

Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History.

EARLY SUFFOLK HERALDRY,

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This article is entirely founded on a collection of over 1,500 charters—which charters were the original title deeds of the various properties in Suffolk and Essex belonging to the family of Bacon of Redgrave. They were brought to light by me when overhauling all the deeds and documents in the muniment room at Redgrave Hall in the winter and spring of 1920. Late in the 18th century they had no doubt been removed from their ancient deed chests, and placed in metal receptacles into which damp and rust had penetrated, converting many charters and some few of the Lord Keeper's grants, when he was Master of the Wards and Liveries and Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, into a yellow dust, which had naught remaining but a few loose seals.

On the other hand, there were some tins, in the which were documents unhurt, and a few packets of charters seemed to me as if they might have been tied up by the Lord Keeper himself more than 300 years ago. Unfortunately, very many of the receptacles had suffered rough treatment, in search for documents of value, probably in the 18th century.

The time given to me to overhaul and arrange all these documents, deeds and letters, etc., was very limited (about four or five months), and as the various seals on the charters naturally attracted my heraldic instinct, these were dealt with by me at home, and by night—and my plan was to take thirty or so of these small parchment documents, damp and press them one night, and then on the following night trick in outline the details of each shield of arms, giving particular attention to the legend or inscription, more often than not in small Gothic letters, which I wrote out in Roman capitals, so that I might feel sure of its accuracy later on, and as to the details of the charters, I tried to get the date, if there was one, with the name of those who granted, and to whom the property was granted, and a complete list of all the witnesses to the same. As to the description of the lands, such was absolutely beyond my capacity to deal with in so limited a time.

As most people are now aware, the whole collection was put up for sale at Sotheby's Auction Rooms in the year 1920, and it was knocked down at one bid to Messrs. Quaritch, the booksellers, at £500; and then very shortly after a catalogue of the same was issued by that firm, and the documents were dispersed, the University Library of Chicago securing a goodly number of them, and among the number which came into their possession were about 800 of the aforesaid charters. I have this on the authority of one connected with that Library.

As soon as I could find an opportunity, after the sale, I made a list of all the documents, from the rough and hurried notes I had taken, when I overhauled and arranged them for the sale. With regard to the collection of charters I sorted them out, under the numberless parishes in the which was situated the lands connected with them, later placing those of every separate parish in chronological order, and very naturally I gave special precedence to those which had attached to them armorial seals. At a slightly later date, these were all outlined by me, and placed in a book dealing only with early English heraldry, and it is more particularly this book that I shall use in my article on the subject, giving also information from the charters themselves. As I have never yet published anything concerning this collection, before I deal with the aforesaid charters and their seals I should like to put on record an account taken entirely from deeds connected with the properties, the course which these documents followed as they came into the Bacon family.

First of all there was in the collection in the muniment room, an enormous quantity (which was, I have been told, 150 years ago much larger) of state documents, connected mostly with Lord Keeper Bacons official life. In 1537 he was solicitor of the Court of Augmentation, in 1546 Attorney of the Court of Wards and Liveries; and then of far greater importance were the official documents connected with his office as Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England, which commenced in 1558. No doubt some of these later documents had left the Redgrave muniment room at an earlier date, but there were a great many among the lot sold by Messrs. Sotheby and I expect most of those which were put up at the sale of 1920, may have found a home in some great public library, and possibly in that connected with the British Museum, in that they were for the most part tabulated not only in the auctioneer's catalogue, but in that issued by the Booksellers a little later on. However, it is not of these that I shall have anything to say here, but only of those connected with the various estates, lands and tenements, purchased by the Lord Keeper, many of them when he was simply Nicholas Bacon, as an investment for the money which he must have earned in his many lucrative callings. He was during his business life engaged in the pursuit of wealth, and his various purchases of land were by his orders dealt with and duly recorded by his clerks, in a book which he kept for that purpose, so that when he died he left behind him a complete list of all and of every bit of landed property he purchased, together with a list of all the moneys that he paid for them. I have been quite through this book, and copied out a great many of the documents, and it is curious to relate that as a solicitor many of the deeds must have been drawn out in his office and by his clerks, and I notice, in any deed connected with a property which had as part and parcel of its title deeds, any old documents, a clause was inserted to make sure that these were included in the purchase. I give one such here, which was in connection with a great quantity of lands around Mettingham, which he purchased from the then Duke of Norfolk. Here it is: "And further that he the said Thomas Duke of Norfolk his heirs or assigns shall within three

years next ensuing the date hereof, deliver or cause to be delivered unto the saide Sir Nicholas Bacon, his heirs or assigns all such deedes Chres (charters), Courtrolles, Rentalls, writings, escripts, and myniments, as doe concerne the said premises, above bargained and soulded, which they have, or any of them hath, or which they may lawfullie come by, without suite of lawe."

Thus Sir Nicholas Bacon, the Lord Keeper, came into possession of all the early documents connected with the lands he purchased, which in many cases never again left the muniment room of Redgrave Hall, though the properties concerned had long changed hands. According to the Lord Keeper's idea, the Mettingham charters ought to have departed with the sale of that property; but the whole of them were enumerated by me in 1920 as being then at Redgrave.

We must now consider the charters alone, for it is from them that my list of amorial seals and shields was taken, and these must be considered in two lots, viz., those connected entirely with property purchased by the Lord Keeper, which I call Bacon property, and secondly those connected with the lands brought to that family by the marriage of the Lord Keeper's eldest son, Nicholas (who was knighted at Norwich as "son of the Lord Keeper," August 22, 1578), to Anne Butts, daughter of Edmund Butts and his wife, who was daughter of Henry Bures. She was niece of Sir William Butts and the sole heiress of the Butts and Bures families. This latter property then may be styled the Bures estate, and it consisted of many manors and lands, in both Suffolk and Essex, which latter we shall find enumerated and described in the various charters connected with it.

Of the Bacon property we may commence with that which was acquired almost directly from the Crown, after the dissolution of the many monastic institutions, in or about the year 1544 and of these naturally Redgrave must take the priority. The first deed connected with that particular property is dated 21 April, 1544. From it we learn that Nicholas Bacon, Gent., of London, was in possession of the manor of Great Holland in Essex, which consisted of lands and tenements together with the patronage of the Rectory at the aforesaid place. These were granted to the Crown, in exchange for the manor of Redgrave cum Botesdale, also Gislingham, with all and singular their members and appurtenances, stated to have been at one time the possessions of the Monastery of Bury St. Edmunds "nowe dissolved," and also the site called "Redgrave Parke." Then comes a long list of items of property included in the deed, and naturally a goodly sum of money passed into the hands of the Crown with the deal.

Now connected with the Redgrave property there are no early charters, in fact but few charters at all, and I do not think that such have been destroyed, though very many charters were converted by damp into yellow dust, but I think that the Abbey did not possess any, simply because all the Redgrave property was granted to the Abbey by Ulfketel, the Earl of the East Angles, who fell in 1016 at the battle of Assendun in Essex, and one document would be sufficient for such a transfer.

Second on the list would be the estate in Rickinghall, of which the date of the letters patent from the Crown handing it to Nicholas Bacon is dated 18 November, 1544. It consisted chiefly of the great manor and lands of Westhall, including the three great woods called "Westhalle woode, Shortehasyll woode, and Aylmers woode," containing in all 129 acres, with lands in Finningham, Walsham, Westhorpe, Wiverston and Wattisfield. Also the free disposition and patronage of the rectory of Rickinghall Inferior. All of which were part of the possessions of the Abbey of St. Edmunds at Bury. But to show that Mr. Nicholas Bacon was in close touch with those who were dispersing the monastic property, in all their dealings concerning Suffolk property, other monastic lands are included. Such is the case here, for there is also included in this bargain and sale the manor and lands of Over and Nether Whitacre in the county of Bedford, with the presentation to the rectory of the same, all of which formed part of the possessions of the Priory of Markeilt in Bedfordshire, and besides these there were messuages and tenements in St. Botolph extra Aldersgate in London, which formerly belonged to the Monastery of Kirkstedd. And again a goodly sum of money passed into possession of the Crown.

