

THE DUNTHORNE MSS.

By THE REV. EDMUND FARRER, F.S.A.

Quite by chance, during the summer of 1929, a parcel of manuscript matter was placed in my hands to examine and report thereon. The material was apparently put together and collected between the years 1826 and 1842 by Mr. Edward Dunthorne, who was for many years a grocer in the parish of Dennington, and yet a man of good education, and one most keenly interested in the history of the county in which he lived.

I had for long known his name, and had copied from the Davy MSS. in the British Museum information supplied by him to our great historian, but of him, where he lived or where he died, I knew nothing, till I began to investigate this bundle of papers.

In the process of doing this I found letters establishing his connection with David Elisha Davy, who was then residing at Yoxford, not far from Dennington, and at the same time Dunthorne was in correspondence with other well known archæologists of that period, the Rev. J. Darby, who then lived in Framlingham, the Rev. Blois Turner, who was at Halesworth, and John Loder, the eminent bookseller and publisher of Woodbridge.

I think when he started Dunthorne was more keen on Heraldry than any other intellectual pursuit, and he was corresponding with Loder on books connected with it, and I feel sure he intended collecting for, and bringing out, a work on that subject, but the cost was

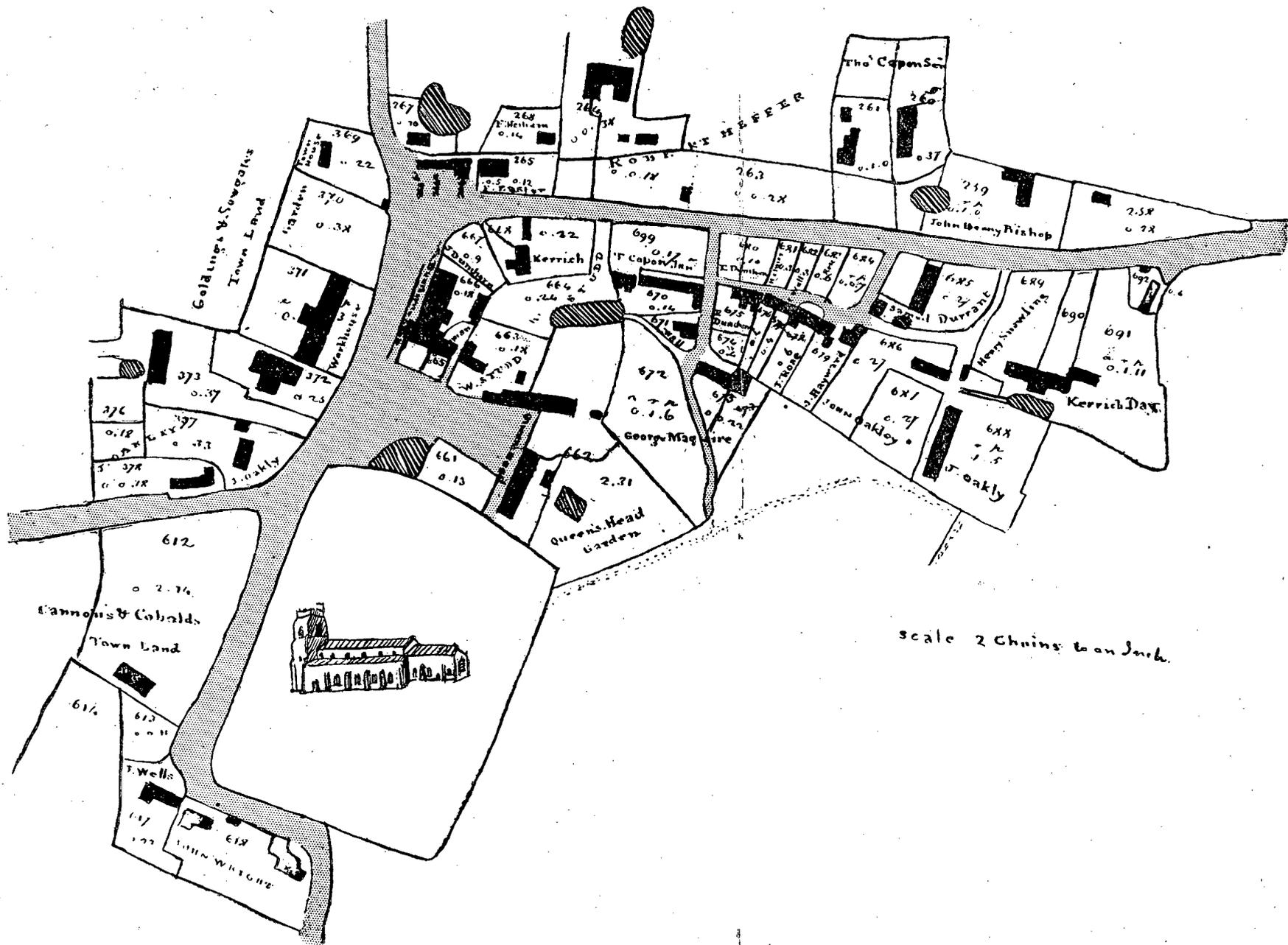
prohibitive. Mr. Blois Turner loaned him many valuable books to help, and with Mr. Darby at a later period, he collaborated in the investigation of churches, and collecting therefrom material connected with family memorials.

Mr. Davy gave him leave to search through his collections then at Yoxford, and invited him over, the more easily to copy any information he might need about Dennington, which was, I think, at first the sole object of his research; though later on he visited and took notes from other parishes and churches around, and even some far distant when brought to his notice by friends residing therein.

How much, and to what extent, Dunthorne was indebted to our great historian I cannot tell, but he certainly used his work as a model; and in many instances, where an account of inscriptions and other things are recorded as having been taken at an early date, we find that date given with these initials, H. J. and D. E. D., and then when further information has been taken and recorded later on, we find the initials E. D., which shows that herein, when he copies, either from Henry Jermyn or David Elisha Davy, he acknowledges it; and so when we find material recorded, as found at a later date, with his initials, we infer that such had not been seen or recorded by either of the well known historians.

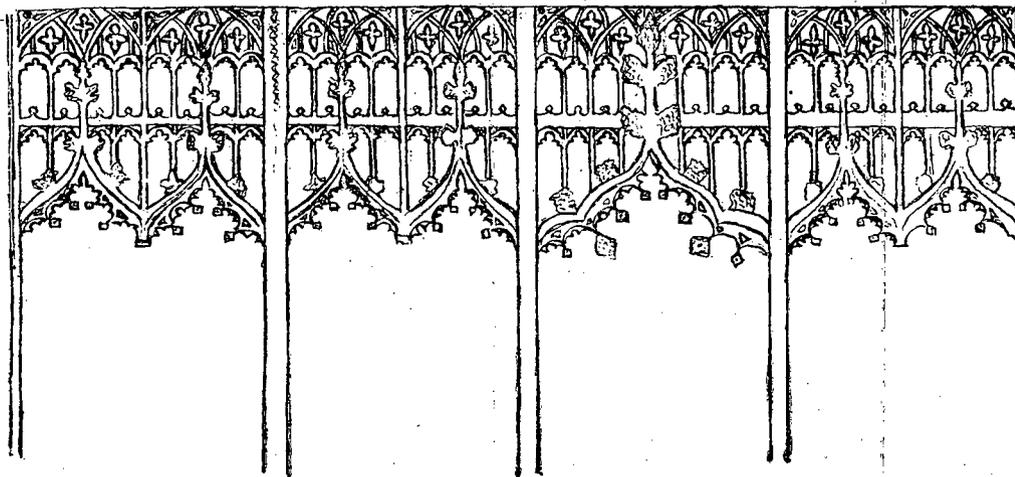
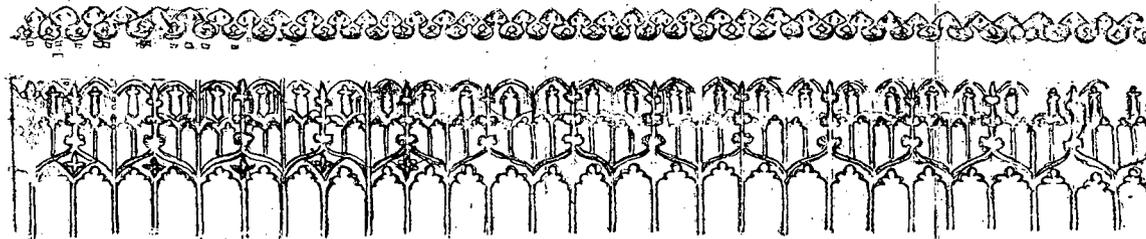
As to any collaboration with Mr. Darby, I have been told by one who is well acquainted with the handwriting of that gentleman, that a small portion of the Church Notes among the manuscripts was most certainly written by Rev. J. Darby.

