbishop of Canterbury, whom William of Malmesbury designated with the compliment of “*literatura perinsignis*,” had supervision of the work of transcription, and employed scribes of his own country to execute it.

The fly-leaves of the volume contain memoranda of various kinds and dates, made by the officers of the Exchequer; and an extent of lands, and an inquisition (both original documents of the thirteenth century), have been inlaid on one leaf.

The second volume of the Domesday Book is of smaller size, and contains full reports for the three extensive counties of Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk. This contains four hundred and fifty leaves of vellum,

measuring between  $10\frac{1}{2}$  and  $10\frac{5}{8}$  inches one way, and  $7\frac{5}{8}$  to  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches the other. The parchment is mostly of a coarser character, and the writing, which is by several hands and more cursive, is generally larger than that of volume I. The lines are marked in the same way, but are farther apart; the number in a page varying from twenty to twenty-eight, except in the case of two leaves (folios 229, 230) inserted in the middle of the Norfolk survey which have forty lines. In this volume the double column has been abandoned for the single column. The varying quality of the parchment and the frequent changes of the hand-writing suggest to the describer of the book for the commemoration, that the volume is composed by binding together a quantity of separately prepared returns, rather than transcribing them. Just such a method would seem to have been acted upon in the case of the "Exon Domesday" which will be described further on.<sup>1</sup> The red coloured ink employed is of a different kind from that in the first volume, and is much more sparingly used. There are also one or two clumsy attempts at ornamental capitals, but they are of no artistic value.

The date of the completion of the survey is given in the colophon to this volume as follows :—

"Anno millesimo octogesimo sexto ab incarnatione domini vicesimo vero regni Willelmi facta est ista descriptio non solum per hos tres comitatus sed etiam per alios."

That is :—

"In the one thousand and eighty-sixth year from our Lord's Incarnation, but the twentieth of the

<sup>1</sup> See p. 54.

reign of King William, this description was made, not only throughout the three counties but also throughout the others.”

The survey was probably commenced in the year 1085, and completed in 1086.

The whole,<sup>1</sup> that is, the original work on the survey, the transcription or fair copy, and the codification, were completed in less than eight months, and three of these eight were winter months.

The commissioners appointed to make the survey were to inquire the following points :—

The name of each place?

Who held it in the time of King Edward the Confessor?

The present possessor?

How many hides were in the manor?

How many ploughs were in the demesne?

How many homagers?

How many villeins?

How many cottars?

How many free tenants?

How many tenants in socage?

How much wood, meadow, and pasture?

The number of mills and fishponds?

What had been added or taken away from the place?

What was the gross value in the time of King Edward the Confessor?

The present value?

<sup>1</sup> Eyton, referred to by the Record Office describer of the Domesday Book for the Royal Historical Society's commemoration.



And how much each freeman or socman had, and whether any advance could be made in the value?

All this was to be triply estimated—First, as the estate was held in the time of Edward the Confessor. Secondly, as it was bestowed by King William. Thirdly, as its value stood at the formation of the survey, and it was to be stated if any increase could be made in the value.

The inquisitions of each county having been severally taken, they were sent to Winchester, then the capital city of the realm, and were there methodised and enrolled as we now see them. The codification of the original returns resulted in the formation of the two volumes.

The first volume in folio contains the following counties :—

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Kent.             | 16. Worcestershire.   |
| 2. Sussex.           | 17. Herefordshire.    |
| 3. Surrey.           | 18. Cambridgeshire.   |
| 4. Hampshire.        | 19. Huntingdonshire.  |
| 5. Berkshire.        | 20. Bedfordshire.     |
| 6. Wiltshire.        | 21. Northamptonshire. |
| 7. Dorsetshire.      | 22. Leicestershire.   |
| 8. Somersetshire.    | 23. Warwickshire.     |
| 9. Devonshire.       | 24. Staffordshire.    |
| 10. Cornwall.        | 25. Shropshire.       |
| 11. Middlesex.       | 26. Cheshire.         |
| 12. Hertfordshire.   | 27. Derbyshire.       |
| 13. Buckinghamshire. | 28. Nottinghamshire.  |
| 14. Oxfordshire.     | 29. Yorkshire.        |
| 15. Gloucestershire. | 30. Lincolnshire.     |



In the second volume :—

Essex ; Norfolk ; Suffolk.

The book<sup>1</sup> covers, in which the Domesday was bound when it was deposited at the Chapter House, Westminster, are still in existence, and are carefully preserved. In that depository Russian leather covers were recently (perhaps it may be said ill advisedly, because the old covers are part of the life and history of the book) substituted for the old ones. After the transfer to the Public Record Office the two volumes were taken to pieces for the purpose of facilitating the photographer who had been entrusted with the facsimile reproduction of the text by the photozincographic process ; a process recommended only for its cheapness, but completely unsuited for the accurate reproduction of such a manuscript, as indeed all processes must be which require subsequent manual assistance by way of finishing and correcting failures in the action of the chemicals employed during the progress of reproduction.

The celebrated “Codex Alexandrinus,” in the old royal collection of MSS., in the British Museum, No. 1 D.V.—VIII., a copy of the fifth century of the Old and New Testaments in Greek, presented by Cyril, the patriarch of Constantinople, as a right royal gift to King Charles I., in 1628, was in like manner taken to pieces by the order of the keeper of the manuscripts, when that precious work was photographed throughout under the direction of the trustees of the British Museum.

<sup>1</sup> “Roy. Hist. Soc. Commemoration.”





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locks . . . . which . . . was placed in a large chest in the Great Treasury at Westminster, also locked with three locks. . . . ”

The external measurement of the “Domesday Chest” are, length 3 ft. 2½ in., breadth 2 ft. 1 in., height 2 ft. 3 in. The massive lid measures 3 ft. 7½ in. by 2 ft. 3 in. It was formerly secured by three locks, and a small compartment inside has an additional lock. This chest was brought from the Chapter House with Domesday Book itself to the Public Record Office.

## CHAPTER IV.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MANUSCRIPT KNOWN AS THE  
ABBREVIATIO AND THE BREVIATE IN THE RECORD  
OFFICE.

*THE ABBREVIATIO.*

THE *Abbreviatio*,<sup>1</sup> as it is styled, of Domesday Book is also preserved among the Treasury MSS., in the Record Office. It is, as its name implies, an abridgment, apparently compiled early in the reign of Edward I.

The handwriting of this manuscript is a fine example of native calligraphy. The capital letters are illuminated. In the margins of some of the pages are circlets of gold, in which are contained heads, or half-length conventional portraits, and busts, of the chief tenants whose lands form the subject of the pages thus illustrated. Prefixed to the text are leaves of vellum with six illuminations, or pictures, of incidents which occur in the legendary life of Edward the Confessor. These have been executed in a somewhat rude but singularly attractive style of art, possibly, we are told, not later than the reign of Henry I.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Roy. Hist. Soc. Comm."

<sup>2</sup> Ib.

The six illuminations represent the following incidents in the life of the Sainted Edward, king and confessor :

1. Edward the Confessor charging Earl Godwine with causing the death of Alfred, the king's brother.<sup>1</sup>
2. Earl Godwine offers to prove his innocence by ordeal of eating a piece of bread which has been blessed by the king.<sup>2</sup>
3. The vision of the King of the Danes drowned while passing from a boat on board a ship.<sup>3</sup>
4. The vision of the Seven Sleepers of Ephesus turning from their right to their left sides, thereby portending war, famine, and pestilence.<sup>4</sup>
5. The miracle of the Eucharist.<sup>5</sup>
6. The legend of the ring given by Edward the Confessor to St. John the Evangelist.<sup>6</sup>

The reproduction of these illustrations would be interesting not only for the history of the Saint as depicted in mediæval *cultus*, but also as a valuable contribution to the art work of the period, of which there is yet much to learn.

<sup>1</sup> "Lives of Edward the Confessor," Ed. H. R. Luard, Rolls Series, p. 271.

<sup>2</sup> *Ib.*, p. 272.    <sup>3</sup> *Ib.*, p. 215.    <sup>4</sup> *Ib.*, p. 273.    <sup>5</sup> *Ib.*, p. 250.

<sup>6</sup> *Ib.*, p. 276. In the manuscript marginal references have been added, by a nearly modern hand, to the pages of the "Historiæ Anglicanæ Decem Scriptores." Ed. Twysden, London, folio, 1652, where some of the incidents depicted are alluded to.

*THE BREVIATE.*

THE so called *Breviate*,<sup>1</sup> another abridged copy of the Domesday Book, originally was in the office of the Remembrancer of the Exchequer. This, the earliest record, we are told, as regards subject-matter, though perhaps not compilation, was removed from this office to the Record Office at the time of the reconstruction of the latter, and is the subject of the present notice. It is in the form of a small folio volume, and still retains its original oaken binding with metal bosses. A careful comparison of this text with the printed copy of the Exchequer Domesday Book in the Public Record Office, and the Exon Domesday, reveals the fact that this is a very partial abridgment. In it, we are told, the *villani*, the *bordarii*, and the stock of *animals*, etc., are omitted. The object for which it was compiled for the use of the treasury of the Exchequer is not very apparent, and it cannot be stated with certainty to what extent this reduction of the text has been carried until a precise investigation has been made between the several records. Some idea, however, of the extensive abridgments and variations may be gathered from extracts of the beginning parts of each

<sup>1</sup> Description in an unpublished "Catalogue of Records remaining in the Office of the King's Remembrancer of the Exchequer," printed uniform with other Record Commission publications, but withdrawn. A copy is preserved in the MS. department of the British Museum.



volume, which have been published in the *Journal* of the British Archæological Association, for the year 1885.

The manuscript under our notice appears, from the character of the handwriting, to have been made about the twelfth century ; but there is not sufficient internal evidence to determine the actual period of the preparation of the volume. It does not appear that either the *Abbreviatio* or the *Breviate*, were noticed by Sir Henry Ellis when he wrote his “ Introduction to Domesday Book,” in 1833. The volume probably, at some early period of its fortunes, formed one of the literary treasures of a Welsh religious establishment, and we have been told in official places that there are reasons which satisfactorily account for its appearance in its present place of deposit. It is curious to notice that another Domesday manuscript, the Arundel MS., which is described in a subsequent part of this work, comes from the celebrated Cistercian Abbey of Margam, in South Wales.

A miscellaneous collection of other subjects in handwritings of various dates is scattered throughout the volume. Among others the following :—

1. On the fly-leaf attached to the cover are two short prophecies by Merlin, the far-famed Arthurian Wizard, to whom, as is only natural, a vast number of pseudo-prophecies have been improperly attributed.

2. A chronicle, in twenty-five pages, especially treating of Wales and Welshmen. It begins, *secundum artem*, with the creation, after the manner of a great

many medical histories, and concludes with these notices of the year 1283 :—

“David Walensis cum duobus filiis uxore et filiabus capti sunt fraude nepotum,” and 1286 “Combustio domorum apud Stratam-Floridam,” or Stratfleur in Glamorganshire.

3. Prognostications dependent upon the day of the week on which the 1st of January falls in any year—a favourite augury in England.

4. A prophecy for the year 1302.

5. A chronicle in seven pages, embracing the period between A.D. 600 and 1298. There are entries relating also to Wales—as for example, the building of Cardiff under William the First, under A.D. 1181. “Edificata est Kerdivia (Cardiff) sub rege Willelmo primo.” A.D. 1298, “Desponsata fuit dompna Alina filia Willelmi de Brewes Johanni de Moubray in villa de Sweynese ; etas pueri viii annorum.” The lady Alina, daughter of William de Brewes, was betrothed to John de Moubray, at Swansea, his age being eight years.

6. On the fly-leaf, before the text of the Domesday, a pedigree of the Duchy of Normandy, from Richard “sanz peur,” to William the Conqueror, and other notes. This appears to be in the handwriting of the scribe who has written the body of the abridged Domesday, which follows :—

7. Then follows the abridged Domesday, which is comprised in two hundred and fifteen leaves, or four hundred and twenty-nine pages. The size of the page is twelve inches and a half, by eight inches and a half ; and the text occupies eight inches by four and a half



The returns, or surveys, are made in the following order of counties (which may be compared with the order exhibited by the Exchequer Domesday) :—

Kent.	Huntindonshire, <i>vel</i>
Sudsex.	Huntedoneshire.
Sudereiæ.	Bedefordshire.
Hanteschire.	Northamptonshire.
Bercshire.	Ledecestreshire, <i>vel</i>
Wiltshire.	Leicestreshire.
Dorsete.	Warewicshire.
Sumersete.	Stadfordscire.
Deveneschire.	Sciropescire.
Cornwaille.	Cestrescire.
Middelsexe.	Derbyscire.
Hertfordschire.	Snotingehāscire.
Buckinghamschire,	Roteland.
<i>vel</i> Bokinghamschire.	Eorewicscire.
Oxenefordschire.	Lincolescire et Lindeseie.
Gloucestreschire.	Clamores de Everwicshire.
Wirecestreschire.	in Nortreding.
Herefordshire.	Essex.
Grantebrigeshire, <i>vel</i>	Nordfolke, <i>vel</i> Nortfolc.
Grantebrigeshire.	Sudfolke, <i>vel</i> Sudfolc.

8. To this Domesday succeed sundry abridged memoranda<sup>1</sup> of the pedigree and possessions of the powerful family of Breuse, or Braose, and of the

<sup>1</sup> These miscellaneous memoranda are well worthy of publication ; they would probably throw some new gleams of light upon the history of South Wales, of which this period requires all the enlightenment that can be brought to bear on it.





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The burial-places of the celebrated saints in England have frequently formed the subject of early and mediæval tracts. There is an interesting tract of this nature in the Waltham Abbey manuscript in the British Museum, Harley, 3,776, with which this may be compared.



## CHAPTER V.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ARUNDEL AND COTTONIAN  
MANUSCRIPTS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.*THE ARUNDEL MS.*

THE Arundel Domesday Manuscript in the British Museum, Manuscript Department, follows, in order of classification, after the *Abbreviatio* and the *Breviate*. Like these, this copy is abbreviated, but not in the same way. It is a folio volume (No. 153), of the beginning of the twelfth century, consisting of eighty-five leaves of vellum, nicely written in an elegant style of native handwriting. It contains the returns for only twenty-four counties, and is otherwise imperfect, the abbreviation consisting in the main of the omission of notices of payments due to the king. But it has great value as an ancient text, and should be carefully collated with the Exchequer Domesday in any future edition of that book. It has never been printed. The order of the counties here is the same as that of the *Breviate*, but the following counties are wanting :—

Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Hampshire, Berkshire, Derbyshire : and after Rutlandshire follows only the *Civitas et Comitatus Eboraci*. A leaf is wanting between folios 47 and 48, and another between folios 77 and



78. The illustrious editor, Gale, has written some memoranda concerning the survey at the beginning of the volume. He considers the manuscript is a copy of the *Abbreviatio*, or abridged Domesday Book of the Exchequer. This Arundel Manuscript formerly belonged to the Cistercian Abbey of Margam in Glamorganshire, a monastery which has, by its enforced dissolution, unwillingly contributed many other valuable historical manuscripts and charters to our national collections in the Museum. It is curious to remember that the *Breviate*, as is mentioned in the account of that book, also comes apparently from the southern part of Wales. A parallel edition of the texts of the *Abbreviatio*, *Breviate*, and this Manuscript would be a valuable appendix to the Record Commission Edition of the Domesday Book.

### *THE COTTONIAN MS.*

There is a very nicely-written, and nearly contemporary, abridged copy of the Domesday Survey of the County of Kent in the British Museum, Cottonian MS., Vitellius C. VIII., folios 143–156. The volume contains, as well, a number of miscellaneous historical and literary pieces, bound up in the same covers, but having little or no connexion with one another. It was exhibited to the members of the Domesday Commemoration, and has been described in the *Journal*<sup>1</sup> of the British Archæological Association.

<sup>1</sup> Vol. xli. p. 259.



This small and handy roll was probably carried about in the pocket of an early possessor, for it is much worn at the beginning, and has a few deficiencies. At first it was in form of a roll, but when it passed into the hands of the collector of the Cottonian Library it was cut up into leaves or pages, and is now inlaid into fourteen leaves, of which the second page or *verso* in each leaf is blank, as would naturally be the case with a roll. The handwriting appears to be of the early part of the twelfth century, and not very unlike the small neat hand of the scribes who wrote the Exchequer Domesday. The text agrees pretty closely with that of the Domesday Book, but is deserving hereafter of a careful collation, if ever the Domesday Book is published with variorum notes.

Of the late paper copies, manuscript extracts, and fragmentary portions of Domesday, which occur in manuscripts such as chartularies, registers, and cowcher books of religious houses, it is not necessary here to say anything; but there are several unpublished documents of the highest importance in connexion with the Domesday Book, and contemporary with its era, among the manuscripts in the British Museum. This is rendered abundantly evident from the fact that within a very short time an original record has been found of the famous Plea or Lawsuit which was tried at Penenden Heath in Kent, wherein is given a summary of the evidence taken in the year 1072, referred to in the Domesday Book, concerning the lands reclaimed from Odo, the powerful bishop of Bayeux, by Lanfranc, Archbishop of Canterbury, on behalf of his see and of the monasteries of St. Augustine



and Christchurch. The early chronicler, Eadmer of Canterbury, and other historians, down to and including the Rev. Mr. L. B. Larking,<sup>1</sup> the latest expounder of Kentish Domesday history, have given notices of this great suit, which also attracted the attention of Spelman and Wilkins; and William of Malmesbury<sup>2</sup> points out the beneficial effects of the decision arrived at on that occasion upon the English Church. But to one and all of these writers this document, now preserved among the Cottonian Manuscripts in the British Museum, was unknown. The text, and some further remarks on this relic, will be found in a subsequent chapter<sup>3</sup> which deals with the historical points illustrated by the Domesday Book. Other similar documents doubtless will hereafter come to light to reward patient searches now that public attention has been so strongly directed to the Domesday Book, and these records, when recovered and arranged in proper order, will form new and peculiarly valuable illustrations of the Domesday in the hands of future editors.

<sup>1</sup> “The Domesday Book of Kent” (a facsimile), with translation, notes, and appendix. London, 1869, folio.

<sup>2</sup> “Gesta Pontificum” (Roll’s series), p. 70.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 293.



## CHAPTER VI.

DESCRIPTION OF THE “INQUEST OF THE COUNTY OF CAMBRIDGE,” OR THE “INQUISITIO COMITATUS CANTABRIGIENSIS,” IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

FIRST among the few manuscripts which belong to the class of pre-Domesday surveys, we must take cognizance of the “Inquisitio Comitatus Cantabrigiensis,” or “Inquest of the County of Cambridge,” which was published by Mr. N. E. S. A. Hamilton, of the British Museum, in the year 1876, and under the auspices of the Royal Society of Literature, who generously found the means for defraying the cost of its publication. This is the original return made by the *juratores*, or *sworn surveyors*, of the county of Cambridge, in obedience to the king’s mandate, from which the Exchequer Domesday Book for that county was afterwards compiled by the royal secretaries. It is much to be regretted, as Hamilton states, that the only manuscript<sup>1</sup> (British Museum, Cotton. MS. Tiberius, A. vi.) in which this important document is known to exist, has been injured by time and neglect, and, above all, has lost several

<sup>1</sup> Exhibited in the King’s Library on the occasion of the Domesday Commemoration.



of its leaves. The return is consequently defective at its end. The greater part, however, has fortunately come down to us, and the text, printed by the above-mentioned editor with great care, for the first time, and in parallel columns with the corresponding entries extracted from the Exchequer Domesday Book, contains abundant evidence that we have in this very precious Cottonian MS. *the original source* from which the Exchequer Domesday of Cambridgeshire was compiled. "It is singular," writes Hamilton, "that so important a document should have been extant only in a solitary manuscript unpublished, and exposed in consequence to many risks of being lost or destroyed. Doubtless, numerous historical and literary treasures still exist among our ancient manuscripts which are unknown to students and antiquaries. But in regard to this particular manuscript, the strange part is, that from the days of Selden to those of Ellis—that is, for a period of about two hundred and fifty years—its existence had been known, and its importance as elucidating Domesday history understood, and in part, at least, acknowledged." Even the indefatigable Sir Thomas Duffus Hardy, late deputy-keeper of the public records, has omitted all notice of this manuscript from his account of the Exchequer Domesday Book, the "Inquisitio Eliensis," and the Exon Domesday Book which will be presently described, in his "Descriptive Catalogue of Manuscripts Relating to the History of Great Britain and Ireland," Vol. II. Thus Mr. Hamilton, although by no means pretending to have discovered this important fragment, was the





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who collected useful materials for a bibliography of the "Domesday Book," in 1756, and R. Kelham<sup>1</sup> in 1788, all well known and conscientious writers on the Domesday Book, appear to have been strangely ignorant of the true and important nature of this manuscript. Even the illustrious author and antiquary, Sir Henry Ellis, whose indispensable "Introduction to Domesday Book," in two volumes, 8vo, 1833 (now ripe for revision and republication, notwithstanding the unwillingness of Canon Isaac Taylor to accept some portions of it), and folio edition of "Indices" and "Additamenta," 1816, forming Vols. III. and IV. of the Record Commissioners' edition of Exchequer Domesday Book, connect his name for ever with the great survey, simply prints, incredible as it may seem, that portion of the Cottonian Manuscript which relates to the monastic lands of Ely, and omits, without even reference or mention, the more valuable portion, which Mr. Hamilton detected and first gave to the world. Even among modern and more critically-disposed writers, Mr. Stuart A. Moore,<sup>2</sup> who has worked at the Domesday Book of Northamptonshire, has failed to distinguish these differences.

private hands. Webb was also the author of "A Short Account of Danegeld, with some further particulars relating to William the Conqueror's Survey," 1756.

<sup>1</sup> "Domesday Book, illustrated, containing an account of that ancient record, as also of the tenants in capite or serjeantry therein mentioned; and a translation of the difficult passages, with occasional notes." By R. Kelham. London, 1788, 8vo.

<sup>2</sup> In *Athenæum*, 25th April, 1885.



The manuscript from which Hamilton's text is taken, and which, so far as is still known, is the only remaining exemplar, is numbered Tiberius A. VI., among the Cottonian Manuscripts in the British Museum. Its contents are:—1. An early copy of the “Anglo-Saxon Chronicle” down to the year 977. 2. A memorandum, entitled “De portione crucis reperta a Sergio Papa,” etc., “Notice of a portion of the Cross found by Pope Sergius.” 3. “Names of the Popes who sent the pall to the Archbishops of Canterbury, from Augustine to Anselm.” 4. The “Inquisitio Eliensis.” 5. The “Inquisitio Comitatus Cantabrigiensis,” which forms the subject of these present remarks. 6. A valuable collection of copies of charters and early documents relating to the monastery at Ely, and a later chronicle of England from the reign of Hardacnut to the twentieth year of King Edward III., A.D. 1346, written in French. This “Inquest of the County of Cambridge” is contained between folios 76 and 113, one leaf being lost between folios 111 and 112. It is written on vellum, in double columns, about thirty-one lines to a page, and in a fine bold book-hand of the concluding years of the twelfth century, about the year 1180. Its pages are embellished with elegant capital letters in blue and red colours, and some of the initials have been occasionally ornamented with the incipient floriation which is a characteristic of the manuscripts of that period. The “Ely Inquest,” or “Inquisitio Eliensis,” is in the same manuscript and in the same handwriting, but it has been placed before the “Inquest of the County of Cambridge,”



and thus out of its true chronological order, by those who arranged the MS. for binding, probably when it first passed into the possession of the noble founder of the Cottonian Library. This now occupies folios 38–70 of the manuscript volume.

This “Inquest” is indispensable for the study of the Cambridgeshire Domesday, and its publication constitutes, as Hamilton truly states, a real contribution to historical knowledge. He gives numerous examples, showing how far the facts recorded in the Domesday Book at the Exchequer have been therein abridged or extended, sometimes imperfectly, from the original return.

We may here conveniently give a few examples from the parallel columns of the book, to explain the value of the “Inquest” more clearly:—

[STAPLEHOM HUNDRED.]

*MS. Cotton. Tiberius A. VI.*  
cf. 79.

*Domesday Book, vol. I.,*  
p. 195a, col. 2.

“In hoc hundr. Enisam musardus ī caueleio de comite alano unam .h. 7 dimi. 7 .xx. aċ tenet .III.<sup>b</sup> .c. ibi ē. f̃ra .7. II. c. ibi. sūt in dominio .I. uillan<sup>9</sup> .IIII. bor. unus, ser. Silua .XII. por. Pastura ad pecuñ. uille .LX. O. .III. min<sup>9</sup> .XL. por. un<sup>9</sup> runc<sup>9</sup>. In<sup>9</sup> totum ua<sup>9</sup> .XL. so<sup>9</sup>. 7 qñ rece<sup>9</sup> .XL. so<sup>9</sup>. T.R.E. .XL. so<sup>9</sup>. Hanc f̃ram tenuit herulf<sup>9</sup> homo ædiue pulcre, potuit dare & uen<sup>9</sup>de cui voluit.”<sup>1</sup>

“In Chauelai teñ Enisant de com̃. I. hid<sup>9</sup> 7 di<sup>9</sup>m̃. 7 xx. ac<sup>a</sup>s. f̃ra. ē .III. ca<sup>9</sup>r̃. 7 ibi sunt in dñio .II. 7 .IIII. bord<sup>9</sup> cū .I. ca<sup>9</sup>r̃. Ibi .I. seru<sup>9</sup>. Silua .XII. por<sup>9</sup>c̃. Pa<sup>9</sup>ſta ad pe<sup>9</sup>c̃ uillæ. Va<sup>9</sup>ſ 7 ualuit sēp .XL. so<sup>9</sup>. Hanc f̃trā tenuit Herulf<sup>9</sup> hō Eddeue, dare 7 uen<sup>9</sup>de potuit.”

<sup>1</sup> Hamilton, p. II.



It will be seen that the Domesday Book in this passage leaves out the interesting names and the quantities of sheep, pigs, and the horse (*runcinus*). Throughout the manuscript, names, appellations, and quasi-surnames are frequently found, which have been omitted by the compilers of the Exchequer Domesday Book, either for the sake of brevity, or because they were indifferent to recording them, not having been enjoined to do so.

The following shows that the vaguely-mentioned six *sochemanni*, and one of them a *homo regis*, of the Exchequer Domesday Book, were entered in the original return as belonging to their respective lords, the Queen Ediva “the fair,” Archbishop Stigand, Robert filius Wimarci, King Edward the Confessor, and Earl Algar. The curious error in the Domesday value T.R.E., viz., I. for L, is also worthy of notice.

p. 126 *infra*  
[WERLEIA, or WEDERLAI HUNDRED.]

*Ib.*, fol. 108 a.

“In h·hundr Oreuella. p IIII.  
h· se de . t.r.e. 7 m<sup>o</sup>. Et de his  
.IIII. h· tenet comes Rog. unam . h  
. 7 . i . uir . 7 ꝥciam partem unius  
uirge .i. car̃ . 7 diṃ . ē ibi ꝥra.  
Dimiḏ . c̃ . 7 dimidia . h· in domi-  
nio .I. car̃ . uillanis .II. uillani .III.  
bor . q̃sq̃ de .v. ac̃s . unusser . Pra-  
tum .I. car̃ Silua ad sepes refici .  
In ꝥ totum uaḏ .xx. soḏ . 7 qñ receḑ  
xxx. soḏ . t.r.e. l . soḏ . Hanc .  
ꝥ . tenerunt .vi. sochemanni . 7  
. II<sup>o</sup>. istorum fueṛt homines ediue.

*Ib.*, p. 193 b.

“In Orduelle teñ . R.  
comes .I. hiḏ . 7 I. uirg . 7  
III<sup>cia</sup> . par̃ uni<sup>o</sup> uirg̃ . Tṛa  
. ē . I . caṛ 7 diṃ . In dñio  
diṃ hida 7 ibi diṃ caṛ . 7  
II. uir̃l 7 III. bord̃ cū .I. caṛ .  
Ibi un<sup>o</sup> seruus . 7 p<sup>a</sup>tu .I.  
caṛ . 7 nem<sup>o</sup> ad sepes refici-  
endas . Vaḏ .xx. soḏ . Qḏo  
receḑ ; xxx. soḏ . T.R.E ; I.  
soḏiḏ . Hanc ꝥṛā tēuer̃ .vi.  
sōchi . 7 dare 7 uende ꝥṛā  
suā potueṛ . Vn<sup>o</sup> eoḗ hō



Habuerunt .II. partes uirge. Et .III. soche . homo stigandi archiepi . Habuit unā uir . 7 III<sup>a</sup>. par . unius uirge. Et IIII<sup>o</sup>; homo Robti filii Wimarci . tenuit .I. uir 7 fciā par . uni<sup>o</sup> uirge . Et q'n<sup>o</sup> homo . r.e. tenuit .II. partes uni<sup>o</sup> uirge . 7 unam inuuardum inuenit iste. Et .VI. homo comitis algari tenuit unam uir . 7 fciā par . unius uirge . Et oīs isti potueūt recede . Tres istorum sochemannoꝝ pdictorū acomodauit picotus uicecom̃ Rogerio com̃. pp̃t placita sua tenenda - Post occupauerunt seruientes euis ita . atq; retinuerunt eos sine libatore cum f̃ris suis q<sup>o</sup>d rex inde nich habuit.<sup>1</sup> neq; habet . sicut ipe picot<sup>o</sup> testatur.”<sup>1</sup>

regis. E. fuit . 7 inuuardū inuenit uicecomiti.”

“Tres istoꝝ sochoꝝ accomodauit picot<sup>o</sup> Rogerio comiti . pp̃t placita sua tenenda . sꝫ postea occupauer̃ eos hōēs comitis 7 retinuer̃ cū f̃ris suis ; sine libatore. 7 rex inde seruitiū n̄ habuit nec h̃ . sic ipse uicecomes dicit.”

In this extract the concluding paragraph is a good example of the reduction of words and conversion of phrases employed by the drafters of the final form of the survey, as seen in the Exchequer Domesday Book.

In the spelling of the names of persons and places there is a remarkable difference between the Inquest of the County of Cambridge and the Exchequer Domesday Book of the same county. This is shown more at length in the following list. The reference

<sup>1</sup> Hamilton, p. 77.



numbers correspond with the pages of Hamilton's edition :—

INQUISITION OF THE COUNTY  
OF CAMBRIDGE.

EXCHEQUER DOMESDAY  
BOOK.

Abbericus, 15, 16.  
Achillus, 74, 79.  
Ædiua, 2, 4, &c. ; Eadiua, 14;  
Ediua, 27, 34, 37, &c.  
Aibricus, 16.  
Aldredus, 73.  
Algarus, 59.  
Algarus Cappe, 88.  
Almarus, 32.  
Alsi squitrebil, 41.  
Alstanus, 7.  
Aluredus, 55.  
Aluricus Campe, 39, 43.  
Aluricus Cemp, 37.  
Anschillus, 57.  
Ascelina, 53.  
Bondus, 47.  
Brient, 35.  
Colsuenus, 63, 67 ; Colsueinus, 63.  
Edricus, 37.  
Enisam Musardus, 11.  
Erchingarus, 87.  
Esgarus Stalrus, 26, 72.  
Ethsi, 75.  
Euerardus, 9, 10.  
Fredebertus, 46.  
Fulco, 83 ; Fulcuinus, 82.  
Galfridus, 8.  
Galterus, 14.  
Gaufridus, 5, 13, &c.  
Gerardus, 39.

Albericus.  
Achi.  
Eddeua : Æideua.  
  
Abricus.  
Eldredus.  
Algar.  
Cabe.  
Elmarus.  
Alsi.  
Adestanus.  
Alueradus.  
Aluric.  
Aluric.  
Anschil.  
Azelina.  
Bundi.  
Brien.  
Colsuan.  
Edericus.  
Enisant.  
Erchenger.  
Asgarus.  
Ezi.  
Eurardus.  
Fridebertus.  
Fulcuius.  
Gaufridus.  
Walterus.  
Goisfridus.  
Girardus.



Godlamb, 51, 71.	Gollam, Gollan.
Godwinus Wambestiang, 54.	Goduin.
Gold, 93.	Goldus.
Gurd, 55, 58 ; Gurdus, 48, 37.	Guerd, Guert.
Halardus, 48.	Heraldus.
Haraldus, 22, 19 ; Haroldus, 11.	Haroldus, Heraldus.
Horulfus, 50.	Orulfus.
Hugo de Bolebec, 12, 14.	Hugo.
Hugo Pedeuolt, 66, 77.	Hugo.
Hugo Pincerna, 60.	Hugo.
Lefsi, 29.	Lepsi.
Leoffled, 25.	Leflet.
Leshusa, 83.	Leuene.
Limarus, 30.	Ledmarus.
Nicholaus, 1.	Nicol.
Oto, 59.	Otho.
Picotus, 1, 36, &c.	Picot, Pirotus.
Sania, 62.	Sagena.
Segarus, 25 ; Sigarus, 44.	Sigar.
Snellingus, 38.	Snellinc.
Thobillus, 1.	Tochil.
Thocus, 22, 24.	Tochi.
Thurgarus, 22.	Turgar.
Tochillus, 50 ; Tokillus, 32.	Tochi.
Turbertus, 78.	Turburnus.
Turbertus, 86.	Turbertus Goding's.
Turkillus, 53.	Torchil.
Vlfus, 42 ; Vlfus fenesce, 90.	Vlf.
Unfridus, 56.	Hunfridus.
Waldeus, 58 ; Walleus, 51.	Wallef.
Walleus, 83.	Walleter.
Wichomarus, 21 ; Wihemarus, 22.	Wihomarc.
Wigonus de Mara, 10.	Wighen.
Withgari, 23.	Wigar.

This list shows caprice and inattention which is not easily to be explained. All the variations are of





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the foreign scribe of the Exchequer MS., who depended, evidently to some measurable extent, upon his own peculiar phonetic differentiation. It would almost seem as if he had written from dictation, and not from actual inspection of the material which he was condensing. This phonetic factor seriously interferes in many instances with the true etymology of place-names ; and this to so great an extent that we cannot accept Domesday forms of names of places as evidence of the ancient form of the words ; unless they are supported by other contemporary examples of use.



## CHAPTER VII.

DESCRIPTION OF THE “EXETER BOOK” OR “EXON  
DOMESDAY,” IN POSSESSION OF THE DEAN AND  
CHAPTER OF EXETER.

THIS magnificent manuscript, which approaches very nearly to the Domesday Book itself in the palæography which its pages exhibit, and which, next to the Domesday Book, is the most comprehensive of all the supplementary records, is called the “Exon Domesday,” because it is preserved among the muniments, charters, and other manuscripts belonging to the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral. It was exhibited by their permission in the King’s Library at the British Museum, during the recent Domesday Commemoration, and the peculiarly free, bold, Italian character of the handwriting, shows a considerable resemblance to the writing of the Domesday Book in the Exchequer. Sir Henry Ellis, who printed the whole text as an appendix to the Domesday Book, has given<sup>1</sup> a very exhaustive notice of this manuscript, and evidently examined it with the greatest attention. It has also formed the subject of much careful investigation at the hands of the late

<sup>1</sup> Introduction to vol. iv. *Liber Censualis* (Record Commission).



Rev. Robert W. Eyton, M.A., Rector of Ryton, Salop, one of the most profound Domesday scholars of this century. In the main body, the manuscript presents a survey of the five south-western counties of Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, Somersetshire, Devonshire, and Cornwall. It is supposed to contain, so far as it extends, an exact transcript of the *original returns* made by the commissioners at the time of preparing the general survey, from which the Exchequer Domesday itself was afterwards digested and compiled. It is curious that the arrangement of the counties in Domesday Book appears to be significant. The finished work begins at the south-eastern corner of England, and works along towards the south-western corner, in a line of what may be termed the south coast counties. Thus we have 1, Kent ; 2, Sussex ; 3, Surrey ; 4, Hampshire ; 5, Berkshire. These five counties, we may fairly surmise, had a book resembling, in some general characteristics, the Exon Domesday, which represented their group. The next five counties follow in the order which they exhibit as above in this Exeter manuscript. The Exchequer Domesday arrangement then goes back to the east and commences a fresh belt or zone, beginning with Middlesex and Hertfordshire, and embracing seven counties as it runs along the map to Herefordshire on the west. The remaining counties carry on the system of arrangement as will be shown in the list of counties mentioned further on in the chapter devoted to the history and description of the Domesday Book.

The Exon Domesday is a vellum manuscript of



small folio size, and contains five hundred and thirty-two folio leaves or double pages. The skins of which it is composed vary in the number of leaves from one to twenty. The landed property of each of the more considerable tenants begins a new sheet, and those of almost every tenant a new page. Ellis finds that the lands held by the same tenant in the three most westerly counties of these five are grouped together, the counties following each other generally, but not always in the same order. In like manner the summaries of landed property in the two contiguous counties of Wilts and Dorset are classed together.

As in the Exchequer Domesday Book, and indeed in most manuscripts of any great dimensions of a character such as the Domesday, so also in this instance, different transcribers have evidently been employed in the execution of the different parts of which it consists. Ellis found a proof of this in the mode of writing the marks and abbreviations, and more particularly in the contraction used for *et*, which distinguishes two, if not three, hands in a remarkable manner. There is, also, occasional evidence in the manuscript itself that different persons were at work on the copying. For example, at the bottom of folio 316 are the words *hoc scripsit Ricardus*; in folio 414 an interpolation into the text, of the words *usque huc scripsit R.* The handwriting and the colour of the ink on folios 153 *b*, and 436 *b*, are different from the rest of the manuscript. Three leaves which contain entries relating to Wiltshire hundreds are written upon vellum of a much smaller size than the other leaves of the work, and in



a handwriting proportionately smaller. When the text of the Exon Domesday was so opportunely printed by Ellis in 1816, folio 347 was missing, and there was little expectation of ever recovering the leaf which had evidently been cut out of the book. The recovery of it is due to Mr. W. C. Trevelyan, who, on the occasion of arranging some ancient documents among the archives belonging to his grandfather, Sir John Trevelyan, Baronet, fortunately came upon the missing leaf,<sup>1</sup> and promptly transmitted it to Mr. R. Barnes, Chapter Clerk of Exeter, who thus was as fortunately as unexpectedly enabled to restore it to its proper place in the manuscript. From circumstances (communicated at the time by Mr. Trevelyan), which attended the discovery, there is reason to believe that the leaf had been in possession of his family at least as far back as the year 1656, but no reason is assigned for the removal of the leaf in the first instance.

The sheets or quires of which the Exon Domesday Book consists were bound up in two volumes, about the end of the fourteenth or beginning of the fifteenth century and numbered, but apparently without any particular system of arrangement, and in so careless a manner, we are told, that the leaves containing the description of lands of the same tenants were frequently placed in different parts of the work. This defect was, however, remedied before the printing of the Record Commission edition, by Ellis, by separating the quires, and re-arranging the contents in the order as they are now printed, follow-

<sup>1</sup> Record Edition, p. 327\*.



ing, as near as the matter would permit, the plan of the Exchequer Domesday Book, and the whole was re-bound in one volume, as it now stands.

From the exhaustive description to which we have referred, many important facts may be gathered. The contents include no less than three copies of the "Inquisitio Geldi, or Taxation of the Hundreds for the Danegeld," a tax originally instituted with a view of buying off the Danes, and not, as Kelham<sup>1</sup> declares, to defray the expenses the king had been at in compiling the survey. This idea is sufficiently refuted by the amount which the tax produced, any one county yielding more than sufficient to meet the entire costs of the survey. Yet it is clear that the tax was raised at the time of the survey, and connected with it, and that, at least in these five counties of the south-west, it was collected by the same commissioners.

Of the three copies of this taxation, the last two exhibit occasional variations in substance, in mode of expression, in the names, and order of the hundreds. The second copy, which we may call B, contains nearly all the matter of the first, or A, with some marginal or interlinear additions. These additions are incorporated into the text of the third, or C copy, which in this respect appears to be a corrected edition of the other two. The subjoined is a specimen of this part of the work, the parts in square brackets being additions :—

<sup>1</sup> "Domesday Book Illustrated," p. 6.



A, fol. 1.