The Charters connected with the Rickinghall estate are very interesting and some of them very early in date, and they number 85, of which one half are undated, and therefore deal with lands and tenements, for the most part from the middle to the end of the 13th century. I think the earliest of them is from "Rob son of Peter de Rykinghall to Dns herry Abb Sci Edmundi et successoribus suis," and as Henry was Abbot of Bury 1234 to 1248, we get an early date for that charter, and many of the remainder deal with sales or gifts from owners in Rickinghall to the Monastery of Bury. There are no armorial seals attached to any of these charters, though there are several early attempts at heraldry on many of the seals, as for instance, a fleur de lis, a quatrefoil, a Catharine wheel, a six-pointed mullet in 1295, and then a little later a stag trippant, and the Paschal lamb.

Then must follow the Hinderclay estate, where at the Hall dwelt the official of the Abbey, who dealt with all its lands. He was called, I think, the Steward of the Manors, and he had his private chapel in the south aisle of the church. Concerning this property letters patent from the Crown are recorded with a date 28 July, 1545. To "Thomas Bacon of London Salter, and James Bacon his brother" who alienated the same to their brother Nicholas Bacon in 1549. My idea is that too much monastic property was not allowed to pass in one course or channel, but the solicitor of the Court of Augmentations would be in close touch with the Commissioners of the same Court, and the sales could easily be arranged between them, and yet carry out the law. It is curious to note that with this sale of the Hinderclay estate to Thomas and James Bacon, the manors of Wortham and Burgate should be included; however, it would, in the case of Burgate, be only the rights of an over-lord, for we know how that later on Sir Nicholas Bacon purchased the two moieties of the manor of Burgate from the families of Paulet and Rookwode. With the Hinderclay estate is the advowson and patronage of the Church of Hinderclay, and also

the Mill at Wattisfield then in the tenure of one Thomas Callenn, and also Stanborowe Wood, containing 120 acres. This would be doubtless the Hinderclay wood of to-day, and furthermore there is included in this sale also, a messuage and tenement called "le rose" with two cottages adjoining to it, in the parish of St. Martin's in the Fields, near Charing Crosse, in the City of Westminster. All this latter was a portion of the property of the Abbey of Westminster. I have wondered whether "Le Rose" could have later on been the London residence of Sir Nicholas Bacon because he so often alludes to his London residence in his deeds, and it is always described "In the parish of St. Martin in the Fields, near Charing Crosse."

The Charters of Hinderclay, like those of Rickinghall, are a small but interesting lot of early documents. They number 45, of which 38 are undated, and probably of 13th cent. Like those of Rickinghall, many of them relate to individual transfers of land from owners of land and inhabitants of Hinderclay to the Monastery of Bury St. Edmunds. The grantee is described in various ways. "Sco Eadm. Abbi et convent ibidem." One of early date is "Dni Henrici dei gra Abbi Sci Eadmund, et Danieli sue Camerario eidem loci et successoribus." Another one to "Eccle gloriosi regis et martyres Eadmundi, Ab ejusdem loci convencium"; however, most of them simply "Deo, et Beato Edmundi Monachis." There are no heraldic seals, however, there are early attempts at heraldic charges for instance: A fleur de lis within a circle and the legend around it "S'ROB FIL EDMUND," and on another seal is. Two shepherd's crooks in saltire in front of a garb, i.e., a sheaf of corn. A very good coat for a farmer of arable and pasture land. There is again nothing interesting in either Wortham or Wiverston charters.

And now we come to the consideration of a very important estate, which belonged at the dissolution to the College of Mettingham, styled in all the deeds "Collegium bte Marie Virginis de Mettingham," which property in earlier days belonged to the family of Norwich or Norwyche, and the aforesaid college was founded by John de Norwich in 1344, when he translated thither, the priests from his college of Raveningham. Mettingham College of priests was dissolved by Henry VIII and sold by him to Sir Anthony Denny. The letters patent from the Crown of the sale is dated in 1541. Sir Anthony bequeathed the same to his son Henry Denny, who in 1561 (not 1661, as some Directory states) sold the same to Sir Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal. The descriptions of the Castle and estate in the deed is rather interesting. "The scite and circuit of the late Chaunterie or Colledge of Mettingham in the countie of Suffolk, otherwise called the Chaunterie or Colledge of our blessed lady the virgin, of Mettingham, in the saide Countie of Suff. And all buildings, lead, iron, glasse, Tymber, stone and tyle, landes, soyle, grounds, waters, ponds, orchards, gardens and heriditaments in them the saide scite, circuit, and precints of the saide late College or Chaunterie of Mettingnam aforesaid, and also all those Lordshippes and Mannours of Mettingham, Ilketisall, and Shipmeadow, with all and singular their messuages aud appurtenances with all other lands, tenements, etc."

Thus the Lord Keeper Bacon got all the monastic property. A good deal of it was copyhold of the Duke of Norfolk therefore in 1564 Sir Nicholas and the Duke, made exchanges, besides which a great deal more of land and tenements were purchased by Sir Nicholas of the Duke. This whole estate was sold in the following century to the family of Hunt.

The charters connected with Mettingham property are very numerous, and there are quite 150 of them which concern Mettingham alone, besides 74 connected with Ilkeshall and several more which concern Ellough, Barsham, Shipmeadow, and a few connected with Beccles and Bungay, Bramfield, etc., which make in all 300 of such charters. As there are several armorial seals attached to them, they will have further consideration in my list of early Suffolk heraldry.

Next on the list of Bacon properties will come that of Burgate, a parish which absolutely adjoins Redgrave, and after the year 1544 the owner of Redgrave must have been very desirous of adding it to his estate. For many years, from early in the 13th century, a family who took their name from the place, owned property there, and a manor, which family came to an end in the male line with Sir William de Burgate, who died in 1549. His fine altar tomb, with his own effigy thereon, and that of his wife, in brass, is known to most archaeologists and every brass-rubber in the country. Sir William left some daughters, as to the exact number there is discussion, into which I shall not enter here, however when Sir Nicholas wanted to add Burgate estate to his own there were but two moieties of it, and from the deeds, all of which I have seen, and the bulk of which I have copied, I can give here a brief outline of what those two purchases consisted. The deed connected with the purchase of the first moiety is thus endorsed: "An Indenture of Exchange between Sir Nicholas Bacon, Kt., and Sir William Paulet, of the manor of tarraunt in Dorset, for the moiety of Burgate. Dated 13 June, 1563." From this I will take the details of the property given and also of that received. "All that the manor of Tarraunt als Tarraunt hinton and all other their lands, tenements, ffraunchesies, libties and emoluments, store or stock of goods and cattells, and heriditaments in Tarraunt in as large and ample a manner as the said Sir Nicholas Bacon, have, or ought to have the same, by the letters patent of our Sovereign, the Quene's highness, that nowe is, bearing date the fiveth daie of August in the fiveth yeare of her highnes' reigne." All this is granted to Sir William Paulet and Dame Agnes his wife in exchange for "All that theyre saide moyetie of the manor of Burgate with th' appurtenances in the saide countye of Suff., and all that theyre parte purporte and portion of the saide manor, and all other their moyetie, half dele, and parte of their lands tenements and heriditaments, reputid takin and excepted, as their parte or parcel of the saide manner, or to the saide Mannor of Burgate apperteyninge, together with their moyetie or halfe dele and parte of their landes tenements or heriditaments, lieng and being in Burgate, Redgrave, Thurston (Thrandeston?), Yaxley, Stoke, Gislingham, Pallgrave, and Melles in the Contie of Suff. aforesaid,

and also all their moyetie or halfe dele of the advowson and parsonage of the churche and parsonage of Burgate, and presentation of such to the saide Churche together with all Evidences, Deedes, Charters, escripts and mynynments, concerning the saide moyetie of the saide manor of Burgate, and its lands and tenements bargained and sould." This would be the Broughton moiety of the said manor and lands of Burgate, in that Katharine, daughter of Sir John Broughton, married Lord William Howard, afterwards created Lord Howard of Effingham, who was son of Thomas, 2nd Duke of Norfolk. Their only daughter, Agnes, married Sir William Paulet, who succeeded his father as 3rd Marquess of Winchester.