I have divided all the booklets and loose sheets into two lots, the one entirely connected with Dunthorne's own parish of Dennington, and the second lot with other parishes in the county of Suffolk, and many



PLAN OF THE STREET IN DENNINGTON.
About 1826.

By E.D.



SOME DETAILS OF THE SCREEN OF ST. MARGARET'S CHANTRY IN DENNINGTON CHURCH.
By E.D.

documents which he copied out, from well-known archæological works and other sources, to help towards the earlier history of the spot in which he was most interested.

DENNINGTON.

The material collected here forms a wonderful foundation for the history of the parish, and I beg to offer for the consideration of those interested in such things, an idea from selected quotations, how much local history Edward Dunthorne obtained, and intended, one day, to use ; and it is my most ardent wish that it may in future be stored in a library; where it may be available for the students of our topographical history.

First of all I will note all the copies he made of ancient documents belonging to the parish, which were when he saw them in the church chest, where they may be even now.

(1). " Abstracts from Deeds in the Town Chest."

In very early days when Dunthorne first began his investigations, he made copies of some of these deeds, on loose sheets of paper, but in the year 1836 he made a fair copy, and it is from this that I shall quote.

The early charters and other later documents connected with the town-lands begin about 14 Edward II (1320) and are continued till 4 May, 1822, and they number nigh on one hundred documents.—From the transcripts of the earlier charters—I do not think they are perfectly copied.—It is no easy work to copy out the very contracted Latin of such deeds.—I have tried to translate some of them, and failed to get any idea of the subject, or even of the names of the grantors ; thus I was not surprised later on to find that the names of those who gave land in early days was unknown,

and yet I feel sure the secret lies hid in those charters, which let us hope are still in the church chest of Dennington.—Very many of the 16th and 17th century deeds are well and accurately copied, while all the seals are sketched, and the armorial seals, are reliable records for Mr. Dunthorne was not only very keen on heraldry but also knowledgable, and moreover accurate in his drawings.

(2). “Benefactions and Charities, given and devised to the Church and Parish of Dennington.”

I need only say here that in this list of 1828, and elsewhere throughout all the documents, every possible piece of information was collected, and made use of, by Edward Dunthorne.

(3). “A Litteral Copy of the Oldest Town Book, belonging to Dennington Parish, by E.D., 1836.”

This commences in the 27th of Henry VI (1448) and ends early in the reign of Henry VIII, and Dunthorne's copy of it covers 16 folio pages. The entries seem mostly to relate to moneys paid into, and moneys taken out of, “chests” or a “coffer,” and there is a great deal in it relative to a very early bequest made by Dame Katherine Wolf, of a sum of money which having been placed in the parish coffer, might be handed out in loans to necessitous farmers, holding land of the Manor of Dennington. It does not seem to have been necessary for them to reside in the parish.

I give one instance of such a borrowing here :

“1495. Md. In the fest of Seynt Jamys in yer of owre lord MCCCCLXXXV. Godfrey Yrlond of Framlingh̄m a tenant of the mannor of Denyngton hath borowyd by the reson of his lond holdyn of the manor aforesayd XIXs. of the bequeath of Dame Kateryne Wolf, aft the forme of the Wil of the seyde Kateryne, for the space of on yer. And also he hath leyd into the

Cheste his caucion, according to the Wil aforeseyd, yt is for to seyn his evidences of a certeyn pece of lond, lying in Denyngton aforeseyd, called Okeland."

There are records of other loans, but in all of them the operation is similar. The borrower places in the chest an evidence of how much he borrows, and the piece of land held of the manor, on which it is borrowed, and I must here quote the oath which had to be taken by those wishful to obtain the benefits of the good lady's bequest.

"Ye shall swere deuli and treuli without deceit fraude or maligne, treuli to paie or depaie to us or to our assigns and successors, this money to you, taken at yor day assaynd. And yff ye restore not the money within a yeare and a moneth (never to lette) replie nor compleyne for selling off your caucion, nor maligne ageyn the sellers nor the biers, in that case, so help you God and the hooli Doom. Also bi the oth ye have made, ye shall seye as ye passe the Church, fyve pater nos, fyve Aves, and a crede, for the soule of Kateryne Wolff, late the wyff of William Wingfeld squyer, sone of William Wingfeld knyghte, Joan his wyff, and for all the sowles that the foreseyd Kateryne and William were endetted and in bondage to prie for, and for all Christians."

The earlier portion of the book deals with the account presented by the two revees, on the days appointed, but towards the end one or two interesting items occur.

In the 15th year of King Henry VII (1499) we have

"Item Margaret Bannok seu Mr. Johes Jenney, Mayster of the Chantry of Brundyssh	xxs.
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Joh Wryght and Magist John Colett p'son of the Cherche of Denyngton	xls.
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Here we get a record of the Chantry of Brundish and its Master, as also the mention of the great John Colett, afterwards Dean of St. Paul's, then rector of Dennington.

“ In the 1st year of Henry VIII (1509).

Md. Yt. Sir Edmund Payntor pryst hath reseyved of money taken at ye playe	viiiis.
Thereof payd to Thoms War'nr Smyth for mendyng of the Clokke ..	iiid.
Payed to the browderes	vs. iiiid.
Payed for makyng nu Surplys ..	xxd.
Payed for takkyng Gerdels	viiid.
Payed for halwyng of the same Gerdels	id.
Payed to John Markaunt for burdons ..	iiid.
Payed to ye plūmers	xiiid.
Payed for mendyng of the slotte in ye Cherche door for a lokke to ye fonte, for mendyns of a lokke to ye vestry dore, and a key to ye Crysmatory	vs. xd.
For ii. belle Ropys	xixd.
Payed to ye Lauender for ii. yere	iis. viiid.
Md. yt. ther was payed to ye payntour of the cherche mony ..	xvs. viiid.
Payed to ye seyde payntour of the towne mony	xis.

A side note to this bill of accounts, signed “E.D.” is this: “The above is a copy of a loose paper in the vestry chest on one side, and on the other side what follows.”

This relates only to money received for rent of lands, probably all town lands.