In uht calne st̃ .xx. & .xi.  
hið. Iðe h̃ rex de t̃ra Eddide g-  
ine .i. bru'hā .xx. h̃. i' ñdo Edu-  
uard⁹ uic̃ .v. h̃. Abb'a t̃de  
.i. h̃. Ricard⁹ puignant .ii. h̃. &  
ð. Iðe de ispania .iii. h̃. &  
ð. & .i. u'g'. Iðe Edricii .i. hið. &  
.i. u'g'. Gunfrid⁹ m̃doct⁹ . ii.  
h̃. & .vii. agros Nigellus .i. h̃.  
& p .l. hið. & .iii u'g' & .iii. agris  
ædi e s't regi .xv. lib. & .v. soʃ. In  
uht b̃a iðe s̃t regi l̃wæ  
ocsi ei⁹ p .iii. hið. & ð qe adia-  
ent uht calne .xxi. soʃ.

B, fol. 7 b.

In i uhts de ðæe st̃ . i .xx.  
et .i. hið de his h̃t Rex de t̃ra  
regine æit .x. hið i' dñio. [Barones  
xxi. hið et dið, et. das p̃rt .i.  
uirtg] Eduuard⁹ uic̃ .v. h̃. Abba-  
tissa de Ma .i. hið  
. i p̃t .ii. hið et dim. Iðe  
de ispania .iii. hið et dim et .i.  
uirtga. x̃or Edrici .i. hið et .i.  
uirtga. Gunfrid⁹ m̃doct⁹ .ii.  
hið. et .vi m̃s. Nigell⁹ pbr .i.  
hið. t̃p .l. ið. h̃. i .iii.  
æis st̃ æditæ t̃i .xv. lib et .v.  
soʃ. [& p .x. h̃. de t̃ra heraldi  
was uillani regis tenent ñ h̃t rex  
ghildu'.]² in hundreto de b̃a re-  
ept col l̃wes geldi .xxi. soʃ.  
p .iii. hidiset dið. De h̃do de  
calna q⁹s i m̃rt.

C, fol. 13.

In uht de l̃wæ st̃. i .xxi.  
h̃. De his h̃t Barones i' ñdo  
.xxvi. hið et dið et .ii. partes .i.  
gæ. Inde h̃t æ de t̃ra reginæ  
Edit .x. hið i' ñdo . Edward⁹  
uic̃ .v. hið. Aa de Wilt na .i.  
hið. Ricard⁹ apt .ii. hið et  
dið. Iðe de ispania .iii. hið  
et .iii. uirtg' Vxor Iðe. hið et .i.  
uirtg'. Gunfrid⁹ m̃de d⁹ .ii. hið  
et .ii. partes .i. gæ. Nigell⁹ pbr  
.i. h̃. Et p .l. hið et .iii. uirtgis  
et t̃tia parte .i. uirtge æditæ st̃  
regi .xv. lib et .v. soʃ. De .x. hið  
q⁹s æt uill . egis de tra r̃hdi  
ñ h̃t æ geldv'. Iðes geldi  
de b̃a ept i' bc i uht  
geldv .iii. hidarv' et dið. et hoc  
retinuē.

¹Interleaved. ²On margin.





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volume, indicates the order in which the contents were arranged at the time of making :—

“Dominicatus S.<sup>1</sup> Regis.

Terræ Reginæ Mathildis.<sup>2</sup>

Terra Boloniensis comitissæ.<sup>3</sup>

Hugonis Comit̃is.<sup>4</sup>

Comitis de Moritonio.<sup>5</sup>

Terræ æcclesiarum in Cornubia.

Terræ episcopi Constantiensis.

Terræ Osmundi<sup>6</sup> episcopi. In Sommerseta.

Terra Abbatissæ Sancti Eduuardi.<sup>7</sup> In Sommerseta.

Terra Gisonis<sup>8</sup> episcopi.

Terra Walchelini<sup>9</sup> episcopi. In Sommerseta.

Terra Exoniensis episcopi.

Inquisitio Gheldi. In Deuenesira.

In Cornubia. In Sommerseta.

In Dorseta.

Terræ elemosinarum. In Deuenesira . et Sommerseta.

Terra Abbatis Hortonensis.

Terræ Cerneliensis Abbat̃iæ.

<sup>1</sup> ? Scilicet.

<sup>2</sup> Maud, wife of King William I.

<sup>3</sup> Ida, the wife of Eustace, E. of Bologne, who died about A.D. 1080.

<sup>4</sup> Hugh E. of Chester, A.D. 1070—1101.

<sup>5</sup> ? Robert, E, of Moretaine, in Normandy, half-brother of William I.

<sup>6</sup> Osmund, Bishop of Salisbury, A.D. 1078—1099.

<sup>7</sup> Shaftesbury, Dorset.

<sup>8</sup> Giso, Bishop of Wells, A.D. 1061—1088.

<sup>9</sup> Walcheline, Bishop of Winchester, A.D. 1070—1098.



Terræ Mideltonensis Abbatia.

Terræ Abbodesberiensis Abbatia.

Adeliniensis<sup>1</sup> Abbatia. In Dorseta. et Somerseta.

Terra Abbatia de Bada.<sup>2</sup>

Tauestochensis<sup>3</sup> Abbatia.

Bulfestrensis<sup>4</sup> Abbatia.

Glastiniensis<sup>5</sup> Abbatia.

Micheleniensis<sup>6</sup> Abbatia.

Among the interesting peculiarities of this text must be noticed the frequent mention of the money which was retained by the collectors (*Collectores*, or *Congregatores*) in Wiltshire for their own use. These sums vary in amount; such as, for example, ten shillings, "twopence less than twelve shillings," fourpence, etc., but the scale upon which the remuneration was calculated is not recorded. In the Dorsetshire inquest these officers are mentioned three times, twice in cases of overcharge, and once as improperly retaining the proceeds of the tax, as much as forty pounds out of a total county result of £415. 8s. 9½d. In Devonshire, the money which the collectors retained or received for emolument is more systematically noticed. Here the collectors, styled *Fegadri*, or *Hundremanni*, seem, in twenty-four out of thirty-one hundreds, to have retained by custom the tax of one hide respectively to their own use. At the end of the Devonshire Inquest, the names of the

<sup>1</sup> Athelney, Somers.

<sup>2</sup> Bath, Somers.

<sup>3</sup> Tavistock, Dev.

<sup>4</sup> ? Buckfastleigh, or Bucfestre, Dev.

<sup>5</sup> Glastonbury, Somers.

<sup>6</sup> Muchelney, Somers.



persons who transmitted the sums which the tax realised to the royal treasury at Winchester are mentioned. They were William Hostius and Ralph de Pomario. In Cornwall, on the other hand, there is no mention of the tax-collectors; and in Somersetshire two entries relate to these officers.

The Gheld inquest for Somersetshire is of interest for the details which it contains respecting the expenses of collecting and transporting the total sum of £509: viz., 40s. for the carriers; 9s. 8d. for hire of animals, the writer, mending the bags, and wax; 51s. 3d. not accounted for by the carriers.

At the end of the account, says Ellis, is an abstract of the landed property of the powerful Benedictine abbey of Glastonbury in the four counties of Wilts, Dorset, Devon, and Somerset; a summary of the property of St. Petrock's Abbey, in the county of Cornwall; an enumeration of the lands of Ralph de Mortuo-mari and Milo Crispin, in Wilts; a twice-repeated account of the lands of Robert filius Giroldi, in Wilts, Dorset, and Somerset; and the Norman Earl of Moretaine's land in Wilts, Dorset, Devon, and Cornwall.

It is satisfactory for the accuracy of this manuscript to notice that, upon collation of the returns of the lands which form the great bulk of the Exon survey with the corresponding entries in the Exchequer Domesday Book, Ellis found that, with a few trifling variations, they coincided. He found, indeed, one entry only in the Exon manuscript which has been omitted in the Exchequer Book; this relates to the manor of Sotrebroc in Devonshire. The Exeter



book; however, does not prove to be complete in its contents; only one manor in Wiltshire, a very imperfect series of manors in Dorsetshire, one omission in Somersetshire, numerous omissions in Devonshire, are pointed out by that indefatigable scholar. In Cornwall, however, every manor mentioned in the Exchequer Domesday Book finds a corresponding entry in the Exon Domesday.

The names of the tenants in the time of King Edward the Confessor are far more frequently preserved in the Exon than in the Domesday Book. But, in the systematic arrangement of the subjects, the Exchequer Book indicates a decided preference over the Domesday Book of Exeter which gives many proofs of its being the original from which the former was compiled.

Two remarkable features of the manuscript still remain to be described. They are the live stock and the names. The Exon Book uniformly supplies us with additional knowledge to that given in the Exchequer Book. In this respect it resembles the "Inquest of the County of Cambridge," described already in another part of the work. Thus both the Exon and the Cambridge County Domesdays bear independent testimony as to the proper interpretation to be placed on the statement (in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, but not in any other copy of the Chronicle), that there was not "an ox, nor a cow, nor a swine" left that was not "set down in his writing."<sup>1</sup> This was only true

<sup>1</sup> "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle," A.D. 1085.



of the manors, but incorrect of the property of the peasantry, with whom, of course, the king had no immediate concern, they being directly responsible only to their superior lords. The Exon manuscript, then, enumerates the live stock upon every estate. An account is rendered, more or less accurately, of the number of oxen, sheep, goats, horses, and pigs, exactly in the same manner as it is given in the second volume of the Exchequer Domesday, which contains only the surveys of the three important and extensive counties of Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk. The reason for omitting this enumeration in the shortened entries of the first volume of the Exchequer Domesday Book is considered by Ellis to be, that the live stock was constantly liable to fluctuation day by day and year by year, and, therefore, an enumeration would be practically useless very soon after the time when the survey was made. Incidentally, these facts tend to show that the surveys of the three eastern counties above mentioned (which show also a marked variation in diction from that of the first volume) were transcribed *in full* from the original returns, and thus the second volume of the Exchequer Domesday represents the unabridged condition of the first state of the commissioners' work.

Ellis, with that accustomed indefatigable spirit which characterises his works, has tabulated a series of variant synonymous expressions in the Exon and Exchequer Domesdays, of which the following are the most important :—



## EXON DOMESDAY BOOK.

Agra.  
 Gablatores.  
 Sacerdotes.  
 reddidit Gildum.  
 Leuga.  
 Mansio.  
 Molinus.  
 Denarii.  
 Pascua.  
 Nemusculum.  
 Die qua rex Edwardus  
   fuit vivus et mortuus.  
 Tagnus.  
 Dominicatus Regis.

## EXCHEQUER DOMESDAY BOOK.

Acra.  
 Censores.  
 Clerici.  
 geldabat.  
 Leuca.  
 Manerium.  
 Molendinum.  
 Nummi.  
 Pastura.  
 Sylva.  
 T. R. E. (tempore regis  
   Edwardi).  
 Tainus.  
 Terra Regis.

The second important peculiarity of the Exon Domesday is in the spelling of the proper names of persons and places. Such, for example, are :—

## EXON DOMESDAY BOOK.

Ulwardus Wite.  
 Abbas de Prelio.  
 Abbas de Alienna.  
 Adret.  
 Bristecus.  
 Willielmus Capra.

*Persons.*

Vlwardus Albus.  
 Abbas de Labatailge.  
 Abbatia de Adelingi.  
 Eldred, Edred.  
 Brictric.  
 Willielmus Chievre.

*Places.*

Rilchetona.  
 Pillanda.<sup>1</sup>  
 Pediccheswella.  
 Illebera.  
 Padenab'ia.  
 Gluina<sup>u</sup>uit.

Chilchetone.  
 Welland.<sup>1</sup>  
 Wedicheswelle.  
 Lilebere.  
 Wadeneberie.  
 Clunewic.

<sup>1</sup> This and the following word are examples of the confusion of the Anglo Saxon þ and P, by scribes.



EXON DOMESDAY BOOK.

EXCHEQUER DOMESDAY BOOK.

*Places.*

Dueltona.

Oveltone.

Lidefort.

Tideford.

Wirlbesliga.

Wasberlege.

In the last folio of the Exon Domesday Book are titles of lands similar to those which in most of the counties in the Exchequer Domesday Book precede the text of the Survey.





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The term *Domesday* has been of some difficulty in respect of its signification.<sup>1</sup> The Anglo-Saxon *Domas* were *laws*, or *dooms*, and the *Domboc*<sup>2</sup> of King Alfred was, if it actually existed, a code of laws. It has been already shown that a Survey of the eighth century exists, rude and incomplete as it was. According to Ingulph, Alfred had an Inquisition and Register made at the time of his division<sup>3</sup> of the kingdom into county hundreds and tithings, which was called, from its place of deposit, the “Roll of Winchester.” The term “*Domesday*” may, no doubt, owe something to the *Domboc* for the construction of the name, but we must remember that it bears in its colophon the title of *Descriptio*. I have found<sup>4</sup> among the original charters of William the Conqueror, in possession of the dean and chapter of Westminster, one with a fragmentary seal (No. xxiv. 3), granting to the abbot of St. Peter’s, Westminster, eight hides of the manor of Piriford, in the Crown demesne of the Forest of Windsor, free from *scot*, and *custom*, and the “*census pecuniæ, quæ geld vocatur anglice*,” attested by William, bishop of Durham (A.D. 1086–1096), “post *descriptionem* totius

<sup>1</sup> The Anglo-Saxon Gospels use the words *domes dæg*, “judgment day,” in Matt. x. 15, xi. 22, 24. C. *dom-dæg*, in the Ecclesiastical Laws of Canute, cap. 25, and in Cædmon, 10412.

<sup>2</sup> *Dom-boc* occurs in the laws of King Æthelstan, cap. 5, and the Ecclesiastic Laws of King Edgar, cap. 9.

<sup>3</sup> But really long anterior to Alfred.

<sup>4</sup> Birch, “Seals of William the Conqueror,” in Trans. Roy. Soc. Literature, vol. x. (new series).



Angliæ.” Other names by which the book appears to have been known are recorded by Ellis, such as :—“Rotulus Wintonie,” or “the Winchester Roll” ; “Scriptura Thesauri Regis,” or the “Writing of the king’s Treasury” ; “Liber de Wintonia,” the “Book of Winchester” ; “Liber Regis,” the “king’s book,” and so on. Some see in the word *Domesday* a metaphorical *Dies Judicii*, or *Judgment Day* ; others, a *liber judiciarius*, or *Book of Judgments*, because it spares no one, as the great day of judgment, and its decision must be final and without controversy.

The term is not, moreover, restricted to this manuscript alone. There were local surveys and records, known in the early mediæval days as the “Domesdays” of Chester, York, Norwich, Ipswich, Evesham ; Winchester, between A.D. 1107 and 1128 ; the “Domesday” of the nuns of Haliwell ; the “Domesday” of Ralph de Diceto, dean of St. Paul’s, otherwise called the Domesday of St. Paul’s, A.D. 1181 ; and the Boldon Book of Survey of the Palatinate of the Bishops of Durham, A.D. 1183.

It has not been ascertained at what period the term “Domesday” was first applied to the survey, which is now universally known by that name. I have, however, found among the manuscripts in the British Museum an early notice of the MS. under that identical designation, and possibly there may be other notices even older than this in which this title is used, but they have escaped the close scrutiny of Ellis and other writers on the Domesday Book. Ellis, indeed, declares that the book was always distinguished by this name.



In the Royal Library of Manuscripts in the British Museum, the folio MS. 6 c. xi. a copy of the *Epistolæ* of St. Jerome, which at one time belonged to Thomas Wolsey, the unfortunate archbishop of Canterbury, as is attested by his signature on the first page, I find a letter written by a certain William de Poterna, or William of Pottern, a village near Devizes, in Wiltshire, to R. (probably Robert), Prior of Bath, sending him an extract from the “*Liber de domesdai*,” relating to Bath. The date of this is about A.D. 1198. Perhaps the writer, following the pernicious practice of his times, had intended to cut the part containing the letter, only five lines, out of the leaf, for vellum was scarce in some places in the twelfth century, and MSS., as we know from many instances, were often mutilated for the sake of blank pieces of vellum for their leaves. If he had done so, he would have mutilated that part of the text of the manuscript which is contained on the other side. It is to this compunction of the writer, who intended to write lower down where the leaf is blank on both sides, but did not cut the letter out when he saw his mistake, that we owe the preservation of this interesting and early specimen of private correspondence.

The text of this letter is worthy of reproduction :—  
 “Kñmo Dño. R. Priori Bañh. Wiłł de Pot<sup>9</sup>na salť.  
 Inueni in libro de domesdai ; qđ villa de Bañh cum  
 estona šolebat geldare cum Sira de Sumersett’ p. x.x.  
 hidis. Sunt 7’ in eadē uilla xl. mesuagia q̃ reddunt p  
 annū. iiij. libř. sunt ibidē vij dom<sup>9</sup> vacue. 7’ vna dom  
 q<sup>a</sup>m quidā int<sup>9</sup>pres tenet p duobz soť. Barones 7’  
 puincie ħnt in ead villa. l. soť. valť.



The passage referred to here by William de Poterne is that which is found on folio 87 a. col. 2 of Domesday Book.

Rex teñ ESTONE. Ibi sť. ii. hidæ. 7 geldþ p una hida. T<sup>9</sup>ra. ē. x. cañ. In dñio. ē. i. cañ. 7 ii. serui. 7 vii. colibti. 7 xiii. uifli. 7 iii. bordþ 7 iii. cotañ cū v. cañ. Ibi. ii. molini reddþ. c. denañ 7. L. ač p<sup>a</sup>ti. 7 ii. leū siluæ minutæ. in lǣ 7 lať. Hæ. ii. hidæ fueñ 7 sť de dñica firma burgi BADE. REX teñ BADE. T. R. E. geldþ p xx. hidþ. qdo scira geldþ. Ibi hť rex. lxiiii. burġses. reddtes. iii. liþ. 7 q<sup>a</sup>l xx<sup>4</sup> 7 x. burġses alioz hōum reddt ibi. lx. solidþ. Ibi hť rex. vi. uastas dom<sup>9</sup>. Istud burgū cū p̃dicta ESTONE. reddþ. lx. liþ ad numerū. 7 unā mark̃ auri. Fter hoc reddt moneta .c. solidþ. Eduuard<sup>9</sup> reddþ. xi. liþ de t̃cio denario huj<sup>9</sup> burgi. De ipso burgo . ē una dom<sup>9</sup> ablata. Hugo inťpres teñ. 7 uať. ii. solidþ.

It is curious, too, that the precise time of making the survey has been the subject of great diversity of opinion. Some have quoted the "Red Book of the Exchequer," in support of the date of A.D. 1080, whereas this valuable manuscript merely states<sup>1</sup> that the work of the Domesday was undertaken at a time subsequent to the total reduction of this island to the Norman authority. Matthew Paris, Robert of Gloucester, the annals of Waverley, and the chronicle of Bermondsey, date the record in A.D. 1083; Henry of Huntingdon, in A.D. 1084. The "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle," in a passage which has been quoted in another place, attributes the order to commence the

<sup>1</sup> A. C. Ewald, s. v. "Domesday Book," in Encyclop. Britannica, new edit. vol. vii. p. 350.



survey in A.D. 1085 ; Simeon of Durham, Florence of Worcester, Roger de Hoveden, and Hemingford, in A.D. 1086. This year 1086 tallies with the memorandum of the completion of the survey at the end of the second volume : “ *Anno millesimo octogesimo sexto. ab incarnatione domini vigesimo vero regni Willelmi facta est ista descriptio non solus per hos tres comitatus sed etiam per alios.*” The “Ypodigma Neustriæ” and Ralph de Diceto give the date of A.D. 1087. It is unfortunate that William of Malmesbury omitted to give a precise date to his otherwise valuable and critical account of the taking of the survey : “ *Provinciales<sup>1</sup> adeo nutui suo substraverat, ut sine ulla contradictione primus censum omnium capitum ageret, omnium prædiorum redditus in tota Anglia notitiæ suæ per scriptum adjiceret, omnes liberos homines, cujuscunque essent, suæ fidelitati sacramento adigeret.*”

Ellis has arrayed several proofs that the years 1085-6 have been correctly chronicled as the time when the work was carried out, and we cannot but believe that by the multiplication of subordinate inquests, taken, perhaps, by the sheriffs of counties or other local officers previous to and in anticipation of the coming of the Royal Commissioners, the work must have been completed in a remarkably short space of time ; and that from a transcript or abridgement of the returns sent in from the different counties, the great register was afterwards formed which has so long been known by the name of Domesday.

<sup>1</sup> “ *Gesta Regum,*” ed. Hardy, vol. ii. p. 434.



As for the origin and object of the Domesday, it is not at all unlikely that William the Conqueror and his advisers had in their minds some older principle of survey, although that ascribed to King Alfred was hypothetical, notwithstanding that one writer laments "that the Domebook of Alfred, so much respected in Westminster Hall to the time of Edward IV., has since been lost." The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle gives the fullest account of the proceedings of the king on the occasion at the commencement of the year 1085, when the formation of the survey assumed a practical commencement. The anonymous writer of that sole copy of the Chronicle which is preserved among the MSS. of Archbishop Laud in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, records in simple and vigorous language the plain facts, which have never been disproved; and allowing something, perhaps, for the writer's evident disapprobation of the king's proceeding, we may take it as presenting a very faithful narrative of the way in which the work was first set on foot. He writes:—

"Da<sup>1</sup> to þam midrepintre pæs se cyng on Gleapeceastre mid his pitan. 7 heold þær his hired v. dagas. 7 siððan þe arcebiscop 7 gehadode men hæfden sinoð þreo dagas. Ðær pæs Mauricius gecoren to biscop on Lundene. 7 Willelm to Nordfolc. 7 Rodbeard to Ceasterscire. hi pæron ealle pæs cynges clerecas. After þisum hæfde se cyng mycel geðeaht

<sup>1</sup> "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle," ed. Thorpe (Rolls Ser.), vol. i. p. 353. From the Laud MS. in the Bodleian Library, No. 636.



and spiðe deope spæce pið his pitan ymbe þis land  
 hu hit pære gesett. oððe mid hpilcon mannon. Sende  
 þa ofer eall Englaland into ælcere scire his men. 7  
 lett agan ut hu fela hundred hyda pæron innon pære  
 scire. oððe hpet se cyng him sylf hæfde landes 7 orfes  
 innan þam lande. oððe hpilce gerihtæ he ahte to  
 habbanne to xii monðum of pære scire. Eac he lett  
 gepritan hu mycel landes his arcebiscopas hæfdon. 7  
 his leodbiscopas. 7 his abbotas. 7 his eorlas. 7 þeah  
 ic hit lengre telle. hpæt oððe hu mycel ælc mann  
 hæfde. þe landsittende pæs innan Englalande. on  
 lande oððe on orfe. 7 hu mycel feos hit pære purð.  
 Spa spyðe nearpelice he hit lett ut aspyrian. þ' næs an  
 ælpig hide ne an gyrde landes. ne furðon. hit is  
 sceame to tellanne. ac hit ne þuhte him nan sceame  
 to donne. an oxe. ne án cú. ne án spin næs belyfon.  
 þ' næs gesæt on his geprite. 7 ealle þa geprita pæron  
 gebroht to him syððan."

In English this may be read as below :—

"An MLXXXV. . . . . Then<sup>1</sup> at mid-winter the  
 king was at Gloucester with his *witan*, and there  
 held his court five days ; and afterwards the  
 archbishop and clergy had a synod three days.  
 There were Maurice chosen Bishop of London, and  
 William to Norfolk, and Robert to Cheshire. They  
 were all the king's clerks. After this the king had  
 a great council, and very deep speech with his *witan*  
 about this land, how it was peopled, or by what men ;  
 then sent his men over all England, into every shire,  
 and caused to be ascertained how many hundred

<sup>1</sup> B. Thorpe. (Rolls ser.), vol. ii. p. 186.





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For example, in the Manor of Bercheham, the original Inquest records “vi. animaf̃ oci. xxxvi. o. LXIII. por. XL.VIII. capre,” that is, six beasts unemployed, thirty sheep, sixty-four pigs, forty-eight she-goats, none of which find any mention in the corresponding passage in the Exchequer Domesday. The original inquest and the Ely inquest contain, in like manner continually, entries purporting to show the number of *animalia ociosa*; *asina cum pullo*, a “she-ass with a foal ;” *asini*, “asses ;” *boves*, bullocks ; *capræ*, she-goats ; *equæ*, mares, some *cum pullis*, with their colts ; *equa clauda*, a lame mare ; *equi*, stallions ; *mulus*, a mule ; *oves*, sheep ; *porca*, a sow ; *runcinus*<sup>1</sup> a “rosin,” a “rowney,” or pack or draught horse ; *pulli*, foals or colts ; *vaccæ*, cows, some *cum vitulis*, with calves ; and so on.

Blackstone sees in this record the formal introduction of legal feudal tenures, a new policy, not as some would have it, imposed upon an unwilling nation by the harshness of the Conqueror’s method of government, but nationally and freely adopted by the general assembly of the whole realm in the same manner as other nations of Europe had previously adopted it, upon the same principles of self-security. On the close of the survey, which was brought to an end the following year, A.D. 1086, the king at Sarum received the submission of all the principal land-owners to the yoke of military tenure, thereby becoming the king’s vassals and doing homage and

<sup>1</sup> Runcilus, in the Essex Domesday, quoted by Spelman, *gloss.* p. 493.



fealty to him,<sup>1</sup> affirming, as freemen, “liberi homines,” “by compact and oath that they were willing to be faithful to King William their lord, both within and without the whole realm of England.” Thus was accomplished at once, all over England, by common consent of the responsible persons of the kingdom, a political change which had recently in France only gradually been brought about by the surrender of allodial or free lands to the king, who restored them to their owners in fee, to be held by them and their nominees as crown vassals. Some consider that the almost general consensus of historians in unifying the notices of the survey, and of the homage performed to the king, indicates the close relation which the two facts bear to one another. While others, on the other hand, are of opinion that tenures were in use before the Norman advent, and that the evidence afforded by the Domesday Book bears no reference to any simultaneous surrender and feudal re-grant in the manner already described.

The appointment of Commissioners (or *Legati*, as the Domesday Book calls these officers) was the natural sequence of the royal order to prepare the surveys.

For the midland counties they were Remigius, Bishop of Lincoln; Walter Giffard, Earl of Buckingham; Henry de Ferrers; and Adam, brother of Eudo dapifer; these probably associated to their side some principal person in each shire. Our

<sup>1</sup>. This is borne out by the passage in the “Gesta Regum” of William of Malmesbury, which has just been quoted.



acquaintance with this procedure rests upon the statement in the Cottonian Manuscript Tiberius A XIII. the chartulary of Worcester Monastery, compiled by Heming, the Worcester monk, in the twelfth century. The antiquary Hearne prints this passage, and also another from the same MS., containing the list of jurors—local personages for the most part—for the Hundred of Oswaldeslaw, in Worcestershire. The “*Inquisitio Comitatus Cantabrigiensis*,” edited by Hamilton, from another Cottonian MS., to which we have already drawn attention in a previous chapter, in like manner records the names of the jurors for the following hundreds in Cambridgeshire: Stapleton, Caueleie, Stane, Radesfelda, Flamencdic, Childeforda, Witlesforda, Tripelaue, Herningeforda, Werleia, Stouue, and Nordstouua. The several juries consisted of about eight or nine prominent local tenants, mentioned by name, and included also, probably only as a matter of form, “*omnes alii franci et angli*.” So, too, the *Inquisitio Eliensis*, after the preamble setting forth the object of the Inquest, tabulated the jurors according to the hundreds of:—Staplehou, Canelai, Stanas, Erningeford, Trepeslau, Radefelde, Flammigedic, Witelesforda, Wederlai, Stouu, Pampeworda, Nordstouue, Cestretona, Ely (two hundreds), Wedwines-treu, and Bradeuuatre (two hundreds), and Odeseia in Hertfordshire.

The inquiries to which the Commissioners were ordered to direct their attention have been already mentioned in Chapter III., derived from the opening words of the *Inquisitio Eliensis*. *p. 24* *Survey*

The object of this survey, ostensibly, was this:—



that every man should know, and be satisfied with, his rightful possessions, and not with impunity usurp the property of others. . But, besides this, those who possessed lands had their exact political position and liabilities in the state more clearly defined. They became the king's subjects or vassals, paying a yearly tax by way of fee, homage, or land tax, in proportion to the amount and fertility of the lands they held. By means of this survey the king acquired an accurate, or tolerably accurate, knowledge of the possessions and revenues (as far as land went) of the Crown. He obtained also a very useful roll of the names of the responsible tenants; ample means of ascertaining the military strength and civil population of the country, a basis for readjusting the incidence of taxation, and a register to which those whose titles had been unjustly withheld, or might in future be called in question, could appeal without cavil at its testimony.

The schedule of inquiries which were to form the basis of the task set before the Commissioners was, on the whole, carefully adhered to by the persons, whoever they were, who actually prepared the rough materials. How these officers became possessed of the immense amount of information which is so closely digested in the Exchequer Domesday Book in so short a time as we know it was acquired it is impossible to conjecture, except on the supposition that they accepted written evidence prepared by the sheriffs, bailiffs, and other agents of the great tenants especially with a view to simplifying their labour. But it is curious that no evidence of this nature has



come down to us. And, if this hypothesis be not accepted, the only one that remains is that a general convention of the tenants-in-chief, holding large or small areas of land, took place, at which they all rendered oral testimony, on oath, before the Commissioners, who could not have personally examined, even had they desired to do so, more than a very small proportion of the estates which they describe and estimate.

The arrangement of the contents of the book is, generally speaking, in this way. Each shire is treated separately, with the exception to be noticed presently. Before the text is placed a numbered list of the principal landowners in the county:—The king first in order; following him, the great church and lay tenants; these, in turn, followed in many cases by smaller proprietors, grouped in classes as “servientes regis,” “taini regis, or “elemosynarii regis,” *i.e.*, the King’s serjeants, the King’s Thegns, the King’s almsmen, &c.”

This tenant-roll is followed by the “*Clamores*” and “*Invasiones*,” or accounts of lands alleged to be held unjustly and claimed by others. The manors and lands are arranged under the “hundreds,” or corresponding county sub-divisions in which they lie, and the particulars in answer to the schedule of enquiries, of which the record was to be a reply, are set down under each manor.

We may take, for example, the preliminary list prefixed to the Domesday Book for Norfolk, as a very good illustration of the system followed in preparing the synopsis of the contents. It is as follows:—



- i. Willelmus<sup>1</sup> Rex.
- ii. Episcopus baiocensis.
- iii. Comes de mauritonio.
- iiii. Comes Alanus.
- v. Comes Eustachius.
- vi. Comes Hugo.
- vii. Robertus Malet.
- viii. Willelmus de Warena.
- viiii. Roger bigot.
- x. Willelmus Episcopus.
- xi. Osbertus Episcopus.
- xii. Godricus dapifer. *p 126*
- xiii. Hermerus de fereñ.
- xiiii. Abbas de Sancto Edmundo.
- xv. Abbas de eli.
- xvi. Abbas Sancti Benedicti de ramesio.
- xvii. Abbas de Hulmo.
- xviii. Sanctus Stephanus de cadomo.
- xviiii. Willelmus de escois.
- xx. Radulfus de bellofago.
- xxi. Rainaldus filius Iuonis.
- xxii. Radulfus de Toenio
- xxiii. Hugo de monte forti.
- xxiiii. Eudo dapifer. *p*
- xxv. Walterus Giffart.
- xxvi. Roger pictauiensis.
- xxvii. Ipo Tallebosc. *A. 91. 147*
- xxviii. Radulfus de Limesio.
- xxviiii. Eudo filius Spiruwic.

<sup>1</sup> The contractions are filled out *in extenso* in this list, for the sake of greater clearness.



- xxx. Drogo debeuraria.
- xxxi. Radulfus bainardus.
- xxxii. Rannulfus piperellus.
- xxxiii. Robertus grenon.
- xxxiiii. Petrus Valoniensis.
- xxxv. Robertus filius Corbutionis.
- xxxvi. Rannulfus frater ilgeri
- xxxvii. Tehellus britto.
- xxxviii. Robertus de uerli.
- xxxviiii. Hunfridus filius alberici.
- xl. Hunfridus de bohun. *vu*
- xli. Radulfus defelgeres.
- xlII. Gislebertus filius Richeri.
- xlIII. Rogerus de ramis.
- xlIIII. Iuikellus presbiter.
- xlV. Colebertus presbiter.
- xlVI. Edmundus filius pagani.
- xlVII. Isaac.
- xlVIII. Touuus.
- xlVIII. Johannes nepos Walerani.
- l. Rogerus filius renardi.
- li. Bernerus arbalistarius.
- lii. Gislebertus arbalistarius.
- liii. Radulfus arbalistarius.
- liiii. Robertus arbalistarius.
- lv. Radberellus<sup>1</sup> artifex.
- lvi. Hago.
- lvii. Radulfus filius Hagonis.
- lviii. Vlchetellus.
- lviiii. Aluredus.

<sup>1</sup> Rabellus, in the text.





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The fact that the survey is neither quite complete in its notice of all tenures liable to the king's tax, nor correct in always omitting the lands which did not pay this geld, has been often mentioned. The names and extent of the hundreds have undergone some changes, which Ellis thinks great, but they are hardly greater than the place names of the parishes and manors themselves. The works of the late Rev. R. W. Eyton, relating to the Domesdays of Somersetshire, Dorsetshire, and Staffordshire; of the late Rev. W. H. R. Jones, for Wiltshire, not to mention others equally valuable as modern treatises on this Record, will be found to indicate changes in the names of places quite as remarkable for their variety, as are the names of the hundreds throughout the book. Some manors have been transferred from one hundred to another, or, at any rate, are now, and for long time past have been thus dislocated. Or, perhaps, the case may be stated differently thus, that the places are entered under a wrong hundred in the manuscript. A complete list of hundreds, wapentakes (which take the place of hundreds in Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and York, as local sub-divisions), rapes (in Sussex), and lasts (in Kent) would be a valuable and a welcome record of the political organisation of the land courts, but this is a work which still remains to be undertaken by a Domesday student. These areas take their name frequently from a tree, a thorn, a ford, a stone, a ditch or dyke, a *hlaw* or low, *i.e.*, a mound or tumulus, or some such natural feature, but not to the exclusion of other prominent or widely known spots, where the members of the hundred, the



tax-paying tenants, could conveniently assemble to transact the matters which came within their duty to determine.

The omission of the four northernmost counties has been frequently noticed by writers. Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Durham have no survey recorded in the Domesday Book.

Lancashire does not appear under its proper name, but Furness and the northern part of this county, the south of Westmoreland and a part of Cumberland, appear in the West Riding of Yorkshire. The extensive part of Lancashire which is bounded between the rivers Ribble and Mersey, amounting to six hundred and eighty-eight manors, goes with the survey of Cheshire as "*Terra inter Ripam et Mersham.*" Part of Rutland is described in the surveys of Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire. There are also other similar changes in Cheshire.

The reason for the omission of the northern counties is probably due to the fact that Durham and Northumberland had been laid waste, and offered little profitable attractions to the Royal Commissioners. The death in 1080, by murder, of Walchere, bishop of Durham, had been followed by an extensive vengeance taken for the king by Odo, the powerful brother of the Conqueror.<sup>1</sup> Lancashire was not a separate county in the Domesday period. Cumberland and Westmoreland were not as yet under

<sup>1</sup> "*Occasionem dedit regi ut provincie illius reliquias, quæ aliquantulum respiraverant, funditus exterminaret.*" Will. Malm., "*Gesta Regum,*" p. 271.



English rule; their southern parts then formed parts of Yorkshire, and hence these parts are properly included in that wide-reaching county. It was not until the time of William II. that they became subject to the English rule, for, according to Mr. Ewald,<sup>1</sup> these were held by the Scottish kings as a fief on the final overthrow of the old kingdom of Strathclyde. The fact is, as we read in the "Introduction to the Pipe Rolls of Cumberland, Westmoreland, and Durham," p. iv., that the undescribed district comprised the earldoms of Northumberland and Cumberland, both dependencies of the English Crown, but neither of them merged in the general polity of England, whose kings did not interfere with the internal concerns of either province.

Notwithstanding these omissions, the survey was carried out with as much care and exactness as the times permitted, and hence the great value of the record from topographical and territorial points of view. Of manors mentioned in the Domesday, many have since disappeared on account of depopulation or absorption. Manors, we know, were created until the statute of the eighteenth year of Edward I., known as *Quia Emptores*, from the words with which it commences. Sometimes new—that is, post-Domesday—manors were formed by being taken out of others which were in existence in the Domesday Book and still possess manorial character. Local knowledge and inquiry will (as Ellis correctly shows) frequently and materially assist research in this par-

<sup>1</sup> Encycl. Brit.



ticular. If the names of Roman cities in Britain (as, for example, Vinovium, or Vinovia, in the neighbourhood of Bishop Auckland, co. Durham, now Binchester Farm) are to be sought and found in the names of mere farms, it is not to be wondered at that the names of Domesday manors in some cases have shrunk down from human memory into the faintly recognisable names of very small and insignificant portions of land; and the clipped and disguised appellation of a country lane, a homestead, or a field, may not unfrequently perpetuate the forgotten nomenclature of a Domesday manor (itself in turn often named from a still more ancient property) now at length shorn, by the ruthless hand of time, of its pride, its power, and its political position.

The early custody of this manuscript has recently formed the subject of critical investigation by Mr. H. Hall, of the Record Office. He finds that the uncertainty which has always prevailed as to the matter is an excellent example of the almost insuperable difficulties encountered in pursuit of an apparently simple piece of information connected with the practice of antiquity. Ayloffe, Palgrave, and Madox were unable to form any definite opinion, and the evidence which they were in possession of has been merely repeated by later writers. Mr. Hall discusses three theories which he finds in vogue among modern scholars:—

1. That the manuscript was preserved in the Winchester treasury, from A.D. 1086, the completion of the survey, to an indefinite date not earlier than the close of the twelfth century, or even later.



2. The statements of Ingulph and the annalists of Burton-upon-Trent and Bermondsey tending to show that the book was preserved continuously at Westminster. And

3. That it was removed from Winchester to Westminster at a comparatively early date, probably about the beginning of the reign of Henry II.

Rejecting these in turn, Mr. Hall propounds a fourth theory, following the actual practice of the Exchequer of Receipt, as exemplified by existing contemporary records, as the only clue to the solution of the difficulty. The city of Winchester, as he justly observes, was the capital of the West Saxon kingdom and official seat of the Court. Here were deposited the king's "hoard," regalia, plate, and official records. Among the latter would be the standard work of Alfred, known as the "Dom-boc," and, perhaps, counterparts of certain charters (which are expressly stated<sup>1</sup> to have been made in duplicate). William the Conqueror's maintenance of Saxon laws and regal customs justifies us in believing that, at any rate during the early Norman period, while the Royal Treasury and official importance of Winchester continued, the Domesday Book was naturally deposited in the treasury there. This, however, involves con-

<sup>1</sup> For example, in Cotton Charter, ii. 21, a charter recording the acts of the Council at Kingston, A.D. 838, the following phrase occurs. "Dualesque scripturas per omnia consimiles hujus reconciliationis conscribere statuimus, alteram habeat archiepiscopus cum telligraphis ecclesiæ Christi, *alteram Ecgherht et Aethelwulf reges cum hereditatis eorum scripturis.*" "Facsimiles of Ancient Charters in the British Museum," part ii., plate 26, and Augustus ii. 37, *ibid.* plate 27.



sideration of the following points which oppose it. Ingulph implies (1) that there was a Domesday of King Alfred preserved at Winchester, called Rotulus "Wintoniæ"; (2) that the original of the survey of William the Conqueror was preserved in the same city and bore a similar designation; and (3) that he consulted the Register of Domesday in London. Mr. Hall believes that Ingulph saw the Domesday Register, as it now exists, at Westminster, whither it had migrated, not so much because Winchester had at that time been displaced as a financial centre in favour of the more convenient site at Westminster, but that the Domesday followed the peregrinations of the Court whenever important business was to be transacted, the original rotulets usually remaining in the Winchester treasury. Thus Winchester still remained the headquarters of the Treasury, and the normal depository of the three records mentioned by Ingulph. Thus, too, Domesday Book would be frequently found at Westminster, and on one of these occasions Ingulph consulted its pages, the book itself afterwards returning to its resting-place at Winchester. The Domesday MS. has travelled, Mr. Hall states, along with the Exchequer, through the eastern counties to York, where it rested for seven years.