And the 2nd moiety of Burgate is dealt with more especially in "An Indenture between Sir Nicholas Bacon, Kt., and Robert Rookewood, concerning the moyetie of the Mannor of Burgate, dated 8th April, 1570," and yet another "Indenture between Robert Rookewood, Esq., of Lawshall, sonne and heire of Robert Rookewood, late of Lavenham in the county of Suff. Esquire, and Dorathie his wife, of the one parte, and the right honourable Sir Nicholas Bacon, Kt., Lord Keeper of the Greate Seal of England, and Nicholas Bacon, Esquire, sonne and heire apparent of the saide Sir Nicholas, of the other parte." And these two deeds concern "all that the moiety and one halfe of the manor of Burgate in the saide Countie of Suff., and all the parte and purport of the said Robert Rookewood, the son, and Dorathie, in the said manor, and also one halfe of all the messuages, lands, etc., parcel of the said manor, and also all the moiety or one halfe of the Advowson of the Church of Burgate, and also all the messuages, lands, etc., in the townes, fields, parishes and hamlets of Burgate, Mellis, Woortham, Redgrave, Palgrave, Thrandeston, Yaxley, greater and little Thorneham, Stoke Ashe, Gislingham, Over and Nether Rickinghall in the County of Suffolk, with all libties and priveleges, and all the woods, underwoods, Tymber and trees growing in and on the premises. Together with all manner of deedes, charters, escripts, writings and mynynments, touching or concerning the premises, which are now in the possession of the said Robert Rookewood the son." These two moieties, that from Paulet and the other from Rookewood, constitutes the whole manor and estate of Burgate, besides that right of an overlord which was sold to Thomas and James Bacon in 1545.

I notice among the deeds "A Fyne of the other moiety of the manor of Burgate from Mr. Cheney, Dat nono Maii Anno septimo Eliz." This must be in connection with the Paulet share as the date is similar; for the purchase of the Rookewood moiety was "Anno tertio decimo Eliz."

The Charters connected with the Burgate estate number about 120, of which 27 are undated, and most of these relate to small transfers of land in the 13th century. Some few of the Burgate charters have attached thereto fine armorial seals, together with a few very early ones. These will be dealt with by me in my list of early Suffolk heraldry.

There is still to be recorded a little more of the Bacon property in Gislingham and Mellis, both villages not far distant from Redgrave,

and in the Index to the Lord Keeper's book concerning his landed estates, under Gislingham, there is but one important purchase recorded and that is dated 7th Edward VI. (1553), and it relates to some small piece of land. "Tredecem acras, ac modo vel nuper in tenur sive occupacione Thome Garland, et nuper prioratm Sc. Johis Jerlm in Anglia. . ." It is a rather important bit of land and I have in my possession several deeds connected with it in later years. It is still called "Temple Close." I quite think that the Manor of Russhes and Jeneyes in Gislingham was not purchased by the Lord Keeper, but by his son at a later date.

As to lands in Mellis, the manor of it which had formerly been in possession of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, which in the letters patent when it was granted to Sir Thomas Cheney, in the reign of Philip and Mary, was styled "nuper hospitale. Sch. Johis Jerelm in Anglia." This was sold by Sir Thomas Cheney on the 28th Sep., 1547-8 to Augustine Curtois, and by him, a little later on, transferred to Nicholas Bacon.

And now we get to that other large property which came into the Bacon family by marriage with the heiress of Butts and Bures. This I term the Bures estate. There are hundreds of charters connected entirely with the amassing of lands to form this estate. I have a complete list of every parish in which such lands were situated, when they became Bacon property. Here I give only a list of the principle ones. In Suffolk we have Acton, Bures, Reydon, Wherstead, Chelmondiston, Wolverstone, the Wenhams, Freston, Holton, Stratford, Norton, Monks Eleigh, Milden, Polstead, Shimpling, Edwardstone, Preston, Assington, Stoke-by-Nayland, Stoke-by-Clare, Waldingfield, besides Ipswich, Bury St. Edmunds, Hadleigh, Sudbury and Clare. In Essex the chief ones are Foxearth, Pentlowe, Bulmer, Borley and Middleton. In Reydon alone there are 275 charters and in Wherstead 109. Altogether they number several hundred, and attached to some of these charters are very interesting and very early seals, each one of which I hope to deal with separately.

I have carefully gone through all the pages of my huge MS book, which contains the outlines of the 1500 Redgrave Hall charters, and I have extracted from it the account of the armorial seals which are attached to some of them, and I have also taken from the account all the information I could get concerning the person who used the seal, or concerning the coat of arms on the shield. With regard to the illustrations, I felt that such was necessary to give interest to the article, and I could not possibly part with my manuscript for anyone else to use, so I have endeavoured to make sketches of the various shields from rough ones made hurriedly by me when I first saw them in 1920. I am well aware that I never had any capacity for such work, and still less now that I am in my 85th year, but I do know the whereabouts for the various charges on the heraldic shields, though I cannot properly represent heraldic beasts. Anyhow, I am able to offer some idea of the seals, and the skill of the 13th and 14th century artists who produced them, and it must be remembered that oft times the style

nd design denote the date of a seal, which, as many of the early charters are undated, affords some valuable information with regard to the time when the deed was drawn up. Naturally, some of the seals were often used, thus from broken pieces I have occasionally been able to get a good idea of what the design was like, and also occasionally I have been enabled to complete a legend or inscription. The size of the seals has been rather enlarged, to give me more scope for demonstrating the heraldic charges on the shields, and where dots are used in the inscription, it will denote letters which are unreadable, and blank spaces of the seal, denote parts which have disappeared. Occasionally I took the exact style of lettering in my inscription, but the Gothic letters were not easy to copy, when time was so limited, and I wished, if possible, to secure an accurate copy of the original words. On many of the very earliest seals the inscription was in large Roman capitals, but of course in the 14th cent. Gothic letters were mostly used. Hundreds of the seals on the early charters have thereon some of the most usual heraldic charges, like a fleur de lis, mullet or star, but the list I am giving here is strictly confined to a seal which has thereon a shield, and on that shield some heraldic charge; and it will thus be seen how little by little heraldry came into use during the 13th century. A hundred years later, as my list will prove, many a small landowner, and even tradesman, used a shield on their seal, with thereon an attempt at a coat of arms, and often a coat which might have been granted by the College of Arms in the 16th century. It will be noticed that members of the same family bore different coats, but such was rather usual in early times, and if I remember right, the knights at Cobham, related all one to the other, have different coats of arms on the gorgeous brasses which cover their place of burial.

Here follows a complete list of all the armorial seals on the 1500 charters, most of which are illustrated. I have endeavoured to give some little account of every seal, and when any specific date is added to the illustration it is the date when the charter to which it is attached, was sealed. Where a charter is undated, and only an approximate date is given, such would be about the time when the seal was made.

SEAL 1.

No. 1 on the list of seals can be taken by itself. On a shield which is apparently suspended is a coat of arms, which can only be heraldically described as "Three foxes in bend," and the charter to which the seal is attached was used in the year 1316, though I should fancy it may have been wrought at a much earlier date. The legend or inscription to it was unreadable. However, it dealt with land in Ilketshall and was a grant from "John Morgan de Ilketlishale, fil et her Henrici Morgan de Ilketeshale, to Mons. Waut de Norwiche, cheveler." Thus there can be little doubt that it relates to the transfer of some Ilketshall lands from the family of Morgan to Sir Walter de Norwich of Mettingham.

There are several other rather similar seals to this, all of them used by the Morgan family of an early date. On the shield of one of them

is "Three lions rampant." On another "Two lions rampant combatant." Each charter relates to a transfer of land to Sir Walter de Norwich, and on one of them there is a paragraph in Norman-French dealing with a message "feu a jadis Morgan de Ilketleshal moun oncle en la dite ville de Ilketshall," and this charter without a date is witnessed by two knights, "Mons Thomas de Bavent and Mons James de Ilketleshale," the latter being probably the uncle of the grantor, and among other witnesses were "James, the son of Sir James Ilketleshale, Waut de Bernham, John de Medefeld, Robt. de Barsham, Robert de Sandcroft, and Robert the son of Ralph." The family name of Morgan does not occur later in either Ilketshall or Mettingham charters, nor is it recorded at all in the 1327 Subsidy list, and I think without doubt the bulk of their lands passed through the family of Ilketshall into the possession of the family of Norwich, the builders of Mettingham Castle, and later on the founders of Mettingham College.

SEAL 2.

However, we have not quite finished with the Morgan family. It was certainly I think connected with the knightly family named Ilketshall. Seal No. 2 bears on the shield "Two lions passant in bend, in sinister chief a flower," and has also a legend which runs "Sigillum Johis de Ilketshal," and it forms a grant of land in Ilketshall from "John, son of Henry Morgan de Ilketshall to Dni Walt de Norwiche militi," and this deed is dated 13 Ed. I (1284), and I think we get through it a connection between the families of Morgan and Ilketshall.