It is recorded in this book by Mr. Dunthorne (when in the year 1468 there first occurs the name of “Schynbon”) that this name in Gothic letters can clearly be seen marked on the stone moulding which runs round the inside of the Chancel of the Church, below the windows, and he gives an exact facsimile

of the name in May, 1836. And this account appears to have found its way into this early town book though it is dated 3 Eliz. 1561.

The churchwardens and others are evidently on the 28th April considering the money in the chest, which was kept for this purpose. Therein was vs. iiiid.

More recd. of Will Jarves for Seyt Margt. lyght, xiiis. iiiid. turned by fall of money to xs. vid.

Anor lytle purse coteynyng in good old sylvr kyg Herry mony, xvis. viid., in goold ii old ryalls, xls. ixd.

Anor purse coteynyng in good old sylvr. kyg Herry money xvis. ixd., i old ryal and half an angle, xxxvis.

Anor purs wt. sylke buttos in ye bottm in old sylvr of old mony, iiiis. xd., and ii half angls, xs., xiiis. xd.

In total vii. xiiis. wherof yr. is in base mony xs. vid. told before these men following.

George Semā, Rychd. Baldry, Nicolas Smyth, Joh Borret, besyd ye key kēps."

The counting up the various coins, of good old silver of the time of King Henry VIII, and of the base money of presumably later date, as also the "the fall of money at yt day," the 3rd year of Queen Elizabeth, is instructive.

(4). "Extracts from a Book of Churchwardens' accts. in the Chest, on the Vestry Chamber, beginning the 29th of Henry VIII (1539) and ending in 1695."

This book then rather overlaps the older one. It consists of 38 folio pages and many of the items are of exceptional interest.

I do not think that the first few pages are in the hand-writing of Mr. Edward Dunthorne, and it is much corrected by a later hand, which might well be his.

It commences with an account of "St. Margarett's money." Many of those who should pay have not paid up in full, which brings forth a resolution from "The whole churchwardens" that they be "laid in obligations for the whole sum." Out of "the long purse" is taken on 12th July, 36 Hen. VIII, 26s. "to pay the Subsidy."

For many years the accounts consist of the taking of money for farm rents, and the mending of various things in the Church, such as "a boke," "the Crismatore," "the Saints bell," and "for lettering the Inside of the Church." This cost 5s. 4d. "Mr. Anthony Rous, Esq." constantly appears. In the 35th Henry VIII there is an Inventory made by Dr. Colett. The three purses again appear. In the little one is 14s. In each of the large leather ones is 33s. 4d. in silver, and £6 18s. 4d. in gold and silver, whereas says the Dr. "in my own lytle purse is £9 in gold." So in "the divers purses there is £18 0s. 8d."

All through the last year of the 16th century, money is received for "breaking of the pavement in the church," when any one is buried therein, generally 6s. 8d.

After the year 1600 we begin to get some interesting items connected with the furniture of the church, as it remains to-day.

In 1608 they had a new bell from Brend of Norwich, the cost of which was £8.

In 1613 "for mendg. the hole where the Orgaine stood." 17d.

In 1618 "for a Hand for the Clock."

When mentioning the clock, it will be as well to record here a note from Mr. Dunthorne, April, 1836: "Robt. Fiske, Senr., aged 84, says he had heard his

grandfather say that one Studd who lived at the Workhouse, and was a large cheese-buyer, gave the Clock to the church, which cost £30."

Those who have visited Dennington Church, and many of our members saw it this summer, will remember the beautiful Reading-desk and Pulpit. Here is the bill for the same in 1625. "Paid Robt. Wightman for making the new Pulpit (this in large letters) £3 11s. 8d." And then in 1628 "To Robt. Wightman for making of the new desk and for other work about the Church £5 5s. 0d."

Concerning these items of church furniture, Mr. Dunthorne records elsewhere "In the month of July, 1765, the Reading Desk and Pulpit, which had stood, time out of mind, against the third entire Pillar, on the North side of the Church, were ordered by the Rev. Robt. Buxton, the Rector, to be removed to the fourth pillar on the South side, where they now stand, and at the same time the seats in the body of the Church which were very irregular, and grown into decay, were repaired and altered, and put into that good and uniform order in which they now appear."

Of course one interesting item running through this book is the Town Armour.

I think 1615 is the earliest date on which such is mentioned.

"For a new town Corslet." 22s. 8d.

"For scour^d sword, dagger and spearhead." 8d.

In 1625 "For a Capp. for the headpiece and colouring the Pike." 1s. 2d.

And in that same year we get its primary use.

"Laid out towards the carrying and serving in the town armor, at the training at Snape, 2s.

For a suit of apparel for Roger Edgar being sent to the town by pass. 18s. 8d.

For a new town Corslett Compleat. 40s."

There is little further mention of it, save that it all required cleaning and mending, and occasionally it is used; however, the foregoing items serve to shew that every parish, in the earlier half of the 17th century, had to take their share in defending their country and themselves. At the time of the last entry recorded (1625) people did not realize how soon it would be really "used." In less than 15 years, the stock must have been much increased.

I think this book of Churchwardens' accounts is as interesting as any I have ever read, and there is a great deal of information to be culled from it on many subjects.

(5). "The Names of the Inhabitants of Dennington alphabetically arranged, taken in the latter part of August, 1827, with notes."

It is quite a unique document. I style it a "Dictionary of Parochial Biography."

It consists of 21 folio pages, very closely and neatly written, and contains the names of 979 people, and concerning more than half of them there are biographical notices, some lengthy, and others very brief. I have taken two examples, one of a farmer in Dennington in 1827, and the other of a labourer.

"506 Jackson John. From Elmswell. Farmer. He is the owner of the farm; there are two farms, that in which he lives was formerly . . . Oneby Esq., and afterwards W. Chapman, Esq., of Loudham, the other farm was Nelson Gibbons, together they contain 141½ acres. He has been twice married, 1st wife a Bridges of Elmswell, and had two daughters, one married to James Green, the other to Pratt a carpenter who went a few years ago to America, 2nd wife was daughter of

L. Mayhew of Dennington, has a son Isaac, married and living at Haughley, a daughter married to Creacy, farmer at Horham, has been a widower for many years."

"196. Capon Bicker. Labr., native, a distant relation of the other Capons, his mother was sister to Mr. Johnson, Surveyor, of Woodbridge, the delineator of the engraving of Woodbridge Church. He married a Watling from Worlingworth."

It would be a great boon to genealogists framing local pedigrees to find a parish thus dealt with, in any year, more than a century ago.

(6). "A Return of the Population of Dennington on June 6th, 1841."

This consists of 16 folio pages, and deals with two hundred houses, and is the Census return on the night of June 6th, 1841, and the List commences with the household in which the author was most interested.