Twenty years ago it was removed temporarily to Southampton for the purpose of being photographed, and on that occasion it suffered the incalculable injury of being taken out of its covers for convenience of a second-rate photographic process, and rebound in a new fangled style. The old binding is part of its life history, and certainly should



never have been permanently dissociated from the text. If we may accept Mr. Hall's conclusions as to the practice of the Exchequer chambers (viz., the Exchequer proper, and the Exchequer of the Barons), which was elaborated in its full perfection in the reign of Henry I. at its new headquarters of Westminster, and not Winchester (which, however, still was used as a permanent place of deposit for treasure, regalia, and records), the king's seal, the Domesday Book (which was the constant companion of the seal), and other records, passed from the latter city to the former during the reign of Henry I. On the authority of the "Dialogus de Scaccario," a nearly contemporary official record, it appears that the Exchequer was revived at Westminster during the reign of Henry II. (after suspension since 1139), under the auspices of Nigel, bishop of Ely, the ex-treasurer of King Henry I. The original Rolls of Domesday were probably destroyed with other records when the city was occupied and burned, and the royal treasury doubtless sacked during the varying fortunes of the civil war between the Empress Matilda and King Stephen in the eventful year 1141. Mr. Hall would submit that we may fairly accept the definite date of A.D. 1108, or thereabouts, for the removal of the Domesday Book to the Westminster Exchequer, where, with probably rare exceptions, it passed an uneventful career between the Thesaurus and the Scriptorium from that early year in the twelfth century down to the time of Madox, "the first and last historian of the Exchequer of the kings of England."





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married the countess of Chester, niece and heiress of Thorold of Bugenhale.<sup>1</sup>

The forfeitures of a later day may be occasionally detected,—in the lands, for example,—taken from Gamelbar, Merlesuain, and other Saxon chieftains of the North, after their unsuccessful rising in A.D. 1069. The fate of Waltheof,<sup>2</sup> earl of Huntingdon and Northampton, is a well-known instance. Many representatives of the Saxon families took shelter—almost the only shelter available<sup>3</sup>—in the cloister, which was then, as in many succeeding centuries, the centre of all real progress and culture—the free library, the public hospital, the ever-open refuge and ready sanctuary, the school of art and design, the bank, the bazaar, the college, and the club.<sup>4</sup>

Some of these, doubtless, reappear as monks and heads of religious establishments; for example, Leuric, abbot of Peterborough, was the nephew of the benevolent and intelligent Leofric, earl of Mercia; Waltheof, son of Cospatric, earl of Northumberland, was abbot of the rich and famous abbey of St. Guthlac at Croyland, in the fen country; Elsi, abbot of the neighbouring monastery of Ramsey, had been a favourite in the courts of Edward the Confessor,

<sup>1</sup> See some account of this personage in Ingulph's "Chronicle," (Ed. Birch, Wisbech, 1883, *ad finem*, pp. 112, 152.

<sup>2</sup> "The Life and Times of Waltheof," by Edw. LeVien, in "Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.," vol. xxx. p. 387.

<sup>3</sup> "Nec jam vix aliquis princeps de progenie Anglorum esset in Anglia, sed omnes ad servitutem et ad mortem essent redacti, ita etiam ut *Anglicus* vocari esset opprobrium," John of Oxenedes, p. 33. This is probably somewhat exaggerated.

<sup>4</sup> *Builder*, vol. li. p. 653.



King Harold, and King William; Ethelwold, abbot of St. Benet's Hulme, in Norfolk, according to John of Oxenedes,<sup>1</sup> had been King Harold's admiral. Thus the monasteries became the refuge of those who represented the intelligence, both political and scientific, of the Saxons at the time of their fall, and offered a congenial place of sanctuary to those who carried with them the best remembrance and relics of the history of their country.

Among the tenants in the time of William the Conqueror who held their land immediately from the king, and are ordinarily known as *tenants in capite*, or chief tenants, there are many names of Saxons, and perhaps in some cases Danes or Anglo-Danes, who had managed to bear the brunt of the change without total effacement. Such, for example, among those who held T. R. E., *i.e.*, "in the time of Edward the Confessor," are:—

Aiulf, the chamberlain, in Dorsetshire, who had been *vicecomes*, or sheriff, in the time of Edward the Confessor.

Ældeua, a "free woman," in Berkshire, held in the time of Edward the Confessor.

Agemund, in Hampshire, T. R. E.

Aldred, in Wiltshire, T. R. E.

Aldvi, in Somersetshire, T. R. E.

Alfhilla, in Devonshire, T. R. E.

Alfildis; her husband had held land in Wiltshire, T. R. E.

Algar and Alric, in Devonshire, T. R. E.

Alric, in Staffordshire, T. R. E.

<sup>1</sup> "Chronicle," Ed. Ellis (Rolls), quoted in Ellis's *Introd.*, p. xvii.



Alric, in Bedfordshire, T. R. E.

Alueua, in Devonshire, T. R. E.

Aluric, in Wiltshire, another Aluric in Dorsetshire, and a third in Devonshire, T. R. E., and so on through the alphabet. The total number of Saxons of high degree who are stated to have held land in the time of the survey and in the time of Edward the Confessor, either of themselves, by the husbands, or in descent from the fathers, or in some other manner is not very great, and probably falls far short of the very small number of five hundred. Among them are:—Cristina, one of the sisters of Edgar Atheling; she held land in Oxfordshire, and occurs twice as a tenant *in capite* in Warwickshire. Cristina was the grandmother of Matilda, the queen of King Stephen. She built<sup>1</sup> a church in the town of Hertford, and eventually became a nun<sup>2</sup> in the famous Benedictine Abbey of Romsey, in Hants, in A.D. 1085. Derman Lundoniensis, who was tenant *in capite* in Middlesex, may have been a Saxon. William the Conqueror's charter, granting a hide of land at Gyddesdun, in Essex, to him, now preserved among, and as one of, the Corporation charters in the Guildhall, has been printed.<sup>3</sup> It is a curious example of a chief tenant's title to his land.

Edgar Adeling, or Atheling, held land also in Hertfordshire, but probably not earlier than the reign of William, as the holding is very small. Ellis thinks the Conqueror's forbearance towards this

<sup>1</sup> Chauncy, "History of Hertfordshire," p. 256.

<sup>2</sup> *Chron. Sax., ad an.* mlxxxv.

<sup>3</sup> "The Historical Charters of London," 4to., 1884, No. 2.





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Waltheof, son of Siward, the earl, who had married Judith, niece of William the Conqueror, and succeeded to the earldom of Northumberland.

Harold, son of Ralph, earl of Hereford, held lands in chief in the counties of Gloucester, Worcester, and Warwick. His father had married Goda, or Gethe, the sister of Edward the Confessor.

Judith, the countess, wife of Waltheof, betrayed her husband to the king in 1074. She held *in capite* many lands in many counties, chiefly in the eastern midlands.

Osbern, bishop of Exeter, held lands as tenant *in capite* in the counties of Sussex, Surrey, Hants, Berks, Gloucester, and Norfolk. According to Kelham, he was a kinsman of King Edward the Confessor, and related also to King William. He succeeded to the see of Exeter, March 28, 1074, and died in A.D. 1103. It is interesting to note that Bishop Osbern is stated, in the Domesday account of Crediton, in Devonshire, to have produced before the Commissioners certain charters to substantiate the rights of the Church. Some early charters relating to this see have been published by the late Mr. J. B. Davidson, from a Cottonian Roll in the British Museum.

Osbern, son of Richard, who held lands *in capite* in Herefordshire, Bedfordshire, Warwickshire, Salop, and Nottinghamshire, was another of the important surviving tenants of the Saxon days. He is identified with Osbern, son of Richard Scrupe, and his principal seat was at Richards Castle, Herefordshire, a stronghold named after his father, who had erected it.

Oswald held lands in Wiltshire which his father



before him had held *in capite*. The same is entered among the chief tenants in Gloucestershire of the time of King Edward ; and in Yorkshire he had held land previously to the taking of the Domesday Survey.

Oswold, a Surrey thegn, held *in capite* in the time of Edward the Confessor, and retained it.

Ravelin held one manor in the time of King Edward, in Yorkshire, which he retained at the time of the survey.

Saiet held one manor in the time of King Edward, in Bedfordshire, which he also retained.

Siward, the huntsman, held land in Oxfordshire, in the time of King Edward, which he is also credited with in Domesday Book.

Starcolf, a Dane, was a pre-Domesday tenant *in capite* in Norfolk, who maintained his position in the time of King William.

Svain, probably also a Dane, held lands in Wiltshire and Dorsetshire in the time of the Domesday, which is expressly stated to have been held by his father in the time of King Edward. He also held landed property in Northamptonshire for himself.

The Dane Sueno, also called Suanus, Suenus, and Svanus, held as tenant *in capite* in the counties of Essex and Suffolk. Morant<sup>1</sup> considers him (and is probably correct) to have been of Danish origin. Ellis records the name of his father Robert, which occurs in another place<sup>2</sup> of the Domesday Survey, and Morant gives<sup>3</sup> his grandfather's name Wimarc.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "History of Essex," vol. i. p. 273.

<sup>2</sup> Vol. f. 47b.

<sup>3</sup> Vol. i. p. 155.

<sup>4</sup> See index of Hamilton's "Inquis. Com. Cantabr.," p. 220.



Sueno had his castle at Ragineia, or Rayleigh, in the hundred of Rochford, in the southern part of Essex. The lands which he held in the time of King Edward, and retained under the Norman government, passed to his son Robert of Essex, and afterwards to his grandson, Henry of Essex, hereditary standard-bearer to King Henry II. This tenant, in an expedition against the Welsh about A.D. 1163, abandoned his standard, and thereby contributed towards the defeat of the king, for which offence he was charged with treason, and being vanquished in a solemn trial by battle, had his life spared, but became a monk by royal command in the abbey of Reading.

Another son of Suein of Essex, called Edward, and his wife Edeua, both occur in another part of the Domesday Book.

Ivo Tailleboisc, or Tailbois, lord of Hoyland, or Holānd, Lincolnshire, inherited the great possessions of the Saxon earls, Morcar of York and Edwin of Warwick, sons of Earl Algar, by his marriage with their sister Lucia. In the chronicle of Ingulph,<sup>1</sup> that chronicler gives a long and circumstantial account of his quarrels with the abbey of Croyland. Lucy, the countess, who had inherited the possessions of her brothers after their death, which had been compassed by the treachery of their own men, married, after the death of her first husband Ivo, Roger, son of Gerold Romara, in the time of Henry I., and had

<sup>1</sup> Ed. W. de G. Birch in 1883, from the Arundel MS. 178, in the British Museum; the later part in the "Scriptores post Bedam," p. 513.





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Turchil's brother Gudmund, was under-tenant to him for four hides in Warwickshire.

Turgot and his mother held *in capite*, in Bedfordshire, the land of the father, who was a king's thegn.

Turstin held land *in capite* in Somersetshire which his father had held in the time of King Edward.

Siward, the huntsman (another important and useful occupation), retained in the Domesday Survey the land in Oxfordshire which he had held freely under King Edward.

Wlwi, the hunstman, did the same in Surrey.

Vlchetell of Norfolk, and Vlchil of Yorkshire, belong also to the class of survivor-tenants in chief. So also must be reckoned Vlf in Somersetshire ; and Vlf in Devonshire ; Vlgar in Hampshire ; Vlmar, a burgess of Bedford ; Ulsi in Hampshire ; Vluiet in Dorsetshire (perhaps two persons so named) ; Vluuard and Brictric in Somersetshire ; Wado in Wiltshire ; Alwine Wit in Hampshire ; Wluine in Staffordshire ; and others.

Among the tenants-in-chief who are mentioned in Domesday Book as having succeeded to property held by their fathers during the time of King Edward, notice must also be taken of Vluric of Hampshire ; Vluric of Wilts (a large proprietor) ; Vluric of Dorsetshire ; Vluric, the huntsman, of Hampshire, and another huntsman of the same name in Dorsetshire ; unless, indeed, some of these entries relate to the same person, which is difficult to be decided.

Having now gone summarily through the names of the proprietors of land in the time of the compilation of the Domesday Book, whose holdings can be shown



to have been held by themselves or their families in the time of King Edward, we may conveniently examine the equally important index of persons<sup>1</sup> who are entered in the pages of the Domesday as holding lands in the time of King Edward the Confessor, and through later years anterior to the formation of the survey. This index is really a list of the Saxon landholders of England, for we may assume that 'few names, and those not important for their political position or for the extent of their tenures, have been omitted by the Commissioners, who had it specially in command from the king to declare, after stating the name of the place, "who held it in the time of Edward the Confessor." Ellis's exhaustive index occupies no less than two hundred and seventy-three octavo pages, and probably the total number of entries, allowing for the combining of different holders in the same or different counties but having the same name, and allowing also for the probable identity of persons entered under names of variant form, would not fall far short of eight thousand, whereas the same writer puts the total of Domesday tenants *in capite*, including ecclesiastical corporations, as amounting scarcely to 1,400.

Among the names which are conspicuous in this class of despoiled native landowners we may notice the following :—

Adelric, brother of Brictrac, the bishop of Worcester, A.D. 1033–1038. He held in Herefordshire.

Ærefastus, a Norfolk holder, better known as

<sup>1</sup> Ellis, Introduction, vol. ii.



Herfast or Arfast, bishop of Elmham, in A.D. 1070, from which place he removed the see to Thetford, in A.D. 1075, and died nine years afterwards in 1084.

Ailric, an Essex tenant, who gave his manor of Kelvedon to St. Peter's Abbey, Westminster. This Ailric went to sea to fight King William, and, on returning to his own place, fell ill, whereupon he made the best of his necessity, and granted his land to the abbey; and the Domesday expressly states that the representatives of the abbey have no charter to confirm their right to the property. Ellis, who finds King William's charter confirming the manor of Kelvedon to Westminster Abbey in the chartulary of that monastic institution among the Cottonian manuscripts in the British Museum (Faustina, A. III., f. 60), wherein it is recited that Ailric's donation of the manor was confirmed by King Edward the Confessor, considers that the traditional evidence recorded by the Domesday Book is refuted in this particular as the chartulary goes. It is far more likely, however, that the charter in the Cottonian manuscript, like those of Edward the Confessor and William the Conqueror, still preserved<sup>1</sup> in charter-form among the archives of the abbey, is a forgery.

Aiulf, of Dorsetshire, held land in this manor in the time of King Edward, and continued to hold the same as under-tenant at the time of the survey.

<sup>1</sup> W. de G. Birch, "Seals of Edward the Confessor," in Transactions of the Royal Society, "Literature," vol. x. (second series), p. 141, and "Seals of William the Conqueror," *ibid*, vol. x., p. 161, *et seq.*





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macy. Stigand was, however, deprived in A.D. 1070 by the synod held at Winchester. He held land previous to the survey. John of Oxenedes states that Stigand *invaded* successively the bishopric of Winchester and the archbishopric of Canterbury.

Alnod Cild, or Cilt, another holder of land before the survey, is identified with Ulnoth, fourth son of earl Godwine and younger brother to King Harold, whence the appellation of *Cilt*, an equivalent of *Clito*, a word indicating the royal blood of the personage who bore it.<sup>1</sup> Kelham<sup>2</sup> finds that he was sent into Normandy as a hostage upon Godwine's restoration from banishment. On the change in the government, Alnod was brought back to England, and kept in confinement at Salisbury until his death. His land at Alsistone, co. Sussex, was given by the king to Battle Abbey. He held lands before the Conquest in Buckingham, Kent, Sussex, Surrey, and Hants. The under-tenant, Alnod, of Kent, at the time of the survey, may perhaps be this Alnod cilt.

Alric, another Saxon holder of land previous to the survey, was a large proprietor in many counties. He was, in all probability, a tenant *in capite* of some portion of the land at the period of Domesday. Perhaps the Aluric and Aluricus, whom Ellis separates from this Alric, were really the same person.

<sup>1</sup> Among the names to whom this appellation Cilt is added are Brixie or Bixi, Eduuard, Eduin, Elmer, Goduinus; Leuric, Leuvin, or Leuvinus; Suein, Suan, or Suen; Vlfric, and Vluui. The word *Clito* is connected with the Lat. *inclytus*. Spelman considers it to signify the eldest son, but Ducange any of the sons of a king. Cf. κλειτός, renowned.

<sup>2</sup> Page 174.



Aluuard and Aluuardus have their land separately scheduled by Ellis, but these two great proprietors of land before the Domesday Survey are probably identical. This separation of names forms one of the chief difficulties of studying the personal and biographical aspects of Domesday Book.

The same respective identity may be conjectured of Aluni, Alnuin, and Aluvinus, unless these properties are to be broken up into separate possessors of manors, who had the same name in each case.

Archil appears as the name of a large proprietor of land (or of several separate holders) in many counties, chiefly in Yorkshire, previous to the Domesday Survey.

Asgar or Esgar, the *Stalre* or *Stalrus*, *i.e.*, "Master of the Horse," or *Constabularius*, held lands in Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Warwickshire, Middlesex, and other counties. He was the son<sup>1</sup> of Adelstan, and grandson of Tovi, one of the founders and benefactors of the great abbey of Waltham, by Glitha, daughter of Osegod Scalp. The lands which he held by virtue of his office fell to the hands of Geoffrey de Mandeville, otherwise called "Goisfridus de Manneville" in Domesday, and their descent is not infrequently recorded in the description of the manors in the book.

Azor, in the same way, was either the name of one large holder of lands in various counties previous to the taking of the survey, or there were many holders who possessed this peculiar name. From some of

<sup>1</sup> Harley MS. 3,776, f. 50 ("History of Waltham Abbey.")



the entries it is clear that it was not an uncommon one. Brictric is another name which is credited with a large number of manors in various counties previous to the taking of the survey. It would be impossible to assign all the entries which Ellis has tabulated to the same personage. The Brictric who held in Gloucestershire had<sup>1</sup> the Honour of Gloucester, which was a noble lordship, and many other great estates by inheritance from his grandfather, Hailward Snow. He incurred the displeasure of Queen Maud (the Conqueror's consort, daughter of Baldwin, earl of Flanders), who in vain desired to marry him when he was ambassador at the court of her father. The lady probably only followed the example of her day when she took her revenge for the slight by procuring his imprisonment at Winchester and the confiscation of all his possessions. Some of Brictric's manors in Cornwall and Gloucestershire afterwards belonged to Queen Maud at the time of the survey; others went to Robert Fitz Haimon in the time of William II.

Brixī, the Saxon tenant of the manor of Hatcham, in Camberwell, co. Surrey, in the time of King Edward, is supposed to have given his name to the Hundred of Brixton, anciently called Brixistan. If this be so, it is a remarkable instance of the late formation of the nomenclature<sup>2</sup> of political subdivisions of counties, illustrated in a somewhat parallel manner

<sup>1</sup> Kelham, p. 165, from Rudder, "History of Gloucester," p. 739.

<sup>2</sup> The Norman personal surnames suffixed in many cases to Saxon place-names—as Stanton-Lacy, Stoke-Mandeville, and so forth, are, of course, still later. The transference of old English





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by his own people in consequence of his attachment to the new king.

Eddeua, called also Eddid, Eddida, and Eddied Regina, *i.e.*, the queen of King Edward the Confessor, held many manors, previous to the Domesday Survey, in the Counties of Kent, Sussex, Hants, Wilts, Devon, Cornwall, Bucks, Surrey, Berks, Dorset, Middlesex, Gloucester, Northampton, Rutland, Devon, Oxford, Hereford, Cambridge, Lincoln, Suffolk, Somerset, and others. She was the daughter of earl Godwine, and is called "the sister of Odo the Earl" in the Herefordshire Survey.<sup>1</sup> Her beauty is recorded in an epigram quoted by Ellis, from the Harley MS., 3,977, a *Consuetudinary*, or Customary of the Abbey of Bury St. Edmund's:—

"Sicut spina rosam genuit Godwynus Editham."

This beautiful lady must not be confused with Eddeua pulchra, or dives, the mistress of Harold, whose lands are distinguished throughout the Domesday Book with a care and accuracy which Ellis regards as evidently not unintentional. The personal charms of this Eddeua are indicated by her surname or appellation "Swannehals" or "Swan's-neck,"<sup>2</sup> quod gallicé sonat "*collum cigni*."

It is this personage who is alluded to in the Life of King Harold, found in the Cotton M.S., Julius D. vi., in which is narrated the account of two monks who watched the Battle of Hastings, and

<sup>1</sup> Fol. 186.

<sup>2</sup> "Edgyue Suanneshals," Cotton MS. Nero D 11, fol. 204.



obtained the permission of William the Conqueror to bring away Harold's body, and afterwards carried the mistress to aid their search. The "Romance of the Life of King Harold" in the Harley M.S. 3,776,<sup>1</sup> however, relates the carrying away of Harold's body, without any mention of this lady, and converts the two monks into two hinds,<sup>2</sup> and speaks of his cure by a certain woman, a Saracen,<sup>3</sup> who was very proficient in the art of surgery.

Ellis, however, rejects this accepted notice of Eddeua, and believes her to have been Editha, daughter of earl Algar, the sister of earls Edwine and Morcar, the widow of Griffin, or Grithfrid, prince of the Welsh, and the queen of Harold. He adduces a passage in Duchesne's *Scriptores*, in support of this view. He considers Aldith, Editha, Algiva, or Eddeua synonymous terms for the name of Harold's second wife, who was not likely to be designated as a queen in a Record which studiously avoided attaching, even by implication, the dignity of King to Harold's name. Florence of Worcester<sup>4</sup> clearly states, that "Algitha the Queen" was the sister of Edwine and Morcar. The lands of Eddeua pulchra were of very great extent, amounting in the different counties to

<sup>1</sup> Edited by W. de G. Birch in 1885, p. 136.

<sup>2</sup> "Inde a duobus, ut fertur, mediocribus viris, quos franc-alanos sive agricolas vocant, agnitus, et callide occultatus, ad Wintoniensem deducitur civitatem." *Ibid.*, p. 34.

<sup>3</sup> "A quadam muliere, genere Saracena, artis chirurgice peritissima," *ibid.*, p. 35, but compare chap. xvii., p. 187, where she is named Edith, "a woman of shrewd intelligence, "sagacis animi femina."

<sup>4</sup> Page 634.



two hundred and thirty hides, or perhaps about 27,600 acres, according to our system of computation. In Cambridgeshire alone, she held more than a hundred and fifty-eight hides, which subsequently formed part of the Conqueror's reward to Alan, earl of Bretagne. It is scarcely likely (as Ellis observes) that a mistress of Harold should have held such vast tracts of land, or that she should have held as an under-tenant who could not alienate himself for her service no less important a person than Goduinus eilt, whose appellation shows that he was a scion of the royal family, at Fulbourne, in Cambridgeshire.

Edmer atre is another Saxon tenant previous to the Domesday Survey. He, and Ordulf, another of more notable Saxons, are thought to have been partisans of Githa, the mother of Harold, when she instigated the people of Exeter in 1068 to break out into rebellion. The lands of these two holders were conferred upon the earl of Moretaine. His name has given rise to a strange error in the Exon Domesday, where it appears as Edmeratorius,<sup>1</sup> and in the same record at another place Ailmarus ater,<sup>2</sup> or Ailmer the Black.

Ednod, the dapifer, is perhaps the same as Ednod Stalre. He is called Eadnoth Stallere in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. Harold made him master of the horse or constable, as "Stallere" signifies; but he made peace with the Conqueror, and was killed in 1068 in opposing Harold's sons, Godwine

<sup>1</sup> Pages 190, 191.

<sup>2</sup> Page 487.





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Godric, or Godricus, Goduin, and Goduinus, also are entered as great tenants, but it is impossible to attribute all the entries to the same personages. Goduinus, the son of King Harold, held land in Somersetshire. Gospatric of Yorkshire is another great name: he continued to hold lands, either *in capite* or as under-tenant of earl Alan, at the time of the survey.

Guert, Gurt, or Guerd, held land in Sussex, Cambridge, Bedford, Norfolk, and Suffolk. He was one of the brothers of Harold, and his death is depicted in the Bayeux Tapestry;<sup>1</sup> and Ellis declares the death of this prince at the battle of Hastings to be one of the settled events of history. At the same time, the “Romance of the Life of Harold,”<sup>2</sup> which has been already alluded to more than once, contains an allusion to Gurth, which may be quoted here for what it is worth:—

“In the days of King Henry II. there was seen by that king himself, as well as the nobles and people of the land, a brother of Harold, named Gurth . . . . . at the time of the arrival of the Norman little more than a boy, but in wisdom and uprightness of mind, almost a man. But he was at the period we speak of, of a great age, and, as we heard from many who saw him at that time, beautiful to look upon, noble in mien, and very tall in figure.” Gurth, according to this manuscript, spoke myste-

<sup>1</sup> See the excellent description and facsimiles, in Mr. F. R. Fowke's work, published by the Arundel Society, 1875, 4to.

<sup>2</sup> Ed. Birch, p. 119.



riously respecting Harold, and declared that the body of that prince was not at Waltham. No doubt a story was prevalent, which supplied the material groundwork for the "Romance of the Life of Harold," that he had escaped from Hastings. It is curious that Giraldus Cambrensis, who wrote independently of the fiction-loving Canon of Waltham Abbey, who is accredited with the authorship of the Romance, should also assert<sup>1</sup> that Harold fled from battle, wounded, his left eye destroyed, and ended his days in a holy and virtuous manner, as an anchorite, at Chester, just as is set forth in the Romance,<sup>2</sup> on which so much obloquy has been bestowed,

Gunnild, daughter of the powerful earl Godwine, was another tenant of noble Saxon birth. Ellis gives an interesting note of the discovery of her sepulchre in the Church of St. Donat at Bruges, with the inscription on a leaden plate recording her death in 1087.

There was another Gunnilda, or Gunilda, half-sister of King Edward the Confessor, and wife of Henry the Black, Emperor of Germany, daughter of Canute, King of England; she died in 1042, and was buried in the same church. A third Gunnilda is mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle under the year 1045. Ellis finds that she is a distinct personage from the two above mentioned.

Harold, son of Ralph, earl of Hereford, and a tenant in Warwickshire, was another noble Saxon, or

<sup>1</sup> "Itinerarium," ed. Francof., 1603, p. 874. See also Giraldi Cambr. opera, ed. J. F. Dimock, vol. vi., p. 140 (Rolls Series.)

<sup>2</sup> Pages 96, 97.



Anglo-Dane, who held lands before the Domesday Survey.

By Harold the Earl, as he is usually styled in the Survey, which would naturally withhold the title of king to one whom it considered an usurper, was held a vast territory in many counties. Ellis explains the "*invasions*," or "usurpations," of Harold, which are continually complained of in the Domesday Book, and his alleged violations of the property of the Church, as forcible entries upon lands or other possessions, made not only in Saxon but in Norman times, by the ministers or bailiffs of the great tenants, in the name, but without the knowledge, of their masters. This illustrious writer quotes in full a charter<sup>1</sup> among the Cottonian Collections in the British Museum, to show that this certainly was the case at Sandwich, where the toll of the port, belonging to Christchurch, Canterbury, had been invaded by Ælfstan, abbot of St. Augustine's, Canterbury, in the king's name, but against his wish or consent, in A.D. 1038, during the reign of Harold Harefoot.

The nobly-born Hereuuard<sup>2</sup> appears among the celebrated persons holding lands previous to the Domesday Survey. He is also called Heward and Herward. He was the younger son of Leofric, earl of Mercia, and was elected by the prelates and nobility who took refuge against the Norman rule

<sup>1</sup> Augustus ii. 90. See "Facsimiles of Ancient Charters," published under direction of the Trustees, part iv. plate 20.

<sup>2</sup> This man is the hero of many a tale. See "Camp of Refuge," by Ch. MacFarlane. Cf. also the account of Heward, or Herward, in Ingulph's "Chronicle," pp. 116, 121, *et seq.*





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The latter, however, included Leuric of Devonshire, who is said to have been nephew of Leofric, earl of Mercia, and related to the royal family, as the appellation *cilt* in the Lincoln Domesday testifies. He, too,<sup>1</sup> exchanged the ploughshare and the sword for the pastoral staff of an abbot, in the powerful Abbey of Peterborough in 1057. His proclivities, however, carried him into the army again in A.D. 1066.

Passing by without notice the names of many Saxon tenants of lands either in the time of King Edward or before the Domesday Book was compiled, mention may be made of Merlesuain, Merlesuan, or Merlosuen vicecomes, an illustrious tenant in Somersetshire, Devonshire, Cornwall, Yorkshire, and Lincolnshire. He attests charters<sup>2</sup> of King Edward the Confessor and William the Conqueror, which shows that for a time, at least, Ellis thinks, that it was in his capacity of *vicecomes*, or "sheriff," of Lincoln, that Wace sings of Merlesuain as one of those who had engaged to forward forces to the south in aid of Harold, when the ill-fated prince marched after the battle of Stamford Bridge against the Normans. In A.D. 1067, Merlesuan accompanied<sup>3</sup> Edgar the Atheling to the Scottish court.

Of Morcar, or Morcar the Earl, some particulars have already been given. He is recorded as an extensive holder in many counties before the survey.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle," *ad annum*.

<sup>2</sup> In the *Liber Niger* of Peterborough, MS. 60, Society of Antiquaries, London.

<sup>3</sup> "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle," *ad annum*.



The name only occurs in Buckinghamshire as that of an under-tenant of land at the time of the compilation of Domesday Book, and does not find any place among the tenants in capite under the new Government.

Osiet, a Bedfordshire landholder previous to the coming of the Normans, continued to hold this and other lands at the time of the survey. He is styled *præfectus regis*.

R. the *Comes Vetus*, or the "Old Earl," a pre-Domesday tenant in Norfolk, is identified by Kelham in a note quoted by Ellis as "Old Earl Ralph, the father of Ralph de Guader, earl of Norfolk."

Robert, son of Wimarc, the *Stallere*, or Constable, appears to have been one of the Kentish thegns of Edward the Confessor. He was the father of Suein of Essex.

Seman, a tenant in Surrey in the time of Edward the Confessor, is noteworthy as being one of the few who became under-tenants of their own lands on the political change under William taking place. From this time forward he became the *servus* of Oswold, and paid a rent of twenty pence for his land, and he lost the privilege of transferring himself to any other lord.

Siuuard, or Siuuardus, is a name constantly occurring in the list of tenants before the survey. It is difficult to say how many of these entries represent the same person's land. But among the noble Siwards is the earl of that name, who held estates in Huntingdonshire and Yorkshire; another is the



thegn and kinsman of King Edward ; a third is Siuuard the priest, one of the "Lagemen of Lincoln in the time of Edward the Confessor, who had been succeeded in that office at the time the survey was made by Leduin, the son of Reuew. A fourth Sinnard had the surname or appellation of Bar or Barn. He appears among the pre-Domesday tenants in Gloucestershire. This great chief took part in the rebellion at Ely, described in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle under the year 1071. A fifth Sinuard is designated as a rich Salopian Saxon, "dives homo de Scropscyre," in the Worcester Chartulary compiled by Heming, in the passage containing the *Commemoratio Placiti*, or record of the lawsuit between Wulfstan, bishop of Worcester, and Walter, bishop of Evesham.

Stanchil, a tenant in Berkshire before the Domesday Survey, is equated by Ellis with Turkill of the Abingdon Chronicle,<sup>1</sup> where he, too, is called "a rich man" (*dives*). He held Chingstune, or Kingston Bagpuze, in the time of King Edward, but transferred the superiority over his lands to the Abbey of Abingdon, and this again at the time of the Survey was held by Henry de Ferrariis.

Stigand, or Stigandus, the Archbishop, is another tenant to whom a large estate belonged before the Domesday period. Some facts relating to him have been already mentioned. The names Tochi or Toche, Toli, Tor, Torchil, Toret, Tosti, Tovi, Turchil

<sup>1</sup> British Museum, Cotton. MS., Claudius C. ix. f. 133. See the "Abingdon Chronicle," ed. Stevenson (Rolls Series).





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An Vlchel, called also Vlchetel or Wulketul, became abbot of Croyland at the appointment of Edward the Confessor in 1052. His unfortunate career is related at length by Ingulph, who succeeded him in the Abbacy<sup>1</sup> from which it appears that he gave great offence to Ivo Tailbois, Norman lord of Holland in Lincolnshire, by publishing the miracles which were reported to have been performed at the tomb of earl Waltheof, in the Abbey. For this offence he was summoned to a Council at London, in A.D. 1075, deprived of his position, and committed to prison at Glastonbury, in Somersetshire, under charge of abbot Thurstan, whom Ingulph stigmatises as very bloodthirsty.<sup>2</sup> The King took advantage of the opportunity afforded by the imprudence of the abbot of Croyland to confiscate its treasure.

Vlfric cilt is a tenant in Derbyshire before the Domesday Survey. His name is not found among the under-tenants at the Domesday period. He was, no doubt, a scion of the royal family.

The ill-fated Wallef Comes, also called Walleuus or Waltef, Waldeuus, Waleuus Consul, Walleter, and Walthews, and by many other somewhat similar names, deserves a word in passing. He was the younger son of Siward, the earl of Northumberland, one of Edward the Confessor's adherents, who died in 1055. His mother was the daughter and heir of

<sup>1</sup> Ingulph's "Chronicle," pp. 113, 115, 126-8.

<sup>2</sup> "Cruentissimus." It was abbot Thurstan who, in 1081, poured out, on the altar-steps, the blood of his monks who would not accept his new regulations. "John of Oxenedes," p. 32.



Aldred, the Saxon earl of Northumberland. Fifteen years<sup>1</sup> after his father's death he obtained the earldom of Northumberland, to which he was raised by King William, upon the flight of Cospatrick, the former rebellious earl, into Scotland. Previous to this time, but the exact date has not been ascertained, he had held the earldom of Northampton and Huntingdom, probably<sup>2</sup> between A.D. 1066 and 1068. These earldoms, we are informed, had been at one time attached to that of Northumberland, and were afterwards separated from it, and held distinctly from it by Waltheof. Ingulph, whose unsupported evidence is, according to many writers, rarely to be trusted, states that Waltheof received these dignities on the death of his father, when Tosti received that of Northumberland. Whereas the Chronicle of John of Peterborough distinctly, but incorrectly, records that Waltheof succeeded to Northamptonshire on his father's death in 1055, yet it is known from a charter still extant,<sup>3</sup> that Tosti was then earl of that shire.

It can, therefore, hardly be doubted that the earldoms of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire were obtained by Waltheof as a result of the Northumbrian revolt in 1065.

In the year after the conquest, King William took Waltheof, with Edgar Atheling, Eadwine, and Morcar to Normandy on his return to that country.

<sup>1</sup> "The Life and Times of Earl Waltheof," by E. Levien, in "Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.," vol. xxx. p. 387.

<sup>2</sup> Freeman, "History of the Norman Conquest," vol. ii. pp. 555-569.

<sup>3</sup> Kemble, "Cod. Dipl." No. Dcccciv.



Waltheof appears in the list of pre-Domesday tenants as holding lands of considerable extent in many counties, chiefly Surrey, Cambridge, Huntingdon, Bedford, Northampton, Leicester, Derby, Rutland, Lincoln, and Essex. The revolt in 1069, when York Castle was attacked by the combined forces of the Northumbrians and Danes, joined by Edgar Atheling, and the earls Cospatric and Waltheof, naturally made King William an implacable enemy of Waltheof, but the king appears to have at any rate abstained at the time from taking retaliation. He gave the earl his niece Judith—an ominous name!—to wife; and, according to William of Ramsey, made a free grant of all his lands to him, and, further, conferred on him the liberties belonging to the honours of Huntingdon. At this time it would appear that Waltheof enjoyed some share of royal favour. He was appointed by the king, together with Gosfrid, bishop of Constance, Remigius de Fécamp, bishop of Lincoln, and others, a commissioner to inquire into the alleged usurpation of lands belonging to the Abbey of Ely. The text of the *placitum* has been printed,<sup>1</sup> and forms, with the text of records relating to the trial at Penenden Heath, and to the Worcester *Indiculum*,<sup>2</sup> a valuable insight into the judicial processes respecting the settlement of land in the Domesday period. Waltheof

<sup>1</sup> “Inquisitio Comitatus Cantabr.,” ed. Hamilton, p. 192, from MS. Trin. Coll. Cantab. O. 2. 1. f. 210 b.

<sup>2</sup> Hearne’s “Heming,” vol. i., p. 287, from MS. Cotton. Tiberius, A. xiii. f. 132. See further on, chap. xiv.





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the countess Judith, whose conduct in denouncing her husband to the king has been viewed in various aspects. Ingulph<sup>1</sup> bestows on her the strong term of "*impiissima Jezebel*," while he looks on the death of the earl as the martyrdom of an innocent and harmless man. His body was hastily buried; after a fortnight's lapse the king allowed Wulketul, abbot of Croyland, to translate the remains to the chapter-house at Croyland, and the subsequent miracles which took place at his tomb cost the abbot his freedom, as we have already shown.

Wigot of Wallingford is another great Saxon tenant before the Domesday Survey was prepared. Ellis, quoting a passage in Kennett's "Parochial Antiquities,"<sup>2</sup> states that William the Conqueror, after the battle of Hastings, passed through Kent and by London, then held by the party of Edgar Atheling, to Wallingford, where the lord of that town, Wigod de Wallingford, went out to meet him, delivered the town up to him, and entertained him there, until archbishop Stigand and many of the nobles of Edgar's party came in and tendered their submission. For this service the king, with a view of ingratiating himself with his newly-acquired subjects, and at the same time to reward his Norman companions, bestowed Aldith, the only daughter of Wigod, in marriage to Robert de Oily or Oilli, who afterwards enjoyed the estates of his Saxon father-in-law.

The names of places and persons mentioned in the Record afford a vast field for the consideration

<sup>1</sup> Ed. Birch, p. 126.

<sup>2</sup> Page 55.



of the philologist. The place-names might be divided into separate classes, showing the pre-historic or Celtic ; the Roman ; the Anglo-Saxon ; the Danish ; and the Norman origin of the names. But a mere list would require far more space than can here be devoted to it, and almost every example would involve controversial and philological arguments unsuited for the popular character of this work. As a rule, the apparent significance of a place-name is not the real one. Who, but those who study these questions, will believe that Shepherd's well in Kent is a corruption of Sibriht's Weald, or Sibertswold ; or that Cambridge is not the Bridge of the River Cam, but Grantabrigæ.

Many of the names of persons and of places, no doubt, have been written down by the Norman scribes incorrectly, perhaps following a phonetic and arbitrary, rather than any etymological rule. But even allowing for this, there are numerous names which cannot fail to excite our interest. Some of them are individual appellations, others secondary names, for the most part descriptive of some personal peculiarity or indicating some fact in the life of the individual to whom it was applied. These names in many instances passed on in the family, until they became finally and firmly established as surnames. It would be impossible to allude to or discuss all these peculiarities of nomenclature within the scope of the present work, but no account of the Domesday Book would be complete without some reference to them. The following are of striking appearance, and may be studied with advantage by the light of



such a work as Dr. Ernest Förstemann's *Altdeutsches Namenbuch*:<sup>1</sup>—

#### TENANTS IN CAPITE.

Adobed, Rualdus (*Dev.*)

Alfhilla (*Dev.*)

Aluuard collinc (*Wilts.*)

Aluuard mert (*Dev.*)

Anschitil parcher (*Somers.*)

Ansger Fouuer (*Somers.*)

Asinus, or Lasne, Hugo (*Worc.*)

Aulric Wanz (*Suff.*)

Bolle (*Hants.*)

Bollo (*Dors.*)

Buge (*Notts.*)

Carbonel (*Heref.*)

Chaua, Leuuius (*Buck.*)

Croc (*Wilts.*)

Dalfin (*Derb., Yorks.*)

Esnebern (*Yorks.*)

Forne (*Yorks.*)

Game (*Yorks.*)

Gamel (*Yorks., Staff.*)

Gernio (*Oxf.*)

Hghebernus (*Ess.*)

Hunfridus Vis-de-Lew (*Berks.*)

Jeanio (*Oxf.*)

Ilbodo (*Ess.*)

Ilbcdus (*Oxf.*)

Landri (*Yorks.*)

Leuvinus Oaura (*Buck.*)

<sup>1</sup> Published at Nordhausen in 1856.