SEAL 3.

The charter connected with Seal No. 3 is of a much later date than the last, viz., 1339, and it is a grant by "Robert de Ilketshal to Sir John de Norwich," knight, and it deals with the manor of Ilketshall "apres le mort de Mons Philip de Ilketeshale." On the shield is the recognised coat of arms of Ilketshall, viz., A fesse between two chevrons, and a canton ermine, with an annulet on the fesse for difference, and the legend is simply "S' Roberti Ilketishall," which would be the Sir Robert de Ilketshall who died in 1381.

SEAL 4.

Seal No. 4 is of quite a late date for the charters, viz., 1414, and it is attached to a bond and used by Thomas Elkensale. The legend runs "S' Thom Ilketeleshale cheveler," and on the shield the usual coat of arms with a crest. It is said that Sir Thomas died in 1416, his will being proved on 17 April, 1417.

SEAL 5.

This is one of the most interesting seals in the collection, and in the centre of a plain heater shaped shield is the following coat of arms: "Three bars gemelles, on a canton a crescent," with the legend "SIGILL PETRI FIL ROGERI," that is "The Seal of Peter the son of Roger." It relates to land in Ilketshall granted by "Peter son of Roger son of

Osber, to Will Passelewe de Ilketishale" and there is no date to it. In Copinger's "Records of Suffolk," III, 245, we get an extent of the lands of Roger Fitz Peter Fitz Osbert in 1302-4. It is a seal of the 13th century, and the names of the witnesses to the deed may help to date it. "Step de Mundham, Will Hochede, Step Basset, Will de Seckford. (There is a manor in Ilketshall under that name), Alan Belépche, Rauf Thurbil, Thom Hille, Hug de Neidhm, Walt pitemctn, Symon Ede, Rich de Querndon, Will fust et aliis," Now for the above said coat of arms Papworth gives, as the arms of Buckton of Brome, Suff. "Argent three bars voided sable, on a canton of the last a crescent gules." It is the first quartering in the Cornwallis coat of arms, and therein it is usually "Three bars gemelles." It is certainly a very unusual coat, and I think surely there must be some connection between the family of Fitz Osbert and those who owned both manors and lands in Brome and Oakley in the 14th century.

SEAL 6.

The seal and grant on this charter also deals with lands in Ilketshall called "Cabistones" and on the former is a shield bearing this coat of arms. "A chevron; on a chief a demi lion rampant, issuant," and the inscription which is above and on either side of the Gothic decoration, of which the top part is almost illegible, runs thus: "Sigillus" or "Tis the seal" above the shield, and below this "Johannis le Gode." It looks to me as if the initial letter of the top line is T and not S. The grant is from "Ad Gode de Wylbye to Thom Sungyld de Ilketyshale," and it is dated 3 Ric. II (1379). The witnesses to it were "John de Metyngm, John Whyte, Reg Kempe, Alan de Thurlowe, John Smith de Bungey et aliis." In the 1327 Subsidy, Alicia le Gode is the name which heads the list at Wilby, and there is then no Gode in Ilketshall. I think this seal dates very much earlier than when it was here used, and possibly John de Gode may have been resident in Ilketshall, and Adam le Gode, who used it, may have been his son. The coat of arms is not in Papworth, and for the family of Good is given "Gules a chevron between three lions rampant or."

SEALS 7 and 8.

These two seals must be taken together, representing as they do the well known and important family of Norwich of Mettingham. No. 7 is in very fine condition, and has on the shield "A lion rampant" with the legend "Sigillus Johannis d'Norwyche milit," and the charter is strange to relate undated. The land with which it deals is in Ilketshall, Shipmeadow, Mells, Bromfield, Wenhaston and Redisham, and the grant is from "Johes de Norwico, miles to Dno Johi Plays Dno Robto Howard, Dno Rogo de Boys militibus. Johi de Boys, Johi de Wolverston, p'sona ecclie de harpele, Ad de Cokefeild p'sona ecclie de Salle. Elis de Bynge p'sona ecclie de Sallyn. Will p'sona ecclie de Stoketon, et Reginaldi de Eccles, castellu me de Mettingham."

In Seal No. 8 the coat differs slightly, in that the dexter side of shield has been scratched (as it were) to show that the colour differs

from that on the opposite side. Thus we get the real arms of the Norwich family in 1343. "Per pale gules and azure, a lion rampant ermine." This document relates, I think, to the removal by Sir John de Norwich of the priests in his college of Raveningham to Mettingham Castle, for it is from "John de Norwych mil, et Walt de Norwich mil, et Dna Katine (probably the mother) to Sir Martin de Sculthorpe capell." There are many other seals of the Norwich family, some of them much broken, and I feel sure, from these charters, a great deal of history might be gained as to the owners of the lands in earlier times.

SEAL 9.

On the seal attached to this charter is a very distinct coat of arms, whereas, unfortunately, the inscription is very indistinct. On the shield is "A griffin segreant, with a cross pattée fitchèe in the top dexter corner," and the land dealt with in the charter lies in the parish of Ellough, spelled "Elgh." It is dated 20 Ric II (1396) though most certainly the seal is quite 50 years earlier. It is a grant by "Rob Crane de Elgh, and Isabel his wife to Willi son of Rob Smith of the same." There was a second seal, that used by his wife, which looked to be an impression from the same matrix, but it fell to bits immediately I touched it. The earlier half of the legend was unreadable, however from the last three words I arrived at "Willelmi de Hovd." The family of Crane was in Ellough in 1327 and it appears from the charter it was also there in 1396, and one of them may have used the seal of some ancestor. Possibly "Houd" may be a contraction from Heyward or Hèwed, both known in the parishes round about, early in the 14th century.

SEALS 10, 11 and 12.

These seals may also well be considered together, as they were all attached to one charter, dated 1383, and all three names continually occur in the charters in connection with Sir John de Norwich. Probably after 1362 when Sir John died, they may have been trustees of the Mettingham estate during the lifetime of Katherine Brewes. See Copinger's "Manors of Suffolk," VII, 196. Seal No. 10 has on the shield the usual coat of Howard. "A bend between six cross-crosslets fitchèe," and the legend "Sigill Roberti Howard." He would be the Sir Robert Howard, who was the son of Sir John Howard by the Lady Alice, his wife, dr. and heir of Sir Robt. de Boys, of Fersfield. He resided on his manor at East Winch in Norfolk, and died in 1388. Seal No. 11 has on the shield the coat of arms, "A lion passant," for Plays whose family coat was "Per pale or and gules, a lion passant argent." Copinger's "Records of Suffolk," II, 48, has a grant of Chelsworth manor to Sir John Plays in 1362. However, I think he must have resided somewhere in the neighbourhood of Mettingham. Seal No. 12 has on the shield "Barry of six, over all a bend." I do not think this coat of Boys is recorded either by Burke or Papworth. The family who lived at Fersfield (previously mentioned) bore "Ermine, a cross sable," which coat is, I believe, still to be seen in Fersfield Church. However, the Sir Roger de Boys of this charter resided some-

where around Mettingham, for in the 6th of Richard II (1383) which is the very year this deed was drawn up and signed by the seal before described, Sir Roger de Boys lived in that part of Suffolk, for Margaret Marechal, Countess of Norfolk, complained that he and others broke her closes and houses at Framlingham and Bungay, and cut her trees and did other damage. Undoubtedly it is the same Sir Roger, mentioned in this Mettingham charter. This coat of Boys is used on a seal of the Burgate charters in 1389 by "Nicolas Cocerel, capell de Melles."

SEALS 13 and 14.

These seals are both connected with Burgate, and with the family of that name who resided there. No. 13 has on the shield of the seal an unusual coat of Burgate, viz., "Three pales" instead of the usual coat "Paly of six"; but if, as I think, it is intended for canting heraldry, the pales wherewith to make a gate would be the more suitable. The legend of this seal is "S. PETRI DE BURGATE" and the date 5 Ed. II (1311). The land dealt with is "vocat le peticroft" and it was granted by "Peter de Burgate Dns de Burgate to Sir John de Swynford militi et Agnet fil mei, et heredibus Johi et Agnet." Now Peter de Burgate had the grant of a market at Burgate in 1272, and this must have been a 13th century seal. The two knights who witnessed it were Sir Gerard de Wachesham and Sir John de Thelvetam. Peter was a son of the first well known member of the family, Robert de Burgate; but many others of the family are mentioned in the very early charters, viz., Sir Baldwin de Burgate, Gilbert de Burgate, Alice, daughter of Roger, son of Gilbert de Burgate, Robert son of William de Burgate, and of course a great many in which Sir Robert de Burgate is interested. We learn from this charter that Agnes the daughter of Peter de Burgate, Dns de Burgate, married Sir John de Swyneford, and evidently the heirs of the latter couple, inherited land through this grant.