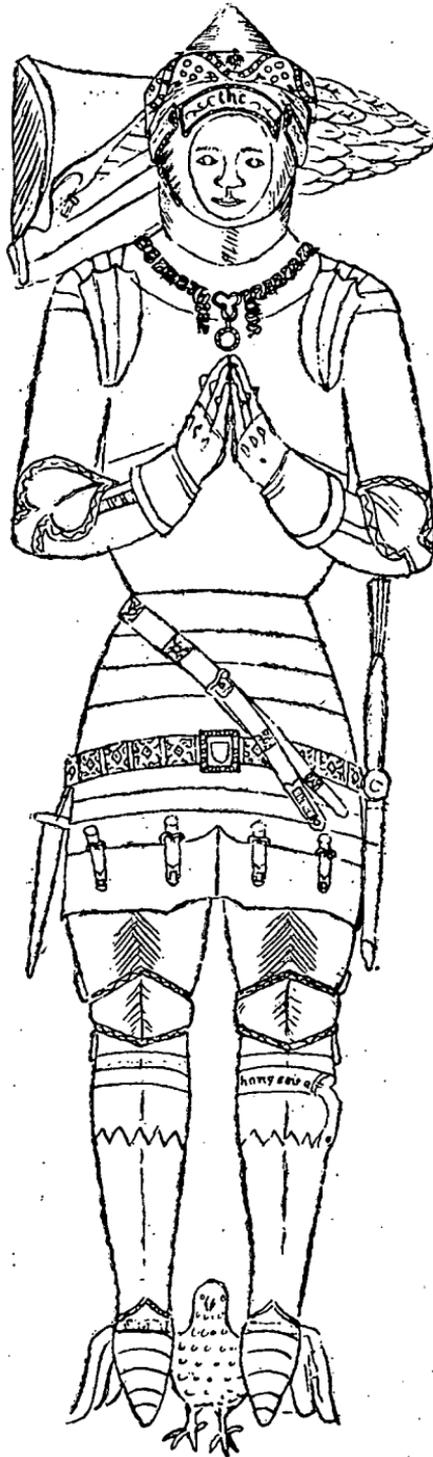
"Edward Dunthorne Grocer, aged 48. Harriet Dunthorne 43. Harriett 22. Ann 20. Edward 12. Mary Jermyn 20."

There is a stone in Dennington Churchyard for "Edward Dunthorne of this parish who died 9 Sepr. 1853, aged 61"; so he was born in 1792; and there is an earlier one. "Hic jacet corpus de John Dunthorne, who departed this life Feb. 9th, 1823, Aetat 72." with these lines:

"See dying vegetables life sustain,
See life dissolving vegetate again,
All forms that perish, other forms supply,
By turns we catch the vital breath, and die."

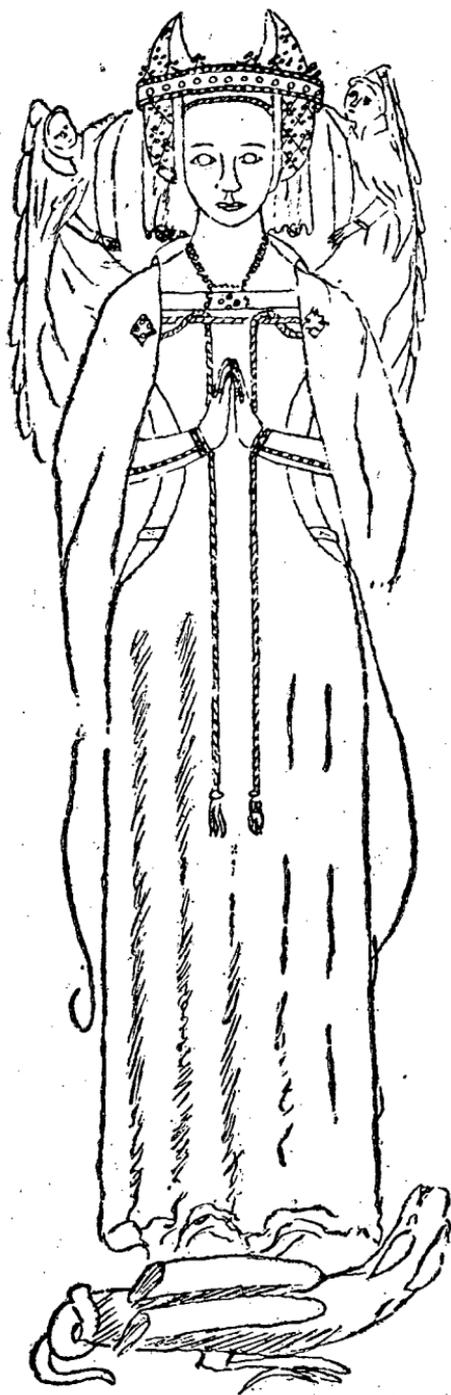
This would be, I presume, the father of Edward Dunthorne.

(7). Plans of Dennington—and various properties in it.



EFFIGY OF SIR WILLIAM PHELIP, LORD BARDOLF.
c. 1440. From Tomb in Dennington Church.

By E.D.



EFFIGY OF JOAN LADY BARDOLF.
c. 1440. From Tomb in Dennington Church.

By E.D.

There is connected with these plans, a list of all the owners and tenants, and moreover the names and acreage of every field in the parish is given. Of this latter, I fear, but a few are retained to-day. I regret that the names then used for the several farms, are omitted.

Of the whole parish of Dennington, there is one large plan on which the several fields are numbered, and then there are separate plans of each farm, but the author and originator of them omitted to put any mark of identity thereon, and it must take some little time to compare each one with the plan of the whole parish and so identify the farms.

On a folio sheet is a coloured plan of "The Street" in Dennington, that means the situation round the Church, and on either side of the Yoxford road. On it Dennington Church is finely etched. The more important residences are numbered, and acreage given, and I presume the names refer either to owners or occupiers of the same. I think all these plans were made round about the year 1830, that is one hundred years ago.

(8). It is really a rough note book, in the which Mr. Dunthorne recorded material, suitable for a history of his parish, and so I have styled it "Foundation for a History of Dennington," and my idea is that he copied in it, notes which he had previously made on loose sheets of paper.

He describes, first of all, the Church, and its monuments, more especially the Bardolf tomb, and all connected with it, and with the Church may here be recorded etchings of the two effigies, and the monument of Sir John Rous. Following this is a list of the rectors from 1470 to 1808, of which I give here the names and brief notes.

1470. James Doby.

1485. Milo Thorpe. He resigned to John Colet.
1485. John Colet acolyte, aged 19 years. He was instituted August 5th, 1485. He died in 1519 after having been rector for 34 years.
1519. Robert Croukar. Instituted Septr. 26th.
1547. Peter Hobard. He subscribed to the Town Book.
1569. John Shirburne. Accounts were settled by him and Churchwardens.
- William Hughes, afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph. This name is taken from Bishop Goldwell's Register at Norwich.
1579. William Fulke, D.D. Master of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, buried at Dennington, 28th August, 1589.
1590. Robert Wright, B.D., buried at Dennington, April 7th, 1624.
1624. John Ward, signed Town Book in 1636, and afterwards was ejected for Simony on June 14th, 1638. See 5th days' hearing of Archbishop Laud's Trial.
1642. John Gatford. He subscribed £3 to Distressed Irish Protestants.
1648. (S? . . .) Holmes. Signed Town Book, 1657.
1658. Samuel Golty. Instituted in 1658.
1678. John Eachard, D.D., Master of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge.
1696. Richard Golty, M.A. He signed himself "Curate" from 1677 to 1696, and in the latter year was instituted rector. He was buried on March 25th, 1723, in the 46th year of his ministry.
1723. Philip Rous, M.A. Buried at Dennington, June 5th, 1727.

1727. Thomas Fynne, M.A. He died March 8th, 1740. Buried at Dennington.

1740. Henry Kifford, M.A. He died July 9th, 1752. Buried at Halesworth.

1752. Robert Buxton, M.A. He died June 20th, 1784.

1784. James Bennett, B.A. Instituted Rector on Sepr. 11th, 1784, to hold for Rev. William Long.

— Rev. William Long. He erected the present Rectory.

1808. "The Rev. now the Hon'ble and Rev. Frederic Hotham, M.A., and one of the Prebendaries of Rochester Cathedral, was instituted Rector of Dennington, February, 1808."

Then we find, rather scattered about in the book, descriptions of the most important houses in the parish.