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TENANTS IN THE TIME OF EDWARD THE CONFESSOR,  
AND PREVIOUS TO THE DOMESDAY SURVEY.

Aben (*Linc.*)

Abet.

Abo (*Yorks.*)

Achi (*Wilts, Ches., Suff., etc.*)

Acum (*Linc.*)

Acun (*Yorks.*).

Ædricus grim (*Suff.*)

Ælfag (*Nott.*) ; Elfag (*Derb.*)

Ærgrim (*Salop.*)

Ailm (*Cornw.*)

Ailmarus melc (*Ess.*)

Aki (*Suff.*)

Albus, Oslac (*Northt.*)

Aldene tope (*Linc.*)

Algrim (*Yorks.*)

Alli (*Buck., Bedf.*)

Alnod Grutt or Grud (*Hertf.*)

Alric Eduinus in paragio (*Dev.*)

Alric boleest (*Buck.*)

Alric deburch (*Suff.*)

Alric gangemere (*Buck.*)

Alricus Wintremele (*Bedf.*)

Alsus Bolla (*Ess.*)

Aluredus biga (*Kent.*)

Aluric blac (*Herts.*) and other examples of *blac*,  
*blacus*.

Aluric busch (*Hert.*)

Aluric capus (*Cambr.*)



Aluric pic (*Devon.*)  
 Aluric uuelp (*Oxf.*)  
 Aluricus biga (*Ess.*)  
 Aluricus camp (*Ess.*)  
 Aluricus campa, and capin (*Suff.*)  
 Aluricus scoua (*Hertf.*)  
 Aluricus stari, and stikestare (*Suff.*)  
 Aluricus uuand (*Ess.*)  
 Aluuardus belrap (*Suss., Berk., Dev., Bed.*)  
 Aluuardus Dore (*Ess.*)  
 Aluni blac (*Worc.*)  
 Aluuinus black (*Hunt.*)  
 Aluuinus Boi (*Surr.*)  
 Aluuinus coc (*Cambr.*)  
 Aluuinus cubold (*Northt.*)  
 Aluuinus deule (*Hants, Bedf.*)  
 Aluuinus dode (*Hertf.*)  
 Aluuinus forst (*Hants.*)  
 Aluuinus sac (*Bedf.*)  
 Amod (*fem.*) (*Suff.*)  
 Andrae (*Hants.*)  
 Anunt dacus (*Essex.*)  
 Ape (*Somers.*)  
 Appe (*Wilts.*)  
 Archilbar (*Linc.*)  
 Ardegrip (*Linc.*)  
 Aregrim (*Chesh.*)  
 Arnegrim (*York.*)  
 Aschilbar (*Linc.*)  
 Aseloc (*Nott.*)  
 Auti (*Suss., Glouc., Norf., &c.*)  
 Azor (*passim*); Azor Rot (*Kent.*)



Azur (*Oxf., Northt., Warw.*)

Baco (*Linc.*)

Bar (*Yorks, Suff., Midd., Norf.*)

Basin (*Yorks.*)

Ber (*Yorks.*)

Biga (*Surr.*)

Bil (*Glouc.*)

Boda (*Hants.*); Bode (*Wilts.*); Boddus (*Ess.*)

Bou (*Norf.*); Bu (*Yorks.*)

Boui (*Northt., Leic., Warw., Nott.*)

Bricstouuard (*Somers.*)

Brictuarus Bubba (*Suff.*)

Brihtuoldus musla (*Suff.*)

Brodo (*Bed., Norf.*); Brodus (*Linc.*)

Bunda, Bonde, Bunde, Bondi, Bundi, Bondo,  
Bundo, and Bondus, Bundus (*in var. counties.*)

Caduualent (*Cornw.*)

Cafo (*Somers.*)

Caua; Caue; Cauo; Cauus (*Suss.*)

Celcott (*Suff.*)

Cheteber (*Yorks*); Chetelbar (*Linc.*); Chetelber  
(*Hunt., Yorks., Linc.*); Chetelbern (*Nott.,  
Linc., Norf.*)

Clac (*Linc.*)

Col (*Linc.*); Cola (*Suss.*); Cole (*Suss., Derby.*);  
Colle (*Derb.*); Colo (*Wilts., Somers., Cornw.,  
&c.*)

Coolle (*Wilts.*)

Couta (*Suff.*)

Crin (*Yorks.*)

Dedol; Dedou (*Chesh.*)

Doda; Dode; Dodo (*Var.*)





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Glunier (*Yorks.*)

Godtovi (*Surr.*)

Golnil (*Buck.*)

Gos (*Hunt.*)

Gribol (*Linc.*)

Grimulf (*Warw.*)

Haltor ; Heltor (*Yorks.*)

Huna, Hunus (*Suff.*) ; Hune (*Yorks.*) ; Huni,  
Hunni, Huninc, Hunnic, Hunnit, &c.  
(*Salop.*)

Jalf (*Linc.*)

Jaul (*Cornw.*)

Juin (*Dev.*) ; Juing (*Somers.*)

Kee (*Norf.*)

Ketelbern, Ketelbert (*Worc.*)

Lambecarl, Lanbecarle (*Linc.*)

Leswinus croc (*Suff.*)

Leuenot sterre (*Derb.*)

Leuricus coccus (*Suff.*)

Leuvinus calvus (*Suff.*)

Lurc (*Suff.*)

Maban (*Yorks.*)

Mannius swert (*Suff.*) ; Magno Suert (*Surr.*)

Moithar (*Norf.*)

Offa (*Suss., Suff.*)

Osbertus masculus (*Suff.*)

Oslac albus (*Northt.*)

Phin (*Suff. Ess.*) ; Phin dacus (*Ess.*) ; Pin (*Glouc.*)

Ram (*Yorks.*)

Ramechil (*Yorks.*)

Roc (*Suff.*)

Rozo (*Wilts.*)

Salomon (*Yorks.*)



Salpus (*Suff.*)

Saul, Saulf, Saulfus (*Var.*) ; Seulf (*Somers.*)

Sbern (*Kent, Suss., Cornw., Leic., Linc.*) ; Sberne  
(*Hants, Warw., &c.*)

Sbern biga (*Kent.*)

Sbern croc (*Nott.*)

Sbern, Vlmer (*Nott.*)

Scheit, Schett (*Norf.*)

Scotcol, Scotecol (*Yorks.*)

Seiar, Seiardus, or Siuuard bar (*Norf., Glouc.*) ;  
Siuuardbar (*Yorks., Linc.*) ; Siunard barn  
(*Warw., Nott., Linc.*)

Sessi (*Salop.*)

Sindi (*Yorks.*)

Snellinc (*Cambr.*)

Snode, Snot (*Dev.*)

Sol (*Heref.*)

Spirites (*Kent, Hants, Heref.*) ; Spirtes (*Wilts.,  
Heref., Salop, Somers.*) ; Sport (*Yorks.*)

Stam (*Yorks.*)

Stanker (*Suff.*)

Ster (*Linc.*) ; Sterr (*Yorks.*) ; Sterre (*Hants,  
Yorks.*) ; Stur (*Linc.*) ; Strui (*Linc.*)

Suartcol (*Yorks.*)

Suenus Suart (*Ess.*)

Thol, Thole, Tholi, Tol, Toli (*Var.*)

Thor (*Northt.*) ; Tor, (*Yorks., Linc., Norf.*)

Tou, Toul, Toui, Touui, Touius (*Var.*)

Turloga (*Yorks.*)

Vluuard Wit (*Dors.*)

Vnfac (*Nott.*)

Wadel (*Kent, Der., Cornw.*) ; Wadels (*Der.*) ;  
Wadhel (*Cornw.*) ; Wadelo (*Der.*)



Welp (*Yorks.*) ; Uuelp, Aluric (*Oxf.*)

Wilegrip (*Staff., Salop.*)

Unit (*i.e.*, "White") as a second name (*Hants, Bedf., Heref., Kent, Dors., Oxf., Midd.*)

Wluuardus Leuet (*Bedf.*)

Wordrou (*Der.*)

There is not a single example in the above list which does not present peculiarities of great interest. We may trace in these names, and in many others, which have been omitted in order to keep the list within reasonable limits, the germs of many of our modern surnames. We are also able to see how heterogeneous was the race of landowners in England before the coming of the Normans. Celts, Danes, Normans, Anglo-Saxons, Jews, and natives of almost every European nation are plainly indicated; and even from among the undertenants at the time of the formation of the Domesday Book, as the following list shows, a similar roll of names may be gathered.

#### UNDERTENANTS IN THE DOMESDAY BOOK.

Abel (*Kent.*)

Adam (*Kent., Hertf., Oxf.*)

Aelous (*Suff.*)

Alde (*Warw.*)

Aluredus Hispan (*Glouc.*)

Aluricus chacepol (*Midd.*)

Aluricus parvus (*Hants.*)

Aluvin ret (*Hants.*)

Amun (*Dors.*)

Ansegis (*Warw.*)





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Gunter (*Wilts.*)  
 Hubb' (*Suff.*)  
 Idhel (*Glouc.*)  
 Isac (*Norf., Suff.*)  
 Jacob (*Oxf.*)  
 Jagelin (*Der.*)  
 James (*Suff.*)  
 Jarnacotus (*Suff.*)  
 Johais (*Warw.*)  
 Judhellus (*Der.*); Judichel (*Wilts., Bedf.*);  
     Juhellus (*Warw.*)  
 Juran (*Hants.*)  
 Lofus (*Surr.*)  
 Lunen (*Hunts.*)  
 Maci (surname, *Hants.*)  
 Malus Vicinus (*Suff.*)  
 Marend (*Ches.*)  
 Mecheuta (*Leic.*)  
 Moyses (*Somers.*)  
 Nannen (*Staff.*)  
 Noui (*Heref.*)  
 Oddo (*Suff.*); Odo (*var.*); Otho (*Cambr.*); Otto  
     (*Ess.*)  
 Offels (*Cornw.*)  
 Papaldus (*Hants.*)  
 Parler (surname, *Worc.*)  
 Passaṡ (*surname, Bedf.*)  
 Phanexon (*Norf.*)  
 Pugnant, Pungiant (surnames, *Hants., Berks.*)  
 Rademar (*Dev.*); Rademer (*Somers.*)  
 Ratho (*Norf.*)  
 Rauenesort (*Nott.*)



Robert niger (*Kent*).

Rold (*Linc.*)

Rolland (*Northt.*)

Roricus (*Suff.*)

Salo (*Warw.*)

Sasuualo (*Sus., Berks., Oxf., Northt., Linc., Warw., Derb.*)

Sasuardes (*Suss.*)

Scudet, Scutet (surnames, *Wilts., Suff.*)

Sinod (*Dors.*)

Stable (*Somers.*)

Tirus (*Norf.*)

Tor (*Linc.*)

Tuder, a Welshman (*Salop.*)

Turmit (surname, *Norf.*)

Uctebrand (*Derb.*)

Venables, Gislebertus de (*Chesh.*)

Vltbertus (*Northt.*)

Vrfer (*Warw., Staff.*)

Uttalis (*Kent.*)

Wala (*Norf.*)

Wast (surname, *Buck., Bedf.*)

Wazo (*Surr., Berks.*)

Werllc (*Suss.*); Werenc (*Suss.*)

Wihuenec, Wihuenech (*Dev.*)

Wihumar, Wihumare (*Cornw.*)

Besides the consideration of these peculiar names, the titular designations and titles of persons, officers, and other distinguishing appellations are of considerable interest. Many of the terms employed are difficult of interpretation, and even the learned Ducange, who



has devoted more attention to the subject than any one since his day, is unable to throw light on some of the obscurer names of officers and offices. The following collection of the principal of these terms has been arranged, for convenience of reference, in alphabetical order, with a short account of each as far as may be gathered from the explanations which have been recorded by writers on this branch of Domesday ethics.

The ABBOTS were the heads of the abbeys, and ranked next to Bishops in the importance of their position. There was not a great number of them who find place in the Domesday.

*Accipitrarii*, or *Ancipitrarii*, officers appointed to attend to the Lords' falcons. Ducange calls this person "accipitrum curator et domitor," "the caretaker and tamer of the hawks."

*Aloarii*, *Alodarii*, or *Alodiararii*, were the tenants in *Allodium*, or *Fee Simple*, that is of an hereditary and perpetual estate, free to be disposed of by gift or sale, and subject to the common and constant land-tax of hidage. In Kent, under certain cases, all the allodial tenants, and their men, were liable to a fine or tax, and on the death of the *Aloarius*, the king was entitled to a relief. Although, as a rule, the *Aloarii* were freemen, there are some instances of a qualified kind of allodium, and of undertenants in *allodium*. In Berkshire the *Alodiarus* still exists, at the time of the formation of the survey.

The king was entitled to a *relief* when an *Alodiarus* died, in Kent, with certain exceptions specified by Ellis from the opening account of the survey in the Domesday Book.





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*Arbalistarii*, or *Balistarii*, were cross-bow men. This important section of the military strength has been discussed in detail by J. Hewitt, in his valuable work on “Ancient Armour and Weapons in Europe.”

*Arcarii*, officers whose duties have not been very clearly defined. They were probably archers, *sagittarii*, bowmen. The same term is used anciently to signify those to whom was entrusted the charge of the public chest or *arca* of the treasury.

*Aurifabri*, or workers in gold, goldsmiths, occur among the various tradesmen and artificers. The goldsmith appears to have been a privileged person in some cases, not only in Domesday, but throughout the ancient and mediæval world. There were three tenants in capite, and three under tenants at the time of the survey, and one held in the time of King Edward, besides others.

*Barons* are rarely noticed. They represent in Domesday the king's justiciaries, and the term was also applied to the tenants-in-chief generally.

*Batsueins* occurs in the survey of Warwick. The burgesses of the town provided four Batsueins, *i.e.*, *Boatswains*,<sup>1</sup> or paid four pounds in money when the king made war at sea against his enemies.

The *Bedel*, or *Bedellus*, was an under-bailiff of a manor. Twenty-two only are mentioned in all. In Leominster, in Herefordshire, the Manor of which had sixteen members, there were eight *prepositi* or provosts, and as many *bedels*. In Bedfordshire the bedels are classed with the king's prefects, and the almoners among the tenants in chief. The bedel had

<sup>1</sup> *Batus*, a boat, *scapha cymba*. Ducange.



greater freedom from work than others, because of his frequent interruptions, and was favoured with a small patch of land for his own cultivation.

*Bercarii*, or shepherds, are considered by Ellis to be equivalent to *Berbicarii*, a word derived from *vervex*, a weather. Only ten in all are specified.

*Bigæ*. Ellis considers this word a title of the officer appointed to provide carriages for the use of the king. It looks, however, more like a name, derived from the classical *biga*, a vehicle on two wheels. Ducange instances other significations of the word, a beam, a table, &c.

*Bordarii*. The total number of these amounts to 82,119, according to Ellis's tabulation. This is between a third and a fourth of the total recorded population of all conditions. There are also 490 *bordarii pauperes*, and 15 *dimidii*. The exact status of the Bordarius has formed the subject of much speculation, and Mr. Seebohm has added maps to his work, showing the comparative aggregation of these persons in certain localities by colour deeper or paler in accordance with their more or less frequent occurrence.

From the account given by Mr. H. E. Malden that in some hundreds the *bordarii* predominate, to the exclusion of the *cotarii*, while in others the reverse takes place, it is not improbable that the exact distinction between these two classes of peasants was but slight. It may be that different customs obtained in different hundreds, and that really the terms are synonymous. This is borne out by the Sussex Domesday, which enumerates *bordarii* from the commencement to folio 24, col. 2, line 4 from bottom; these then give place to *cotarii*, who end



with folio 25 *b* ; and *bordarii* are again denoted down to the end of the county survey. It is clear, from a charter of King Eadgar<sup>1</sup>, that the word *Bord* signified a cottage, perhaps a boarded or wooden hut. The *bordarii* are considered by Domesday antiquaries to have been drudges, performing inferior services of a miscellaneous character, such as grinding, thrashing, drawing water, cutting wood, and the like. Many derivations have, however, been hazarded for their appellation. Lord Coke calls them *boors*, holding a small house, larger than a cottage, to which some small portion of land was attached. Others consider that they lived as cottagers on the *borders* of a village or Manor, but in some cases, at least, this cannot be correct, for they are found as dwelling near the *aula* or Manor House, and even as residents in the towns of Huntingdon, Norwich, and Thetford. The city of Norwich, indeed, sheltered no less than four hundred and eighty *bordarii*, who, on account of their poverty, were unable to pay taxes. Kennett considers these peasants to be distinct from the *servi* and *villani*, and to belong to a less servile class, being supplied with a *bord*, or cottage, and some adjacent land, on condition of supplying their lord with poultry, eggs, and other small provisions, for his *board* and entertainment. This, however, is extremely conjectural. Ellis is practically correct in his estimate of the position of the bordar, who were merely cottagers, and the “Inquisitio Eliensis” uses the expression *bordarii* where the Breviate MS. of the same

<sup>1</sup> Dugdale, “Mon. Angl.” (new edition), i. 209.





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one mariners. For this the burgesses enjoyed the privileges of Sac and Soc : two very important rights, the one of determining causes and disputes, executing laws and administering justice within a certain local area ; the other being the term for the area in which the Sac was exercised. Dover being then, as indeed it is now, a port of passage, it is not strange that there were customs connected with the royal messengers. Thus, the burgesses paid threepence in winter and two in summer, when the king's messenger arrived, for transporting his horse. Among other privileges was this, that whoever, constantly residing in the town, paid his customary rent to the king, went free of toll throughout England. These customs were not introduced under the Norman rule, for it is expressly stated that they were found here at the king's coming. This is only one example of many, that the change of government interfered in a very small degree with the ancient and established institutions of the Saxons.

Lewes is another town of which the peculiar customs are set forth with some degree of minuteness. Twenty shillings, a large sum, was collected from every burgess to be paid to the naval forces, when the king sent out a fleet to guard the seas. Specific payments, or toll for selling saleable properties, and specific fines for certain offences obtained here.

Oxford had many peculiar customs, among which was this, that when the king set out on an expedition, twenty of the burgesses went with him for the rest, or the burgh paid a fine of twenty pounds that all



might be excused. The tenants of the twenty "mural mansions" held their habitations under the liability to repair the city walls when need required, and the king should call upon them to do so.

The Hereford burgesses exercised customs and privileges which are minutely enumerated. Among them may be mentioned the right of sale by any burgess leaving the city, to any one who undertook to perform the proper services due from the holding, provided the parties obtained leave of the bailiff, who charged the third penny, *i.e.*,  $33\frac{1}{3}$  *per cent.* on the transfer.

The moneyers in this city consisted of seven persons, who were bound to coin the king's silver, when he visited the city, into pennies, and for this they had the privilege of Sac and Soc.

The Cambridge burgesses lent their ploughs to the sheriff three times every year in the time of King Edward. But at the time of the survey this demand had been augmented to nine times.

Leicester supplied a contingent of twelve burgesses to the royal army when the king marched through the land, and a relay of four horses as far as London when a foreign expedition was equipped. A curious example of the comparative value of a certain kind of property is seen in the fact that for a hawk the king had the alternative of ten pounds by sale, for a baggage or sumpter horse twenty shillings.<sup>1</sup> A hawk was therefore valued at the worth of ten pack-horses.

<sup>1</sup> Taking the average modern value of a horse at £40, we see, incidentally, that money was worth forty times more then than it is now-a-days.



This proportion of valuation is also borne out by the enumeration of the Warwick customs.

Warwick seems to have been a centre of the honey district; in the time of the Confessor, part of the tax due from the town to the king consisted of thirty-six *sextaria*, an irregular, and not uniform measure, of honey. In the time of the Domesday the number of these measures, and the capacity, had apparently altered; but the return was still made in kind. In the city ten burgesses had to accompany the king whenever he went in person in any land expedition. Of the *batsueins* of Warwick, notice has been taken in another part of this work.

The Shrewsbury customs are enumerated with considerable detail. Among them the most interesting are that when the king lodged in the city he had a body-guard consisting of twelve of the principal inhabitants. When the king hunted, the burgesses who possessed horses attended him with their arms, and the sheriff sent thirty-six men on foot to the deer-stand while the king was there. An equal body of men were supplied for a week at the park of Marsetelie. A widow on her remarriage paid a tax of twenty shillings to the king, while a maiden was only charged half this sum at her wedding.

Chester City possessed a large code of local laws and customs, which Ellis has discussed at length. If any burgess committed the crime of housebreaking and murder, he forfeited to the king the whole of his property and was declared an outlaw. The tax or fine on a widow under certain circumstances here may be compared with the Shrewsbury fine, above-





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the bridge, the reinforcement of the ranks. *Ibid.* No. 50, A.D. 680.

But under whatever phraseology it might be stated, the duty which was specified was the same. The *pons*, the *arx* or *castellum*, and the *expeditio* can relate to nothing else than the repair of bridges, a term probably taken of wide signification, and including the approaches in the vicinity ; the maintenance of the city walls, which were regarded in many cases as the outer wall of a castle co-extensive with the area included by the city wall : the castle itself, if there were one, being, so to speak, a second or inner line of defence ; and the contribution of men, money, or horses, as the case might be, towards the reinforcement of the king's army when it was once set in movement against the common enemy.

Nottingham appears to have been, as it were, an advance-guard to York, for the conservation of the River Trent and the way to the City of York were in the custody of the burgesses, and if any one hindered the water-way, or ploughed, or dug ditches within the distance of two perches of the king's highway, he forfeited the large sum of eight pounds. We may gather from this the relative breadth of the marching front of army along the herepað, or war path, which is synonymous in pre-Norman documents with our terms of highroad or king's highway.

Derby had two kinds of burgesses ; the full burgesses, of whom there were a hundred at the time of the Domesday Book, and forty distinguished as *minores*, or of less importance. They may be compared with the burgesses *minuti* of Tateshale,



the *mein* burgesses of Norwich, and the poor burgesses of Ipswich.

In three instances, at Cambridge, Lincoln, and Stamford, apart from the ordinary burgesses, we meet with the *lagemen*, *lagemanni*, or *lesser thegns*. These were, in the two latter of the three cases, only twelve in number. Ellis compares them with the twelve city judges of Chester, and the same number of *Lahmen*, specified in the "Senatus Consultum de Monticolis Walliæ." The twelve lagemen of Stamford, who are, like those of Lincoln, recognised in the laws of King Æthelred and King Edward the Confessor,<sup>1</sup> were reduced to the number of nine in that town when the Domesday Survey was compiled.

Torksey, like Nottingham, was charged with the duty of assisting in keeping up communication with the city of York. When the king's messengers arrived at this town, the watermen conducted them to the city, and the sheriff was bound to supply provisions, both for the messengers and their guides.

At Colchester, among other duties required of the burgesses in return for their privileges, the tax for expeditions, by sea or land, is specially mentioned in the Domesday Book.

Norwich, like Warwick, paid in honey, as well as in cash, for its local privileges. Apart from the specified money payments, there were due to the king twenty-one shillings and fourpence for proven-

<sup>1</sup> Thorpe, "Ancient Laws," ÆTHELRED, sec. III. ; EDW. CONF., sec. xxxviii., p. 199 ; compare also p. 151, where twelve *lahmen* were to "explain the law" to the "Wealas" and English.



der, six *sextaria* of honey, a bear, and six bear-hounds—presumably for the royal and popular amusement! of bear-baiting, which did not become extinct until the year 1835, when it was finally prohibited by Act of Parliament. To the queen this city gave a palfrey, in addition to the money payments due to her.

It must be remembered that in some towns, besides the burgesses, who were answerable to the Crown for their respective shares in the duties already mentioned, there were other burgesses under other lords; for example, in the City of Winchester, the Abbey of Romsey had fourteen burgesses, and in the town of Gloucester thirty burgesses owed their allegiance to a foreign body, the famous and wealthy Abbey of St. Denys at Paris. The total number of burgesses is estimated at 7,968.

The *Burs* or *Buri*, of whom sixty-two are enumerated in different parts of the Domesday Book—Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Devonshire, Herefordshire, Oxfordshire, and Worcestershire. We are fortunately enabled, by means of an ancient manuscript in the British Museum,<sup>1</sup> to estimate the position and duties of the Burs or Geburs. Their services varied in different localities, and consisted of a certain number of days' work in the fields, and money payments at Michaelmas and Martinmas, as well as other charges.<sup>2</sup> In return, the *gebur* received two oxen and one cow and seven oxen and seven acres sown, and *tela* for his use, and furniture (*supellex*) for

<sup>1</sup> Cotton. MS. Titus A. viii., printed in Ellis's "Introd." ii. 425.

<sup>2</sup> *Hunigablum*, *metegablum*, or *ealagablum*, according to the prevalent custom of the manor.





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The *Carpentarius* was an important artisan. His range of work was probably far wider than would now be included in the term of carpenter. Like the goldsmith and the huntsman, the necessities and the customs of the Domesday period rendered the skilled carpenter a man of repute and consideration. In accordance with this view, we find two of the king's carpenters among the tenants-in-chief in Cambridgeshire.

The *Cementarius*, bricklayer or stone-mason, also occurs. According to Ducange the word signifies "qui victum manibus quæritat," he who earns his food by handiwork.

There were 159 *Censarii*, *Censores*, or *Censorii*. They were those villains who paid *censum*, or a kind of relief by which they redeemed their estate, and so obtained possession of it.

The *Centenarius*, or Hundredor, appears in the Survey as *Custos*, *Prefectus*, or *Provost of the Hundred*. Ellis states that the Centenary was an officer retained among the Franks, Lombards, and other continental peoples, as well as among the Anglo-Saxons. Ducange mentions a variety of duties attached to this office, which was certainly of some local dignity and responsibility.

The *Cerevisiarii* were employed in the manufacture of *cerevisia* or beer, as their name implies. There are forty of these inferior officers in all mentioned in the Domesday Book.

The *Coci*, *Coqui*, or *Koci*, were cooks, and it has been suggested<sup>1</sup> that Tezelinus, the cook at Addington in Surrey, may have originated the tenure of "Malpy-

<sup>1</sup> Lysons, "Environs."



gurnon," produced by the owner of that manor at the royal coronation banquets.

The *Coliberti* amount in all to eight hundred and fifty-eight. They are derived<sup>1</sup> from the Roman civil law. One writer describes them as "Tenants in free socage by free rent." Another considers the *colibertus* as "a middle sort of tenants, between servile and free, or such as held their freedom of tenure under condition of such works and services," that they were a class of landholders who appear in later times as *conditionales*. Ducange<sup>2</sup> discusses the condition of the *Coliberti*.

The *Bures* or *Gebures* were equivalent to the *Coloni* and *Coliberti*, and over the latter word in one passage in the Domesday Book there is written in a contemporary hand the gloss "*vel Bures*," which sufficiently establishes the equality of the two appellations.

The *Commendati* and *dimidii commendati* were a class of freemen, a broad term with many local qualifications and restrictions, but either from choice or necessity placed (commended, *i.e.*, joined) under the protection of great lords. They were free, or partially free as the case might be, in person and blood, their property being guaranteed by the lord or patron to whom they were attached; and for this protection they paid an annual stipend, or performed some duty or services required of them by the lord. In this respect they resemble the *coliberti*, and, like them, are a survival from the social classes created by the provisions of the Roman civil law. They repre-

<sup>1</sup> Ellis, "Introd.," vol. i., p. 85.

<sup>2</sup> "Gloss," *sub voc.*



sented, in fact, the client, while the lord represented their patron. The *dimidii*, of course, had two masters, who shared the responsibility and enjoyed the benefits which their patronage acquired. Ellis thinks that it is not unlikely that some of the manorial rights at present existing may be traced for their origin to the commendation customs found in the Domesday.

The *Constable* was an officer of superior degree, but his duties and position are not very clearly laid down. Perhaps he was equal to the *stallere*, of whom some account is given further on.

The *Consul* or *Comes*, for there is little doubt that the first of these terms was only occasionally used as a synonym for the latter, will be referred to under the term *Earl*.

*Coscets*, *Cotsedæ*, *Coscez*, *Cozets*, or *Cozez*, amount in all to 1,749 for the whole area covered by the Domesday Book. They were apparently the same as the *Cottarii* and *Cotmanni*, being simply small cottagers paying rent for very small pieces of land. Their duties and privileges are described at length in the Cottonian MS., to which notice has been drawn under a previous title. Their position differed according to local customs; in some places they were required to work for their lord on every Monday throughout the year, and for three days every week in the month of August; in other places they worked every day in this month for the lord, mowing an acre of oats for a day's work, for which he had a sheaf and other rewards. The *coscet* was free of land gable, and entitled to five acres of land or more. He paid "heōrd penig," or hearth-penny, on Holy Thurs-





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The word *Custos*, warden, guardian, or keeper, occurs with several qualifying words. There were, for example, the bee-keepers, *custodes apium*, two in number. The term *bocher* was applied to this person in later days. He delivered six sextaria of honey or more, and was liable to be called upon by the lord to perform a variety of agricultural duties.

The *Custos Cuneorum*, or keeper of the dies, superintended the work performed by the *monetarii*, or moneyers, of whom more will be said in another place.

The *Custos Domus Regis*, in the New Forest, occurs in one passage; the *custos hundret* in another; the *custos molini*, the *custos silvæ* require but little explanation.

*Dapifer*, or steward, was an officer of superior domestic position. As his name implied, he carried the meals in to the banquet; but the title soon became purely honorific.

The *Drenchs*, or *Drengs*, were a kind of allodial tenants, who occur in the survey of the land between the Ribble and the Mersey Rivers in Lancashire. They were military vassals, and the allotments of land which they owned were held as manors. The peculiar services rendered by these tenants was known as *Drengage*, and it is found in existence, in one locality at least, as late as the close of the thirteenth century. The *Dinges* are believed to have been persons of a similar class.

*Dispensator* was an officer of condition in the lord's domestic establishment. He may be conjectured, as his name signified, to have exercised some rule over the maintenance of the provisions in the house, and to have superintended the expenses.



The Norman equivalent was the *māior-domus* or *maître d' hôtel*.

The *Earl* is of frequent mention throughout the Domesday Book. At his creation by Royal Charter, he was invested with the "third penny of the county," and girded with the sword of the county, or earldom. The earl's "relief" consisted of eight horses harnessed and bitted, two breast-plates, four helmets, and as many shields, spears, and swords, *veredi*, and palfreys. This may be compared with the bequests made by Saxons of noble degree to their kings, as recorded in some of the few wills which are still extant.<sup>1</sup> Among the earls and countesses mentioned by name are :—

Alberic, Earl of Northumberland, a tenant in capite.

Alveva, Countess " "

Boulogne, Countess of (Ida)

Eustachius, Earl of Boulogne

Goda, Countess

Godeva, Countess

Hugo, Earl of Chester " "

6 Judita, Countess of Huntingdon, &c. " "

<sup>1</sup> Leof Æthelwold the aldorman, for example, in his will, preserved in the "Codex Wintoniensis," Brit. Mus., Add. MS. 15,350, f. 87, printed in Birch's "Cartularium Saxonicum," No. 819, vol. ii. p. 583, A.D. 946-955, bequeaths "to the king my heriots, four swords and four spears, four shields and four rings, two worth a hundred and twenty mancuses, and two worth eighty mancuses, and four horses, and two silver vessels," "þam cinge minne hære geatwa . feower sweord. and feower spæra. and feower scyldas. and feower beagas. twegen on hund twelftigum mancosun. and twegen on hund eahtatigum 7 feorwer hors. and two sylfrene fata." See also Thorpe, "Diplomatarium," p. 499.



· · · Moritoniensis, Robert, Earl of Moretaine, a tenant in capite.

Radulfus Waher, Earl of Norfolk and Suffolk, a tenant in capite.

Rogerus de Montgomery, Earl of Arundel, &c., a tenant in capite.

· · · W——, Earl, holding land in Oxfordshire, a tenant in capite.

· William Fitz-Osbern, Earl of Hereford, a tenant in capite.

Among the earls holding lands in the time of King Edward the Confessor, and previous to the Domesday Survey, are:—

Ædgeua, Countess.

Ælueua, or Alveva, Countess.

Albericus, Earl.

Algar, Earl of Mercia.

Balduinus, Earl.

Edduinus, Earl.

Edgarus, Earl.

Ghida, or Gida, Countess, mother of Harold.

Goda, Countess, sister of King Edward the Confessor.

Godeva, Countess.

Goduinus, Earl.

Guerd, or Guert, Earl, brother of Harold.

Gudeta, Countess.

Harold, Heraldus, or Heroldus, Earl.

Leuric, or Leuricus, Earl.

Leuvinus, Earl.





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mint, like the Custodes, or *cuneorum*, with whom they were connected, had it in charge to take care that their coins answered to the standard of weight and quality.

The *Faber*, or smith, who could make ironwork and shoe horses, was an important personage in the Domesday social and manorial life, although Ellis ranks him with the trader and inferior officer. The term was applied not only to the blacksmith or ironworker, but also to those employed in working iron ore and smelting. Among the persons who held lands in the time of King Edward, and previous to the Domesday Survey in Essex, "one smith," "*unus faber*," occurs, who had been put to death for larceny. The names of two Saxon smiths also occur in this list ; they are Bunda faber in Suffolk, and Eduuinus faber in the same county. Among the under-tenants of the Domesday period are the "*Fabri*" of Berkshire.

The king's *Famuli*, or servants, occur in the second volume of the Domesday Book, but their position and duties have not been ascertained.

The *Figuli*, or potters, are mentioned among the inferior trades.

The *Forestarii*, or foresters, were officers of superior grade ; occasionally they occur as tenants-in-chief ; as for example, "the *Forestarii Regis*," or king's foresters in Gravelinges Forest, *Wiltshire* ; Peret, the Forester, *Hants* ; Richard, the Forester, *Warwickshire*. The knowledge of forestry, the laws of the forest and the chace, would make them of value to the king or the lord whom they served. Three, without names given, held lands in the time of Edward the



Confessor in *Somersetshire*, Bundi, the Forester, *Oxfordshire*; and Leuvinus in *Hants*, also occur in this category. Herbert, the Forester of *Hants*, was an undertenant at the time the survey was made. Kelham states that the king appointed a forester to take care of his forests in every county, who answered for such a part of the Crown revenue as was under his care. But if so, they were not entered in the Domesday unless they held lands.

One *fossarius* occurs, also a *fossator*, Hereberd, in Norfolk; he was, perhaps, an artisan employed about the ditches. The *fossarius* was also a grave-digger, the word *fossa* being anciently employed in that sense, as in the celebrated epitaph of the Venerable Bede, sculptured on his tombstone in the Galilee of the Cathedral at Durham.

Fifty Franci, or Franks, are the total of these, but the *Francigenæ* and *Francones* are difficult to be distinguished; there were two hundred and ninety-six of the former, and but three of the latter in the Survey. The *Francigena* has been considered to be a general term for any one who could not prove himself to be English. The *Francones* held freely, "libere," in the time of Edward the Confessor, but their condition appears to have altered for the worse under the new government, for they re-appear on the same manor as if attached to the manor along with the villani and bordarii.

The *Homo*, or "Man," was a term which appears to have had a specific signification in England at this time. The word occurs in almost every page of the Survey, and included, in a very comprehensive



manner, all kinds of feudatory tenants. One of their most important privileges was, that their causes and persons could be tried only in the court of their own lord, to whom they were bound by submission and dependance. Hence the term *homage*, which, apart from its sentimental meaning of spiritual submission, indicated in the middle ages the duty, right, and claim of appearing at the court with the lord's *homines*, or "men," the word sometimes being used to denote the body of persons thus assembled.

It was possible, but probably it did not often happen, that a *homo* might hold a manor in his own possession. The half *homo*, or *dimidius*, was the man who held part of his land under one lord and part under another. There are 1,287 *homines*, and 11 *dimidii homines* in the Domesday Book.

Seventeen *hospites* occur. Ducange considers the *hospes* an inhabitant of a vill or village, and equivalent to the *mansionarius*, paying a yearly rent, like other inferior tenants, but not a *servus*.

*Hostiarius*, an inferior officer, probably the same as *usher*, *husher*, *huissier*, *apparitor*, or *somner*. The *hostiarius* in some cases would answer to our *porter* or *gatekeeper*.

The *Huscarli* were domestic servants, and also military retainers, sometimes of the king, or an earl. Among them Thanes and higher tenants occur. The Huscarle who was a tenant in capite in Somersetshire may have had the name only, but not any office. Several occur by name, as Ingulfus, Leuric, or without name in Somerset, Surrey, and Gloucestershire, in the time of Edward the Confessor.





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*Lavatores*—Laundrymen (?), or fullers.

*Legati*, a term applied to some officers of unknown capacity; was also used with the word *Regis* to denote Royal Commissioners, to whom the formation of the Domesday Book was intrusted.

Of the *Liberatores* not much is known.

Of the *Liberi*, or “free men,” a great number are recorded. Ellis gives the following table:—

Libera feminæ subcommendata	...	1
Liberæ feminæ	... ..	31
Libera femina commendata	...	1
Liberi homines	... ..	10,097
„ „ commendati	...	2,041
„ „ faldæ	... ..	21
Dimidii liberi homines	... ..	224
Dim. lib. homo commendatione		
tantum	... ..	-

The “freeman” was a term of considerable latitude—freemen or freeholders of a manor, holders of land for military service, tenants in capite. The half-freeman with *commendatio* only probably held half his land as free tenant, and the other half under protection of a lord.

*Loricati*; two are mentioned in Windsor ward. Probably breast-plate makers; if so, the word would be equivalent to *Loricarii*. But certain monks were called *loricati*, who put on an iron lorica or breast-plate next the skin, for mortification sake, and removed it on no account. Ducange mentions several remarkable instances, and a parallel case is described by William of Malmesbury.



*Lorimarii*, or *Lorimers*, makers of small iron and brass fittings.

*Loripes*, a term for one who had a twisted foot, perhaps used as a name in Domesday.

Two hundred and seven *manents* at St. Edmundsbury are entered among the Domesday class list of population. They are resident burgesses.

*Matricularii*, officers of ecclesiastical duty at St. John's Church, Chester.

*Mellitarius*, perhaps the same as *mellitor*, whom Ducange notices as occurring elsewhere. A honey and wax manufacturer.

*Mercatores*, merchants. Twenty-four occur. There were forty-eight merchants' houses in the town of Nottingham, held by William Peverell.

*Mercennarius*, a hired servant perhaps. But Ducange attributes to *mercenarius* the signification of merchant of small wares, a mercer; another mercenarius was a priest who received a stipend for his duties connected with a church.

*Miles*, a soldier; only 137 in the total, with two Anglici, and as many Francigenæ, are mentioned. There does not seem to have been any very precise meaning attached to the word. The *miles* may have been a high commander in some cases, and an inferior in another case. Some of them held large areas of land. The soldiers of Westminster Abbey held 30 houses. A salary appears to have been paid to the milites, at least in some cases. Hence the term *soldarii*, of similar import, used in the account of Colchester. The word is a synonym of *minister*, or thegn, in late Anglo-Saxon charters.



*Molinarii*, millers.

*Monachi*, monk.

*Monetarii*, moneyers, have been noticed in the chapter relating to money.

*Moniales*, nuns.

*Nativi*, or *niefes*, children of villains, in the same state of serfdom as their parents.

*Piscatores*, fishermen.

*Pistores*, bakers.

*Porcarii*, generally swineherds, but ranking as free occupiers who paid rent in money or kind for feeding their pigs in the woodlands.

*Portarius*, an inferior officer who kept the gate.

*Prebendarii*, purveyors.

*Prefecti*, or *Prepositi*; provosts, reeves, bailiffs, or stewards of manors. This was an important officer; he collected rents, carried on the affairs of the manor over which he was set, kept the peace, and performed all the offices of equity and right between lord and tenant. To some were attached the bedelli, bedels, beadles, or under-bailiffs. The provost of the town, or *burh-gerefa*, *præpositus villæ*, had a great power for good or ill over all the persons under his control in the manor.

*Presbyter*, or Priest, occurs frequently in the Survey; there were nine hundred and ninety-four, and a dimidius presbyter. From the occurrence of the presbyter in places where no church is mentioned, some writers have conjectured that the entry of the presbyter includes the existence of the church in the same place. But this is open to considerable doubt. The object of the Domesday was by no means to





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in his service, for which they received wages or maintenance, at his discretion. Occasionally they were able to obtain their manumission, and then became *liberi*, freemen.