Seal No. 14 is more especially interesting as it records an unknown Burgate coat of arms. On the shield is "Paly of six; on a chief three trefoils," and it was used by Richard de Burgate, probably of a junior branch in 1343. It deals with land in Burgate of William Osmund, who was then accumulating land in the parish. The shield is differenced by "the chief with trefoils thereon." Sir William de Burgate had one armorial charter, upon which I wrote an article for our proceedings* and illustrated it, and I have among my list of Burgate documents, though it is not included in my list of charters, this note "A very narrow strip of parchment and on it in Norman-French, the will of Sir William de Burgate, dated 4 Richard II (1380) and sealed at the end of this very narrow strip of parchment with the usual Burgate coat, on a small heater shaped shield." This I saw once and took thereof the description given here. I expect it may later on have been added to the charters.

* Proceedings Vol. xix, page 352.

SEALS 15 and 16.

These seals must again be considered together, both representing as they do the family of Swyneford of Burgate. No. 15 was certainly used by Sir John de Swyneford, who married Agnes de Burgate. I think possibly I may have copied the trefoils instead of cross-crosslets for they are so very minute on the shield and it may be the coat which is given by Papworth, page 943, for Sir John Swinford, viz., "Gules 3 boars heads coupéd argent between nine cross-crosslets of the second." The charter is dated 1315 and deals with land as part of the manor of Burgate. "Johes de Swyneford cum Oliver de Wachesham p'sona Eclie de Burgate, et Robtus le Carter capell to Dno. Petro de Burgate." Those who witnessed this charter were "Joh de Thelvetham, Will de Gippeswyco, Thom de Kappenham, Ad le Brom, John le Mey, Peter unwyne, Rob. de trappeto clico, et aliiis." The date of Seal No. 16 is 14 Ed III (1340), and it has on the shield "A chevron between three boars heads coupéd" for Swyneford. Argent a chevron between three boars heads coupéd sable. Burke gives this coat to a Herefordshire family of that name, and Papworth does likewise; but here on this charter the grant is by "Robtus de Swinford miles to Dno Rico de Tendryngge p'sone ecclie de Burgate, henr de Elmham, Thom de Swyneford and Dno Edm vicar ecclie de Kennatone," and it deals with "totu maniu meu de Burgate, et advocatio ecclie ejusdem," and the names of the witnesses to this important deed are interesting. "Dns Georg de Thorp, Dns Robt de Watisham, Dns hug de Saxham, militibus Walt ffauconn, Johes de Hoo, Rob Cokerel, Will Weyland, Ric de Goldingham, Reg de Wade, Ric de Blogate, Will de Elmham, Joh handherd et aliiis." The deed undoubtedly deals with some trust connected with the estate in 1340, however I cannot but think the seal is of an earlier date, for it has no Gothic decoration, only above, and on either side of the shield is a water-bucket of a very early type, and I should date it round about 1300.

SEAL 17.

This is the seal of Sir Richard de Tendryngge, who was parson of Burgate in the year 1340. On the shield is this coat of arms. "A fesse between two chevrons, a bordure engrailed." I should suggest that he might be an illegitimate son of a member of the great Tendring family, who bore "Argent a fesse between two chevrons azure" and sometimes the same coat with the colours reversed, and thus the border engrailed would be a mark of difference, if not of bastardy. The seals of Richard de Tendryngge, were used in 1360 by Rad de Tendryngge, who may have been his son. They all relate to grants of land in Burgate, some of them to Ralph de Tendring and others from him to the Osmund family, and thus the land passed to Sir William de Burgate. Many of them were broken but I managed to get a drawing of what a complete one would be like.

SEAL 18.

This seal is connected with several undated Burgate charters, many of them are broken, though each seal was carefully packed and sewn

up in a little bag of which I opened two to examine them. On the plain heater shaped shield were represented "Three crows," the canting coat of the family of Crowe of Burgate, who at one time owned a good deal of land in the parish. The legend is very simple and early, "TOME FIL TOME CROWE." There are two of these charters thus sealed, one of them deals with land in Campsea Ashe, and the other with land called "Longeland" in Burgate. One of the charters is endorsed thus: "Ceste est la chart sire Tomas Craue de tre dec acris de terre." These particular Crowe charters are all undated, and probably of the 13th century. Alan Crowe seems to have succeeded to this property in the 14th century and I think that in 1343 it passed from the aforesaid Alan into the estate of the Burgate's. However, there is a charter which has another Crowe seal dated 1346 which is a grant from "Petrus Crowe fil Johis Crowe Junr. to Rad. de Tendryngge et Rici Osborn p'sone ecclie de Burgate," and this seal is a curious specimen for that period. On a lozenge is this coat. "On a bend three crows," and on each side of the lozenge are four indistinct Gothic letters. There is little doubt that bit by bit the Crowe estate came into possession of Sir William de Burgate.

SEALS 19 and 20.

These two seals are attached to a charter that was among others in a special box, which about fifty or so years ago was exhibited to the members of our Society and which later on was returned to the lawyer's office, and thus escaped the sale at Sotheby's in 1920. The shields on the seals represent two early Suffolk coats of arms. The deed itself was dated at Burgate 10 May, 2 Hen. V. (1414) and it relates to one or other of the two moieties of Burgate, on which I have previously written. On the charter "Johnes Heveningham miles, Gilbertus Debenham John lancastr, Johnes Stonham, Johnes huberd, p'sona ecclie de Burgate, Robertus Trosse, p'sona ecclie de Westhorpe, Willm. Wayghte et Johnes Byschop," are of the one parte, and of the other "Katine filia Willme Burgate militi, nunc uxi, Johis Spencer et Com. Suff. Arm." This certainly proves the marriage between Katherine, a daughter of Sir William Burgate, with John Spencer, but I am uncertain which of the two moieties is connected with the deed. It was very soon after the death of Sir William Burgate which occurred in 1409. Seal No. 19 is very much damaged, and when first I sketched it in 1920 I thought that the quartering of the Heveningham shield had "On a bend three birds heads erased"; however, a few years ago I had the opportunity of examining another of Sir John Heveningham's seals in the muniment room of Keswick Hall, near Norwich, and since then I have decided the erased birds heads are really "eagles displayed." We have then the quartered coat of Heveningham, "Quarterly, on a bordure eight escallops," 2 and 3, "On a bend three eagles displayed." That is Heveningham. 1 and 4, Quarterly on and gules, on a bordure sable, eight escallops argent, 2 and 3. Argent on a bend azure three eagles displayed or, possibly for Delamere of Essex. However, I have been unable to find in the early pedigree of the Heveningham family in Morant's

Essex I, 386, any mention of the Essex family of Delamere, nor is any heiress given among early marriages in the 14th century.

Seal 20 is that of Gilbert Debenham, for on the shield is "A bend between two crescents," and the inscription "S' Gilberti Debenham." The Wenham family of that name bore, Sable a bend between two crescents or; however I am uncertain where the aforesaid Gilbert sprung from, and therefore cannot make a certainty for the tinctures of his coat of arms in 1414.

SEAL 21.

This seal of 1414 has on its shield "A fesse between three fleurs de lis," and as inscription "Sigillum Ricardi Cherche." He belonged to a well known early family of that name in Gislingham, and it appears from documents that they owned the manors in that place of Swatshagh and Russhes. The coat of arms of Cherche is given in the Blois MSS as "temp Henry 6, Sable on a fesse engrailed between three fleur de lis argent, as many escallops gules," but here we have a much more simple coat, and it is twice represented in one of the windows in Gislingham Church, viz., "Sable, a fesse between three fleur de lis argent" and again the same coat impaling that of Cloutinge. Probably Katherine the wife of Richard Atte Cherche, or Richard del Cherche, was a Cloutinge, anyhow the name of Clouting often occurs in deeds of which Dr. Copinger quotes many in his account of Gislingham. I had always imagined those Gislingham shields represented a member of the Ashfield family. This coat of Cherche is not in Burke or Papworth.

SEALS 22, 23 and 24.