"The only vestige of the Old Hall now remaining is the brick work inside of the moat, which formerly enclosed the buildings. The spot is now no more than a common kitchen garden. The windows of the present Hall were formerly ornamented with shields of stained glass."

Herewith is established a tradition, which I heard long ago, but never till now proved the truth thereof, that outside the moat was a fine building, a later Dennington Hall, destroyed by fire, or possibly pulled down, and it was the home of the Rous family.

Mr. Dunthorne says about the stained glass "A short time since it was in the possession of the Lady of the Hon'ble Sir Henry Hotham, K.B."

Probably it will be well to record here what I found on some loose sheets, styled "Information from J.

Warburton, Esq., Somerset Herald, about the coats of arms which were in the windows of Dennington Hall."

"In the windows of the low room, Quarterly Rous and Wafre, impaling Rous and Sulyard, and in the windows of the dining room Rous with 8 quarterings, mantle and crest, and Quarterly 1 and 4 Gules two bars, and a chief indented or, 2 and 3 Gerondy or and azure. On the chimney piece are these coats at each end and an escutcheon with mantle and crest. The first window has Rous with 8 quarterings, his word, written on the verge of the helm *Je vive en espoyr*. The second window has Quarterly 1 and 4 Gules three annulets argent, 2 and 3. Gules, a cross patty flory argent, in the sinister An escallop argent and also Quarterly 1. Argent, a lion rampant tail nowed gules, crowned or, seme of cross crosslets gules. 2 Gules a cross argent, 3 Argent, a chevron gules between three crosses bottony fitchy azure, Crest, A right hand ppr, sleeve quarterly or and azure holding a mullet argent. His word on the verge of the helmet *Loyalte me lye*."

N.B.—This is undoubtedly a coat of Brewes, as may still be seen in Fresingfield Church.

"In the middle are these arms." It is not necessary to describe them here, as all are well known in the county, viz., Sulyard quartering Good and impaling 1 Andrews, 2 Wayland, 3 Stratton, 4 Burnavill. See Wetherden Church.

"This escutcheon is encompassed with 14 others, painted as hanging in the branch of a tree, with the names of the impalings over them."

And Mr. Dunthorne adds "So far. J.W."

No doubt Mr. Warburton took the account from some old documents in the College of Arms. Had he

but have given the "name of the impalements" it would have illustrated marriages in the Rous family.

Then follows a description of the "great oak which stood eastward of the Hall, but was cut down or felled in the beginning of May, 1764. The circumference of this tree 4-ft. from the ground was full 17 feet. The height of the Body or Boll was full 60 feet, and contained full 16 loads or tuns of good solid timber, and the arms or branches of it about 4 or 5 loads of the same, reckoning 40 feet to each load. No conjectures could be formed of the age of this tree. It was supposed to be upon the decline before the proprietor could be induced to sell it, which scarcely or at all appeared to be the case at the breaking up. It had long been noted for its extraordinary size and height, for which purpose many came frequently from a great distance."

The next house in the parish noted is "Dennington Place or Palace, which formerly belonged to the family of Bacon, who had their seat here, the old building was surrounded by a moat, the brickwork of which is still visible round the inside, it had formerly a drawbridge. On the site of the old building a Barn has been erected, and the area within the moat is now used as a stack-yard. Nicholas Bacon, Esq., who resided here was in the Commission of the Peace in 1619. He transacted business for the parish. A farmhouse was erected without the moat (after the demolition of that within) and that still retains the name of Dennington Place."

The Nicholas Bacon who resided in Dennington must have been son of Edward Bacon, of Shrubland, and therefore grandson of the Ld. Keeper Bacon, who received many grants of monastic lands in Suffolk.

"The Old Rectory House, one part of which was a farmhouse, is surrounded by a large moat going into decay. The new one was erected nearer the Church

by the late incumbent, the Rev. W. Long. On the present Rector's accession in 1808 he (the Rev. Hon. F. Hotham) greatly enlarged this mansion. The present lawn, then a plowed field, has been tastefully laid out, and planted with trees and shrubs, and from the great attention paid to them by this gentleman, it is now become a most delightful situation. A beautiful landscape presents itself on the north-east, with a picturesque view (recently obtained) of the ruins of Framlingham Castle on the south."

There are many more things detailed in this booklet, and in addition two etchings, one of the Church Font, and another of an oriel window in a house then belonging to a Miss Elmy, and in the occupation of Zac Brown. It has beneath the lattice window a carving, representing a shield reversed, supported by the lion and the unicorn, on the which is a leaf apparently fallen. With these supporters it must be 17th century.

(9) "Tombs and Headstones to Sepr. 1st, 1831."

Of this there are four pages of foolscap paper, and each stone is dealt with separately, and the inscription exactly resembles what is on the stone. There are 48 in all. It was intended to have been finished off, but eight more were added after 1840 in pencil. They are all 19th century memorials.

(10). Two Lists of Dennington Inhabitants.

The first of these is a list of those who subscribed "to the poore distressed p'testants in Ireland," collected on 24th May, 1642. Robt. Downyng & Bartholomew Raffe, Churchwardens." Nicholas Bacon heads the list, but his donation is not recorded, nor do I think he was then residing in the parish. Altogether they collected £33 18s. 10d. from 150 people.

The other list gives "the names and surnames of all those persones within the Psh, aforesaid, which subscribed to the engagement, the contents thereof is as followeth. I do declare and p'mise I will be true and faithfull to the Commonwealth of England as it is now Established without a King or House of Lords, Suff., Dennington, Anno Dom. 1651, March 25th." There are 102 names, taken by "John Smyth, Edm. Harsant & William Watson."

(11). "A True Terrier of all Glebe Lands, &c., July 1827."

As may be supposed, this terrier quotes earlier ones, and there is attached to it, a coloured plan of the Rectory and Glebe lands, giving the name of each piece, &c., and the names of those who held the land, bounding it. The terrier ends thus :

"There are also belonging to the Parish Church of Dennington. One pewter flagon, one silver cup, one silver Patten, inscribed 'Robertus Buxton, hujus Ecclesiæ, Rector D.D., 1756,' one Communion cloth, two common prayer books, one surplice, one Bible of the latest translation, Oxford Edition, one cushion & cloth round the Pulpit and Desk. Five large Bells, and a Barrel Organ by Bryceson, London, playing forty tunes, the Gift of the Hon'ble and Rev. F. Hotham, in 1825." A rubbing and also a facsimile copy of the inscription on the Patten, is with this copy of the Parish Terrier.

(12). A Copy of "The Earliest Rate (perfect) to be met with in the Town Books, on Sep. 18th, 1749."

This is an alphabetical list, giving the rents at which the several properties were held, and the amount of rate that each property owner or holder had to pay.

Then follows another and a similar rate for raising £72 7s. 11½d. on 13th April, 1767, and then on the

fourth folio page is "A List of Constables chosen at Easter each year, from 1738 to 1835."

(13). This relates to Tithes and Tithe collection, and there is the composition for such, in the year 1823. The tithe payers then numbered 43, and the sums paid ranged from £51 10s. 0d. to 6s., in all £604 10s. 6d., and I will add here what I found on a loose sheet.

An account of a Tithe Feast in 1837, when 37 tithe payers attended. Dinner was served at 3.30, and on this occasion the first Clothing Club was started, when for its foundation £16 19s. 0d. was collected.

(14). "The Manor of Dennington Hall."