*Servientes*, serjeants. Ducange gives a long account of the various kinds of *servientes*. Among them the *Servientes feodati* were liable to certain definite services, in return for the possession of fees and farms; others again appear to be serjeants of manors, or bailiffs.

The *Sochemanni*, or socmen, were inferior land-owners, who had land in the *soc*, or franchise of a great lord. Their freedom consisted in various privileges; they rendered fixed service, they could not be put out of their tenements unwillingly; they held the pleas of the manor courts. There were various degrees of *sochemanni*, some could not dispose of their estate, nor remove without permission of their lords. Some were required to perform certain services of husbandry, and in this respect they resembled the lower grades of the agricultural population.

*Stalre*, master of the horse, constable, or standard bearer. Some account of this noble officer has been given in a former chapter.

*Teini*, *Taini*, *Tegni*, *Thanes*, or *thegns* — the *ministri* of the Anglo-Saxon charters, were the highest class of tenants; in fact, the nobility or barons of pre-Norman times. There appear to have been king's thanes, such as archbishops, bishops, abbots, and the great lords; *Thani mediocres*, secondary thanes, lords of manors, or vavassors; and



lesser thanes, the lowest class of freeholders. But there were also many intermediate grades, and some of the great thanes had dependants, also called by the same title. The title of Thane afterwards became that of Baron.

*Vaccarii*, probably persons employed in the management of cows, and Ducange calls these persons “*qui vaccarum curam habet in prædiis rusticis.*”

*Vavassores* were next in dignity to the higher thanes and barons. They were also called *valvassors*. The title seems to have sunk in the general name of *Liberi homines*, or free men. They were not tenants-in-chief, but held of the superior lord or of the king as lord of a manor or honour. The vavassor was superior in degree to a knight.

*Venator*, the huntsman, appears in some cases to have been a favoured person. His knowledge must have been extremely valuable to his lord, who would in return take care to admit him to corresponding advantages. It is not unlikely that among officers of the king's household the huntsman occupied a place of some considerable importance. Waleran and Croch, the huntsmen, held lands in capite in Hampshire, and there are other corresponding examples showing the importance and dignity of the office.

Of *Villani* or *Villains*, much has been written. Blackstone considers that their new tenure was not strictly feudal, Norman, or Saxon, but compounded of them all, and, from the heriots which they were liable to, somewhat Danish in composition. These men, with their families, were in servitude to the lord of the soil, like the rest of the cattle and stock on it,



and held the folk-land, by which they supported themselves and their families, and from which they would be removed at their lord's will, but not their own. At the coming of the Normans, the condition of these peasants may have been slightly improved. Two classes have been observed; the villains reguardant, annexed to the manor, or the land; and the villains in gross, annexed to the person of the lord, and transferable by deed, of which several examples are still extant in the vast collection of charters in the British Museum. The villain performed practically the same services in his day, for kind, as the agricultural labourer now-a-days performs on a farm for a weekly wage. But he could acquire no private property, land nor goods; his female children could not be married without the lord's consent to what was considered a damage to the property; his sons naturally grew up in the same state of bondage. The law, however, protected the villain from atrocious cruelties of the lord. He could acquire freedom in several ways; most usually by a formal deed or act of manumission (of which several specimens are still extant), or by any act on the part of the lord such as granting him an annuity or an estate, or bringing an action at law against him, by which the manumission is implied. In course of time, the condition of many villains became considerably ameliorated in those instances where under a benevolent lord they and their families enjoyed their holdings in a regular course of descent, uninterrupted by enforced removal or other interruption which tended to retard their improvement, and eventually the will of lord as to





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## CHAPTER X.

THE LAND—CLASSIFICATION AND CONDITIONS OF THE  
COUNTY POPULATION—CITIES AND TOWNS.

A FEW remarks on each county, the general aspect of the survey, the population, and the principal features of note, will be useful to the reader. Ellis has carefully summed up the various totals of population from which the following facts are derived, and to them have been added some accounts of the various works and bibliographical treatises<sup>1</sup> connected with each county. The population mentioned in Domesday only imperfectly represents the true population of the county, no notice being taken of the women and children, the inferior servants not concerned with the land tax, the clergy, the manufacturing and trading classes, the religious and other inhabitants of monastic institutions, the mercenaries and rank and file of the soldiery, and a floating residuum who probably then, as now, managed with little trouble to avoid being entered into the census of any particular locality. There are also certain places, known, from the antiquity of their names, to have been in existence prior to the taking of the survey, of which nothing is recorded to show that they

<sup>1</sup> See p. 315.



were visited by the Commissioners. These different omissions would probably swell the grand total to at least five times that arrived at by Ellis, viz., 283,242, that would give the true population of England, as far as the Domesday Survey extended, at about 1,400,000 souls.

KENT.<sup>1</sup> This large and important county is called CHENTH in the Domesday Book, which can only be accounted for on the principle that the scribes were either foreigners writing from dictation, and attempting to re-produce the sound which they heard, according to the phonetics of their own language, or that they were singularly ignorant of the names of the English counties. The survey of the county begins with the account of Dover, and has no numbered list of chief tenants. It then proceeds with the *terra regis*, or king's lands, the archbishop of Canterbury's lands, the lands of his milites or knights, and the rest of the chief tenants. The recorded population consisted, among other persons, of 13 chief tenants (of whom some account follows below), 212 under-tenants, 1 *mulier paupercula*, 3,118 bordarii, and 6,597 villani; in all 12,205 inhabitants. The principal towns, if we may judge from the number of burgesses, are Canterbury, Romney, Sandwich, and Dover. In Sandwich were nearly four hundred *masuræ*, or houses. The burgesses of *Burgus Hedæ*, Hythe Borough, numbered 231, of whom six belonged to the Manor of Leminges or Lyminge, and 125 to the archbishop of Canterbury's

<sup>1</sup> From the Celtic word *Kant*, *Cant* (Portuguese *Canto*), a corner; *Cantium* is the classic name.



Manor of Salteode, or Saltwood. In Romenel or Romney, were 156 burgesses, some belonging to outside manors. In Fordwic or Fordwich, near Canterbury, a "*parvus burgus*," belonging to St. Augustine's Abbey, were six burgesses, "a hundred masures of land wanting four," in pre-Domesday times, but at the survey only seventy-three. The castles of Canterbury and Rochester are mentioned.

The chief tenants of this first county surveyed in the Domesday are as follows :—

1. The king himself, holding his lands in ancient demesne of the Crown.

2. The archbishop of Canterbury, most of whose lands stood as they were in the time of King Edward the Confessor.

3. The monks and men of the archbishop, that is, the lands of the Priory of Christ Church or Holy Trinity, and St. Martin in Canterbury.

4. The bishop of Rochester, whose lands remained mostly as in the time of the Confessor.

5. The bishop of Bayeux, all his lands being grants from the Conqueror, increased by his own spoiliations.

6. The Abbey of Battel, or Battle, holding the Royal Manor of Wye, part of the ancient demesne of the Crown, granted to the Abbey by William the Conqueror. The charter granting this manor is preserved among the Harleian charters in the British Museum, 83 A. 12. There are some curious





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Normandy, also at the battle of Hastings, and a large landowner.

12. Haimo the Sheriff, an extensive holder of land in the county.

13. Albert the Chaplain, the king's Secretary and Chancellor; these offices were, in early days, one and the same, being always held by an ecclesiastic who had also the care of the king's Chapel.

2. SUSSEX, called Sudsex, *i.e.*, the South Saxon (territory), has a list of fifteen tenants-in-chief prefixed to the survey of the county; there were 534 under-tenants, 2,497 bordarii, 5,898 villani, and other inhabitants, making a total of 10,410 in all. The towns with burgesses are, Pevenesel, 110; Novoburgo, 64; Lewes, 53; Bolintun, 20; Cicestre, 9; and Hastings, 4. Chichester in King Edward's time had 98 *hagæ* or ground plots, on each of which one or more houses stood; sixty more had been added by the time the survey was made. In the burgh of Steyninges there were 124 *masuræ*. Mr. F. E. Sawyer, F.S.A., read before the Domesday Commemoration a valuable notice of the county as it appears in Domesday Book, in which he considers that the true population was ten times that recorded, or 104,100—ten inmates of one holding not being an exaggerated number. He attributes the increase of buildings in Chichester to the removal of the cathedral to that city from Selsea in A.D. 1075, or between that year and the formation of the survey.

The castles of Hastings, Borne, Ferle, Brembre



for Bramber, and Lauues, Lawes, and La quis for Lewes, are incidentally mentioned.

3. SURREY is called by the writers of the Survey SUDREIE. Of the total of recorded inhabitants, 4,383, there were 44 tenants in chief, including the king, 108 under tenants, 2,363 villani, 968 bordarii, 1 Anglicus, and 1 forestarius. Southwark was an important place, bishop Odo of Bayeux had there a monastery and a watercourse. Guildford was the only other place that had any pretension to the name of a town. There were a hundred and seventy-five burgesses in it; but it is remarkable that no mention is made of any corporate privileges therein. The notices of Bermondsey and Lambeth are interesting. A paper on the county was recently read by Mr. H. E. Malden before the Commemoration, in which he showed that there was no southern boundary of the county except the undefined tract of the primeval forest of the Andreds-weald. In the same way Sussex could have had but a doubtful northern boundary. This has led to some remarkable results in the Survey, where land in Compton, co. Sussex, is rated in Surrey, while Worth—the “Orde” of the Domesday Book,—now in Sussex, is taken as in Surrey. Lodsworth, then in Surrey now in Sussex, is another example.

Geological conditions here, as doubtless elsewhere, considerably affected the cultivation, the unfertile Wealden clay being, as a rule, uninhabited, but the fertile greensand is almost coterminous with the Domesday life of the county. A portion of the



north-west of Surrey was also uninhabited, on account of the unmanageable and unfruitful characteristics of the soil. Mr. Malden computes fifty-nine places where churches are mentioned, and that on the average there was a church for every seventy men, or, say, for every three hundred and fifty of population, for he only allows five to a household, which is just half the total conjectured by Mr. Sawyer for Sussex. This may be taken as an independent indication of the probable area of Anglo-Saxon churches, the extant examples of which would have much difficulty to find room for half that number. Mr. Malden puts down the true total of population at about twenty thousand. Some of the old Saxon holders still held land here in the Domesday times, and some were despoiled by bishop Odo, the king's kinsman. Among these ancient tenants occur a goldsmith, an interpreter, and two huntsmen—men whose occupations were probably too useful to allow of their being dispossessed. He also pointed out the unexplained fact that the *bordarii* predominate in some hundreds in which the *cotarii* are but few; while in others, not contiguous, the reverse is the case. This has been shown more clearly in Mr. Seebohm's well-known work. It may be that there were different customs in force in different hundreds, or perhaps the two terms were, for most purposes, practically synonymous.<sup>1</sup> Some isolated homesteads in the great forest had been overlooked, or unsurveyed, by the Commissioners. On the Church lands, the proportion of *servi* was about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the

<sup>1</sup> See also p. 141.





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gress and decay of the town for three separate periods.

The Survey of this county contains a separate heading of "Item in eadem Hantescire circa Nouam Forestam et intra ipsam." In this forest the total of recorded population is only 217, composed of 17 tenants in chief, the same number of subtenants, 87 bordarii, 66 villani, 22 servi, 7 homines, and one custos of the king's house.

The Isle of Wight, which is also separately surveyed as "Insula de With," contained but 1,124 inhabitants mentioned specifically. This total is made up of 37 chief tenants, 45 under tenants, 441 bordarii, 360 villani, 232 servi, 8 homines, and one vavassor, who is described as "possessed of two cows." A castle at Alwinestune in this island is identified with Carisbrook by Ellis.

5. BERKSHIRE, called Berrochescire, contained a total population of 6,324: among them 80 tenants in capite, 185 undertenants, 10 merchants stationed in front of the gate of St. Helen's Church at Bertone, in Abingdon, 1 radchenistre with his plough. Wallingford was an important town. It had a merchant-guild in the time of King Edward the Confessor, and 276 *hagæ*, or plots containing houses belonging to the king; the total houses, including 24 belonging to manors in Oxfordshire and elsewhere, amounted to 491. Old Windsor had 100 *hagæ*; in Reading the king had 28 *hagæ*. The smallness may be accounted for by the burning of the town by the Danes sixty years before the survey was made. The castles of



Wallingford and Windsor are incidentally mentioned.

The Domesday of Berkshire is being prepared for publication, with descriptive notices, by Mr. H. J. Reid, F.S.A., of Donnington.

6. WILTSHIRE, or Wiltescire as it is called in the Record, was a well-populated county, the total enumerated inhabitants amounting to 10,150, which may be multiplied by five or six to show the probable actual census at the time under consideration. Of these there were 156 chief tenants and 286 undertenants, 3,049 villani, 2,754 bordarii, 1,539 servi, 1,418 coscezes, but only 1 presbyter, a plain indication that the Church dignitaries are only incidentally introduced into the Domesday, it being no part of the duty of the Commissioners to ascertain the number of the clergy. The number of burgesses in thirteen towns is entered as follows:—Cauna or Caune, 73; Theodulveside, 66; Crichelade, 33; Bradeford, 33; Guerminstre (Warminster), 30; Bedvinde (Bedwyn), 25; Wiltune, 17; Malmesberie, 8; Sudtone, 5; Domnitone, 2; Draicote, Smitecote, and Gordone, 1 each.

Domesday Book does not afford very much information as to the condition of Wiltshire cities and boroughs.<sup>1</sup> Two, Wilton and Malmesbury, are expressly called *burgi*, but others must be included, as Sarum, Marlborough, Cricklade, and “Bade,” perhaps Bedwin, unless Bath, in the contiguous

<sup>1</sup> Rev. W. H. Jones, “Domesday for Wiltshire.” Bath, 1865, 4to.



county of Somerset, had been thus placed<sup>1</sup> in the farm or collectorship of Wiltshire. In each of these, the third penny or third part of the proceeds of taxation belonged to the king, so that he stood in the position of comes or earl so far as the county was concerned separately. In Calne, Ambresbury, Warminster, Chippenham, and perhaps Tilshead, the king claimed the “*firma unius noctis*,” a night’s farm or hospitality for himself and his concomitant court. Add to these, Bradford-on-Avon, Westbury, Melksham, Mere, Ramsbury, and Aldbourn, which would also fall into this category of boroughs. On the other hand the recorded presence of burgesses in Domnitone (Dinton), Draicote, Gardone, Smitecote, and Sudtone (Sutton Mandeville), does not necessarily imply that these places, never more than small market towns at best, were boroughs. Malmesbury borough, one of these, is distinguished in the Domesday Book by having its survey placed before the numbered list of 68 tenants, or groups of tenants, which precedes the general text. Even this, however, is short and meagre. Like Wallingford, in Berkshire, Malmesbury furnished soldiers for the king’s army. The town’s military service amounted to twenty shillings for the support of the king’s sailors (*buzecarl̃s*), or in furnishing him with one man for each honour of five hides, a statement which tends to prove that the service of one man was rated at or commuted for by twenty shillings.

Jones considers that Wiltshire is an exception to

<sup>1</sup> Morgan, “England under the Normans,” p. 191.





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schedule or list of tenants. Ellis tabulates the recorded population at 7,807, including among others 146 chief tenants, 195 under tenants, 2,941 bordarii, 2,613 villani, 1,231 servi, 151 burgesses in Scestesberie (Shaftesbury), 8 in Winburne, 3 in Warham, and only 1 in Dorecestre, belonging to the bishop of Salisbury's Manor of Cerminstre. The principal towns were Dorchester, Bridport, Wareham, and Shaftesbury. The 172 houses in Dorchester in the time of Edward the Confessor had decreased to 88 at the Domesday Survey. There were two moneyers in this town. But its prosperous condition may perhaps be estimated from the fact that it paid geld for ten hides, thrice the rating of the city of Exeter. In Bridport the houses had similarly diminished from 120 to 100, the other twenty so far "wasted" that their inhabitants were unable to pay the geld. Here there was one moneyer. Wareham, which possessed 143 houses on the king's demesne in the time of the Confessor, retained only 70 at the survey. The total of houses in the town, 285, had fallen to 135 when the Commissioners took the census. Two moneyers were in this town. Shaftesbury also shows a similar decrease of houses, from 257 in the time of King Edward to 177 in the year 1086. The 151 burgesses, dwelling in 91 manses, shows that the number of burgesses in a town might exceed the number of houses. Wareham Castle is stated to have been built by King William in the survey of this county.

Eyton, who has carefully analysed the Domesday Book for this county, finds that constant refer-



ence is made to two distinct systems of measurement :—1, the old system of hidation, based on the Saxon *hide*; and 2, the contemporary and more exact system. He finds the Domesday hide of Dorsetshire represented on an average by nearly 240 statute acres,<sup>1</sup> the hidage, or valuation by hides, indicating liability, capacity or intrinsic value, and adventitious or extrinsic value. The hide liable to geld in Dorsetshire is by this writer technically divided into these parts :—

1 Hide = 4 Virgates = 16 Ferndels = 48 Acres.

1 Virgate = 4 Ferndels = 12 Acres.

1 Ferndel = 3 Acres.

These have reference to the original assessment for the Danegeld by Ethelred the Unready, A.D. 979—1016. Thus an estate geldable as one or two virgates, simply means that it was assessed to Danegeld as a quarter or half of one hide—the ordinary acre of Norman and actual measurement applied in the Domesday to meadows, pastures, and woods, being quite different to the *acra ad gheldum*, which represented about 5 modern acres. The carucate in Dorsetshire, as a precise areal measure, is probably represented, as it is in Lincolnshire, by the same number, 240, of modern acres as is the average hide. The *terra ad unam carucam*, or plough-gang, was a still more constant quantity, not exceeding, and probably equivalent to, 120 measured acres.

Eyton's calculation of the lineal measures of the

<sup>1</sup> But varying from 4,000 to as little as 84 acres.



Dorsetshire Survey are of great interest. Assuming the length of the *pertica* or *virga* (nowhere defined in Domesday) to be  $16\frac{1}{2}$  ft., or  $5\frac{1}{2}$  yds., he constructs the following table :—

$16\frac{1}{2}$  ft. =  $\frac{1}{2}$  yds. = 1 *Virga* or *Pertica*.

66 ft. = 22 yds. = 4 *Virgæ* or *Perticæ* = 1 *Acra* (lineal, not [extant]).

660 ft. = 22 yds. = 40 *Perticæ* = 10 Acres = 1 *Quarentina*.

7,920 ft. = 2,640 yds. = 480 *Perticæ* = 120 Acres = 12 *Quarentinæ*  
[= 1 *Leuua*, *Leuga*, or *Leuca*.

The lineal acre occurs in the description of the wood at Wichemetune, or Wichampton, which is set down as 1 quarentine long, 8 acres broad. (*D.B.*, f. 79*b*.) The areal or superficial measures are exactly deduced from these, as has been shown in a forthcoming part of the work :—

$30\frac{1}{4}$  sq. yds. = 1 *Pertica* square.

4,840 sq. yds. = 160 *Perticæ* = 1 Areal Acre.

48,400 sq. yds. = 10 sq. Acres = 1 sq. *Quarentine*.

580,800 sq. yds. = 120 sq. Acres = 12 sq. *Quar.* = 1 Areal League.

This corresponds with the modern system of area measure, which, however, employs other denominations.

8. SOMERSETSHIRE, called Sumersete, or Summer-sette, has 47 entries of 80 tenants in chief, 368 under tenants, 5,298 villains or villans, 4,770 *bordarii* or boors, 2,110 *servi*, and other classes, amounting in all to 13,764 recorded population. Of royal boroughs in Somersetshire, Bath had 154 burgesses, of whom 64 belonged to the laity, and 24 to the Church; Alsebruge, or Axbridge 32; Givel-





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castles are incidentally spoken of by Domesday, "Cornuali," and Ochementone or Oakhampton.

10. CORNWALL, called Cornvalgie and Cornvalia, completed the first or southernmost zone of the Domesday Commissioners' work. This county had 5,438 recorded inhabitants, among whom are 7 tenants *in capite*, 97 under tenants, 2,355 bordarii, 1,730 villani, 1,160 servi, and as many as 40 cervisarii, or brewers. Here were two castles, Dunhevet or Launceston ;<sup>1</sup> "the strongest,<sup>2</sup> but not the biggest, that ever I saw in any auncient work in England," and Tremetone, which latter had a market.

11. MIDDLESEX, or Middelsexe, commences the second zone or rank in the arrangement of counties. Here was a population of 2,302, including 30 tenants in chief, 62 under tenants as mesne lords, 46 burgesses on the abbot of Westminster's manor in Stanes ; 1,141 villani, 464 cotarii, 343 bordarii, and 112 servi. London was probably exempt by charter from the notice of the Commissioners. The first charter extant<sup>3</sup> was granted to the city by William the Conqueror, in the second year of his reign over England, at the instance of William the Norman, bishop of London, on the occasion of the royal entry into the City. This is written in Anglo-Saxon, and is drawn up in accordance with

<sup>1</sup> The "History of Launceston and Dunheved," by R. Peter and O. B. Peter, 1885.      <sup>2</sup> Leland, "Itin."

<sup>3</sup> The "Historical Charters and Constitutional Documents of the City of London." Lond., 1884, 4to.



the conventional usages of Anglo-Saxon diplomatics, and these circumstances have been regarded by historians as great concessions to English feelings, seeing that it was issued at a time when the Norman language and Norman forms of legal deeds were supplanting the native language and methods of formulation. The two chief privileges granted in it are, that the burgesses were declared to be law-worthy, *legales homines*, and that their children should be their heirs. Hence it may be conjectured that the burgesses of London had obtained of the Saxon monarchs several liberties and immunities, among others this one, that they were to be so far free as not to be *in dominio*, or under any lord's power, but that they might be law-worthy, that is, have the full benefit of the law. In this respect, the king's charter is but a confirmation of the pre-Norman condition of the London burgesses. Hume, following Dalrymple on Feudal Property, considers this famous charter little better than a charter of protection, a declaration that the citizens should not be treated as slaves. But even this was a considerable immunity at a time when all persons who were not possessed of land were included in that class. What enhanced the value of these charters was, that they were granted at a time when the feudal system obtained a firmer and more extensive establishment by the settlement of the Norman barons in England under the military tenure.

12. HERTFORDSHIRE, is called Herfordscire in the Domesday Book. There is a record of 4,927 popula-



tion, comprising, among others, 55 chief tenants, 184 under tenants as mesne proprietors, 1,830½ villani, 1,107 bordarii, 837 cotarii, 550 servi, 1 fossar, 48 presbyters. The town of Hertforde is stated to hold 18 burgesses; but in the time of Edward the Confessor there were 146 burgesses under the king's protection, the town being rated at ten hides. Other towns held the following census of burgesses:—Berchamstede, 52; St. Alban's, 46; Escwelle or Ashwell, near Baldock, once a market-town, granted by Edward the Confessor to the abbot of Westminster, 14; and Stanstede or Stanstead Abbot, near Hôddesdon, 7. The proximity of this place to the River Lea (the boundary of division between Alfred's Anglo-Saxon subjects and Guthrum's Danes at the close of the ninth century) may account for the trade which appears to have flourished here.

13. BUCKINGHAMSHIRE, called Bochinghamscire, only contained 5,420 persons, among them 70 tenants-in-chief, 223 under tenants, 26 burgesses in the town of Buckingham who belonged to certain of the barons, 1 salinarius, 2 vavassors. The Survey prefixes the account of the county town of Bochingeham cum Bortone to the preliminary numbered list of 57 tenants and groups of tenants.

14. OXFORDSHIRE, or Oxenefordscire, as the Survey calls this county, renders a recorded census of 6,775 persons. Among them, 84 tenants-in-chief, under 59 groups in the tabulation prefixed to the general text; 207 under tenants and occupiers, 3,545 villani, 1,889 bordarii, 963 servi, and but 1 presbyter. The





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16. WORCESTERSHIRE, called Wirecestrescire, held a total recorded population of 4,625 persons ; among them, 28 tenants-in-chief, 129 undertenants, 1,728 bordarii, 1,520 villani, 677 servi, the large number of 101 ancillæ, 59 presbyters, 1 huntsman, 1 widow, and 3 salt manufacturers owning as many salines or salt pans in Wich, *i.e.*, Droitwich. These pans or salt boileries paid three hundred *mittas* of salt, for which they received, in the time of King Edward, as many cart loads, *caretedes*, of fire wood from the wood-wardens. The City of Worcester, Wirecestre, commences the survey, before the numbered list of chief tenants, and its rents, customs, and services are set forth, but not the census of its burgesses ; eight, however, are known from other places. The houses in the city, which was rated at fifteen hides, consisted of ninety appendant to the bishop of Worcester's Manor of Norwiche or Northwich. Urso, who held twenty-four of these, held also twenty-five in the market-place of Worcester, which paid a hundred shillings yearly. Five of the twenty-eight masures belonging to the Abbey of Evesham, in Worcester, had been *wasted*. There were, too, three masures in Worcester paying thirty pence yearly, belonging to the Church of Hereford as appendant to its Manor of Cotingtune. The houses and salines in Wich were numerous ; there were 113 burgesses in this town ; 28 in Pershore, belonging to the Abbey of Westminster, lord of the Manor. One monk alone appears in Domesday to represent the powerful and opulent Benedictine Abbey of Evesham, which, nevertheless, contained



at this period at least a hundred inmates. The chartulary<sup>1</sup> of the Worcester monk, Heming, throws considerable light on the Domesday Book of the county. It has been printed by the assiduous antiquary, Hearne. In like manner the Evesham chartulary<sup>2</sup> contains valuable information respecting the Abbey lands at the time, but it yet awaits an editor. The British Museum also contains many scattered documents which illuminate the early history of Pershoré Abbey. Dudelei, or Dudley Castle is mentioned in the Survey.

17. HEREFORDSHIRE, or Herefordscire, has been confused with Hertfordshire by Mr. Ewald.<sup>3</sup> The Domesday name of the latter, Herfordscire, certainly resembles that of the county of Hereford, but does not take the second *e*. Ellis tabulates 5,368 total population, comprising among the number, 37 tenants-in-chief, 282 undertenants, 2,124 villani, 1,407 bordarii and 10 poor boors, 691 servi, 99 ancillæ, 104 bovarii as well as 12 free, a carpenter, a bee-master, a miller, 2 cowmen, 21 bedels, and 42 Welshmen. The state of the city of Hereford is prefixed to the schedule of 36 numbered classes of tenants-in-chief. In this city were six smiths, each provided with a *forgia*, or forge, and bound to work at his trade for the king to a specified extent, for which he received a payment. There were two classes of burgesses here: the English retaining

<sup>1</sup> Brit. Mus., Cotton MS., Tiberius, A. xiii.

<sup>2</sup> Brit. Mus., Cotton MS., Vespasian, B. xxiv.

<sup>3</sup> "Encycl. Brit.," new edition, s. v. Domesday Book.



privileges which they had enjoyed in the time of Edward the Confessor; and the *francigenæ* or foreigners who had certain exemptions. The Hereford moneyers had the right of *sac* and *soc*; their inmates were therefore under their own keeping. Wigmore was a borough; there were 16 burgesses of Cliford held in demesne by Ralph de Todenei; 10 in Hereford, and 1 in Hanlie. The castles of Wigmore, Monemude, Clifford, Ewias, as well as *domus defensabiles*, are noticed in the County Survey. This county finishes the second row or rank of counties as taken in order by the scribes of the Exchequer Domesday.

18. CAMBRIDGESHIRE, or Grentebřscire, held 5,204 persons. Among these, 45 tenants-in-chief, including two carpenters and 257 undertenants, 29 burgesses in Cambridge, 15 fishermen, 4 priests, 3 foreign-born soldiers. The description of the town precedes the numbered list of 44 sections. It contained 373 *masuræ*, was rated for a whole hundred, and divided into ten wards. In the time of King Edward the Confessor the burgesses gave the sheriff the use of their “carrucæ,” or carts, three times a year. Of the “Inquisition of the county of Cambridge,” the original return from which the Cambridgeshire Domesday was prepared, an account has been given in a former chapter. The “Inquest of Ely,” bound up with this in the same volume, and edited together with the former text by Mr. Hamilton, describes the lands of the Abbey of St. Etheldrida, Ely, in this and other neighbouring counties, and these two records must





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et bedelli et elemosinarii," whose description closes the county record.

21. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, Northaŋtscire, records a census of 8,441, according to Ellis's computation, inclusive of 66 chief tenants, 261 undertenants, including 33 milites of St. Peter de Burgo, or Peterborough; 3,952 villani, 2,056 bordarii, 1,062 sochemanni, 59 ancillæ, 66 presbyters. The description of Northantone, or Northampton, heads the County Survey. Here King Edward the Confessor had sixty burgesses in demesne, holding as many mansions. There appears to have been a new suburb of this town (called "Novus Burgus," in the Domesday Book), in which King William had forty houses, besides 47 in demesne in the other quarter of the town. 221 houses were in this new quarter in possession of various tenants-in-chief, of which 21 were *wasted*, so that there were at least 287 inhabited houses in Northampton in A.D. 1086. The castle of Rochingham is mentioned as having been built by King William on wasted land.

22. LEICESTERSHIRE, the Lægreceasterscyre and Læðecæstrescire of the "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle," is called Ledecestrescire in the Domesday Book. Ellis computes the population census at 6,772, which included 63 tenants-in-chief, 196 under tenants, 2,665 villani, 1,914 sochemanni, 1,345 bordarii, 23 ancillæ, 42 presbyters, a clerk, and a deacon. Notice of the "Civitas de Ledecestre" precedes the numbered table of 44 tenants, among whom Comes Hugo



occupies two places, the 13th and the 43rd. The burgesses of Ledecestre numbered 65, but there were 318 houses and 4 wasted ; 71 houses were assessed to the king's geld.

23. WARWICKSHIRE, or Warwicscire, contained, according to Ellis's valuable digest, a population of 6,574, among whom were 55 chief-tenants, 176 under tenants, 3,500 villani, 1775 bordarii, 845 servi, 22 burgesses in the burgh of Warwick, and about 225 houses ; 10 burgesses in Tamworth, which border town also held Staffordshire burgesses. An account of the burgus de Warwic is prefixed to the numbered schedule of tenants-in-chief. Four masures were wasted in the town of Warwick for the site of the castle.

24. STAFFORDSHIRE, called Statfordscire, but in the "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle" Stæffordscyre, only held a population of 3,178, 32 of these being tenants-in-chief, 138 undertenants, 1,728 villani, 912 bordarii, 212 servi, 1 ancilla, 6 teini, including 1 designated by name, Chenuin ; 12 burgesses in Tamworth, others being in the Warwickshire part of this town ; 36 burgesses in the burgus de Stadford, a notice of which town commences the survey before the schedule of tenants-in-chief. The Conqueror held in this borough 18 burgesses, besides 8 waste manses, and 22 manses as of the honour of the earldom. The other 18 burgesses were parcel of the manor of Mertone, held by the Monastery of St. Evroul in Normandy. Five canons of Lecefelle or Lichfield,



and 18 in Statford are enumerated; and in the market of Tutbury there were 42 homines, all probably engaged solely in the pursuit of various trades. Eyton's "Analysis of the Staffordshire Survey" must be carefully studied in connexion with the record of that county. He finds three remarkable peculiarities in the method of the Staffordshire Commissioners which distinguishes their work from that of the Commissioners which examined the counties adjacent, Worcester, Shropshire, Cheshire, and Derbyshire. These are:—

1. In dealing with plough lands and teams, special formula different to those used in the above-mentioned counties.

2. They do not use the word *ecclesia*, but signify the church by mere mention of a resident presbyter.

3. They do not make written mention of the geldability or non-geldability of an estate; they speak of a hide, a virgate of land, a carucate of land, but not of a hida geldabilis, or hida ad geldum.

These peculiarities are found to be also used in the Surveys of Warwickshire and Oxfordshire. Thus, these three counties, Oxfordshire, Warwickshire, and Staffordshire were in the same circuit. The king's land, *Terra regis*, in this county, has been distinguished by Eyton into three sections. 1. The "*Vetus Dominicum Coronæ*," the estates of King Edward descended to King William; 2. The lands escheated to the king by Edwin, last earl of Mercia, and earl Harold; and 3. Estates, uniformly waste, which had gone to the Crown by forfeiture or eviction of Saxon thegns. The Domesday Book notices the





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missioners dealt with them, and the castle of Peneverdant is incidentally mentioned. The rest of Lancashire to the north of this district was but thinly peopled and sparsely cultivated. In this respect we may compare some parts of Surrey. This section of the Survey comprehends parts of Flintshire, including, incidentally, notices of the castle of Roelent or Rutelan, Denbighshire, and a few townships in Cumberland and Westmoreland, as is shown by Mr. W. Beaumont, in his work on the Domesday for these parts, in 1882. In all, Ellis sums up 2,349 total recorded population of this county, inclusive of 2 tenants-in-chief only, 167 undertenants, 797 villani, 635 bordarii, 193 servi, 172 bovarii, indicative of the grazing qualities of the land, 6 drenghs. Chester city was rated at 50 hides, and sheltered 7 moneyers and a corporation of 12 *Judices*, bound to attend the hundred court under a penalty; perhaps a kind of standing jury. The total of houses was 487 in King Edward's time, but these had dwindled to 282 in A.D. 1086. Two churches, St. John's and St. Werburgh's, had houses in the city.

27. DERBYSHIRE, Derbyscire, does not record a very large population, Ellis's total being but 3,041. The numbered schedule of tenants-in-chief prefixed to the text has seventeen titles, including 25 tenants. There were 75 under tenants, 1,840 villani, 719 bordarii, 128 sochemanni, 49 presbyteri, 20 servi.

This county was evidently connected in some remarkable manner with that of Nottingham, which follows it in the Domesday Book; but we do not know



the exact character of the links which united them. Mr. Pendleton, the latest historian of this county, has overlooked this fact, apart from there being but one sheriff for the two counties, which is paralleled in other pairs of counties; the account of the *Burgus Derby* follows that of the *Burgus Snotingeham* in the Nottinghamshire Domesday. The fine for breach of the king's peace in the two counties is thus expressed: "In Snotinghamscire et in Derbiscire pax regis manu vel sigillo data, si fuerit infracta; emendatur per viii hundrez. Vnumquodque hundredum . viii libris. Hujus emendationis habeat rex . ii . partes, comes terciam. Id est . xii . hundreda emendant regi et vi . comiti." Another connexion between the counties is seen in the paragraph which records the names of those "In Snotingeham scyre et in Derbiscyre" who enjoyed the four great, indeed paramount, privileges of "*socam et sacam et Thol et Thaim*, et consuetudinem regis . ii . denariorum." Ellis thinks this connexion is due to the commercial relations between the two towns of Derby and Nottingham. Mr. Pendleton notices that in A.D. 1204 Derby, which had been a royal borough since the time of King Edward the Confessor, received a grant of additional privileges, *such as Nottingham had*, and these included the monopoly of dyeing cloth,<sup>1</sup> the creation of a merchant's guild, and the freedom of serfs unclaimed by their lords, after one year's

<sup>1</sup> "Nec aliquis infra decem leucas in circuitu de Derebi tinctos pannos operari debet nisi in Burgo de Derebi, salva libertate Burgi de Nottingham."



residence. The homines of the two counties were to come to the burgus of Derebi on Thursdays and Fridays “cum quadrigis et summagiis suis.” In the time of King Edward the Confessor there were two hundred and forty-three burgesses in the county town; one church with seven, another with six clerks, each church holding lands free; and fourteen mills. But in A.D. 1086 only 100 greater and 40 lesser burgesses, four churches, 10 mills, 103 *wasted* mansions or houses, and 16 masures possessed of *sac* and *soc*, ten of which belonged to the king. Forty-one burgesses held twelve geldable carucates, cultivating their lands with twelve ploughs, “although eight could do the work.”

28. NOTTINGHAMSHIRE; Snotinghscire, of the Survey, which perpetuates the ancient orthography of the Saxons,—Snotingaham, a patronymic or tribal name,—held at the time of the Domesday a recorded population of 5,686, including 50 tenants-in-chief, 138 undertenants, 2,603 villani, 1,516 sochemanni, 1,101 bordarii, and 64 presbyters. In Newerche, or Newark, Remigius, bishop of Lincoln, had upon his demesne 56 burgesses, as well as villani and bordarii. Nottingham Town, in the time of King Edward the Confessor, held 173 burgesses and two moneyers. This number had been reduced by the time of the formation of the survey to 120 *homines manentes*, or burgesses holding six carucates, and tilling the area with fourteen ploughs. The shrinkage is remarkable, because the recovery from the devastation of the county in A.D. 1016 seems to have reached its height





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30. YORKSHIRE, called Evrvicscire, or Evrvice-scyre, in the Domesday Book, does not present so large a return of inhabitants and cultivation as the great area of the land would appear to demand. The reason of this, the desolation of the year 1080, has been mentioned in another place in this work. The *tredings*, or threefold sub-division, existed at the Domesday period, but the description of their component manors are not kept separate. There are twenty-nine entries in the numbered list which precedes the general text, representing the more important holders of land, but 105 tenants-in-chief in all ; only 222 undertenants, 5,079 villani, 1,819 bordarii, 447 sochemanni, 136 presbyters, 1 clericus. 35 villani and 8 bordarii occupied the large number of 411 manors, a clear indication of the thorough harrying which the county had undergone. There are no undertenants on the Terra Regis, and only two on the whole of the earl of Moretaine's lands.

The city of York has its survey prefixed to the numbered list of tenants. From it we learn that it comprehended 6 shires at the date of Edward the Confessor. One of these was abolished, to make room for the castles. The others contained 1,418 "mansiones hospitatæ," inhabited tenements. The archbishop's shire held 189 others ; thus bringing up the total to 1,597. King William's shire contained 391 rent-paying houses, 540 vacant, 400 occasionally inhabited, 145 in occupation of the francigenæ, and other dwellings. It was evidently a large community, of upwards of 1,000 inhabited tenements. The city held 4 *Judices*, of whose probable official



capacity some notice has been given in the account of Chester. The geld was levied on 84 carucates within the city bounds. Burgesses are also entered by number as follow :—Bretlinton, or Bridlington, 4 ; Dadesleia, Stanton and Helgebi, 31 ; Poclinton, 15 ; lesser burgesses in Tateshale, 60. Incidental Domesday notices of, or allusions to, castles occur in the survey of the county. Among them are two at York, one at Pontefract, and one at Richmond. A paragraph in the Domesday records the names of the great tenants of the county who possessed the privileges of “soc and sac, and tol, and thaim, and all customs.”

31. LINCOLNSHIRE or Lincoleshire, and Lindesig, or the parts of Lindsey, follows Yorkshire in the Survey. The numbered schedule comprises seventy titles, and there are also the separate notices of Civitas Lincolia, Stanford “Burgū Regis,” and Torchesey. The fine for breaking the king’s peace in Lincoln city resembles that already described at Derby and Nottingham. Some of the lands in the Yorkshire Ridings have been placed in this county. It was a populous district. Ellis finds a population of 25,305 recorded ; consisting of 92 chief tenants and *Taini regis*, 414 undertenants, 11,503½ sochemanni, 7,723 villani, 4,024 bordarii, 131 presbyters, among others. The burgesses are set down as follows :—City of Lincoln, about 900 ; Stanford, 136 ; Grantham, 111 ; Torkesey, 102 ; Ludes (or Louth) 80. Lincoln city held 1,150 inhabited houses in the time of Edward the Confessor, and, from the names of some of those who held the



houses, Ellis conjectures that the city had served as a resort for partisans of Merlesuain, Ulf, Morcar, and Harold, opposed to the Conqueror at the beginning of his reign. About a fifth of these had been wasted in building the castle, or from misfortune, poverty, and fire. The 12 lagemen here may, perhaps, compare with the twelve *judices* of Chester.