These are all attached to one charter dated 1 Hen. V (1413) connected with a manor and lands in Gislingham, and No. 22 gives the only seal of the Geney family I have ever seen, and undoubtedly the deed is connected with their manor in Gislingham called "Russhes and Jenneys," the site of which is quite unknown to me though I have for many years tried to discover it. The shield bears "An escutcheon between an orle of martlets" for Geney, Azure an escutcheon between an orle of martlets or, and the legend runs "S' Thom Geney sue DXVI ct," what the latter part of it means I cannot tell. It is said that these two manors became united later in the 14th cent. and they were then held by Sir Thomas Geney, who died in 1403, when they passed to his son, another Sir Thomas Geney, who died in 1420. Those concerned in the operation of this deed were "Thomas Gyney, Sir Will. Berdewelle, Elizabeth Wolferston, Elen Syres and Thos. Wolferston to John Shulldham and Ric. Kekwald." No. 23 was the seal used by Sir Willm. Berdewelle and has on the shield "A goat salient," that is, Gules a goat salient argent, for Berdewelle of Bardwell and Norton. It is a family so well known I need say no more about him. No. 24 has an inscription unreadable, save the first word "SIMON," and the final letter which looks like "D." The coat is that usually borne by Bassingbourne "Gyrony of 12 or and azure"; however, I do not find this name ever connected with Gislingham and

its manors. There is another charter dated 1408 which also concerns the manor of Russhes and Jenneys and is a grant from "John Schulham to John, son of Will Berdewelle, John framlyngham, Will. Wyeth de Cretyngham et Rob Dey," and the shield of this charter has thereon "An eagle displayed" for Shouldham., Azure an eagle displayed or.

SEAL 25.

I have taken this seal for the first one connected with the Bures estate, which came by marriage into the Bacon family, because the land connected with the various charters of this early Suffolk family formed the bulk of the Reydon estate in the 13th century. The name commences quite early in that century as Caravill or Karavill, but towards the end of the century it became Chevrebill or Chefrevill. In early days members of the family used ovoid seals pointed above and below, with some charge inside surrounded by the name; however, about 1290, the seal of which there is a sketch came into use. On a heater shaped shield "A goat salient," which I take to be a canting coat of arms for the name taken from "chevre" a goat. About 1304 they began to sell their property, when this seal was often used.

I don't suppose that anything has ever been written concerning this family, and I will therefore enumerate several members of it who owned land in Reydon, all of which came into possession of Sir Robt de Reydon early in the 14th century, and then later on to the family of Bures. One of the earliest charters connected with the family would be I think some time previous to 1250, and Will de Cap'villa occurs over and over again, as a witness, and sometimes as an owner, then a little later we get "Alicia de Cap'villa relicta Willm. de Cap'villa de Reydon, in legia potestate et pura viduatate" concerning land "que vocat Reydonscoles." The seal which Alice then uses has thereon a flower on a stalk with leaves, and around it "S'ALICIE DE CAPRAVILL." Then a little later on "John de Cap'villa de Royden fil Willmi Cap'villa milit, et Cecilia uxor mea" grants a piece of land to Sir Robt. de Reydon called "Clevhaggesfeld." This seal represents some fruit with this legend around "S' JOHIS DE K'PEVILLA," and Sir Fulk de Vallibus of Wenham adjoining was a witness to it. Then there was another seal of John de Cap'villa, shaped pointed ovoid, which has on it An eagle displayed, and around "S' JOHIS DE KARAVILL." About 1280 the name is frequently Cherevile, and on almost every charter one of the family is a witness, and a great deal of the land connected with the family was in the possession of Alice widow of Will de Cap'villa, which lady used many different seals and on one she calls herself "S'ALICIE D'KERVILE," and I expect the name became merged in that of Kervile. Dne Agnet de Caravilla occurs in 1290 and about this period lands of Adam de Cap'villa are often recorded, and soon after this we get the first use of the name of Chefrevill or Chevrebill on an undated charter dealing with "Tordbeneghne," and a Barth de Chevrebill is a witness. And then in 1304 (the seal from which I made my sketch), Adam de Chefrevill hands over land to Sir Robt.

de Reydon. Many similar deeds follow during the next ten years, and then in 1315 comes a grant of land from "Christiana quondam uxor Ade de Chevreuil in pura viduatate, to Sir Robt. de Reydon Mil." Witnesses to this deed were "Sir Will Vis de lou, et Will de Dein, Militibus, John de Reymes, fulco de Baroun, Joh de Sully, Rog de Reymes, Pet Anneys et aliis."

SEAL 26.

The pretty seal attached to this charter is very much chipped, and yet the shield is perfect, so there was not much difficulty in exhibiting its general appearance. On it is "A chevron between three boars heads." There is no inscription at all, but the grant of the charter is from "Anketil Salwayn miles, et Isolde ux mei, to Dno Willo, rector Eccleie de Reydon," and it relates to lands in Reydon, Holton, Stratford and Higham (this is spelled heughm). The family of Salwayn bore, Argent a chevron between three boars heads couped gules. This is recorded in Jenyn's Ordinary for Mons Amias Salvayn, and from the Borough bridge Roll of Arms in 1322, it was borne by Sir Anketyn Salwayn. According to Burke's "Commoners," I, 533, this Sir Anketine Salvayn was the elder son of Ralph Salvayne of Thorpe Salven, co. York, by his wife Marjorie Mallorie, who was eldest sister and co-heir of Nicholas Mallorie of Northallerton. No more is recorded of Sir Anketin, save that he had a grandson who succeeded to the Thorpe Salven property. How he came into possession of all these Suffolk lands I do not know.

SEAL 27.

This seal gives us an early example of a coat of arms used by the well-known founder of Gonville Hall in Cambridge, which was later on amalgamated with the foundation of Dr. Caius, and thereafter called Caius College, but the charter to which the seal is attached records the founder years before he founded Rushford College. The date is 1318, and it deals with land in Reydon called "ekottispytall," and on a heater shaped shield there is "On a bend three escallops," which must be an early coat of Gonvile, for the legend is "S' EDMONDI DE GONVILE." The grant is from "Rogus de Reydon p'son eccleie de Clenchwarton et Edms de Gonevill p'son eccleie de Russheworth to Petro de Reydon." There are two seals to this charter, and that used by Roger de Reydon is very interesting. Evidently the patron saint of his church at Clenchwarton was St. Margaret, thus this saint is represented on the seal treading on a dragon, with a small man kneeling before her, and the legend is "Sca Margareta ora pro me." Rushford College was founded some few years after this charter was drawn up and the college in Cambridge not till 1348. The coat of Gonville on this charter is not recorded in the usual works of reference.

SEAL 28.

The heraldry on the seal of this charter seems to me extraordinary, at the early date of 1337, though the design of it may be appropriate for even an earlier date. I know nothing about the family of Crepil,

for whom it was evidently made. The coat of arms on the shield is not very distinct, however, it is I think, "On a cross between four (? human) heads couped, four or five mullets." It might really have been granted in the 20th century instead of in the earlier years of the 14th, and the inscription around is certainly of an early type, "LE HANDE SET DE CREPIL." It might be Norman French of the 13th century. The land dealt with was in Reydon and the grant is from "Petronilla quondam filia Walteri de Schalounner de Schellie to Dno Andre de Bures, milit." The witnesses to it were "Mich de Bures, Will de March, Rob de Grantete, Rob le Cowherde, Robt. Wade, Rob Pasthol, Will fuller et aliis." The seal was here used by Petronilla de Schalounner.

SEAL 29.

This seal is attached to a charter of 1326 concerning lands in Reydon, and on the shield is plainly represented "Vair, a canton," which is the coat of Filiol co Essex, Vair, a canton gules. The inscription around it is "SIGILLUM JOANNIS DE FILIOL," and the grant is by "Dns Joh filliol to Thom le Masonn de Reydon." The property of course later on came into possession of the family of Bures. Mr. V. B. Redstone says in his preface to "The Household Book of Dame Alice de Bryene, 1412-13" that "Joan and Anne Filiol, the daughter of Sir John Filiol, were residing in the household of Dame Alice." That was alluding to a later period, probably the latter portion of the 14th century. Morant deals with the family of Filiol, Vol. II, p. 151.

SEAL 30.