Herein the author of these manuscripts has exactly followed the lines of his model, Mr. David Elisha Davy, and probably the list of the Lords of the Manor may be identical with that in the Davy Collection in the British Museum.

(15). Notes on the Phelipp family, with a copy of the Will of Lord Bardolf, etc.

(16). Notes on the Rous family with some items "ex infor dom Ja Rous Bart, 1727." This may contain something of interest.

(17). Mr. Dunthorne also copies from Suckling's History of Suffolk (just published). The Inventories of the Household stuff in both Henham Hall and Dennington Hall with another house in Norwich.

This completes all the material in the form of booklets concerning the parish of Dennington, but there are numerous loose sheets, every one of which contains some local information.

Wills of several persons residing in or connected with Dennington were copied, and he often alludes to a valuable MS in the possession of the Rector, and it

may be this. "A MS in vellum, without date, in possession of the present Rector, 11 x 3." And then again it may be this, "A Rental of the Church and Rectory of Dennington in the County of Suffolk renewed in the time of Mr. James Doobyll, parson of the said church, in the yere of our Lord 1470, and in the tenth year of the reign of King Edward the fourth." This Rental takes $2\frac{1}{2}$ pages, and is followed by a memorandum concerning the tenement called "Pyshales." This is another ancient site in the parish, not described by Mr. Dunthorne, but is now called "The Moat Farm." Notes concerning it, occur probably, in one of his booklets.

There are extracts from the Parish Registers, and a long account of "Fiddlers Hall," which I expect is the same as that sent by Mr. Dunthorne to Davy, which I discovered years ago in the British Museum, and made use of. There are rubbings of brasses and various etchings, which I feel sure he hoped one day to use to illustrate the book he intended to produce.

OTHER PARISHES.

When I first overlooked the Dunthorne MSS I noticed that many of the booklets and loose sheets were concerned with parishes other than Dennington; thus I sorted them, and have endeavoured here to deal with them in two groups, and I will now enumerate what I have found connected with other places in the county of Suffolk. It must be remembered that travelling about was not such an easy matter a hundred years ago as it is to-day, and Mr. Dunthorne's energies had to be spent on parishes near home, or where he had relatives or friends residing.

(1). One such parish was East Bergholt, where there certainly lived about 1830 a Mr. Dunthorne, although about him I have been unable to gather but

little further details, relative either to his descent or life.

A booklet composed of folio sheets with 49 pages of writing, contains the notes on this Suffolk parish which has also a beautifully coloured plan, a sketch of the Alefounder brass with the outlines of other brass matrices. The notes commence with several pages of extracts from Rolls of all kinds, and several other documents apparently in the British Museum, most of them details of archæological research. These might prove useful to anyone interested in the ancient history of the place and its inhabitants.

I will quote a few extracts from personal experience. "In digging of a house in a field in 1838, in East Bergholt, above a quarter of a mile north-west of the Church, on a hill towards Stratford, in a sandy soil, about 2 feet from the surface, was discovered a number of pieces of earthen pots, evidently sepulchral urns. These appear to have been broken at times by horses and carriages passing over them, they also appear to have contained dark ashes. They were placed in a circular form, the diameter about 12 or 14 yards. Those of fine earth in the centre, inclining to white, those more outwardly of coarse red earth. Some of the necks are entire, and of the size of a common bottle. These are in the possession of Mr. Dunthorne of East Bergholt." And following this are many interesting extracts from the "Suffolk Chronicle."

Then are recorded the various manors, and the list of the Lords follows closely that of Davy.

After which commences the "Church Notes," beginning with those taken by Jermyn and Davy in November, 1806, with some few notes from Sir J. Blois, and these take up about 12 folio pages. Then we get "Further Church Notes taken June 12th, 1826," and this commences with an account of the Church,

wherein the writer says "It remains much in the same state as when I was last here, and has not undergone those alterations which in many other churches, under pretence of repairs and beautifying, have almost entirely changed the appearance of them. The bells remain shut up in their cage, for the use and amusement of the Parish."

I had an idea that the mid 19th century was the period more guilty than any other with regard to church "restoration," and I am glad to know our forefathers commenced it, and were going strong in 1826, so we who occasionally indulged in it, fifty years later, were but following in their footsteps. All the same, we know now that a century ago, the work was carelessly carried out.

After the account of the church, many monumental memorials are described and inscriptions given, and of the Alefounder family some short notes were sent to Mr. Dunthorne, evidently from East Bergholt, and in the same bold handwriting, another note, which I venture to transcribe here, as it must, I think, refer to some member of the Dunthorne family who resided in Bergholt. Unfortunately there is no date, and no name, nor is there anything else in the same handwriting.

"After the first happy day of life to mortals has ceased, disease attacks them, and unawares old age arrives, then death; by which, I suppose, it is not concealed from anyone, that our William Dunthorne has fallen. He was a most worthy Doctor in arts, also a most distinguished Town Clerk of this City, and second to none. You can mention no good, but what nature gave him, in manners, genius and temper. He was modest, long suffering, kind-hearted, and above all grateful, and who having passed his life while he breathed, thoughtful amid great cares and various labours, now rests in peace in this dark tomb."

One wonders where was the City in the which William Dunthorne was such "a distinguished Town Clerk"?

The important houses in East Bergholt are mentioned and some few notes about them, and people who occupied them. I quote this one sample.

"In East Bergholt is the Lodge, the seat of the Hughes's. Of this estate Admiral Sir Richard Hughes was accustomed to say, while speaking of the means by which it was obtained, that 'there is not a single dirty shilling belonging to it.' (Public Characters of 1801). There is a Map of the Parish in the vestry, dated 1731, which was the gift of the Hankeys to the Parishioners. The Lodge was then called Fox Hall and near this is an old farmhouse built about the time of Queen Elizabeth, which in 1731 did belong to Edward Clark Parish."

Concerning the Town Books is this, "The oldest one in the Vestry Chest begins 21 Elizabeth (1579); but there is in it but little worth noticing." In 1701 a reference was made to the brasses, which were formerly in the Church, and then this memorandum was added. "There was divers."

During the last years of his life Mr. Dunthorne was corresponding with Miss Mary Constable, of Bergholt, on the descent of her family.

(2). The next parish of which notes were collected is recorded in a booklet consisting of 39 pages of folio paper, and headed "Debenham Church Notes, 3rd November, 1838, Edwd. Dunthorne."

It commences with a very full and interesting description of that curious monument in the church erected by Mr. Sheppard to John Symson, giving a translation of the Greek inscription, etc. Then all other tombs, memorials, brasses and interesting objects are dealt with, and I must quote here a note sent to



EFFIGIES OF JOHN FRAMLINGHAM, c 1425, and MARGARET
HIS WIFE, IN CHANCEL OF DEBENHAM CHURCH.

By E.D.

Mr. Dunthorne by the Rev. Mr. Brereton, Rector of Framsdon, who probably rendered him other help. He says that when searching through some Saxon manuscripts in the Bodleian Library at Oxford, he came across a mention of Debenham, that it was then a place of considerable note, and that the Kings of the East Angles held their Courts there, and that a river flowed up to the town so as to admit ships of considerable burden. It is also recorded that in the year 1818 a woman named Betty Sharman, told of "how part of an anchor was in her time dragged out of the gulls a little beyond the cottage where old Bob Abbott lived." It is now fifty years ago since I first heard of that anchor from old Mr. Chevallier, of Aspoll Hall.

Mr. Dunthorne also alludes to and quotes from what he calls "MS Dove." The information is all strictly local but none the less valuable to one collecting historical records of Debenham, which is to my mind, one of the most interesting little towns in Suffolk.