Stanford must have been a populous town in the days of Edward the Confessor. The castle was erected<sup>1</sup> by Edward the Elder in A.D. 922, on the south side of the River Welland. But it would seem that another castle had taken the place of this from which the Danes were expelled by King Edmund<sup>2</sup> in A.D. 942, for the town wards held 141 inhabited houses in the time of Edward the Confessor; 5 were destroyed at the re-erection of the Castle, 136 remained for the survey of A.D. 1086. The Domesday takes special notice (by a separate paragraph) of the great lords who held the four important jurisdictions of sac, soc, tol, and thaim. Here also were 12 lagemen, reduced to 9 when the Domesday was prepared. 70 mansiones here, which had belonged to Queen Editha, are said to be in Rutlandshire.

Torkesey had possessed 213 burgesses in the Confessor's day. When William the Conqueror's Commissioners assessed the town they found but 102, for 111 lay waste. There were castles at Lincoln and Stanford:

The first volume of the Domesday then reverts to YORKSHIRE, and contains entries which tend to show

<sup>1</sup> "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle."

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*





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The notice of Colchester is full and interesting. 294 burgesses had, for the most part, 1 house each. some 2, a few 4, and one, as many as 13 ; with more or less land attached. Among those holding houses are Hamo Dapifer, he is entered in the Survey for a house, a *curia*, a hide of land, 15 burgesses ; the bishop of London, 14 houses, free except for *scot*. The king is credited with 102 acres in demesne, with 10 boors. Sixpence yearly was assessed to every house when the king mobilised his army. There was a corporation of the burgesses here which held land, the proceeds of which (60 shillings), if not wanted for the service of the Crown, was divided in common. The church of St. Peter here, is mentioned in the Domesday.

Maldon was the only other place in Essex containing burgesses, some of which held land, others only their houses within the borough. There were 1 king's house, 180 burgesses' houses, held of the king, 18 *waste* houses. The Domesday notices the castle of Rageneia, or Rayleigh, in Rochford hundred.

33. NORFOLK, is called Norfulc, and Nordf. Here was established the large recorded population of 27,087 persons, which may be multiplied by 5 or 6 to represent actual total, including women and children. We do not know at what age the youth put off his legal infancy, and was reckoned as an adult. Perhaps not very far from the age adopted by modern English law for the attainment of majority. In the enumeration of the Israelites by Moses,<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Numb. i. 1-3 ; Exod. xxx. 14.



those under 20 years of age were not counted. When David numbered the people, the same limit of age was observed.<sup>1</sup> This is noteworthy, as being the custom of a race who, like other inhabitants of low latitudes, arrive at an earlier maturity than is the case in England. This large Norfolk population is composed of, among others, 63 chief tenants, mentioned by name in another part of the work ; 435 under-tenants, 9,537 bordarii and 480 in Norwich too poor to pay custom, 4,656 villani, 4,571 sochemanni, 17 half-sochemanni, 4,277 liberi homines, and only one Anglicus. The burgesses follow the proportion of inhabitants, and are fairly numerous, viz., in Tetford (Thetford), whither bishop Herfast, of Elmham, had transferred his see eleven years previously, 725 ; English burgesses in Norwic, 665 ; and in the Novus Burgus, or newly included suburbs, 124 ; in Gernemuta, or Yarmouth, 70.

Thetford was the most flourishing town, if we may judge by the number of burgesses within it. There had been even more, 943 in the time of King Edward the Confessor, but the difference in the time of the survey is accounted for by the return of 224 vacant houses. Of these burgesses, 21 held six carucates and sixty acres. The king here held two-thirds of the royal revenue, as of the Crown, the other third went to him as of the forfeited earldom of Ralph Guader. But if the tale of inhabitants and tenements had diminished, the tax had increased, for while in the time of the Confessor it amounted in all to £30, in the report of King William's commissioners

<sup>1</sup> 1 Chron. xxvii. 23.



it stood at £50 to the Crown by weight, £20 blanced money, £6 by count, £40 in coin de moneta, from the mint, and 16 sh. for provender ; making in all £116 16s., or nearly four times as much as under Saxon government.

Norwich city, or rather town, for the cathedral did not rise until the transfer by bishop Herbert Losinga from Thetford here in A.D. 1094, had recently suffered much. The forfeiture of earl Roger, conflagrations, the king's geld, and other retarding agencies had, however, left 1,320 burgesses, the greater part to the king, 50 to Stigand, who had been ejected from his See of Elmham, 32 to Harold. The town was rated by itself as for a whole hundred. The payments in the time of Edward the Confessor were the same as those of Thetford, but they were increased at the time of the survey to upwards of three times the amount. The empty houses were very numerous, for some of the burgesses had transferred themselves to Beccles, which belonged to the Abbey of Bury St. Edmund's, others to the Hundred of Humbleyard, where they held eighty acres of land, and a few elsewhere. Norwich Castle is mentioned incidentally.

Yarmouth had remained stationary, in point of numbers, for both in the reign of King Edward the Confessor and at the time of the survey it sheltered seventy burgesses, whose financial condition was so far bettered by the change of government that the rents could be slightly increased, and they paid four pounds to the sheriff as a free gratuity or stipend.

34. The survey of SUFFOLK, called Svdfolc, or





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to soften the barbarian habits of the nations by establishing schools, in which he could teach Latin to his missionary band, in the first half of the seventh century, under the protection of Sigbert, King of the East Angles, subsequently parted with a moiety of its episcopal area with Elmham, A.D. 673, which in a later age, after the hostile incursions of the Mercians, led by Ludekan, then King, was re-joined to it, and its own name suppressed. Here the Domesday Book places 316 burgesses; and the town appears to have been improving, for in the time of Edward the Confessor there were but 120. Eighty of the Domesday burgesses belonged to the Abbey of Ely; the others were held by Robert Malet. They paid £50, and sixty thousand herrings, which throws a light on the condition of the fisheries of England and the nature of the food of the inhabitants.

Gipewiz, or Ipswich, records 210 burgesses, but in King Edward's day there had been nearly five times that number; between the two periods of rule 328 geldable tenements were wasted. The third penny had gone to earl Guert in the days preceding the Conquest. It was rated probably as a half hundred. Sudberie, or Sudbury, part of the survey of which town is entered under the county of Essex, contained 118 Suffolk burgesses, with a market and moneyers. Its chief rent had been nearly doubled under the new government.

Beccles, in the holding of the Abbey of Bury St. Edmunds, contained 26 burgesses and a market; one fourth part of its proceeds went to the Crown. There were 30 sochemanni, with 20 bordarii in their soc.



Clare sheltered 43 burgesses ; Eye, 25 ; and at Carahalla mention is made of a free market granted by the king. Incidental mention is made of a castle at Eia or Eye. Here, or at any rate within the Manor of Hoxne, the See of Dunwich, which had been overwhelmed by the sea at some time between the reign of Edward the Confessor and the formation of the survey, had been removed.



## CHAPTER XI.

MEASURES OF LAND — DENOMINATIONS — JURISDICTIONS — FRANCHISES — TENURES — SERVICES.

*Measures of Land.*

THE land measures of the Domesday Book have always been the subject of considerable discussion among students. Even so lately as the Domesday Commemoration of this year, the principal readers of papers and members were found to take up positions irreconcilable with one another's opinions, and it would, therefore, perhaps be unwise in this place to lay down any very hard and fast theories upon the details and comparative values of superficial and linear measures.

The following principal terms are employed in the text of the surveys for land measures.

- |               |                        |
|---------------|------------------------|
| (1) Acra.     | (8) Leuca.             |
| (2) Bovata.   | (9) Perca.             |
| (3) Carucata. | (10) Pes.              |
| (4) Ferding.  | (11) Quarentena.       |
| (5) Furlong.  | (12) Solin, or suling. |
| (6) Hida.     | (13) Virgata.          |
| (7) Jugum.    |                        |





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made considerable researches into the composition of Domesday measures, finds that the *quarentena* and *leuca* depend on the acre, as will be shown in treating of these terms.

Even as late as the seventeenth century the acre was an imaginary quantity,<sup>1</sup> as is testified by the line of the pretty little Shakesperean song :—

“Between the *acres* of the rye.”<sup>2</sup>

2. The *bovata*, or “Oxgang,” as Ellis translates it, must have originally consisted of as much land as an *ox* could till, an *ox's worth* of land, for the word is formed with a termination *ata*, analogous to the terms *librata*, *solidata*, *denariata*, *carucata*, *virgata*, signifying a pounds' worth of land, &c., that is, so much land as should pay one pound, and so on. Ellis considers it to have been originally as much as an “ox team” could plough in a year, but the explanation is obscure, as he does not inform us how many oxen went, in his understanding, to such a team. He admits, moreover, that the number of acres which composed a *bovate* are variously stated in different parts of the Domesday Book ; no doubt in proportion to the manageability of the soil. Records of the time of Edward I. mention eight acres to the *bovate* at Doncaster in Yorkshire, and other *bovates* of sixteen and seventeen acres respectively. There can be no question that the proportion of a *bovate* (one ox's worth) to a *jugum* (a pair's worth), is as

<sup>1</sup> See Halliwell's “Archaic Dict.,” *s.v.*

<sup>2</sup> *As You Like It*, act v., sc. 3.



one to two, and of the *bovate* to the *carucate* as one to four, the number assigned to the plough, but of this more hereafter.

3. The *carucate*, or plough's worth, that is, the area that one plough could till annually, is a word introduced by the Normans, and is probably one of the most interesting subjects in the whole of the Domesday Book. Beaumont tersely puts it that the hide was the ploughable land; the *carucate*, that which was actually ploughed. We must first consider the *caruca* before we can justly arrive at an appreciation of the *carucata*.

It is remarkable that the common Latin word *aratrum*, a plough, is not used in the Domesday, although the verb *aro*, to plough, is of frequent occurrence. We must, therefore, admit that the synonym *caruca* suggested itself more readily to the scribes because of its similarity to the vernacular word in use among the common people at the period, for it can hardly be suggested that they had no acquaintance with *aratrum*. The Greek *κάρρον*, and Latin *carrus*, do not appear to have any part in the derivation of *caruca*. But from the Low-Latin form, or, at any rate, post-classical form, *carruca*,<sup>1</sup> used by Pliny and others to signify a sort of four-wheeled travelling carriage,<sup>2</sup> several Romance languages

<sup>1</sup> Genus vehiculi tum in urbem, tum extra in itineribus adhibiti, et non solum a Viris, præsertim honoratioribus, sed etiam a feminis.

<sup>2</sup> The *carrucæ*, or carts of the Cambridge burgesses, which were customarily lent to the sheriff three times yearly, belong to this category.



formed cognate words, such as the Italian *carrozza*, the French *carrosse*, and, by the ordinary processes of derivation, the English *carriage*.

The cardinal fact in all these words is that they represent a four-wheeled vehicle. The words used in the Romance languages for plough, are :—*carruca*, Ital. ; *carruga*, Provenç. ; *charrua*, Portug. ; *kérue*, Picardy ; *quiérue*, Normandy (Valogne) ; *chèrowe*, Walloon ; *chèreuwe*, Namur ; *kèrue*, Rouchi. Setting aside for the present the termination, which is a very common one in the languages of Western France, our task is directed to elucidating, if possible, the meaning of the root *car*. Comparing other words in Romance languages, the following immediately strike our attention :—

Portuguese, *catle* or *catre*, a bed, a “four-poster” (*quatuor*).

French—*Car*, why = Latin *quare*.

„ *Carême*, Lent = Latin *quadragesima*.

„ *Carrefour*, a cross road = Latin *quatuor*  
fori ; English, *Carfax*.

„ *Carré*, squared = Latin, *quadratus*.

„ *Carriere*, *career*, *quarry*.

„ *Carillon* = Latin, *quadrilio*.

Latin — *Carta* = *quarta* ; a quart.

*Carteria* = *quarteria*.

From this list, which might be easily extended, the root *car* in *caruca*, may fairly be taken to represent the Latin *quatuor*. But a plough would not from its nature be provided with four wheels. In some of the earliest representations of a plough, for





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to steer the plough along its proper course. Between these two blades, the latter of which is evidently adapted to turn over the earth, is a small peg or nail with an uncertain object like a blade attached to it, partially hidden behind the large blade. Two pairs of bullocks attached in some obscure manner to the beam draw it along over the rough and hummocky ground. These pairs are not united together, nor is any harness or gear introduced into the illustration. Over the necks of the two in front, as also over the necks of the two behind, a yoke or rail is laid, apparently with the object of keeping the rank of two abreast in their work. In front of the beasts walks the man, backwards or nearly so, provided with a long, straight goad or stick with which he is pricking the right-hand animal of the second row, or "off-side wheeler."

The second illustration, that in Cottonian MS. Tiberius B.V. part 1, f. 3, looks almost like an enlarged copy of the first. But it has the advantage of being coloured. The wheel has eight spokes, alternately plain and turned, its circumference is coloured of a pale blue, perhaps to represent iron or steel; the beam also is of the same colour. The front blade or knife is plain and uncoloured; the tie silvered; the hinder blade red, with white streaks; the blade carried by the middle peg, blue. Between the two oxen of the front pair is a straight line, indicating apparently a pole or bar between the oxen, but it is merely a line, and has not any thickness or substance. It is not seen in the other drawing.

In the Utrecht Psalter, of which an excellent



photographic copy has recently been prepared, under the direction of the trustees of the British Museum, the illustration to Psalm ciii. (civ. of the authorised version), “Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening,” v. 23, “Exibit homo ad opus suum et ad operationem suam usque ad vesperum,” is represented by a picture (fol. 120 of the facsimile), of a man ploughing with two oxen, which he directs by means of a long goad held in the right hand. His left hand holds the handle of the primitive plough, which is turned over into hook-like form, while the part that enters the ground performs, by means of its pointed end, the part of blade, or culter, and share. Through this blade passes the beam or a rope; it is difficult to determine which of these two is signified by the thin straight line which issues from behind the oxen and runs into the iron plough.

A similar representation of the early plough is contained in the same manuscript (folio 126 of the facsimile), where it is introduced to illustrate (in that remarkably realistic manner in which the whole of the pictures have been designed throughout the volume), Psalm cvi. (cvii. of the authorised version). “And there he maketh the hungry to dwell, that they may . . . . sow the fields,” &c., v. 36, 37. “Et seminaverunt agros,” &c. The picture in this place is very similar to that which has been already mentioned, but the ploughman has no goad. The bar or beam is represented of more substance, and has two lines to it. The draughtsman of the Harley MS. 603, which is a copy of this manuscript, executed about the time of the Norman conquest, and therefore strictly contem-



porary with the formation of the Domesday Book, has introduced the same subjects, at the corresponding places of his work, folios 516-5, 216.

The celebrated Bayeux tapestry, a faithful representation of the manners and customs of the Saxons and Normans at the time of the Conquest, contains on its lower border a panoramic view of four chief agricultural pursuits arranged in reverse order of event, viz., slinging at birds from the young crops, horse-harrowing with a square frame with four rows of teeth, sowing in a furrowed field of which the boundary is composed of single stones set at regular distances, and ploughing. The picture, as given in Mr. Fowke's valuable work on the tapestry, is somewhat indistinct, but shows a long beam drawn by a single animal with long ears (whether intended for ox, cow, horse—vastly different, however, from the finely drawn horses throughout the tapestry, and from that in the same scene drawing the harrow—or ass, who shall say?) One shaft and some harness is depicted. The beam is furnished with two front wheels; between them sits the driver, holding a long goad in the right hand, his left hand extended as if pointing to a distant object, his head turned back in converse with the ploughman. The beam goes on behind the wheels, and carries a knife blade set through it, as in the other examples described; and at the back strides the plodding ploughman, with both hands occupied in guiding the long curved turnover or plough-share, the point of which reaches nearly to the tip of the knife in front. This representation appears to be quite conclusive as to the





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folio 86 a very remarkable picture of the process of ploughing. There are two oxen, turning round the plough at the end of the furrow. They are attached to the pole or beam of the plough by three ropes or traces, which carry a bar across the plough beam, each ox being harnessed solely with a collar round the neck to hold the traces. The blade of the plough is formed like a knife, the tang or hilt of which passes through the body of the beam. It is illuminated with silver, and evidently represents steel. The wheel, which has eight spokes, as in the former cases here, is placed behind the blade ; the handles, of which there are two, pass upwards out of the beam, which increases in bulk as it approaches this end, and below the handles is a box-like object, with two square sockets or holes of uncertain use. There is no ploughman or ox-herd in the picture, which is a very fine work of art of the period, and evidently faithful in detail, as far as can be expected in the pictorial work of the period.

The “Chronicon Roffense,” or Chronicle of Rochester, an important manuscript written in the fourteenth century in England, preserved among the Cottonian MSS. Nero D. ii., has at page 11 *b.* an outline drawing, somewhat roughly and irregularly drawn, of a plough, worked by two oxen in a collar and rope-trace. The ploughman appears to be guiding the work by two reins, one held in each hand. There are no wheels, and the blade has the knife-like form seen in most of the other illustrations. The furrows at the base are drawn quite straight, but the details of the beam and the manner in which the knife is inserted into it are not very clearly defined.



The combined evidence, therefore, of these manuscripts, ranging in point of date from the ninth to the fourteenth century, reacts strongly against a remarkable theory which was expressed—not, of course, as a novel idea—by the Rev. Canon Isaac Taylor, at the recent Domesday commemoration. It amounts to no less than this. That cultivation was performed by eight oxen—whether four abreast or in four pairs the Canon did not state—led by their respective owners on a co-operative system, drawing an immense plough, and having their heads so pulled round by the head gear when they reached the end of their furrow that it caused the furrow itself in course to take the form of a reversed S. Another writer on the metrology and agricultural aspects of Domesday speaks of acres broken up into strips, which were distributed into two-fields, indicating a two-field or two-course shift, where half the estate lay fallow every year in alternation with the other half, or (as in after times) into three fields, indicating a three-course shift, where similarly one-third of the property lay idle every year in rotation ; and continues to state that the strips were not, as a rule, straight or at right angles to the common base from which they sprang, nor was the base itself straight,—on the contrary, they were generally wavy in character, and of the shape shown by the inverted letter S., as any one can very well see in passing through the grass country of the midland counties. Canon Taylor believes that half ploughs drawn by four oxen were occasionally used, but the fact that a Domesday carucate is invariably equivalent to eight bovates, shows that a team of eight oxen was



the regular complement. The fallacy here is evident on reflection. Why should not the plough of eight oxen be one of double strength? Professor Nasse, whose testimony is invoked by Canon Taylor, says, "The team of a plough consisted, *as a rule*, of not less than eight draught oxen." He cannot therefore have attached much value to the contemporary, the older, or the newer evidence of illuminated manuscripts, not one of which, as far as I know, attaches eight oxen to the plough. Mr. Seebohm's declaration is similarly qualified, although Canon Taylor relies firmly on it. "The team of eight oxen *seems to have been* the normal manorial plough throughout England, though in some districts still larger teams were needful." No doubt Mr. Seebohm is right as to the concluding proposition, for large ploughs and stiff claylands might well require more than eight beasts to work them, but it would be needless waste of strength to employ eight oxen on the average quality of English land, where two horses or four oxen could do all that was required.

Many writers, besides Beamont, see in the *carucate* a mere synonym for the *hide*, which they accept as a hundred acres, that is, six score acres, English measure. This may be so if the hide were, as we cannot deny it to have been, the amount of land required for one family, and that family, at any rate in the older days of occupation, possessed but one *caruca*, then the *hida* and the *caruca's* worth, or *carucata*, must have been co-extensive in every sense.

Canon Taylor, relying upon the twofold system of agriculture in use, as he believes, at the Domesday





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a measure of forty perches, would represent the *length* of the *furrow*, in a field containing ten acres square, the acre being a rectangle 40 perches, or a furlong in length, and 1-10th, *i.e.*, 4 perches in width. This proportion of 1-10th is significant.

6. *Hida*. The hide<sup>1</sup> is, perhaps, the oldest, historically speaking, of all terms connected with the geodesic aspect of the Domesday Book. It occurs in the laws of Ina, in the seventh century. It has formed a favourite theme with many writers, and its origin and meaning are evidently wrapped in some uncertainty and doubt, because almost all have varied more or less in their estimate of its value as a measure. Some fanciful writers, such as Polydore Virgil, look at the English hide in the light of the Virgilian mythological origin of the city of Carthage, which sprang in the first instance from an artifice by which the grant of land to the new comers was to extend :

“Quantum taurino possint circumdare tergo.”

This must, however, be rejected as an etymology, for we have no reason to admit that the seventh century inhabitants of Britain were aware of the existence of Carthage centuries before the time, much less of the fabled origin of the city. That etymology is far more worthy of acceptance which refers the hida to the Anglo-Saxon word *hyd*, a house or habitation, from *hydan*, to hide or cover (analogous to *tectum*, a roof, from *tego*, to hide). The word still exists in two modern English words, *hut*, a cottage, *hat*, a

<sup>1</sup> Or *higid*: “novem higidæ.” Birch, “Cart. Sax.,” No. 452.



head covering. Beda uses the term *familia* for a homestead, and its circumjacent land, sufficient for the maintenance of a family of some importance that is, for the lower-class tiller of the soil would not and could not form a family to himself, he and his suit, his wife, children, and property, being an accidental item in the familia of the lord, who defended him from extermination by his enemies. King Alfred translates the Latin word *familia*, by *hydeland*. The quantity of it was sufficient for the work that could be done by one plough, for in the remoter periods, before the congregation of adherents under the ægis of a kinglet, or even a semi-heroic head of a clan, one plough would till sufficient land for the moderate number of persons forming the group of the familia. The quantity of the hide was never expressly determined, nor is it so fixed in Domesday. The calculations which work out one value of it in acres in one place, or in one county, will not give satisfactory deductions elsewhere, and all attempts to fix the exact acreage of the hide have necessarily failed, because the expression represents a quantity which varies in direct proportion to the fertility, arability, and convenience of the land to which the term was applied. For example, the *Dialogus de Scaccario* makes the hide equal to a hundred acres; the Malmesbury manuscript cited by Spelman, ninety-six acres; the Liber Rubeus, a hundred and seventy acres; Agard, calculating by the *Anglicus numerus*, or “great hundred,” gives six score acres to the hide. Mr. Davidson finds that it is clear that the Normans used the word hide in Domesday to express some fixed



area of land, and he instances the case of Otri, in Devonshire, where it is said there were 24 acres of meadow, and 1 acre of wood, and 1 hide of pasture. His computation of the hide in Devonshire varies between 480, 960, 1,920 acres, with a preponderance in favour of the first number. Some writers compare the hide, the measure of land in the reign of Edward the Confessor, with the carucate, that to which it was reduced by the Conqueror's new standard. Other entries seem to work out the hide to be equivalent to  $13\frac{1}{2}$  carucates, 18 carucates, 6 carucates. Kemble, in his masterly work on the Saxons in England, has attributed an excessive value of area to the hide, which has been criticised somewhat severely by Eyton and later writers. Beamont finds that for South Lancashire the hide stood to the bovaté in the relation of one to six, but in the rest of England generally, of one to eight, and in Cheshire, of one to four, and this because the number of carucates to the hide in these two specified counties was smaller than elsewhere, not because the hide was less, for if anything it was greater, but the greater size of the acre occasioned the difference, thus:—

4,840 square yards	=	1 statute acre.
7,840                   ,,	=	1 Lancashire acre.
10,240                 ,,	=	1 Cheshire acre.

With such acres fewer carucates were required to raise the hide to the standard which prevailed in other parts of England.

The hide, as one of the oldest terms of areal value, occurs in the Anglo-Saxon charters of a very remote





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the twelfth century, mentions (in the titles of folios 113, 114) the amount of certain lands by hides, which in the text of the same are called *cassati* or *mansæ*, the three terms being used as equivalent.

Another example of the late use of the term *hida* is that afforded by the Ad. Ch. 24,613 in the British Museum collection. In this deed John, abbot of St. Peter's monastery at Hyde, or Newminster, outside the city of Winchester, confirms a grant to William de Pirelea, son of Osbert de Pirelea, of "dimidiam hidam terre in Sandestuda," or Sanderstead, co. Surrey. The date is about A.D. 1200. Another charter by the same abbot grants to Hugo de Wiengeham also "dimidiam hidam," which is confirmed in the above charter. This latter charter is facsimiled in the "Surrey Archæological Collection," vol. vii., 1880, p. 2.

In a charter among the collection of Lord Frederick Campbell in the British Museum of the time of Henry III. (L. F. C. I. 9), a passage occurs which equates the half-hide at two virgates:—"Sciunt tam presentes quam futuri quod ego Radulfus Brito dedi Jordano fratri meo . . . . *dimidiam hidam* terræ in Stretone (? Sturton-in-Aberford, co. York) scilicet *virgatam* quam Dolewinus tenuit, et *virgatam* quam Willelmus filius Sirun\*et Alexander tenuerunt . . . pro una libra piperis annuatim reddenda," etc.

7. The *Jugum* was a land measure confined to Kent in the Domesday Book. Its value has not been ascertained. Some mediæval chroniclers write as if the jugum were a mere synonym of the *hida*. I am inclined to think that the word represents a *pair* of



oxen's worth, *i.e.*, two bovates. In corroboration of this view, there is a passage in Agard's work, quoted by Ellis, to the effect that a *jugum* was equivalent to half a carucate, which latter, as I have shown before, irrespective of the area, would be a plough's worth, *i.e.*, four oxen's worth of land; in other words, the *jugum* would be the land that a pair of oxen could till. On the other hand, Ellis refers to a passage when a certain manor (Eastwell, in Kent) is rated at 1 solin, of which three *juga* are placed under one lord, and one under another. The *jugum* (pl. *juga*), must not be confused with *jugera*, which are mentioned in the statement of claim of archbishop Lanfranc against bishop Odo of Bayeux, of which some account will be found in another place.<sup>1</sup>

In the notice of the pictorial illustrations of the plough, the reader will find the yoke, *jugum*, or bar, which harnessed the two oxen together abreast, described.

8. The *Leuca*, *leuga*, *leuua*, for all three forms of this word occur, was a term generally employed to denote an areal superficies of woodland. According to the Register of Battle Abbey, the *leuca* consisted of four hundred and eighty perches, or twelve quarentines. It therefore contained a hundred and twenty acres. Mr. Davidson considers that the lineal leuga is a length of four hundred and eighty perches, and, therefore, as a mile consists of three hundred and twenty perches, the lineal leuca is a mile and a half in length. Others, however, have reckoned the leuga from a mile, as Ingulph, to two miles, as Blomefield.

<sup>1</sup> P. 291.



9. *Feuca*, or *Pertica*, has been variously estimated at 10, 16, 20, 25, and 27 feet. In later times five and a half yards went to the perch, according to the king's standard measure. Ellis shows that a larger perch than that fixed by the statute of Edward III., as above, is still in use for woodlands.

10. *Pes*. There is no difficulty in the use of this word, which consisted then, as now, of twelve inches. That the foot originally was set out greater than the human foot, is a question which cannot be discussed in this work.

11. *Quarentena*, or as it is called in the Exon Domesday *quadragenaria*, was a length of *forty* perches, *i.e.*, a furlong. There was also an areal *quarentena*, or square *quarentena*, consisting of forty<sup>1</sup> acres, which, if in one rectangular field, would measure forty perches, or two hundred and twenty yards on each of its four sides.

12. The *Sulin*, or *Solin*, is a measure of land area found only in Kent, and from a passage in the Register of Battle Abbey among the Cottonian manuscripts in the British Museum (Domitian A. ii.) the *swulinga* is shown to be equivalent to the *hida*. Another passage in the Domesday Book itself equates 450 acres with two solins and a half. This would give two hundred and sixteen acres (about) to the solin in English measure, or 80 acres Norman measure. A Domesday passage, quoted by Ellis,

<sup>1</sup> Davidson states that the square or areal quarentena was ten acres, but this would give only 160 acres to the square mile, instead of 640.





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difficult to determine. Among such early terms the following occur :—

Agri<sup>1</sup> jugera,<sup>2</sup> cassati,<sup>3</sup> mansæ,<sup>4</sup> manentes,<sup>5</sup> mansiones,<sup>6</sup> aratra,<sup>7</sup> segetes,<sup>8</sup> virgæ,<sup>9</sup> fundus,<sup>10</sup> perticæ,<sup>11</sup> familiæ,<sup>12</sup> mansiunculæ,<sup>13</sup> sulunga,<sup>14</sup> tributarii.<sup>15</sup>

The *agri* are found in a passage which equates them with *jugera*.

The *cassati*, or *cassatæ*, were equal to hidæ.<sup>16</sup> A hundred cassates composed the *fundus* of land at Myceldefer, or Micheldefer, co Hants.

The *Mansa* was the same as the *cassata*;<sup>17</sup> sometimes it called the *Mansa* agelluli,<sup>18</sup> or aseluli.<sup>19</sup> It was also equivalent to the *hida*,<sup>20</sup> to the *sulung*, and

<sup>1</sup> Birch, "Cartularium Saxonicum," Nos. 577, 578, A.D. 898.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*      <sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, Nos. 508, 509, 525, and many others.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 533.

<sup>5</sup> Exiguam portiunculam v. manentes. No. 511 cf. exig. port. x. man. No. 482.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 481, A.D. 854.

<sup>7</sup> Aliquam partem terræ . . . hoc est viii. *aratra* in illa loco. *Ibid.*, No. 507, A.D. 863; cf. also No. 13, A.D. 618.

<sup>8</sup> cc. segites cum gramite toto. *Ibid.*, No. 513, A.D. 866.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 515.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 596.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 723, "dabo . . . sex perticas, ubi," &c.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 696, A.D. 933.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 667.

<sup>14</sup> vi. *mansas* quod Cantigene dicunt *syx sulunga*" at Wichham, Kent. Stowe Charter, A.D. 948, in British Museum.

<sup>15</sup> "terram . . . id est, xii. tributarios terræ." No. 198. A.D. 762-5.

<sup>16</sup> Cf. *Ibid.*, Nos. 466, 525, 526, 587, 590, 591, 648, 705, 706.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, Nos. 596, 597; 721, 722.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 743.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*, Nos. 776, 728.

<sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 729; 705, 706.



the *manens*.<sup>1</sup> The *familia* (or hida) occurs as late as the tenth century.

The *aratrum* was equivalent to the *sulung*<sup>2</sup> of Kent, and therefore to the *Mansa*; and to the *viculus*<sup>3</sup> of the same county.

The *pertica*, in one passage, at least, is a square measure.

Denominations, jurisdictions, franchises, tenures, and services in connexion with land are all of interest, but they may only be touched on lightly within the limits of this work. *Terra*, or arable land, consisted of slips or pieces, *Particulæ, frusta, culturæ*; it was called *planum*, to distinguish it from *silva*, or woodland. On the rare mention of *terra arabilis duplex*, or *ad duplum*, much of the novel theory that farms were cultivated on a two-field or three-field shift is founded, that is, that one-half or one-third of the ploughed land was suffered to lie fallow every year. Can this have been so, when we know the difficulties our forefathers must have had to reclaim the land? With no recorded knowledge of rotation of crops, of manuring the land, or of improving its quality by admixture, the cultivators probably went on year after year, cropping their fields, with little systematic attention to fallow. We will not say that they did not let the land lie fallow, perhaps for rest, perhaps to allow of clearing away tenacious weeds, but to put the fallow at one-half or one-third, as Canon Taylor does,

<sup>1</sup> Stowe Charter, No. 627.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 214, A.D. 774: "aliquam partem terræ *trium aratrorum* quod cantianice dicitur *threora sulunga*."

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, No 439, A.D. 842.



is far too expensive an estimate. *Silva* and *nemus*, sometimes *silvula*, and *nemusculum*—for diminutives were favourite images of diction with the Survey Commissioners—represent woodland, always carefully estimated, because of the important item of beech-mast and acorns, a food so indispensable among the Anglo-Saxons that Kentish lands not provided with it within the precincts of the estate conveyed by charter, usually had *dens*, *dænu*, *denbæro*, pig-feeding tracts of woodland, far away from the land itself, specially set apart and named as belonging to it.<sup>1</sup> The right of feeding hogs was called *pasnage*, *pannage*, or *pasnagium*; and, as usual with terms formed after this model *in-agium* signified also the price, charge or cost of the feeding. *Pastio* is sometimes used synonymously with *pasnagium*. *Herbagium* represents the right or cost of grass-feed in the woods.

Then there were the unfruitful woods; woods for fire-wood; wood without pannage; wood for enclosures or palings; wood for repairing fences, woods supplying timber suitable for house-building, underwood, or brushwood, and other kinds. Among the trees known in English woods before the Norman advent, are the oak, the sour apple, the apple, the thorn, the elder, the maple, the willow, the bramble, and the furze bush; and plantations of osiers, the tracts of furze (compare *Spinæ*, the Roman name of Speen in Berkshire), and *roncaria*, *roncetum*, or patches of brambles and briers must be noticed. *Essarz*, land grubbed up or “*projectæ de silva*,” indicate the progress of breaking up the forest and reclaiming the soil.

<sup>1</sup> See Birch, “*Cartul. Saxon.*”





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agriculture and loss of property which the formation of this forest is believed to have occasioned. The total area of land thus affected, appears, according to some, to be little short of seventeen thousand acres, added to an ancient nucleus of forest, known by the name of Ytene, involving with it the destruction of many habitable places. Ellis computes a reduction from upwards of two hundred and fifteen hides, producing about £364 in the time of Edward the Confessor, to little more than seventy-six hides producing £129 in the time of the Conqueror. Other calculations, perhaps more strictly accurate, reduce the quantity of land to half the amount. *Stabilitio*, or stalling the deer, was practised. *Haie* were parts of a wood or forest, staked and paled off, into which *capreolæ*, goats, beasts, and wild animals could be driven for slaughter. These are found noticed in four western counties, Worcester, Hereford, Salop, and Cheshire. A hare-warren we find mentioned in one passage. Parks also possessed very spacious dimensions. Several are mentioned, and they were favourite kinds of property in the tenure of the more important tenants-in-chief. The term was *parcus*, a very old word with a Latin termination added to it; *pearroc* and *pearruc* (*clausura*, *septum ferarium*), of perhaps Celtic origin, and of occasional use in Anglo-Saxon charters. Within them were the *feræ silvaticæ*, the wild beasts of the wood. The forest laws of Cnut and other monarchs have formed the subject of special and minute research. The fact of their existence as an independent code, shows the political importance that was attached to the conservation of



these woodland features of the country ; and the rigorous penalties which were laid down, in some cases, to follow infraction of the various regulations, point to the frequency of unlawful doings on the one hand, and to the determination to exclude trespassing and poaching on the other. Notwithstanding the spirit of preservation and love of the chace, which the forests afforded, and which had called into existence a large class of huntsmen, verderers, and other wood-cunning officers, the felling of timber for boards, and beams, and fuel proceeded apace ; and it was only by availing themselves of the vast quantity of firewood supplied by the forests of Sussex, Kent, and some other counties, that the manufacturers of iron and salt were enabled to keep the supply of their productions equal to the demand.

The vineyard, *vineæ*, often disputed, but doubtless maintained in England in the Domesday period—for the book notices at least thirty-eight examples, chiefly in southern half of the realm, and William of Malmesbury<sup>1</sup> described the method of cultivation and the flavour of the wine made very minutely—must not be forgotten. Here the standard of measure was sometimes the acre, but generally the *arpenna* or *arpent*, of two virgates, each of forty perches, as some calculate it, or an acre or furlong according to others, but probably variable, like almost all other Domesday measures, a term seldom used in connexion with other land. The vineyard,<sup>2</sup> the orchard, *hortus*, *ortus* ; the garden, the common pasture for the store

<sup>1</sup> “ Gesta Pontif.,” pp. 292, 326.

<sup>2</sup> *Builder*, vol. li., No. 2,283.



and draught cattle and the sheep; the fish-pond or *vivarium*, the sheep-fold, the growing crops, the ripening grain, the blossoming fruit-trees, and many another rural detail, were features quite as familiar to the eyes of those who lived in the times of the Domesday as they are with us; and the mention of them, “casually<sup>1</sup> introduced into the formal entries in which the estate of the principal owners in the parish was described for assessment, plainly indicates that, after all, in a very great measure, the aspect of the country has undergone but little modification during the last eight hundred years, notwithstanding the development of special agricultural principles, such as drainage, levelling, hedge clipping, wire fencing, and the more universal adoption of rectilinear limits of enclosures.”

The mill belonged to the lord. It was called *moliñ*, *molinum*, *molendinum*, a water mill, and the site of the Domesday mill is generally still furnished with one now—an example of the long duration of rural employments. The produce, for the lord’s advantage, is calculated sometimes in money, at other times in grain, and in eels taken from the mill ponds. It was a valuable property, particularly when the dependants were compelled to grind their own corn at their lord’s mill. Even the site on which a mill had stood had an appreciable value, perhaps it carried with it the right of re-erection and re-assertion of its exclusive privileges of thus grinding the corn grown in the neighbourhood. The windmill does not appear to be noticed in Domesday.

Of Jurisdictions, Domesday notices the *Thrithing*, *Treding*, or Riding, *the third part* of a county, found

<sup>1</sup> *Builder*, l.c.





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The *Wapentake*, one of the earliest terms used by the Saxons in this county for a definite district, has been conjectured by Lye,<sup>1</sup> and other Anglo-Saxon scholars, to be the district where a certain number of persons in each county were accustomed to meet for training and military exercises, a “weapon-teaching.” This kind of division is recorded for Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire. It was the synonym of the hundred of other counties. As related in the laws of Edward the Confessor, the prefect of the wapentake met the members at an appointed day, and, with lance uplifted, suffered each to touch it with his own, as it were a “weapon-touching,” a confederation, or “confirming of weapons.” Other explanations and derivations of this ancient territorial division have been suggested, and the laws of the Anglo-Saxon monarchs contain much material for the elucidation of the term. One of the latest theories is that of Canon Taylor, who claims an entirely new discovery as to the nature of the old hundreds and wapentakes. The Canon seeks to show that at the date of the Domesday Survey the old Anglo-Saxon *hundred* was in process of transformation into the Danish *wapentake*, that the process had been completed in some districts (it is to be presumed those in which they are found), was in progress in others, and elsewhere had not commenced at all. The organisation of the hundred, he thought, had indeed survived a Saxon designation, but the Danish wapentake was the area that was superseding it. Three of the old hundreds, if the Canon be right, went to make

<sup>1</sup> Lye rejects the idea of *tactus*, touching.



a wapentake, the former being identified by him as the basis of military assessment, the wapentake being the unit of naval assessment. This may be so, but at any rate the conversion cannot have made much progress, from the comparatively small area in which the wapentake occurs as compared with the hundred. It is, too, directly at variance with a passage in the laws of Edward the Confessor—"Quod Angli vocant *Hundredum* supradicti comitatus vocant *Wapentachium*"—"That which the English call a *hundred*, the counties of York, Lincoln, Notts, Leicester, Northampton, call a *wapentake*." The wapentake had its proper court or wapentacmot, presided over by twelve elder thanes and their prefects ; it paid the third penny, like the hundred.

The *Hundred* (the origin of which is wrongly ascribed to King Alfred, but far older traces of the institution are extant) is thought to have derived its name from being composed of a hundred hides, but some attribute more, others less, than this number. The "Black Book" of Peterborough, now preserved in the Library of the Society of Antiquaries at Burlington House, contains an Anglo-Saxon enumeration of the hundreds of Northamptonshire in the time of Edward the Confessor, entitled "Certificatio hundredorum in comitatu Northampton," in which many of the hundreds<sup>1</sup> are represented, as containing 100 hides, those which paid gold being separately entered. Ellis prints this document at length, but is wrong in writing that every hundred is composed of the full contents of a hundred hides.

<sup>1</sup> Ellis states "every hundred."



In the account of the lands belonging to Evesham Abbey a passage occurs, also instanced by Ellis<sup>1</sup> which indicated, or appears to indicate, that in the hundred of Fissesberge

The Church of Evesham has ..... 65 hides  
(12 being held free)

There are of Dodentreu ..... 20 „

There are of Worcester ..... 15 „

---

100 hides.

---

These make up the hundred—“*perficiunt hundret.*” But, on the other hand, the Worcester Chartulary of Heming, Cotton MS., Tiberius A. xiii., describes a hundred of 300 hides, “In vice comitatu Uuireceastre habet Sancta Maria de Uuireceastre *unum* hundred quod vocatur Oswaldes lau in quo jacent ccc hidæ.”<sup>2</sup>

Another class of writers has considered that the hundred of district was made up of 100 men; others, of 100 villages. Such a proportion, if it were true at first, could but last for a very short time.