This seal has on its heater-shaped shield the coat of "Two chevrons," with an inscription "SIGILLUM WILLI ATTE MORE." It was used by "Robertus de Vallibus" and is a grant to "Dn^o Andre de Bures, milit et Aliciæ ux sue et heredibus." The date is 1337, and the land dealt with "In villa de Reydon, ut in maneria de Wenham, in campo vocat Reydon feld, que terra quondam Petri de Stanfeld." The witnesses to the deed were "Dns Thom de Cornerthe milit, Rob de Rokwode, Mich de Bures, Joh Sampsonn, henric de Neuton, Joh Saxy, Ric le parker et aliis." The coat of "Two chevrons" has been borne by More, St. Maur and Seymour ever since, as Argent two chevrons gules. Why is it here used by Robert de Vallibus or Vaux, save that he was Lord of Wenham in 14th century?

SEALS 31 and 32.

These two seals must be taken together, for both of them represent one who must have bought or inherited a good deal of the land dealt with in the charters, which passed to their last heiress, who married the first baronet Bacon. The shields represent two of the owners of Acton. Sir Robert and Sir Andrew Bures. No. 31 has on the shield the only known coat of Bures "Ermine on a chief indented two lions rampant." Bures, Ermine on a chief indented sable, two lions rampant or. It is dated 1322 and the inscription is simply "Robtus de Bures miles

to Andre de Bures filio meo et hered," whereas on the inscription is "S' ROBERTI DE BVRES." With so much Gothic decoration inside the circle, the seal was I think made for him who here uses it and his I.P.M. was held in 1331. He would be the man who with Hillaria his wife acquired the manor of Acton from the Hodoboviles in 1311. No. 32 has on the shield the usual coat of Bures, and this inscription around "S' ANDRE DE BVRES Ao XXII DIE DVR." The grant 1349 is from "Andreas de Bures et Alicia uxor mea. to Johi ffermer de ffoxherde milit, et Katina uxi ejus." It deals with "the manor of Foxearth called Borley Hall and with lands and tenements in Foxearth, Borley, Pentlow, Lyston et Bellocampo Willi." The inquisition after the death of Sir Andrew de Bures was held in 1360. Morant, II, p. 326, writing of Sir Andrew de Bures says of the manor of Westons, or Brooke Hall in Foxearth, that a moiety of it was held by Roger de Reymes, and this was held later by Sir Andrew de Bures, and of him John Fermer and Catharine his wife, late widow of John de Goldington, held it for their lives, remainder to the said Sir Andrew. In 1344, K. Edward III granted John Fermer view of frankpledge of his men and tenants in Foxherd, and he lived about ten years after. Sir Andrew at the time of his decease in 1360, held the manor of Foxherd, advowson of the church, etc. By Alice his wife, daughter and heir of Sir John de Royden, and grand-daughter of Sir Robert de Roydon, by Alice his wife, daughter and heir of Robert de Reymes, he left two sons, Robert and Andrew." Here we get the descent of the Reymes and Reydon property to Bures.

SEAL 33.

This is the seal which was used by that most important lady Dame Alice Bryan of Acton Hall, whose "Household Book, 1412-13" was published by our Society, being edited by Mr. V. B. Redstone, F.S.A., and the arms on the shield of this seal is illustrated in the frontispiece of that book, for it represents the coat of Sir Guy Bryan, Or three piles in point azure, impaling the usual coat of Bures. Sir Guy Bryan married the daughter of Sir Robt de Bures. The bit of inscription left round the seal has on it "le Seal Dame . . . ene." The charter relates to lands in Foxearth, and the grant is from "Dame Alicia Bryene nup uxis Dni Guydon Bryene chr. to Johi ffolur de Cornerthe, Joh State de Borlee, et Pet Botiller de Alyngton." It was dated and sealed at Acton in 1395 (18 Ric. II). According to Mr. Redstone, Sir Guy Bryan died on 17 August, 1390, and was buried at Tewkesbury. Dame Alice died on 7 March, 1435. Her brass effigy lies on the floor at Acton Church.

SEALS 34, 35 and 36.

These three seals were all used by members of the Fermer family, who owned an estate at Foxearth, at the same period, when the Bures family were purchasing land there. In No. 34 we have a very unusual seal, with an equally unusual coat of arms. On the shield is "Three lions' faces." Papworth gives no coat at all like it, and as the family of Fermer used such a variety of seals and also coats of arms I can

only think we have here one of such used by a branch of the family at Stoke. It is dated 16 Ed. III (1342) and the charter connected with it deals with land at Foxearth and it is from "Waltus le ffermer de Stoke by Clare, et Johes le ffermer de eadem, to Johi ffermer de ffoxherde." I notice on looking at the outline of this charter in my large MS book, I have described the land with which it is concerned so I give it here. "In villa de ffoxherde jacent int terr dni Johis de Lyston, ex una pte, et terr humfri Tugge ex alt pte, un caput abut sup terr Johis de Cristeshale, et aliud caput sup pastur Dni Andr de Bures." The deed was probably some family arrangement of the property, and in the same year by a charter, Johes de Cristeshale handed over some land to the same John ffermer of Foxearth. Nos. 35 and 36 are seals both used by the same man, one before he was knighted, and the other after. The coat used is that generally attributed to the family of Fermer of Foxearth., Ermine a chevron between three cinquefoils. (Fermer, Ermine, a chevron between three cinquefoils sable). The inscription on both is "SIGILLUM JOHANNIS FERMER." One of them is dated 1343 and deals with the manor of "Foxherd, Weston, et Massey, in villas de ffoxherde et pentelowe." It is a grant from "Johannes ffermer de ffoxherde to Dno Willo de Crocheman milit. Will de herchurst p'sone ecclie de Pentelowe, Will Dureward et Johes de Asshen." The witnesses to it are "Dno Joh de Coggeshall, Dno Joh de Wanton, Kts., Thom de Lacy, Joh de Boys, Will de Engleys, Walt de Greneville et aliis." The other is dated 1346, and deals with some "ter voc. Osmund" from "Johes ffermer miles et Katerina ux mea to Dno Andree de Bures milit et Alicia uxi ejus." The witnesses here are "Dns Thom de Grey, et Will Criketot militibus, Edmd Boteler, Rob Giffard, Walt de Redeswelle et aliis." After c. 1355 the name of Fermer ceases to appear on any of the charters, but till then it occurs on nearly every one of them.

SEAL 37.

The charter to which the seal is attached is dated 14 Ed. III (1340), but from its design it must belong to a very much earlier period. On the shield is "Quarterly" and the coat of arms of Fitz Humphrey is "Quarterly argent and sable," see Papworth, page 2034. The inscription is "S'WALTERI FIL HVMFRIDI." It was doubtless used by a certain Walter, the son of Humphrey, in 1340, but it was made for a man of the same name at a very much earlier date. It here relates to land in Foxearth, and is a grant by "Waltus fil humfridi de pentelowe miles to Dno Andrea de Bures milit et Alicie uxi sue et hered ejusdem." On a roll of 1308, that is the Acre Roll, and also on another roll of 1286 this coat of arms is attributed to "Sire Walter fitz Homfrey." There is another charter similar to this, and thus sealed in 1322, and yet another in 1328, and all of them relate to lands in Foxearth. Morant in Vol. II, p. 325, tells us "that Hugh Prior of Stoke by Clare, passed by fine the advowson of Foxearth Church, and the manor of Foxearth Hall to Walter Fitz Humfrey in the year 1202, and that they were a family of note and substance. In 1262 William Fitz Humphrey held 5 knights fees and a half in Foxearth, Borle,

Gelham, and Chipell Clopton, in Suffolk. But in 1286 Sir Walter Fitz Humfrey granted all right in this manor and advowson to Sir Andrew de Bures." I think the latter date must be a mistake for 1340.

SEAL 38.