Of course there is a lot about Crows Hall, and also Ulverstone, concerning which there are extracts from Court Rolls, and other sources, and it ends up with a copy of the Will of John Simpson, 7th May, 1697.

(3). There is yet one more parish considered separately and that is Copdock, which I presume Mr. Dunthorne found easy of access on his way to and from East Bergholt. The information collected is in a booklet of 12 folio pages. It commences with "A short account of Copdock in Suffolk," followed by a rubbing of the shield from the Goldingham brass. Then come the usual extracts from books and manuscripts, thirty-three of them copies of Fines.

After this we get the Church Notes, and first of all those made by Jermyn and Davy, on Sepr. 13th, 1807, with some extracts also from Tom Martin's Church

Notes. And this portion of the booklet ends with "Further Church Notes taken September 29th, 1824." which are all from the churchyard. There are two sketches, one of them "In wood by the reading desk in Copdock Church," and the other "In stone over the west door of the steeple." Then on June 11th, 1828, he says "Revisited," when he gives a good plan of the church, and an account of two "Table Monuments on south side of the churchyard."

The "Rectors" are considered, but there is no list, only several extracts from the "Ipswich Journal."

On the following page we find "Manor of Copdock with Barons from 1272 to 1831," and I should say this corresponds with Davy's list in the British Museum.

The remainder of the booklet contains "Abstracts from deeds." Some of these relate to lands in Copdock in the possession of Sir Ph. B. Vere Broke, Bt., and others with Washbrook, wherein he gives the descent of the family of De Grey, who then owned the property, and continued to do so till about seventy years ago.

(4). The next booklet is larger, and on the outside of its cover is a list of the parishes dealt with therein.

"Collections for Bedfield, Kelsale, Cransford, Carlton, Wingfield, Laxfield, Aspall & Badingham by Edwd. Dunthorne."

It consists of 50 pages of folio paper, closely written, full of illustrations, sketches of some of the churches, many monuments, especially at Laxfield, matrices of brasses, and many shields of arms. I do not suppose there is much therein, which is not known and recorded elsewhere, either by Davy, Jermyn or Darby; however, it is beautifully compiled, and I think also carefully copied from the originals. There are a few points I will mention. Most of the notes are recorded as made by himself, save at Kelsale, where we find

“By Rev. J. W. Darby, 1826.” And on the back of a pew on the north side of the nave at Kelsale is

WILLIAM SWANNE SYNGEL MAN
 GAVE THIS STOLE TO KELSALE ANNE
 BURY EXECUTRIX TO W. SWANNE
 A° D'NI 1582.

The account given of Laxfield is a very extensive one, and there is at least one memorial with an armorial shield, which I do not recollect having seen with the arms of Coke impaling Cecil. With this exception I find all the others are known to me, and are very correctly given, and there is an abundance of heraldry in that church.

At Carlton Church notes are given as taken on Oct. 12th, 1825, and two brasses are recorded, one of a priest, inscription lost, the other that of a woman. This latter is recorded in my “List of Suffolk Brasses,” 1903, and it was then in private possession, a rubbing of it being in the British Museum, however it is here said to be. “A Civilian, 1490,” and of it there is a sketch, and this is added “In the Chancel is the matrix of a priest, with the radiating hair curling inwards, this I suppose to date from 1350 — 1400.”

In the Bedfield notes there is a lot of material from the Parish Registers, also a folio sheet and two fragments all full of extracts, which would be useful after some little arrangement.

(5). Within a folded sheet of light brown paper are some few notes, connected with four churches and parishes, viz., “Bruisyard, Brundish, Easton & Saxsted.”

Of Bruisyard there is a nice outline of the church and of Brundish, a coloured picture of the same, some notes, and some ink drawings of the Glemham brass with its inscription, and that of “Sir Esmunde de Burnedissh” also with the inscription.

In Easton Church is given the inscription to Mary Wingfield, 1675, with an excellent outline of the armorial shield. And there are recorded some inscriptions to the family of Cotton, who retired hither from Earl Soham Lodge. In earlier days they were important people in the commercial world of London, and previous to that in Cheshire. There used to be a fine collection of their family portraits at Leiston Hall, of which I have a full description.

(6). Another lot of loose sheets, each one dealing with a separate parish, all in the same handwriting, and that very different from any other used in the collection.

I have been informed by one who is accustomed to the MSS. of the Rev. J. Darby in Ipswich Library, that it is all in his handwriting. On one of them is this "D," which I think may have been intended for J.D.

The Parishes dealt with, and the date when notes were taken: "Flixton 1827, Framsdon 1826, Oakley 1827, Redgrave 1826, Stoke Ash 1826, Thornham Magna 1828, Thornham Parva 1828, Thrandeston 1826, and Wetheringsett 1828."

Many memorials are recorded with a few sketches, outlines of brass matrices, and at Oakley two niches.

(7). In a series of folio sheets, fastened together, giving 24 pages of writing, are copies of important documents.

1. *Calendarium Rotulorum Patentium*, which consists of extracts from the Patent Rolls, dealing with parishes in the Hoxne Hundred. They are not alphabetical.

2. *Taxatio Ecclesiastica*, which is an account of the taxation of the tenths of all ecclesiastical benefices, taken about the year 1291, printed by the

Commissioners of Public Records in 1802, and commonly called "The Taxation of Pope Nicholas."

These are under Deaneries, and "Decanatus de Hoxne" appears twice. Of this Mr. Dunthorne truly says "The taxation of Pope Nicholas is a most important record, because all our Taxes to our Kings, as the Pope's, were regulated by it, till the survey of 26 Henry VIII."

3. Inquisitiones Nonarum. 14 Edward III (1340).

These were the Inquisitions taken to assess a Subsidy in 1340-42. Mr. Dunthorne's copy includes all the parishes both in the Hundreds of Hoxne and Thredling.

(8). Account of all the Charities in the Hoxne Hundred. It may be that a lot of this is collected from various Reports, and I presume before now it has all been published, however I feel sure some of it was from the personal investigation of our energetic archæologist.

(9). Tabular Pedigrees, pure and simple, no family notes.

1. Rous with a finely drawn coat of arms.
2. Green of Worlingworth Hall.
3. Hotham.

(10). There is a great deal of collected material on loose sheets of paper, and it is curious that among such I found several short notes of parishes, which I placed together, and here is the list of them.

Edwardstone, Elmsett, Elmswell, Elveden, Exning, Felixstowe, Great Finborough, Flixton, Fornham St. Genevieve, Framsdon, Fressingfield, Gissleham (in Mutford Hundred) and the Glemhams.

It will be noticed they commence with E and end with G, nothing before or after those letters. It seems unlikely Mr. Dunthorne would have commenced and ended like that, and some others must have gone astray.

(11). A very interesting booklet is styled "A List of Works relating to the topography of Suffolk." It covers 8 pages of folio paper, and in it there are recorded 56 works. No doubt all, or nearly all, of the books, MSS, maps and engravings are well known to the many collectors of to-day, but the list must have been difficult to compile early in the last century.

There are just a few of the then MSS I would like to record here in Mr. Dunthorne's own words.

"Dr. Thomas Beckham's Collections for Suffolk, 1602, 4to, bought at Mr. Ives' sale by the Earl of Surrey."

"Folio brought from Framlingham Castle, given by Martin to Le Neve in 1737, entitled 'Sir John Howard, Kt., 1st Duke of Norfolk. An account of his Stewards, of Lands and houses, wherein are many particulars of the prices of eatables, drink, and other matters worth notice.' In several pages it is Sir John's own handwriting."