The Castles of England find frequent mention in the Domesday. Some notices of the principal among them will be found in the descriptions of the separate counties. Ellis finds that they amount to forty-nine: one at Arundel, earlier than the Norman; eight built by William; ten by the greater barons; one by an under-tenant; eleven probably new. Several of these were built on the sites of prehistoric fortified mounds, which had been successively occu-

<sup>1</sup> Preface, vol. i. p. xviii.

<sup>2</sup> Fo. 132. Printed in Hearne's Edition, vol. i. p. 287.





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“manus opera,” and, by a change of idea, to *manure*, which originally signified any improvement effected in the condition of land by handiwork, and afterwards acquired the more circumscribed and current signification of a fertilising substance applied to the soil. If this be the derivation of manor, the word will represent that portion of an estate which was worked by the hand labour of those dwelling upon it. The word is not found in connexion with English estates before the reign of Edward the Confessor. The king, we are told, held in ancient demesne 1,422 manors, at least ; and Ellis mentions several instances of large proprietors whose holdings I have tabulated below for more easy observation.

1. The King .....	1,422	manors.
2. The Earl of Moretaine .....	793	„
3. Alan, Earl of Bretagne .....	442	„
4. Odo, Bishop of Bayeux .....	439	„
5. Gosfrid, Bishop of Coutances...	280	„
6. Roger de Busli .....	174	„
7. Ilbert de Laci .....	164	„
8. William Peverel .....	162	„
9. Robert de Stadford.....	150	„
10. Roger de Laci .....	116	„
11. Hugh de Montfort, upwards of	100	„

Eleven proprietors, therefore, held 4,242 manors, or an average of 385 manors to each of the above-mentioned principal tenants. How far the distribution of these and the rest of the possessions of the Saxon thanes was systematically carried out, on what rules the division was based, whether by consideration of native rank or in accordance with individual



prowess and liberality of co-operation with the object of William's expedition, we know not. Caprice probably actuated and dictated many of the royal grants of land, which at first must have been so overwhelmingly extensive that they would almost seem inexhaustible. The manor could be amalgamated with another, divided, or reduced, and instances of all occur. Its parts, either animate or inanimate, could be transferred to other manors, or they could be removed to other hundreds. There were also subordinate manors.

In the *Dominium*, or demesne, that part of an estate held to the lord's proper use, Ellis, with good reason, sees the Saxon *Inland*, which occurs also in the Domesday Book; in the tenemental land of the Normans, the Saxon *Outland* or *Neatland*. Other titles of land are Bocheland, Book-land — that is, charter-land—land held according to a royal *boc*, or charter. The term Book-land, or Buckland, has now become a place-name.

*Reveland*, perhaps land improperly taken from the tax-paying land system, and placed by the sheriffs to their own advantage.

*Tainland*, or Thegn land, hereditary land.

On the estate, the principal edifice was the *aula*, *halla*, or *haua*,<sup>1</sup> a stone-built house, where the lord lived, and the skilled servants plied their industry.

<sup>1</sup> The use of the aspirate by Domesday scribes is of little importance, when they depended so largely on the ear. The *h*, in the Roman languages, has now become little better than an etymological symbol. Its uncertain use among the lower classes in England has often been ridiculed, but in this respect they have Domesday on their side.



The term now frequently forms the second member of a place-name, and points to the existence of one of these houses on the spot. The *Curia*, or Court, may have been a mansion or a courtyard.

The *Villa* was another term for manor or lordship; a *villata*, a large vill, or more than one united together. A Berewic or *Berewite*, was a member of a manor separated from the main body. Some manors had a large number of these isolated members. *Mansio* is another term for manor, or member of a manor, but its Anglo-Saxon meaning has been described in another place.

Markets do not occur frequently, very probably only those yielding toll to the king are returned in Domesday; the free markets would not enter into the scope of the Commissioners' work. We may best glance at the most important of these by a table.

County.	Name of Place.						Yield.		
							£.	s.	d.
Kent ... ..	Favreshaunt	...	...	...	...	...	4	0	0
„ ... ..	Newedene	...	...	...	...	...	0	39	7
Hampshire ...	Neteham	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	0
„ ... ..	Basingestoch	...	...	...	...	...	0	30	0
„ ... ..	Ticefelle	...	...	...	...	...	0	40	0
Berkshire ...	Wallingford	...	...	...	...	...			
„ ... ..	Cocheham (Cookham)	...	...	...	...	...	0	20	0
„ ... ..	Bertune	...	...	...	...	...	0	0	40
Wiltshire ...	Bradeford	...	...	...	...	...	0	45	0
Somersetshire ...	Frome	...	...	...	...	...	0	46	0
„ ... ..	Mileburne	...	...	...	...	...			
„ ... ..	Givelcestre (Ilchester)	...	...	...	...	...	11	0	0





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	... Coleneia ... ..			
	... Turchetel (a quarter market)			
Suffolk	... Tornai			
..	... Beccles			
	... Entberie			
	.. Eia			
	... Carahalla ... ..			
	... Hoxana			
	... Clara			
	... Haverhella ... ..	0	13	4
	... Aspella (a fair or <i>feria</i> )			

*Tol*, or *Thol*, or *theloneum*, signified the liberty of buying and selling, of keeping a market, the money paid to the lord for his market profits, a tribute or custom for passage. The word is still used in the latter sense.

Among tenures and services the following are the most important: Tenure in frankalmoigne or in free alms; under this the tenant was free of all but the triple need, from which no one was exempt, as has already been described. Prayers for the safety of the soul of the donor, (“pro salute animæ” in the charters), his ancestors, and his heirs, were only stipulated for. The *Firma*



*unius noctis*, or entertainment for one night (and occasionally for three nights) to be rendered to the lord and his followers, was an old form of tenure. The uniform Domesday commutation for this was £13. 8s. 4d. in white money. This *firma noctis* was rendered by Sir James Thynne, lord of the Royal Manor of Warminster, in Wiltshire, to King Charles II. in A.D. 1663; and by viscount Weymouth (at Long-leat), to King George III. on 13th September, 1786. Rent severally of cheeses, dog-bread, or biscuits “*ter mille panes canibus*,” and a cup of beer occur.

The *Auera* was a day's work with the plough; the *inward*, service in the local royal body-guard. Smaller services include the following varieties:—the price of ironwork for two ploughs; four plough-shares; mending the ironwork of the king's ploughs; tending hounds; teaching the sheriff's daughter how to make gold lace, or orphrey;<sup>1</sup> presenting the lady of the manor with 18 ores of pennies, that she might be in a good humour;<sup>2</sup> and giving the king, if he came to the manor, two hundred *hesthas* or loaves, a tub of ale, and a rush basket of butter.

Of civil and criminal jurisdiction, the principal terms are *sac* or *saca*, power and privilege of adjudicating causes, levying fines, executing laws within the definite extent of the same, called *Soc* or *soca*. This latter word also signifies a rent paid for using land.

*Team* or *theam*, right to have, and judge, bondmen

<sup>1</sup> “*Aurifrisium*.”

<sup>2</sup> “*Ut esset ipsa læto animo*.”



and villains, with their children, goods, and chattels, in the lord's court.

Some of the terms for delinquencies, fines, and other expressions illustrative of the manners and customs of the inhabitants of England in the Domesday Book, will be noticed in a future chapter of this work.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> p. 287.





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be taken as comprehending all the edifices nor all the clergy of the realm. For example,<sup>1</sup> in the county of Cambridge only one church is mentioned, two in Staffordshire, three each in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire. On the other hand, by consulting the copious indices of the Record Commission edition of Domesday Book we shall find that Norfolk, Lincolnshire, Yorkshire, and Hampshire have a proportionately large number of churches, and the Suffolk churches amount in number to 364. Strange to say, a diminutive form, *ecclesiola*, "a small or little church," occasionally finds mention in the Domesday Surveys of Kent, Dorsetshire, Hampshire, and Sussex. It would be difficult to estimate the dimensions of these small churches when few or none of the Saxon churches of which we have any knowledge put forward any claims as to spaciousness of size.

Three highly interesting and undoubted Saxon churches have been discovered in comparatively recent years, which may serve as examples of average size. We may consider them in point of their antiquity. The first is that of Escombe, near Bishop Auckland, in the county of Durham; here the nave measures 43 feet 6 inches long, and 14 feet wide, inside measures; and the square chancel 10 feet. The flat-headed windows, battering-sides, and other remarkable details of this edifice indicate a remote antiquity, not far from touch with Roman times. Next comes Bradford-on-Avon, where stands the *ecclesiola*, or little church of St. Laurence, referred

<sup>1</sup> *Builder*, 1886, p. 653.



to by William of Malmesbury, writing in A.D. 1125, reaching back to the days of St. Aldhelm, the earliest years of the eighth century. Here the nave measures 25 feet 6 inches long, and 13 feet 4 inches wide. Ecclesiology may well be proud of the rescue of this relic of early Saxon days from the degrading condition of being cut up into cottages and squalid tenements. The third church of the triad referred to, is that of Deerhurst, near Tewkesbury, in Gloucestershire, only just recently recovered from the disguise of a farmstead, which has masked its true ecclesiastical character for several centuries, until the casual glance of an archæologist revealed its true nature. The measures of this are, for nave, 25 feet 6 inches by 15 feet 10 inches ; for chancel, 14 feet by 11 feet 2 inches. In one southern county a recent writer estimates seventy male adults, perhaps representing 350 total souls, as the proportionate number to one church. From this may be deduced an idea of church dimensions in the Saxon period.

No doubt, many of the so-called early Norman churches are but enlargements of pre-existing Saxon buildings. In some cases we may even trace out the respective outlines, as at Walmer, near Deal, in Kent. Perhaps, too, the primitive structure was but an oratory or chapel, and the existing parish church has absorbed, utilised, and modified the original plan, as at Patricxbourne, near Canterbury, which is said to have a most diminutive nucleus ; and at Barfreston, a gemlike church, almost unique in its appearance, and certainly, if Norman, then of the very earliest



Norman type. Mr. M. H. Bloxam<sup>1</sup> states that the triangular-headed or straight-lined arch is generally considered a characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon style, where it is often to be met with of plain and rude construction. The semicircular arch, in like manner, prevailing from the time of the Romans to the close of the twelfth century, is in some degree considered to be another characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon and Norman styles. As the Anglo-Saxon church architecture derives its origin from later Roman edifices, we should naturally find a greater or less approximation to Roman modes of building. Hence the brickwork arches of the Romans in England, as at Leicester, Castor, and Vinovia near Bishop Auckland, Durham, are the prototypes of the arches at Brixworth Church, Northamptonshire, perhaps the most perfect existing specimen of an early Anglo-Saxon church after that of Escombe. From existing vestiges of churches of presumed Anglo-Saxon construction, it is found that the walls were chiefly formed of rubble and ragstone, covered on the exterior with stucco or plaster, with long and short blocks of ashlar or hewn stone, disposed at the angles in alternate courses. Narrow vertical ribs or square-edged strips of stone, bearing from their position a rude resemblance to pilasters, and corresponding horizontal strips or string-courses, are also found in the churches of this age. Specimens of this style may be examined in the churches of Barnack, Stowe, Wittering,

<sup>1</sup> "Principles of Gothic Ecclesiastical Architecture," fifth edition, 1843, p. 20. The illustrations are particularly valuable.

<sup>2</sup> "Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.," 1887.





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of the Druids may account for some of this peculiarity of church art. One instance, indeed, of a wooden church occurs in the Yorkshire Domesday Book, at Begeland, where we find a priest and a wooden church—“*ibi presbyter et ecclesia lignea.*” Thick walls, without the adjunct of buttresses ; arches of doors and windows rounded at the top of openings, flat or triangular ; jambs with rude imposts, or capitals with square abaci, and furnished at times with ponderous mouldings running round the arches ; arches joined occasionally in pairs, divided by short and heavy shafts ; thick external walls, deeply and equally splayed with the actual opening in the middle of the thickness ; and, above all, extreme simplicity of ground plan, not unfrequently inspired from a parallelogram of two squares’ length, with a smaller square chancel, and seldom a porch ; all these are indications of the Anglo-Saxon style of church which was extant at the time of the formation of the Domesday Book. Bloxam<sup>1</sup> enumerates less than fifty extant churches, containing vestiges of presumed Anglo-Saxon architecture. Recent discoveries have added but a very few to this list, which includes Hexham, Jarrow, and Monkwearmouth, co. Durham ; Ripon, and Wittingham, Yorkshire ; Dorchester, Oxon ; Faversham, Kent ; Trinity Church, Colchester, Essex ; Stoke D’Abernon, Surrey ; the larger church at Deerhurst, Stretton, and Daglingworth, Gloucestershire ; besides those previously mentioned. Mr. J. H. Parker,<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> “Principles,” pp. 57, 58.

<sup>2</sup> “Introduction to the Study of Gothic Architecture,” 4th ed.



following very much the same lines as Mr. Bloxam, points out the distinctive Anglo-Saxon features of Corhampton Church, Hampshire; Wickham, Berkshire; St. Mary's, Bishop's Hill Junior, York; Caversfield, Buckinghamshire, and many others.

It must be understood that, limited as to area and cubic contents as Saxon churches and chapels were, as a rule, churches of larger scale were, no doubt, occasionally erected. St. Aldhelm's Cathedral, at Sherborne, Wiltshire, is an example of this. Here the Saxon western doorway of the north aisle exists entire<sup>1</sup> as regards its jambs and imposts; and part of the arch, with the projecting moulding, so frequently found all round arches or doorways of this date, still remains. On the south side still stand the southern jambs of the Saxon arch or doorway, with a simpler projecting moulding; the corresponding northern jamb was removed by the Normans, under bishop Roger, who retained the southern jamb for the wider archway. In the centre of the nave was a great porch of contemporary date, of which the moulded plinths still remain on the south side. These details show that the width of this cathedral church was between 55 feet and 60 feet. The length of the edifice is shown by the finding of the bones of the brothers of King Alfred in the eastern ambulatory, where they are known to have been interred. This gives nearly 200 feet for the Anglo-Saxon cathedral in length, exclusive of the western porch, by nearly

1874, contains numerous woodcuts of great excellence and utility, pp. 22 *et seq.*

<sup>1</sup> *Builder*, 1886, ii., p. 717.



60 feet wide. The western wall of the nave is only 2 feet 6 inches thick, and is composed of rough rubble masonry.

The political condition and territorial influence of the Church in the Domesday period has recently been illustrated in a very exhaustive manner by Mr. James Parker (before the Domesday Commemoration), who has also closely investigated the circumstances which attended the transfer of the seats of bishoprics from towns to cities about eleven years before the survey of Domesday was taken in hand. A formidable mass of statistics has in this way been gathered up concerning the number of manors held by the bishops in the various counties. Some of the property was held for the Church, other in military fee, on condition, that is, of supplying contingents of a specified number of men to swell the royal army when need arose for its mobilisation. The episcopal body in the Norman period (as also before it) wielded the sword and lance, the mace and the battle-axe, as deftly as the cross and the pen, the pastoral staff and the thurible. No doubt the greater part of the landed property which was held in one way or other by the dignitaries of the Church, regular or secular, consisted, as Mr. Parker points out, of the endowments of the ancient English Church, which the new form of government did not endeavour to alienate from it. Some of this was represented by manors belonging to the two archbishops and the bishops of the several dioceses, who appear in the schedules and titles of Domesday as tenants *in capite*; a still larger proportion was represented by manors belong-





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king, who wished to be able to fall back on the one, if the other (as eventually happened) should fail in his fidelity and allegiance. There were 840 manors in the hands of these four foreign prelates. To Odo belonged 220 manors in Kent, held in succession to earl Godwine, and 340 as well in seventeen different counties. Lanfranc, who had stepped from the abbacy of Caen to the archbishopric of Canterbury, held 75 manors, more than half the number being in Kent, the other distributed through seven counties.

To the archbishop of York belonged 173 manors, a still larger number, in six counties, including thirteen in Gloucestershire, and one in Hampshire. The bishops of the thirteen dioceses held manors in different counties, not necessarily adjacent to their cathedral cities. Two of these, the bishops of Lincoln and Thetford (afterwards Norwich), held over 100 manors each. London, under 80; Durham, Chester, and Winchester, over 50 each; Exeter, about 45; Salisbury, Rochester, and Wales, about 20 each; Chichester, 10; Worcester, 7; Hereford, 6. As for distribution there are several anomalies. For example, the bishop of London's manors amount to about 32 in Essex, 25 in Middlesex, 21 in Hertfordshire, 13 in Somersetshire, and 1 in Dorsetshire. The bishop of Winchester held as tenant-in-chief in nine counties, although the bulk lay in Hampshire. All the manors recorded in Domesday Book as belonging to the bishop of Worcester lay in Warwickshire. Mr. Parker thus attributes 700 manors to the English archbishops and bishops in all.

Ellis rightly rejects the highly-exaggerated state-



ment of Spelman that at the time of the Domesday there were 45,011 churches in England. At the same time he admits that the whole number of recorded churches falls considerably under what there are grounds for concluding they must have amounted to about or soon after the time of the Conquest. Churches, which historical and literary notice, and archæological evidence, as has been shown, demonstrate to have existed, find no reference in the Survey, and the history of Canute and Edward the Confessor makes it clear that there was, in the early years of the eleventh century, a large increase in the number of sacred edifices. The common report that thirty-six<sup>1</sup> churches were destroyed by William, without compensation, when he enlarged the circuit of the New Forest, in Hampshire, also favours this view.<sup>2</sup> Perhaps the absence of glebe land attached to the churches has something to do with the silence of the Domesday concerning them.

Tithes also only enter incidentally into the record, so that we cannot say how far the Church was supported by voluntary oblations, dues, or masses. But there

<sup>1</sup> Or between twenty-two and fifty-two, according to the account given by Knyghton.

<sup>2</sup> This is one of the principal accusations of the chroniclers against the Conqueror's character. There is no doubt that some churches were destroyed, for traces still remain of them; but how far the ecclesiastical power—a very strong element—allowed this to be done without compensation, is doubtful. William's dread of rousing the anger of the Church would hardly have allowed him to offend it unnecessarily; as we see in his arrest of Odo, his half brother, not as "bishop of Bayeux,"—for the Church would have been up in resentment in a moment,—but as "earl of Kent," and, therefore, a lay vassal.



is no mention of tithes in Somersetshire, Devonshire, Cornwall, Middlesex, Hertfordshire, and Leicestershire. The dedication of tithes at this time seems to have been at the owner's choice, and not necessarily to have followed the parochial system. Thus, among other examples which might be easily mentioned, in the county of Hereford, even a foreign monastery, St. Mary de Cormeliis, had churches, priests, and tithe-revenues in several places. This arbitrary consecration and alienation of tithes at the will of the donors was not abolished until the end of the twelfth century. Sometimes the tithe of a wasted or ruined church was transferred to the priest of another parish. Church endowments are occasionally met with. Perhaps that of Boseham, in Sussex, was one of the richest examples, being possessed of land to the extent of not fewer than 112 hides in the time of King Edward the Confessor, and sixty-five at the time of the survey. This church is represented in the Bayeux tapestry (ed. Fowke). If we may trust the artist, it was a structure of consequence. Of its connexion with the history of Harold, want of space prevents our saying anything in this place. Generally, however, a hide, half a hide, or a few acres, formed the usual area of endowments; but many larger instances occur, as at Barsham, Norfolk, 100 acres; Wellingovre (Wellingore), Lincolnshire, 143 acres; Berchingas, Suffolk, 83 acres. The Norfolk Survey is of value in this respect, as it records the amounts of Church lands. Ellis considers the *ecclesiola* and *capella* as subordinate to the *ecclesia*, and of sometimes separate endowment. There were





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severally dedicated to the Holy Trinity ; St. Mary (two, one belonging to a burgess named Culling) ; St. Michael ; St. Botulph ; St. Laurence, claimed by earl Alan from its possessor, Leffled, a free woman ; St. Peter (owning five burgesses) ; St. Stephen, St. George (held by Roger de Ramis with burgesses and wasted mansions) ; and St. Julian, also in possession of a burgess, Alured filius Rolf. At Shrewsbury were six churches, each one entered in the Domesday as holding lands *in capite*. They were dedicated to St. Almundus, or Alchmund ; St. Cedda, or Chad ; St. Juliana ; St. Mary ; St. Michael ; and St. Milburga. That of St. Mary held land in Herefordshire as well as in Shropshire. In Chester the church of St. Wareburg, or Werburgh, is mentioned as a tenant *in capite*. The church of Cirecestre, or Cirencester, held land in chief in Gloucestershire ; that of Cranbourne, “Creneburnensis ecclesia,” in Wiltshire, Dorsetshire, and Devonshire.

Among the English monastic institutions holding lands as tenants in chief (calculated by Mr. Parker as amounting to about 1,700 manors) at the time of the formation of the survey, the following are the most important :—

Abbotsbury Abbey held lands in Dorsetshire.

Abingdon, The Benedictine Abbey of St. Mary held lands in Berkshire, Oxon, Gloucestershire, and Warwickshire.

The Canons of St. Achebrannus, or St. Keverne, in Cornwall.

St. Alban's Abbey, in Berkshire, Hertfordshire, and Buckinghamshire.



St. Alcmund's Collegiate Church in Shrewsbury, in Shropshire.

Ambresberie Abbey for Nuns, in Wiltshire and Berkshire.

Batailge, or Battle Abbey, in Sussex, Kent, Surrey, Berkshire, Devonshire, Oxfordshire, and Essex.

Bedford, the Canons of St. Paul, in Bedfordshire.

Berchinges, or Barking Nunnery, in Essex, Surrey, Middlesex, Hertfordshire, and Bedfordshire.

St. Berriana, or Burian Collegiate Church, in Cornwall.

St. John of Beverley's Collegiate Church, in Yorkshire.

Bucfestre, or Buckfastleigh, held land in Devonshire.

Burgus S. Petri, or Peterborough Abbey, in several counties, Huntingdon, Bedford, Northampton, Leicester, Nottingham, and Lincoln.

In Canterbury, the Monastery of the Holy Trinity held land in Essex; the Abbey of St. Augustine in Kent.

St. Carentock, or Crantock, Collegiate Church of Canons, in Cornwall.

Certesyg, or Chertsey, an important Benedictine Abbey of ancient date, held in Surrey, Hants, and Berkshire.

Cetrez, Ceterith, or Chatteris Abbey, held in the counties of Cambridge and Hertford.

Coventrea, or Coventry, St. Mary's Abbey held in the shires of Gloucester, Worcester, Northampton, Leicester, and Warwick.

Croiland, or Cruiland, St. Guthlac's Benedictine



Abbey, of ancient foundation, held in the counties of Cambridge, Huntingdon, Northampton, Leicester, and Lincoln.

Dover, the Canons of St. Martin, in Kent.

St. Edmund's Bury, another important abbey of old foundation, in Suffolk, Oxford, Cambridge, Bedford, Northampton, Essex, and Norfolk.

Eglesham, or Eynesham Abbey, in Oxfordshire and Gloucestershire.

Glastonbury Abbey, the oldest monastery in England, held in the shires of Somerset, Hants, Berks, Wilts, Dorset, Devon, and Gloucester.

Gloucester, St. Peter's Church or Abbey, held lands in Gloucestershire, Hants, Worcester, and Hereford.

Handone, or Wolverhampton, at first a nunnery, afterwards, at the Conquest, a house of Secular Canons, in Staffordshire.

Hereford, St. Guthlac's, in the counties of Hereford and Worcester. St. Peter's Benedictine Priory, in this city, is referred to by Ellis in a valuable note.<sup>1</sup>

Holme or Hulme, St. Benedict's, in Norfolk.

Hortone, or Hortune Abbey, in Dorsetshire and Devonshire.

Leominster Abbey, in Herefordshire.

London, St. Martin's-le-Grand Collegiate Church, with a dean and priests.

Micelenie, or Muchelney Abbey, in Somersetshire.

St. Michael's Church, or Priory, in Cornwall, called St. Michael's Mount.

<sup>1</sup> Vol. i. p. 431.





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Winchester, St. Mary's Nunnery, in Hants, Berks, and Wiltshire.

York, St. Peter's Abbey.

Among the officers of the Church and clerical dignitaries, as we have already noticed, archbishops, bishops, *presbyters* or priests; *capellani*, chaplains, or domestic priests; *clerici*, clerks; *diaconi*, or deacons; and *sacerdos*, occur. The terms for the body of the clergy were, no doubt, used in a general manner, and not with any very great amount of precision. The dignity of dean, archdeacon, and capitular membership seems to be unnoticed.

Church dues, called in Anglo-Saxon *Cyric sceat*, and in the Domesday Book *Circesset*, *circet*, *cirsette*, *circieti*, *circset*, was a *shot* or payment, or contribution, due to the Church in certain places, not apparently very frequent of occurrence. The amount varies considerably, and is sometimes expressed as a money payment; at others, as on the lands of Pershore Abbey, a *summa*, seam, or load of corn, as first fruits of the harvest, was due at Martinmas for each hide held by a *homo francus*.

The lands belonging to Worcester Cathedral, in the same way, paid the same amount of grain for each hide. Kennett considers that the word was a general term, not confined to corn, but including poultry, or any other kind of provisions, paid to the religious body. How far the Church dues were connected with tithes has not been determined.



## CHAPTER XIII.

METALS—MONEY—PRODUCE—MISCELLANEOUS TERMS  
AND WORDS.

THE Domesday Book mentions the following metals and products of the earth :—

- |              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Argentum. | 4. Plumbum. |
| 2. Aurum.    | 5. Lapides. |
| 3. Ferrum.   | 6. Sal.     |

(1.) *Argentum*, or silver, is found in the phrase “*argentum album*,” which will be noticed in the account of the *Libra*, or pound. The “*pundus argenti*” is found in a very old text.<sup>1</sup>

(2.) *Aurum*, gold, is of frequent occurrence. There is, for example, the *aurum Reginae*, or “Queen’s Gold,” which is found in three places. A treatise on this was written by Prynne,<sup>2</sup> somewhat ridiculed by Lord Coke. It appears to have been a royal due or revenue appertaining to the Queen Consort during her marriage to the King of England, payable by every one within the realms of England and Ireland who has paid a voluntary fine to the king of ten marks, or upwards, for any privileges, pardons, or other royal favours conferred on him by the king, and amounting to a tenth over and above the fine so paid. The duty was suspended from the death of

<sup>1</sup> Birch, “*Cartularium Saxonicum*,” No. 436, A.D. 841.

<sup>2</sup> “*Aurum Reginae*,” 4to., London, 1668.



Henry VIII. to the accession of James I., and in the fourth year of his reign, on reference to the judges, it was determined to be the right of his queen, Anne. I am unable to say whether the Queens Consort of the House of Brunswick enjoyed this revenue. The Mark of Gold has been already noticed. There is also the *uncia auri*, which occurs in several passages, sometimes in connexion with the *aurum Reginae*. It seems to have been a sub-division of the Mark sometimes,<sup>1</sup> at others of the Pound.<sup>2</sup>

The workers in gold, the *aurifabri*, have been mentioned in the place devoted to titular designations. Earl Hugh had a goldsmith, by name Nicholas, who is specially mentioned. The art of making aurifrisium, or orphreys, was considered worthy of special encouragement.<sup>3</sup>

(3.) *Ferrum*, iron, or perhaps occasionally steel, was then, as now, of universal practical utility. Special words, *bloma*, or bloom, *massa* and *plumba*, were used to denote its weight or quality. There were *ferrariae*, and *minariae*, or iron-mines; *ferri fabricae*, iron manufactories; *ferrarii*, or iron-workers, who prepared "ferrum cār," or "ferrum carrucis," the ironwork for the ploughs. In the city of Hereford there were six smiths, each of whom paid a penny rent for his forge, and was required to make a hundred and twenty ferra (? horse-shoes) with the king's stuff, and for this he received threepence.

(4.) *Plumbum*, or lead, like iron, had especial words with regard to its weight, but we are unable

<sup>1</sup> Chipeham, in Cambridgeshire "Inq. Com. Cantab.," p. 3.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, Westone, pp. 21, 22, 104.

<sup>3</sup> See p. 253.





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is equivalent to fifteen modern hundredweights of 112 lb. each.

The lead mines are distinguished by the name of *plumbariæ*.

(5.) While discussing metals, it will, perhaps, be convenient to mention the stone *fossæ lapidum*, and stone pits or quarries, *quadrariæ*, which are also found in Domesday. There was also a *fossarius*.

(6.) Salt, *Sal*; this universal and indispensable commodity has been mentioned in many very ancient documents and literary records. Among the earliest notice of a brine-work, perhaps, is a charter in the well-known chartulary of Worcester Cathedral, compiled by the Monk Heming (Cotton. MS. Tiberius A. xiii. f. 196 *b*), whereby Æðilbald, king of the Mercians, grants to the Christian family (of monks) at Wigranceastre, or Worcester, a piece of land used for saltworks on the south bank of the river Saluuearpe, called Lootwic and Coolbeorg, suitable for three *casuli*, and six chimneys (*camini*), in exchange for others on the opposite bank.<sup>1</sup> The date is between A.D. 716 and 717. The importance of salt in the economy of domestic life during the early period of our history may be illustrated also by notice of a salt-pan granted in A.D. 774 for 778 (?) by King Cynewulf, to Æthelmod, bishop, and the monks of Sherborne on the western bank of the river Lim, or Lyme, co. Dorset, “haut procul a loco ubi meatus sui cursum in mare mergit, quatinus illic præfatæ ecclesiæ sal conqueretur ad sustentationem multiformæ necessi-

<sup>1</sup> Birch, “Cartularium Saxonicum,” No. 137.



tatis, sive in condimentum ciborum, sive etiam ut in divinis officiorum usibus haberetur et quibus cotidie Christianæ religionis causa multipliciter indigemus.”<sup>1</sup>

In a Kentish charter,<sup>2</sup> dated A.D. 863, the use of the phrase “una salis coquinaria hoc est . i. *sealtern stcall*,” shows the Saxon equivalent for the Latin term.

Many other notices might be recorded. At the period of the Domesday, salt was in great request, and then, as it has been shown to be in the eighth century, prepared by two distinct methods.

In the parts bordering on the sea-coast, salt-pans, where evaporation could be carried out, afforded the most economical means of obtaining the needed supply. In the inland counties the brine springs were found to yield, by boiling the water, a valuable salt, for which Droitwich, originally called Wich, or Saltwich, and the other Wiches in the West of England, were the most celebrated. Rock salt, as far as England is concerned, was not worked until the year 1670. Ellis enumerates most of the salt-yielding places which find mention in the Domesday Book. Kent and Sussex were rich in salinæ, or salt-pans; Surrey, Hants, Dorset, and Devon, not so well supplied with them. Among inland counties, Buckingham, Gloucester, Hereford, Warwick, Salop, were sparsely furnished with salinæ, and Berks, Middlesex, Herts, Oxford, Cambridge,<sup>3</sup> Huntingdon, Northampton, Leicester, Stafford, Derby, and York, almost, or

<sup>1</sup> Birch, “Cartularium Saxonicum,” No. 224.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 507.

<sup>3</sup> Only two, at Isingatona, in the “Inquisitio Eliensis,” p. 131.



entirely, without them. At Sopeberie, in Gloucestershire, which had a boillery in Wiche, *i.e.* Droitwich, yielding twenty-five sextaries of salt, Urso d'Abitot so wasted the men who made it, that at the time of the survey they could deliver no salt. Worcestershire and Cheshire (the site of the Wiches or brine-yielding areas) were the two principal salt-producing counties in the Domesday; after them, Essex, Norfolk, and Suffolk. The salines, *salinæ*, or *salis putei*, were worked by the *salinarii*, or saltmakers, in a *domus ad sal faciendum*, a boillery. *Salina* has been conjectured also to signify the brine itself, or the "seal" or furnace in which the brine was boiled. The manufacture was carried on in leaden vats, *plumbi*, and in *hocci*, smaller pits or reservoirs (and *casuli*).<sup>1</sup> The method of computing the measures of salt involves special terms:—*Ambra*, *Bullio*, *Mensura*, *Mitta*, *Sextaria*, *Summa*. Of these the *Ambra*, *ombra*, or amphora, was equivalent to four bushels, or half a quarter, London measure.

*Bullio* was a fifteenth part of a *Summa*, or horse-load, *i.e.*, pack-load, used for other goods also—perhaps eight London bushels.

*Mitta*, or *Mita*, is reckoned to have amounted to eight or ten bushels. It was also used among the Saxons as a measure of wheat<sup>2</sup> and ale.<sup>3</sup> Two *ombras* went to the *mitta*.<sup>4</sup>

*Sextaria*, used also for other commodities,<sup>5</sup> was of uncertain amount.

<sup>1</sup> See page 276.

<sup>2</sup> Smith's "Beda," p. 771.

<sup>3</sup> Birch, "Cartularium Saxonicum," No. 464.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, No. 330.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, a liquid measure.





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*Pounds of White Money.*

Libræ de albis denariis.

„ denariorum candidorum.

„ alborum nummorum.

„ candidorum nummorum.

(b.) The *Libræ ad pensum*, or *Libræ ad peis*, or *Libræ ad pondus*, were pounds by weight of bullion, and not by numbers. Gold payments to the State are still made by this method, and not by tale or number. Other terms of similar import were:—

*Pounds by Weight and Assay.*

Libræ ad ignem et ad pensam.

Libræ arsæ et pensatæ.

Libræ ad pensam et arsuram<sup>1</sup>.

The Receivers at the Exchequer examined the coins offered in payment, and when defective in weight and assay, made trial of a sample, or charged sixpence or a shilling (and even more, if the base condition of the coin so offered demanded it) in every twenty, instead of the actual trial by firing. When the coin had been melted, or had the percentage charged added to it, one author<sup>2</sup> declares that at the time of the Domesday the coin that was suspected was burnt in a fire always ready in the Exchequer for this purpose (presumably in a crucible), and then weighed. No doubt some payments in the Exchequer were accepted by tale, according to custom or privilege, for Kelham records that there were proper officers for weighing, counting, or telling,

<sup>1</sup> And in the Exeter Domesday Book “*Libræ ad pondus et combustionem.*”

<sup>2</sup> Brady.



assaying and laying up the money: a *pesour*, or weigher, a *fusor*, or melter, goldsmiths, and so forth. This trial of coinage was the only safeguard of the day against fabricators of base money, who flourished in the Domesday period as universally in England as they did in the waning days of the Roman Empire, if we may judge from the frequent occurrence of base moulds, false coins, and other relics which archæology has from time to time placed on record. If analogy of one or two cases may be taken as indicative of the general debasement of money in the time of Domesday, the difference of value between the apparent value by tale and the true value after the trial was very great. Ellis cites the instance of the Manor of Bosham, in Sussex, which was worth forty pounds in the time of King Edward and afterwards, and yielded a similar rent at the time of compiling the Domesday, yet it paid fifty pounds “*ad arsuram et pensum*,” which are worth sixty-five pounds—that is, sixty-five pounds of current cash were found, after the crucial test to which they were submitted at the Exchequer, to be required to make the due sum of fifty pounds. This is equivalent to a debasement of nearly twenty-three per cent. of current money. So great and universal had the corruption of money become, that in A.D. 1125, thirty-one years after the completion of the Domesday Survey, the king took steps, which resulted, for the time at least, in the abatement of an evil which had made itself dangerous to the very existence of the people, for the owner of a pound could buy nothing with it, in any market.

“For se man þe hafde an pund he ne mihte cysten ænne



William of Malmesbury, who lived at this time, records, among a few other events for which he thought the year 1125 notable, this :—"Falsariorum, qui monetam corruperant per totam Angliam, detruncatione notabilis. Propter candem perinde falsitatem annonæ karitate, et edaci fame, tum præterea indiscreta vulgi clade infamis l" "The year was notable for the maiming of the false coiners, who had debased the money throughout all England, and infamous for the dearness of harvest, because of this corruption of the coinage, and for the bitter famine, and especially for the indiscriminate death of the people which it caused."<sup>1</sup> The "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle" details the horrid ceremony here referred to at length,<sup>2</sup> which was enacted at Winchester during the Christmas season.

(2.) Next in order of value to the *Libra* is the *Marka* or *marca*, a word derived from *Marc*, an Anglo-Saxon word, signifying a sign, or mark, probably so called from the devices which it bore. This consisted of—

(a.) The *Marka auri*, or golden Mark, which is mentioned in several places.<sup>3</sup> It appears to have been worth at a later period ten silver marks, and was only used as an expression.<sup>4</sup>

peni at anne market." — "Anglo-Saxon Chronicle" *ad an.* MCXXV. ; and again the year before, "þ' se man þa hæfde at an market an pund he ne mihte cysten þær of for nan þing tpele penegas," *ibid.*, *ad an.* MCXXIV.

<sup>1</sup> Ed. Hamilton (Rolles Series), p. 442.    <sup>2</sup> *Ad an.*, MCXXV.

<sup>3</sup> Salletone, Sussex, Chipeham, Cambridge, &c.

<sup>4</sup> From a passage in the Pipe-Roll of 1 Henry II.; Wickin's argues that the Mark was worth six pounds of silver.





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sub-division of account, and in this respect resembled the moneys already discussed. It is worthy of notice that while the Saxon shilling was sub-divided into five pennies, that of Domesday is like the shilling of to-day, equivalent to twelve pence.

(5.) It is not until we descend down the scale to the *denarius*<sup>1</sup> or penny,<sup>2</sup> sometimes *nummus*,<sup>3</sup> that we arrive at the visible coinage, and this was the only coin known for long before and after the Domesday Survey. It was, in fact, the unit of value, and it is by this that the true understanding of such terms as *Wardepeni*, *Warpenna*,<sup>4</sup> payment to the Sheriffs and others for Castle wards or custody; *denarii Sancti Petri*, or St. Peter's pence, a Church rate due to the pope; and the *third penny of the shire*, due to the earl.

The Penny of Rouen, or *Denarius Rodmensium*, or *Rothomagensium*, occurs in the account of two Devonshire manors, belonging to St. Mary's Church, at Rouen.

and equivalent to twenty-five silver *denarii*, at first; afterwards reduced.

<sup>1</sup> The word itself is derived from *deni*, *ten each*, or *by tens*, and thus the Roman denarius, a silver coin, originally contained ten *asses*.

<sup>2</sup> The *penny* in its earliest form, *peñd* or *pending*, which occurs in a charter dated between A.D. 616 and 618 (Birch, "Cart. Sax.," vol. II., No. 837, and twice in the text of the will of Abba the Reeve, about A.D. 833, *ibid*, vol. I, pp. 575, 576, is evidently connected with words for weight, pund, pondus, pendere, and so on. The *d* appears to have been eliminated eventually, and the most common forms are *Peneg*, *penig*, *peninc*, *pening*, and *penincg*.

<sup>3</sup> As in Hamilton's "Inq. Com. Cantab." p. 2; Manor of Kenet.

<sup>4</sup> *Warpennos* is the original word in the "Inq. Com. Cantab." p. 59.



(6.) The *obolus*,<sup>1</sup> or halfpenny, and—

(7.) The *Quadrans*, *Ferdinc*, *Ferding*, *Ferting*, or farthing,<sup>2</sup> which also occurs in several instances throughout the Domesday Book, were the half and fourth part respectively of the denarius. It has been thought that the cross, which is almost always the symbol employed on the reverse of the early coinage of England, was purposely employed to facilitate the breaking of the silver penny if it were required, and hoards of coin which have been found containing money ranging from Saxon times to the end of the fourteenth century generally includes some pieces which have been thus broken. But it is more reasonable to assume that the cross was employed on coins at first in its higher and more universal signification, as also in the signatures and attestations of witnesses at a period which reaches back almost, if not quite, to the commencement of the Christian era,—and that the utility of following the grooves or depressions in the metal made by the limbs of the cross was an after-thought, and merely an accidental coincidence. Among the early coins thus halved and quartered in the national collections in the British Museum are several, found at Cuerdale, of the Danish kings of Northumbria. They are not uncommon after the time of Alfred, but rare before that period. Farthings—that is, quarter pieces—do not occur much before the era of Edward the Confessor.

<sup>1</sup> A word derived, like many Saxon words, from the Greek. The small Greek coin so called was the sixth part of a drachma, and had little or no real connexion with the Saxon *obolus*.

<sup>2</sup> *i.e.*, fourth part.



(8.) The *Minuta*, or mite, occurs but once in the Domesday. The preponderance of opinion appears to be that this is the equivalent of the Saxon *styca*,<sup>1</sup> eight of which went to the penny, and hence the minuta was half a farthing. It was used, if at all, as common change. They were of brass or copper, washed. The *styca* of Northumbrian royal dynasties, and of the archbishops of York, are the only ones we are now acquainted with. Their devices are various, and many of them have been figured and described by writers on the early coinage of England. A very remarkable hoard of several thousands of these small coins in a mass, found in the parish of Hornington, West Riding, Yorkshire, is described by Mr. William Fennell in the Journal of the British Archæological Association for 1849, vol. iv. p. 127. Another find of about ten thousand, in a pot, also much corroded, was found in 1842, not far from Bootham Bar, in the city of York.<sup>2</sup> They appear to have belonged in the main to the ninth century. The *styca* stops about A.D. 867.

Among the produce of which Domesday takes notice are the *animalia*, or *animalia ociosa*, plough or store cattle; fisheries, *piscariæ*; of eels, *anguillæ*; herrings, of which large quantities were paid as rent

<sup>1</sup> Lye derives the *styca*, from *sticce*, steak, or portion, *frustrum*, *offa*, *minuta pars*. He refers to the passage in Mark, xii 42, “tpegen stycas, þet is feorðung peninges—two mites, which make a farthing.” But cf. *stück*, Germ., a piece.

<sup>2</sup> Journal Brit. Arch. Assoc., vol. ii. p. 230. The following vol. iii. p. 119, records another discovery of a large quantity of *stycas* found during excavations at York.





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## CHAPTER XIV.

HISTORICAL EVENTS—THE PENENDEN SUIT—THE ELY SUIT—THE WORCESTER SUITS—FOREIGN TENANTS AND MONASTERIES.

THE Domesday Book does not present very many notices of historical events. Hence Sir Thomas Duffus Hardy, in his Catalogue of MS. relating to English History, does not speak very highly of the historical value of the book. But we should hardly expect to find many references of the national character in a manuscript devoted simply to an examination of the condition of the taxable parts of the country. Notices of the condition of this area in the time of Edward the Confessor abound, for the Commissioners had it under royal command to record the state of their several properties at that time. This they must have taken from the account furnished by the tenants, who may or may not have produced contemporary documents to support their statements. Hence, in some measure, by the acceptance of the statements and declarations—taken, of course, on oath—made by the occupiers of the land, the people of England may be said to have taxed themselves, for although in many cases the Commissioners declare the present worth of certain manors to be in excess of the sum at which it has been declared to stand assessed, there is no evidence to show that the Crown



raised the rate or the assessment, in accordance with the statements made by the Commissioners as to value.

The earlier King Canute, or Cnut, sometimes Gnut; Imma, or Emma, his queen; and Æthelred, her first husband, the father of King Edward the Confessor, are mentioned.

The Confessor's benevolence to monasteries and the Church is well displayed by many examples cited by Ellis, and for this he appears to have been held in great respect. The term "glorious" is applied to him on two occasions. Eddid, or -Editha Regina, queen of Edward the Confessor, occurs as a donor of land to a certain Alsi. She retained her landed estates until her death in A.D. 1075, when they fell into the king's possession.

Goda, the countess, sister of Edward the Confessor, held the manor of Lambeth. She appears to have led a religious life, if we may judge from the inventory of things found at Lambeth and taken to St. Andrew's Cathedral, Rochester, on which King William Rufus had bestowed the manor by a charter, signed with his mark, still extant among Lord Frederick Campbell's Charters in the British Museum, vii. 1. They consisted of a gold and silver pix, copies of the Gospels adorned with silver and precious stones, and a variety of church ornaments. Notices of illustrious persons include Sinuard, earl of Northumberland; Godeva, countess of Mercia; Hereward the Wake; the exiled Harold, called *liber homo*, and his holdings looked on in some cases as *invasions*; the exiled Godwine, who in 1050 sailed away to Flanders from Boseham,



a place belonging to Harold, and from which, too, in A.D. 1059 he was forced by a storm, when fishing, to the opposite coast—an event of consequence as resulting in the Norman Conquest of England.

The decision of the great suit which was held at Pinnenden or Penenden in Kent is alluded to in the Survey of that county. Ellis only takes a passing notice of this event, and dates it “about the year 1072.” The recent discovery of a document bearing upon this important event in the history of the English Church, which had hitherto escaped the notice of all historians and writers on Domesday subjects, not excepting Sir Henry Ellis himself, who had many opportunities of noticing the document when it was under his charge as Keeper of the Manuscripts in the British Museum, where it is preserved among the Cottonian Manuscripts (Augustus, ii. 36), enables me to print here for the first time a new light illustrating Domesday historical events.

Rev. L. B. Larking, the learned expounder of the Kent Domesday, writing of the possessions<sup>1</sup> which had been subjected to the spoliation of Odo, bishop of Bayeux,—which perhaps for that very reason had been first separately and distinctly noticed by the Commissioners,—enters into a long account of this celebrated controversy, deeming it advisable, in order to illustrate the character and usurpations of Odo, to transcribe from Eadmer and Selden the accounts which they give of the affair, in which the spoliations of this grasping ecclesiastic and his men are fully detailed. Eadmer’s

<sup>1</sup> “Domesday Book of Kent,” p. 188.





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The gist of the entry is as follows :—In this year also was held the great plea in the place called Pinenden, wherein Lanfranc recovered, by process of law for himself and his church, all his lands and customs as freely, in land and in sea, as the king holds his own, except three, viz., if the king's highway be dug open by one of the archbishop's men, if a tree fall on it when being felled, if homicide or bloodshed be on it, the offenders in these points to be delivered to the king's ministers. Selden, founding his account on that given in a Rochester MS. (collated by Larking with the Cotton. MS. Vespasian A. xxii., f. 120) shows that Odo, who had settled in Kent with great pomp, seized lands belonging to the Cathedral of Canterbury before Lanfranc arrived. On Lanfranc's appointment to be archbishop, he found the lands in disorder, and obtained the king's permission to have a meeting of the whole county and men of the county, all the Franks, and especially English learned *in the ancient laws* and customs. This took place at Pinendena, or Penenden Heath, where the suit occupied three days, and appears to have been chiefly occupied with the invasions of Odo. But the archbishop, during this time, successfully wrested the lands of the Church from Herbert filius Ivonis, Tuoldus de Roucestria, Radulfus de Curva Spina, and Hugo de Monteforti, in Raculf, Sandevic, Rateburg, Medetune, “Saltvude cum Burgo Hethe ad Saltvude pertinente,” and many other places in Kent; in London the Monastery of St. Mary, with the lands quoque anno.” See Thorpe, “Anglo-Sax. Chron.” (Rolls series), vol. i. appx.



and houses held by Livingus the priest and his wife ; and other persons in Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Essex, and Suffolk. Not only did Lanfranc succeed in regaining the lands belonging to his church, thus wrongfully alienated by the powerful bishop of Bayeux, but he also established his right to the important privileges of Soca, Saca, Tol, Team, Flymenafyrmthe, Grithbrece, Foresteal, Haimfare, Infangenetheof, and other customs. This was decreed by the whole Assembly, among whom were Goisfridus, bishop of Coutance, who represented the king and exercised the office of chief justice ; Lanfranc, who gained all his points ; Odo, as earl of Kent ; Ernostus, bishop of Rochester ; Ægelric, bishop of Chichester, a very old man, and very learned in the land laws, who by the king's special command was taken thither in a *quadriga*, or four-horsed carriage, to discuss and expound those same ancient customs of the laws ; Richard de Tunebregge ; Hugo de Monte forti ; William de Arces ; Haimo, sheriff of Kent, and others.

The newly-discovered manuscript leaf in the British Museum is a digest or minute of the points moved by Lanfranc, and discussed at the county court, and of the decision at which the judges arrived. This probably came, with many other Canterbury charters, into the possession of Sir Robert Cotton, the founder of the Cottonian Library.

Fulchestan . de beneficio regis est.

Ratebourc de archiepiscopatu est . & edzinus dedit goduino.

Stepeberga de archiepiscopatu est . & ecclesia .



Christi erat inde saisita quando rex mare transivit . modo episcopus baiocensis habet.

In tilemanestun quando rex mare transivit erat ecclesia Christi saisita de ducentis jugeribus terrae . & in fenglesham de centum jugeribus . & in elme de viginti quinque jugeribus . & modo ea osbernus ab episcopo<sup>1</sup> tenet.

Totesham alnod child de monachis teucbat quando rex mare transivit . & firmam inde reddebat . & modo episcopus<sup>1</sup> habet.

Torentun viginti quinque jugera habet & ecclesia habebat quando rex mare transivit . & modo episcopus<sup>1</sup> habebat sed dimisit.

Witriscesham ecclesia Christi habebat quando rex mare transivit . & modo osbernus paisforere ab episcopo<sup>1</sup> habet.

Auuentiugesherst . & edruneland . & aduuoluuinden . ecclesia tencbat quando rex mare transivit . & firmam inde habebat . & modo Robertus de romenel ab episcopo<sup>1</sup> habet.

Prestitun alnod child ab archiepiscopo tenebat quando rex mare transivit . & firmam reddebat . & modo tuoldus ab episcopo<sup>1</sup> habet.

Godricus decanus dedit fratri suo quartam partem solingi quod pertinebat ad clivam . & modo robertus uillelmus ab episcopo<sup>1</sup> habet.

Sunderhirsc de archiepiscopatu est . & archiepiscopus dedit goduino . & episcopus<sup>1</sup> modo habet.

Langport & neuuenden de archiepiscopatu est . & archiepiscopus dedit goduino . & episcopus<sup>1</sup> statim in placito cognovit esse de ecclesia.

<sup>1</sup> Odo here is intended.





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terra illa servitium habebat . & modo hugo de dono regis habet.

The endorsement, in another handwriting, is :—

Quod archiepiscopus antiquitus habebat tercium denarium de comitatu cantie . 7 hoc jure ipsius esse debet. Scriptum de terris quas antiquitus habuit Cantuariensis ecclesia.

The Ely suit is only known by the entry in the Cambridge University manuscript O. 2. I. f. 210 *b*, printed in Hamilton's *Inquisitio Comitatus Cantabrigie*. This appears to be in many respects, similar to the newly-found document relating to the Penenden suit. It seems that bishops Gosfrid, of Coutance, and Remigius, of Lincoln, "Walthews the Consul," *i.e.*, the earl Waltheof, Picot, the sheriff of Cambridgeshire, and Ilbert, perhaps Ilbert de Hertford (Hereforda), who is mentioned in another part of the county record, sat as royal commissioners in a county court, to determine claims brought by the Church of St. Mary, St. Peter, and St. Æthelrytha, of Ely (as possessing in the time of King Edward the Confessor), against sundry possessors of manors and other properties in the counties of Cambridge, Essex, Suffolk, and Norfolk. The opening paragraph of the document explains itself.

"Ad<sup>1</sup> illud placitum quo portifices Gosfridus . et Remigius . consul vero Walthews necnon vicecomes . Picotus . atque Ilbertus jussu Willelmi Dei dispositione Anglorum regis cum omni vicecomitatu sicut rex preceperat convenerunt . testimonio hominum rei

<sup>1</sup> The words have been extended.



veritatem cognoscentium determinaverunt terras quæ injuste fuerant ablatae ab æcclesia Sanctæ Dei genitricis Marie de insula Ely . et Sancti Petri apostolorum principis . Sanctæque Æthelrythe virginis . quatinus de dominio fuerant tempore videlicet regis Ædwardi . ad dominium sine alicujus suorum contradictione redirent quicūque eas possideret . Nomina quarum cum corum quibusdam qui eas adhuc injuste retinent subscribuntur.” Then follows the list of names of lands and of services, and of those who hold them from the Abbey. Curiously enough the king, William himself, is entered as unjustly withholding “Metheluwald and Crokestone (Norf.), and Snegelluuelle and Dictun” (Cambr.); and Picot the sheriff as withholding the fourth penny “rei publice de Grantebrice,” which the abbot of Ely had enjoyed since the time of King Edgar and St. Æthelwold the bishop.

The Domesday Book for Worcestershire is illustrated in an interesting manner by the Chartulary prepared by the Monk Heming, in obedience to the directions of Wlstan, bishop of Worcester, to which several references have already been made. Although composed for the greater part from transcripts of Anglo-Saxon charters which the bishop had gathered together during the progress of his inquiry into the possessions of his church, there are copies of other documents, which bear upon the history of Domesday, the manner of its compilation, and the phraseology of its text.

One of these is a letter<sup>1</sup> of bishop Oswald, who occu-

<sup>1</sup> At f. 134.



pied the see from A.D. 961 to 992, to King Eadgar, describing in detail the manner, whether by lease for three lives or otherwise, in which the lands of the bishop and the monks of Worcester Cathedral Priory were held. At the end is a paragraph indicating that three copies were made of the letter, which was evidently looked upon as a formal report to the Crown, one of which was preserved at Worcester, a second in the keeping of Archbishop Dunstan<sup>1</sup> at Canterbury (probably as chief protector of the liberties and possessions of the Church), and the third in the charge of Bishop Athelwold<sup>2</sup> (among the Crown documents) in Winchester city. “Harum textus . . . epistolarum tres sunt ad pretitulationem et ad signum. una in ipsa civitate quæ vocatur Uuigraceaster. altera cum venerabili Dunstano archiepiscopo in Cantuaria. tertia cum Atheluuoldo episcopo in Uuintonia civitate.”

The history of bishop Wlstan is of interest. He assisted King Edward the Confessor at the dedication of St. Peter's Abbey at Westminster; but on the change of government made early submission to the Conqueror at Berkhamstead. He also assisted at the coronation of William by Aldred, archbishop of York. In return, we find a deed in Heming's Chartulary,<sup>3</sup> dated in A.D. 1067, in which the king grants to the Church of Worcester two hides of land at Cullaclife, on condition that the Church should intercede, in their prayers to God, for himself and his

<sup>1</sup> A.D. 960-988.

<sup>2</sup> A.D. 964-984.

<sup>3</sup> Dugd. “Mon. Angl.” vol. i. p. 57.





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cially Wlstan, who devoted his time chiefly to religious matters, at a time when their country had been conquered by the Normans, and all the better sort of the barons of the county of Worcester destroyed. The altercation between Wlstan and Ageluui continued till the abbot's death, 14 Kal. March (16th February), A.D. 1077, which resulted from gout. But, according to Dugdale,<sup>1</sup> he had improved the condition of his own monastery. Bishop Wlstan, on hearing of the abbot's death, instituted, according to the custom of the time, certain religious services in commemoration of the deceased man, but was speedily attacked himself with gout, and was warned in a dream to cease his intercessions on behalf of Ageluui. He does so, and recovers. Here a reflective passage is introduced, showing how heinous is the crime of invading property belonging to monasteries, when God is averse even to our interceding with Him on behalf of the trespassers !

Walter de Cerasia, who succeeded to the abbacy of Evesham, received his appointment from King William. During his rule the controversy with bishop Wlstan arose again, for he kept possession of the lands in dispute. The Survey of the abbey, which was taken in this abbot's time, shows that the gross number of hides held by this abbey in the counties of Gloucester, Worcester, Northampton, and Warwick amounted to  $218\frac{1}{2}$  and 12 acres, producing rental of £129. 10s. He increased the number of monks,

<sup>1</sup> "Mon. Angl." new ed., vol. ii. p. 3.



notwithstanding the depredations committed on the monastic possessions by bishop Odo, who had begged them of William, and obtained them for himself. Thus, says the writer of the Report, “de conflictu,” we lost them, “for the bishop of Worcester scarcely obtained the services of any of them; and he who first robbed us had nought but sin.” Hearne prints from Heming’s Cartulary the “COMMEMORATIO PLACITI,” between this abbot and bishop Wlstan, wherein the bishop claimed from the abbot “sac and soc, and sepulture, and cirsceat, and requisitions, and all the customs to be performed to the church of Worcester in Oswaldeslawe Hundred, and the king’s geld, and service, and expeditions on land and on sea, for the fifteen hides of Hantona and the four hides of Benningcwrde, which the abbot ought to hold of the bishop like as other feoffees of the Church hold freely, for all due service of king and bishop.”

After several delays, finally the cause was *ventilata*, moved, and argued, by the justice, writ, and precept of King William the Elder, sent from Normandy, in presence of Gosfrid, bishop of Coutance, whom the king had specially commissioned to see that right was done between the two litigants. Bishop Gosfrid held at Worcester a “*magnus conventus*,” a great gathering of the neighbouring counties and barons. After the opening of the case, the bishop of Worcester sets out his claim against the abbot. The abbot replies in defence. Bishop Wlstan produces his list of witnesses who had cognisance of the matters in the time of King Edward, and had undertaken the services above-mentioned for the benefit of the



bishop. Then by precept of the king's justice and decree of the barons, judgment was about to be delivered, but because the abbot had stated that he had no witnesses against the bishop, the court (*optimates*) decreed a day on which the bishop's witnesses should prove on oath the statements which he had made, and the abbot should produce whatever reliques he should think fit (with the object of taking an oath on them that what he alleged was true). This was agreed on both sides.

The day appointed arrived. The bishop and the abbot put in their appearance before the barons who had taken part in the previous hearing of the plea and appointment. Abbot Walter brings the sacred remains of Saint Ecguine, the founder of his monastery. On the bishop's side appear lawfully competent persons ready to take the required oath. Among them came Edric, who had been, in the time of King Edward the Confessor, the *stermannus*, or pilot of the bishop's ship, and had led the bishop's army in the king's service; now he was *homo* of Rodbert, bishop of Hereford, at the time he took this oath, and held nothing of the bishop of Worcester (therefore he was not an interested or biassed witness). "There was also Kinewardus, sheriff of Worcester, an eye-witness; and Siwardus, a rich lord of Shropshire, and Osbern, son of Richard, and Turchil of Warwickshire, and many others, old men and noble, of whom the greater part now sleep." But many are still alive, the record continues, who heard them, and still many of the time of William the king, testifying the same. "The abbot, when he saw the oath and





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(*i.e.* the commissioners for the Domesday Survey), that these fifteen hides rightly belong to the bishop's hundred of Osualdes laune, and ought, with the bishop himself, to pay the king's *census*, and all other services belonging to the king, &c. And the said four hides in Bennincuyrthe likewise. But the bishop claimed more than that here, for he claimed the whole land in demesne; yet, because the abbot humbly admitted this, the bishop, at the request of those present, allowed the abbot and brethren of Evesham to hold the land on condition of their making therefor such honourable recognition and service as he himself would if demanded." Of this document the princes above-mentioned are witnesses, and also:—Serlo, abbot of St. Peter's, Gloucester; Nigellus, clerk of bishop Remigius; Ulf, and Ranulf and Alfuuinus, monks of the same; Wlfi, presbyter; Edric de Hindelep; Godric de Piria; Ailric<sup>1</sup> or Algerie, archdeacon of Worcester, and others.

This valuable Cottonian Manuscript also contains an account of the survey of the Liberty of the Hundred of Oswaldslow, taken during the reign of William the Conqueror, upon the oath of the whole shreivalty of Worcester. This proceeding took place before the same four princely Commissioners who conducted the formation of the Domesday Book:—"Remigio scilicet Lincolnienne episcopo, et comite Walterio Giffardo, et Henrico de Fereris, et Adam fratre Eudonis dapiferi regis, qui ad inquirendas et describendas possessiones et consuetudines tam regis quam principum suorum, in hoc provincia et in pluribus aliis ab ipso

<sup>1</sup> Occurs A.D. 1089, 1094. Hardy's Le Neve's "Fasti."



rege destinati sunt, eo tempore quo totam Angliam idem rex describi fecit.”

This deed was copied in duplicate, and a copy preserved, *along with the Domesday itself*, in a royal charter:—“In authentica regis cartula . . . . quæ in thesaura regali *cum totius Angliæ descriptionibus* conservatur.” The names of the jurors on the bishop’s behalf include Reoland, Trokemardtune, Adam de Lent, and Normannus the pincerna, or steward of the bishop; on behalf of the prior, William de Rupe, Rodbert le Parler, Richard de Grimelei. A large number of important witnesses attest the deed.

The copy which this MS. contains of the Domesday for the lands belonging to the See of Worcester:—“*Descriptio Terræ Episcopatus Wigornensis ecclesie secundum cartam regis quæ est in Thesauro Re[gis]*,” differs in diction, phraseology, and other particulars from that in the Domesday Book itself. It should be collated for any future edition of the Domesday of Worcestershire. It is preceded by a copy of King Henry I.’s charter to Walter de Bellocampo and “Cott Wirecestresire” to charge the Worcestershire lands of the bishop of Worcester with geld only for three hundred four score and seven and a half hides.

Among smaller miscellaneous notes of historical interest found in the Domesday Book are the journey of William the Conqueror into Wales in A.D. 1079; William Rufus is noticed as having usurped land at Staplebrige, county Dorset, from the See of Salisbury. The manor of Teuuinge, or Tewyn, county Hertford, was given by William to Aldene and his



mother for the soul of his son, Prince Richard;<sup>1</sup> and Gosfridus, the chamberlain of Mathildis, or Maud, his daughter, held land at Heche in Hampshire, for which he did service to that princess. Ellis notices also the royal purchase of a ship from Vlchel for a carucate of land in Lincolnshire, “but he who sold the ship is dead, and no one has the land except by the king’s grant.” The land had evidently reverted to the Crown.

The valuable MS. preserved in the Library of the Dean and Chapter of Rochester, known as the “Textus Roffensis” contains<sup>2</sup> a survey of the possession of the bishop and see which may be compared with the entries relating to the same property in the Domesday Book. William the Conqueror was a considerable benefactor to this cathedral. At the point of death<sup>3</sup> he bestowed on it a hundred pounds, a royal tunic, his own ivory horn, a *dorsale*, and a *feretrum* or pix, of silvered work. His grant of the Manor of Lamhytha, or Lambeth (afterwards acquired in exchange from the See of Rochester by the archbishop of Canterbury, formerly held by Goda the countess), was made “pro salute animæ meæ patris mei et omnium parentum meorum et pro restauratione damni quod eidem ecclesiæ licet invitus intuli, pro conquiendis inimicis meis qui intra jam dictam civitatem contra me et contra regnum meum injuste congregati erant, de quibus omnipotens Deus sui gracia victoriâ michi contulit.” “For the safety of my soul, and of my father’s and of all my relations’

<sup>1</sup> “And Aldene showed the King’s Charter” to the Commissioners, by which it is clear that titles, at least in some instances, were inquired into.

<sup>2</sup> Edited by Hearne, 1720, p. 209.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid. p. 211.





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As a large instance of a foreign tenant-in-chief, we may select the case of Robert, earl of Moretaine, half-brother to King William, who held the following manors :—

Sussex	...	...	54 and Pevensey Borough.
Devonshire	...	75	and a church and house in Exeter.
Yorkshire	...	196	
Wiltshire	...	5	
Dorsetshire	...	49	
Suffolk	...	10	
Hampshire		1	
Middlesex	...	5	
Oxfordshire	...	1	
Cambridgeshire	...	5	
Hertfordshire	...	13	
Buckinghamshire		29	
Gloucestershire	...	1	
Northamptonshire		99	
Nottinghamshire	...	6	
Cornwall	...	248	and the castles of Dunhevet and Tremeton.

Among the principal foreign<sup>1</sup> companions of the Conqueror are the following :—

Roger de Montgomery, earl of Arundel and Shrewsbury, held 157 manors, the city of Chichester, the castle of Arundel, nearly all the county of Salop, besides the city of Shrewsbury.

Hugh de Abrincis, earl of Chester, A.D. 1070, held 124 manors, besides a large part of Cheshire.

<sup>1</sup> The four foreign bishops have been mentioned in the account of the Church. Chapter xii.



Alan, earl of Brittany and Richmond, who commanded the rear-guard of William the Conqueror's forces at Hastings, held 435 manors, chiefly in Richmondshire, North Riding of Yorkshire, and ten burgesses in Cambridge town.

Walter Giffard, earl of Buckingham, held 107 manors.

Odo, earl of Champagne, and in the English peerage earl of Albemarle and Holderness, held a large number of manors in Suffolk.

William de Warren, earl of Warren in Normandy, and of Surrey<sup>1</sup> in England, held about 228 manors and lordships.

We find also :—

#### FOREIGN TENANTS OF LANDS IN CAPITE IN ENGLAND.

Urso de Abitot, sheriff of Worcestershire.

Adeliz, wife of Hugh de Grentemaisnil.

Norman de Adreci.

Walterius de Aincurt.

Adeliza, countess of Albemarle, half-sister of William the Conqueror.

Robert de Albemarle.

Earl Albericus.

Nigel de Albingi, or Albini.

Goisfred Alselin.

Alured of Spain.

David de Argentomago.

Azelina, wife of Ralph Tailgebosch.

<sup>1</sup> “Et qui (Will. I.) me Comitem Surreiæ fecit.” Charter in Dugd. “Mon. Angl.” vol. i., p. 616 (first edit).



Baldwin, the sheriff of Devonshire, son of Gilbert, earl of Brion, and one of the king's generals.

Hugh de Belcamp.

Ralph de Bellofago.

Drogo de Bevraria, a Fleming.

Herveus Bituricensis.

Hugo de Bolebec.

Ida, countess of Boulogne.

Roger de Boscnorman.

William de Braiosa.

Gislebert de Breteville.

Rainer de Brimov.

Serlo de Burci.

Ernegis de Burun.

Roger de Busli.

William de Cahainges.

Gunfrid de Cioches.

Sigar de Cioches.

Roger de Corcelles, or Cvrcelles.

Ansfrid, and Gozelin de Corneliis.

Richard de Curci.

William de Dalmari.

Robert Dispensator.

Drogo filius Ponz.

William, earl of Evreux.

Edward of Salisbury, sheriff of Wiltshire, son of the earl of Rosmar.

Eudo Dapifer, son of Hubert.

Eustace, earl of Boulogne.

William de Faleise.

Ralph de Felgeres.

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William de Ow, or Eu.  
Ralph Pagenel.  
William de Perci.  
William and Rannulf Peverel.  
Roger of Poictou, Pictaviensis.  
Ralph de Pomerei.  
Hugo de Porth.  
Ralph, filius Huberti.  
Rainald, filius Ivonis.  
Rannulf, filius Ilgeri.  
Wido de Reinbuedcurt.  
Richard of Tonebrige, son of earl Gislebert.  
Robert, filius Corbutionis.  
Hugh de St. Quintin.  
Galter de St. Walery.  
Harduin de Scalers.  
William de Scohies.  
Richard de Surdeual.  
Berengarius, and Ralph, and Robert de Todenci.  
Turstin, filius Rolf.  
Peter de Valognes.  
Robert de Veci.  
Alberic de Ver.  
Bertrannus de Verdun.  
The wife of Geri de Loges.  
The wife of Hugh de Grentemaisnil.  
The wife of Richard, filius Gisleberti.  
Walter de S. Waleri.  
William, filius Ansculfi.  
Goisfridus de Wirce or Lawirce, and many others



FOREIGN MONASTERIES HOLDING LANDS IN  
ENGLAND.

The Abbey of St. Ouen in Caen.

The Canons of Bayeux.

The Abbey of Bec in Normandy.

The Abbey of Bernay.

The Abbey of St. Stephen, Caen.

The Nunnery of Holy Trinity, Caen.

The Canon of Coutance.

The Canon of Lisieux.

The Abbey of Cormeilles.

The Abbey of St. Denys, near Paris.

The Abbey of St. Evroul.

The Abbey of Fécamp.

The Abbey of St. Peter at Ghent.

The Abbey of Jumieges.

The Abbey of Grestain.

The Abbey of Holy Cross at St. Leufroy, in the  
diocese of Evreux.

The Canons of Lisieux.

The Abbey of Lyra, or Lira.

The Abbey of Monteburg.

The Abbey of Preaux, or de Pratellis.

The Cathedral Church of Rheims.

The Abbeys of Holy Trinity of St. Ouen and of  
St. Mary de Pre, Rouen.

The Monastery of St. Florence, Saumur.

The Abbey of St. Peter-sur-Dive.

The Abbey of Troarz, or Trouarn, in the diocese  
of Bayeux.



The Abbey of St. Vallery in Picardy.

The Abbey of Vaudrille or Fontenelle.

The Monastery of Villarium.

Many of the original charters of the king and others granting English lands to these monasteries are still extant in the British Museum and other collections.

Ancient manners and customs may be richly illustrated from the casual entries which are found in the Domesday Book. Among others, the gift by a man of his two daughters to Wilton Nunnery, along with his land ; the grant by a tenant of his land to the Abbey of Malmesbury when he became a monk there ; the continuation of the old Anglo-Saxon custom of granting land for the term of three lives ; the *judicium*, ordeal, and the *bellum*, duel. Land appears to be held “in dower” occasionally, and “in marriage.” The nuncupative will or death-bed bequest is found in the Worcester Survey ; the method of giving seisin of land to the church by placing the charter or a copy of the Gospels on the altar ; rent of liquor to be drunk at festivals ; the sport of hawking ; the maintenance of aeries, or breeding and training places of hawks, in Buckinghamshire, Cheshire, and other western counties ; the forfeiture of land by a widow if she remarried within a year after her husband’s death ; and evidences of the marriage of the clergy, are among the most noticeable of these miscellaneous references with which the text of the Domesday Book is replenished.





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Book," and the "Winton Domesday," with their proper indexes, was also issued. These two volumes were edited by Sir Henry Ellis.

The preparation of a full bibliography of Domesday Book, including notices of all the early MSS. which contain extracts or abstracts, printed works, separate papers, essays, Norman charters, and other notices, would be the first step towards the simplification of the critical study of the Survey. This will form one of the sections of the work to which some Domesday students are about to give their attention. A few, however, of these MSS. and books may be appropriately mentioned here in a popular and general work on the subject, such as this is.

Among the general literature of the subject are the following works :—

The "Photo-zincographed Facsimile of the Domesday Book," prepared by command of Her Majesty at the Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, Colonel Sir Henry James, director, 35 parts, 1861–1863, folio and 4to.

Philip Carteret Webb : "A Short Account of some particulars concerning Domesday Book," London, 1756, 4to. This work contains a list of parts of Domesday already in print, &c.

P. C. Webb : "A Short Account of Danegeld," 1756.

R. Kelham : "Domesday Book Illustrated," London, 1788, 8vo.

J. Nichols : "Dissertation on Domesday Book" in the "History of the County of Leicester," vol. i. part I., page 33, 1795, folio.



E. A. Freeman: "History of the Norman Conquest," vol. v., 1876.

Rev. R. W. Eyton: "Notes on Domesday," in Transactions of the Shropshire Archæological Society, 1877, 8vo.

W. de G. Birch: "The Domesday Book," in Journal British Archæological Association, vol. xli., 1885.

J. Burtt: "On a Reproduction of a Portion of the Domesday Book by the Photo-zincographic Process," Archæological Journal, vol. xviii., page 128. See also Archæological Journal, vol. vi. page 303; vii. 215.

Grose: "Antiquities of England and Wales," vol. i., page 78, 1773.

R. Brady: "An Introduction," &c., 1684, folio.

Léchaudé D'Anisy: "Recherches sur le Domesday," 1842, 4to.

Rev. S. Denne: In "Archæologia," vol. viii., 1787.

J. H. Walker: "Churches in the Domesday Book," in *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. xix.

G. Hickes: "Thesaurus," vol. i., 1705. "Grammatica Anglo-Saxonica," page 144.

O. C. Pell, Papers in the Roy. Hist. Soc. Trans, 1887; and Cambridge Ant. Soc., 1887.

Among the papers recently read before the Domesday Commemoration of the year 1886, inaugurated by the Royal Historical Society, or later, which will be published during the present year, are the following:—

Mr. Hubert Hall: "On the History of the Domesday Book."

Rev. Canon Isaac Taylor, M.A.: 1. A Popular



Lecture ; 2. “Domesday Wapentakes and Land Measures.”

Mr. S. A. Moore, F.S.A. : “The Statistics of Domesday Book.”

Mr. J. H. Round, M.A. : “The Danegeld.”

Mr. J. Parker, M.A. : “The Church in Domesday.”

Mr. W. de G. Birch, F.S.A. : The Materials for Re-editing Domesday Book.”

Mr. H. E. Malden, M.A. : “The Surrey Domesday Book.”

Mr. F. E. Sawyer, F.S.A. : “The Sussex Domesday Book.”

Mr. H. J. Reid, F.S.A. ; “The Parish Church in Domesday.”

Mr. O. C. Pell, M.A. : “A New View of the Geldable Unit of Assessment of Domesday: the Libra, Hida, Carucata, &c.”

The literature especially illustrative of single counties, or small groups of two or more counties, embraces, in addition to many extracts, translations, and notices contained in the histories of the respective counties, the following works, which the student of Domesday will find of use, and in many cases necessary to be consulted :—

#### I. KENT :—

The Canterbury Cathedral MS., E. 28,  
The Cottonain MS. “Vitellius,” C. viii.

“Domesday Monachorum.”





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H. P. Wyndham: "W. Extracted from the Domesday Book," Salisbury, 1788, 8vo.

Rev. W. H. Jones: "D. for Wiltshire," Bath, 1865, 4to (a work of considerable research).

7. DORSETSHIRE:—

The "Exon Domesday."

Rev. W. Eyton: "A Key to D.," &c., London, 1874, 4to.

J. Hutchins' "History of Dorset."

8. SOMERSETSHIRE:—

The "Exon Domesday."

Rev. R. W. Eyton: "Domesday Studies," &c., London, 1884, 4to.

9. DEVONSHIRE:—

The "Exon Domesday."

The "D. Domesday," published by the Devonshire Association for the Advancement of Science, Plymouth, 1884, 8vo. In progress.

10. CORNWALL:—

The "Exon Domesday."

"Extension" of the Domesday Book.

11. MIDDLESEX:—

The "St. Paul's Domesday," MS. of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. Liber L., A.D. 1181. Edit. W. H. Hale (Camden Society).

H. Moody: "Extension."

Rev. W. Bawdwen: "Domesday Boc," Doncaster, 1812, 4to.

Gen. P. Harrison, 1876, folio.



## 12. HERTFORDSHIRE :—

Rev. W. Bawdwen (see above under MIDDLESEX).

## 13. BUCKINGHAMSHIRE :—

Rev. W. Bawdwen (see above under MIDDLESEX).

## 14. OXFORDSHIRE :—

Rev. W. Bawdwen (see above under MIDDLESEX).

## 15. GLOUCESTERSHIRE :—

The “Gloucestershire Fragment,” Domesday Commemoration.

Rev. W. Bawdwen (see above under MIDDLESEX).

Alf. S. Ellis, in “Transactions Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Society,” 1880, vol. iv.

C. S. Taylor, “An Analysis of the Domesday Survey, *ibid.*, 1887.

## 16. WORCESTERSHIRE :—

The Cottonian MS. “Tiberius,” A. XIII. (Heming). Edit. Hearne.

The Cottonian MS. “Vespasian,” B. XXIV. (Evesham).

W. B. Sanders : “A Literal Extension,” &c., Worcester, 1864, folio.

## 17. HEREFORDSHIRE :—

## 18. CAMBRIDGESHIRE :—

The Cottonian MS. “Tiberius,” A. VI. Edited



by N. E. S. A. Hamilton as “*Inquisitio Comitatus Cantabrigiensis*.”

Rev. B. Walker: “*On the Measurements and Valuations of Domesday Book*,” Cambridge Antiquarian Society, 1881, 1884.

Rev. B. Walker: “*On the Inquis. Com. Cantab.*,” *ibid.*, 1887.

19. HUNTINGDONSHIRE :—

Rob. Ellis: “*Extension*,” 1864.

20. BEDFORDSHIRE :—

W. Airy: “*Digest of the D. of Bedfordshire*,” Bedford, 1881, folio.

21. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE :—

The “*Liber Niger*” of Peterborough MS. Soc. Antiq. 60; A.D. 1125.

J. Morton: “*The Natural History of Northamptonshire*,” London, 1712, folio.

S. A. Moore: “*Extension*.”

22. LEICESTERSHIRE :—

J. Nichols: in “*History of the County of Leicester*,” vol. i., part 1., page 1, 1795, folio.

23. WARWICKSHIRE :—

W. Reader: “*Domesday Book for the County of Warwickshire*,” Coventry, 1835, 4to.

E. P. Shirley: “*Extension*.”

C. Twamley: “*Archæological Journal*,” vol. xxi., page 373, 1864.





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## 30. YORKSHIRE :—

“The Register of the Honour of Richmond,”  
 (1) MS. at Castle Howard belonging to  
 Mr. G. Howard; and (2) Cottonian MS.  
 “Faustina,” B. VII.

“Transcripts from the Domesday Book,”  
 printed at London in 1722, folio.

Rev. W. Bawdwen: “Domesday Book,” Don-  
 caster, 1809, 4to.

## 31. LINCOLNSHIRE :—

“The Lincolnshire Survey,” A.D. 1101–9;  
 Cottonian MS. “Claudius,” C. v. Edit.  
 J. Greenstreet.

Rev. W. Bawdwen (see above under YORK  
 SHIRE).

C. Gowen Smith: “A Translation,” &c.,  
 London, 1871, 8vo.

## 32. ESSEX :—

T. C. Chisenhale-Marsh: “Domesday Book  
 relating to Essex,” Chelmsford, 1864, 4to.

## 33. NORFOLK :—

Rev. G. Munford: “Analysis,” &c., 1858, 8vo.

## 34. SUFFOLK :—

## 35. DURHAM :—

“The Boldon Book,” British Museum, Stowe  
 M.S. 510.

“The Boldon Book,” Edit. Ellis in Domesday  
 Book, vol. iv.



# LIST OF DOMESDAY ABBREVIATIONS AND CONTRACTIONS. *p. 46*

The contractions used by the scribes who wrote out the fair copy of the Domesday Book are very numerous, but to those who are well acquainted with mediæval Latin they offer hardly any difficulty. By way of assisting those who desire to read the original contracted text, a few of the principal abbreviations and contractions most commonly occurring are here subjoined :—

teñ = tenet.

eṑs, eṑi, eṑo, &c., = episcopus, and cases.

p = per.

p = pro.

ṑ = præ—, as ṑdṑo = prædicto

ṑra, ṑre, &c., = terra, and cases.

7 or & = et.

ṑ at end of a word = —us.

— a line over a vowel adds to it the letter *m*, as

cū = cum.

m° = modo.

caṑ = caruca, sometimes carucata.

defḑ = defendit.

dñium, &c., = dominium, &c.

<sup>i</sup> over or between letter adds *ui*, as q<sup>i</sup>dā = quidam, or *ri*, as p<sup>i</sup>mo = primo.



T. R. E. = tempore regis Edwardi.

toṭ = totum.

soṭ = solidi, &c.

ē = est.

ṣt = sunt.

liḅ = libræ, &c.

uiṭṭi, &c., = villani, &c.

~ a curved line over or through letters adds *er*, as osḅn<sup>9</sup> = osbernus; or *ur*, as paṣṭa = pastura; or *mn*, as ões = omnes.

̄M = Manerium.

bordḁ = bordarii, &c.

diṃ = dimidius, &c.

deñ = denarii, &c.

<sup>a</sup> over line adds *ra*, as ac<sup>a</sup> = acra, &c.; p<sup>a</sup>tū = pratum.

fueṛ = fuerunt, tenneṛ = tenuerunt, &c.

ñ = non.

iḁ, eaḁ, &c., = idem, eadem, &c.

sʒ = set, for sed; vaʒ = valet, &c.; tenʒ = tenet.

—bʒ at end of words = —bus.

—aʒ, —oʒ at end of word = —arum, —orum.

sochi, &c., = sochemanni, &c.

qḁ = quod.

dñs, dñi, &c., = dominus, domini, &c.

sēp = semper.

uirḡ = virgata.

ḥ = hida, &c.

o = ovis, oves, &c.

p. = porcus, &c.

ḱ = caruca.





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be easily read with a little practice. Full lists of contracted words may be consulted in the works of Walther, Chassant, Hardy's "Registrum Dunelmense" in the Rolls Series, and the "Introduction" to the Close Rolls, published by the Record Commissioners.

THE END.



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