"The Caters account of the household expenses at Stoke by Nayland of Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey, folio, which contains an exact account of every meal daily, from April 17th to January 18th following; the provisions, number of persons, etc., and at the end of each week is a particular of the provisions expended, and remaining, with the prices of every article. It exhibits a true picture of the time, which was between the 5th and 16th of Henry VIII (1513-1524)."

"Ordinances and statutes made by me, Thomas Sekford, the 10th of July, 1587, for the election, admission, exercises, expulsion and government of 13 poor persons, placed in my newly erected almshouses in Woodbred, in the county of Suffolk, finely written and illuminated. Folio. Sold in the Library of Sergeant Hayward, 1763."

here toth buried the body of M^r Robert Armyger who
 married Margret Sturging which Robert Armyger
 of this parish world to his day of Robert Armyger
 our lord god. 1585 buried here to bead to his in p^r



EFFIGY OF MARGRET ARMYGER.
 (EFFIGY OF ROBERT, HER HUSBAND, LOST).
 DATE 1585.
 IN NAVE OF SOUTHOLT CHURCH. By E.D.

I thought possibly these notes might have been received from Mr. Loder, of Woodbridge, so I asked for Mr. V. B. Redstone's help, and he writes me word; "The Seckford Ordinances and statutes have been printed more than once. I have a good copy published by Loder in 1792. At the foot of the first page he has this note, 'A copy of these ordinances finely written and illuminated, in folio, were sold in the library of Sergeant Hayward in 1763. Gough's Topog. Suffolk query if not the same, late in the possession of Richard Moore, of Long Melford, Esq., deceased.' A further manuscript note to my copy states that the old book (which is in the custody of the Master of the Rolls) bound in black velvet, studded with brass, and having the ordinances of the founder written in old English, on vellum and illuminated, and signed Thomas Sekford, is in a small quarto. It was seen by Mr. Cook at the Chapter House, Westminster Abbey."

With regard to Dunthorne's sketches. I have recorded many of them as they occurred, in the various booklets, and there are also several more on loose sheets, many of them sketches of brasses and other memorials, and for the most part unfinished. He was also most interested in coins and local tokens, some of which may have been in his own possession, but having obtained the sight of one, he placed it beneath a sheet of white paper and pressing softly, secured an impression, which with an etching pen he soon turned into a representation of that which he had before him, whether it was coin or token.

Thus he made a nice little booklet of the illustrations of coins, and intended doing the same with regard to local tokens, for of such there are several pages ready. I did not find many unrecorded in Bryan's "17th Century Tokens," and not having Golding's book I was unable to compare the illustrations with that list.

Here I must bring to an end my condensed notes on the Dunthorne MSS., and again I express the hope that they may find a home in the Ipswich Library. They were sent to me by the Rev. Frank Alston, who till lately held a living in Lincolnshire. He is the son of the Rev. E. C. Alston, who succeeded the Rev. Hon'ble F. Hotham as Rector of Dennington in 1858, and as Mr. Edward Dunthorne died in 1853, there can have been no connection between the two, and it is possible that the manuscripts may have been procured from the widow or son. However, the family of Constable of East Bergholt was connected with that of Alston by marriage, and late in his life Edward Dunthorne was in correspondence with Miss Mary Constable of Bergholt, about that family.

It has been a great pleasure investigating such an interesting packet of material, and my thanks are due to the owner thereof for giving me the chance; and if this paper is accepted by the Suffolk Institute of Archæology, and finds a place on the pages of its Proceedings, it will be a lasting tribute to the energy of Edward Dunthorne, who spent his leisure hours in providing the material which forms the foundation of it.

Through the kindness of friends I am able to add to this description of the manuscripts of Edmund Dunthorne, some little account of his family, their connections and descent.

Mr. H. C. Casley, of Ipswich, has loaned me "The Life and Letters of John Constable, R.A.," by C. R. Leslie, R.A., in which beautiful and interesting volume there are, throughout its pages, many slight records of the Dunthornes of Bergholt, to whom undoubtedly Edward Dunthorne occasionally made a visit. In the year 1774 Golding Constable, the father of the artist, moved into that parish and there built himself a house, which I believe to be the one now owned and occupied by Mr. Alfred Harwood.

In a little cottage close to the gate of that residence lived early in the 19th century John Dunthorne, a plumber and glazier, and as Leslie says he was "a man possessed of more intelligence than is often found in the class of life to which he belonged." Moreover, "he was the only person in the village who had any love for art, or any pretensions to the character of an artist . . . he devoted all the leisure his business allowed him to paint landscapes from nature."

I think quite possibly among the sketches of East Bergholt which are among the "Dunthorne MSS" there is one which represents the cottage by the gate of Mr. Golding Constable's residence.

It can be easily realized how that the great artist became very friendly with this man, and that when his talents for painting began to develop, and he needed to follow his natural inclinations, rather against the wishes of his father, he chose as a studio a room under the roof of John Dunthorne, which established a friendship that lasted through life.

According to the various records in Leslie's book, there seem to have been four children of John Dunthorne, Ann, James, John and Hannah. One of the daughters married a Folkard, and John Dunthorne, jun., followed in his father's footsteps, encouraged by John Constable, and was connected with art all his life. For a while he resided at Hampstead with the great artist and his wife and then later on worked with his father at Bergholt, making occasional long visits to friends in London.

In 1826 the artist writes, "John Dunthorne is very busy, his job is a large sign of the Duke of Marlborough. I have written to hasten him, he is wanted here by myself and others." And in 1828 he was thinking of undertaking some work at Nayland, and the artist

writes to him "I hope you will do it, but only in conjunction with your father. It requires not a moment's hesitation. Take care of cold. Work with the doors and windows of the church open; if it should make it colder, it will drive out damp, and the smell of graves." Young John Dunthorne seems always to have been in indifferent health, so after this his work was done mostly in the country, and in 1832, the artist writing to a friend says "Poor dear John Dunthorne is very much worse and this state of things cannot last very long. I shall lose a sincere friend whose attachment to me has been like that of a son, from his infancy." And in November of that same year he writes "I go to Suffolk on Thursday to attend the last scene of poor John Dunthorne, but 'he fought a good fight,' and I think must have left the world with as few regrets as any man of his age I ever met with." And the great artist was faithful to that friendship till in 1837 his own life came rather suddenly to an end.

There was a Mr. Thomas Dunthorne to whom John Constable wrote a letter on April 19th, 1833. He was the brother of John Dunthorne, sen., and I think he may have been the "Mr. Dunthorne" at whose house remained the relics of the find of those sepulchral urns in that Bergholt field. There is no further record of him in Leslie's book, but it is recorded that John Dunthorne, sen., survived till 1844.

Our worthy Secretary, the Rector of Thorndon, has kindly drawn out for me from notes, a tabular pedigree, showing the descent of Edward Dunthorne, the archæological grocer, and his family, from the Greens of Worlingworth Hall, and it strikes me, on examining it that the William Dunthorne, born in 1791, the elder brother of Edward, may be "the most worthy Doctor in arts, also a most distinguished Town Clerk

of this City," of whom the only details that I could discover among the manuscripts was that loose sheet of paper without any signature or date.

Here I must leave that identity unsolved, as also the question of the relationship of those who resided in Bergholt, with the grocer of Dennington, recalling to mind, though, once again, that quite late in his life Edward Dunthorne was corresponding with Miss Mary Constable on the subject of the pedigree and descent of the artist's family.