On an undated charter relating to some land in Ipswich we have I think the nearest approach to a coat of arms used by the family of Reymes of Wherstead, which estate they owned throughout the 13th century. The heiress of the family then married one of the family of Reydon or Roydon, thus the two joined together the lands, and they were passed on to Sir Andrew de Bures, and so the same came to the Bacons of Redgrave. The illustration I give of it will show the unique design and the heraldic charge on the shields. The grant is from "Hug. de Reymes de Werstede to Alicie filie Robti hastings de Werstede." The seal is a fine specimen of the early clay variety, and it is very perfect, and the inscription of it is very plain. "SIGILLV HVGONIS DE REMES." Roger de Reymes witnesses one of the earliest charters of the 13th cent., viz., a grant from "Ricardus herbert de Wherstede to Willo ffauteham vicario de Wherstede," and the said Roger continues to witness deeds for a long time, in Wherstead, but the first grant of land in Wherstead, where a member of the family is concerned is in an undated charter by "Ricus de Cretynge to Robti de Reymes et Alicia uxi ejus." A little later on we have a charter still undated which is from "Andreas de Reymes to Dno Rogo de Raymes milit." Then another one, "Seman Arundel de Gipvico to Gilbto de Remes et hered suis et suis assigns." Then another from "Edmundus fil Lio . . . de Werstede to Gilbeto de Reymes" and yet another from "Isabella decheford filia Ricardi deceford to Gilbro de Raymes, fil Robti de Raymes." Then comes one "Wakelin filius Osbti de lelinges de Gypovico" and others to "Hugo filio Gilbti de reymes de Werstead."—and lastly comes one followed by many like it "Alicia le brun de Werstede to Hugo de Reymys fil Gilbr de Reymes de Werstede," and I think this Hugo is the one who used seal No. 38.

SEAL 39.

This seal of 1349 is simply an example of that used by one of the best known families in Suffolk in the middle of the 14th century. The shield of it has thereon the well known coat of "Three cross crosslets" for Cavendish. Sable three cross-crosslets or. It is I think more especially interesting here because in this charter it was used by Alice the wife of Sir Andrew de Bures and the grant is to Sir John de Fermer and Katherine his wife, and it concerns the manor in Foxearth called Borley Hall, which I think must be the same manor as Foxearth Hall. But why should a great lady like Dame Alice de Bures who was a Reydon by birth use a seal of "JOHANNES DE CAVENDYS." The family is too well known for me to say anything here, but they held several manors in those parts, which formed the Bures estate. When a husband and wife make a grant, the wife often uses the family coat of her birth,

or the same seal as her husband, and sometimes a fancy seal designed for her own special use. However, later on a seal is used by Dame Alice de Bures as a widow, and she borrows that of John Aroundel of Peyton (see No. 77).

SEAL 40.

I have placed this seal of the Dureward family of Essex next to that of Cavendish of Suffolk, because the charter to which it is attached has the seal of the latter family also. It is dated 23 Ed. III (1349), and deals with land in Foxearth, Liston, Pentelow, the two Beauchamps in Essex and Glemsford in Suffolk. It is a grant by "Johes de Cavendisch et Willus Doreward de Bobbing (? if an error for Bocking) to Mons John ffermer." The coat on the shield is "Ermine on a chevron three crescents Doreward or Durward co. Essex Ermine, on a chevron sable three crescents or." This coat is given by Papworth, p. 481, and the Blois MS of Arms. Unfortunately the inscription is a bit broken, but on it is the name of "DVREWARD" Morant, II, 147, deals with them under Rivenhall, in which I can well remember there is a "Durwards Hall" to-day, and he there says that they were descended from the Dorewards of Bocking, and he does not mention Bobbing at all. At pages 384-5, Morant deals with them under Bocking, and alludes to their mansion in that place. They were established there as early as 1316, and from that date till 1500 they resided in Bocking when a daughter of William Doreward married Thomas Thursby, who died in 1532.

SEAL 41.

This is a particularly interesting seal, under the circumstances, for I always think it must have come under the eyes of the Lord Keeper Bacon at a time when he was bearing quite a different coat of arms. On the forefront of his copy of the letters patent from the Crown, of the Redgrave property, beautifully drawn, is this coat, "On a fesse between three fleur de lis as many griffins heads erased," which one finds recorded as an old coat of the Bacon's of Suffolk. "Azure, on a fesse between three fleur de lis or, as many griffins heads erased of the field," and for a crest "A griffin's head erased grasped at the neck by the head and mouth of a boar." Now on Seal 41 we find this coat of arms, which is very similar to that borne by the Bacon family to-day. "On a chief two mullets of six points, Bacon, Gules on a chief argent two mullets sable." The charter is dated 1337, and deals with land in Middleton, Essex, and the inscription thereon is "SIGILLVM JOHANNIS BACVN." The grant is from "Sir John Bacoun, Kt., to Sir Andrea de Bures et Aliciæ ux ei." There are three more similarly sealed charters. One of them deals with "advocationem ecclie de Middletone in comitatu Essexiæ juxta hamlette de Bakdene in hundred de heyxford." Another gives the situation as "near Sudbure," . . . I do not know anything about this Sir John Bacon, Kt.

SEAL 42.

This seal is, I think, a beautiful specimen of the late 13th century, for he must have been a skilled workman who designed and cut on the matrix that border design. The impression of it is quite perfect, and I am utterly unable to do justice to it. The coat of arms on the shield is very simple, and no inscription was needed. It bears "Barry of twelve" and the well known coat of Montecaniso or Monchensy is, Barry of twelve argent and azure. The charter like the last one recorded deals with the advowson and church in "Middyhton juxta balydene in hundred de hengford." The grant is from "Wills de Monte caniso de Edwardestone to John de Vous," and the witnesses to it are "Rog de Montecaniso, And. hurant, Joh. fil. Willi, Joh. fil. Andr, Walt de la Kene, Will fil pet., Jer de le Asswode, John de huntehey. Xto puter, Oliver Gernoun, John clerico de halsted et aliis." It was dated at Stansted c. 1290. William de Monte Caniso and Beatrice his wife are recorded in 1274. She was of the family of Bellocampo or Beauchamp. He was pardoned for trespass in 1285. Jewels were restored to him on going to Acre in 1290 and his I.P.M. took place in 1295-6. In the "Records of Suffolk" II, 285 are many references to the family, and also a record of "an extent of Edwardston manor in 1272." Morant, Vol. II, has a lot of information concerning this family and their several estates, and on p. 325 he states that "William de Montchensy was enfeoffed for life by Thos de Wancy of the manor of Westons or Brooke-hall in Foxearth, and he died possessed of it in 1286," when once again it came into possession of Thos. de Wancy. I think the date must be wrong, if the I.P.M. took place in 1295-6.

SEAL 43.

This is a seal to an undated charter, which belongs, I think, to the earlier years of the 14th century, and it was used by a member of one of the most important Suffolk families of that time, viz., the family of Vaux or Vallibus of Wenham. On the shield is this coat, "Chequy a bordure," and the inscription around is "S' FVLCONIS DE VOVS." The coat of arms generally used by that family was, Chequy, argent and gules, or Chequy or and gules, and the "bordure" must be an addition, which one would hardly expect to be used by one who owned the estate, as I presume was the case with Fulk de Vallibus. The land connected with the charter was situated in Wenham Combusta, that is in Great Wenham, and the grant is from "Fulk de Vallibus to Gervasio de Vallibus, fra sue." The witnesses to this charter are "Sir Robt de Reydon, Joh Penacyle, Rog Maukerel, John de Belstede, Rob fra sue, Thom de Barun, Will de la holt et aliis." In the Patent Rolls of 1280 we get a suit of Richard de Cokefeld and Alice his wife against Fulk des Vaux and others touching a tenement in Wenham and Reydon, and this may be the grantor in this charter; however, the family seem to have been settled in Wenham long ere this, and the names of the two brothers occur in the Close Roll of 1338. There is one other rather interesting charter, the seal on which was used, I think, by a member of this noted family. It is dated 1344 and relates

to land called "Wyppenhey," wherever that may be. The seal was not well executed and is slightly damaged. Within a circle is an open space, in the form of a cross, which is caused by four pointed bits of Gothic decoration, issuing from the sides of the circle at equal distances the one from the other, and in this open space stands a lady facing the dexter, with hands upraised, while leaning by that side of the circle is a heater shaped shield, with the coat of arms "Barry, a chief," and there appears a human head in the upper portion of the cross, with on the left side what looks exactly like a modern lamp. The inscription is "S' MARGARETE DE VAL . . vs" which must surely be for Margaret de Vallibus. The grant of 1344 runs thus "Margareta que fuit Pet de Denardiston milit, to Rici Whaffman attornatu meu, ad diliband pacificam seisman p'me et . . Johane que fuit ux Rici Dargentin et Thome fil p'dic Rici et Johane et hered suis." I do not think that this seal with its Gothic decoration would be any earlier than 1340. I have been unable to find out any record of this Margaret de Vallibus or Vaux.

SEAL 44.

This is a seal which has no inscription around its very Gothic decoration, and I think it must have on its shield the coat of arms of the grantor of this charter. The coat is "Three mullets, a bordure engrailed." There is no coat of arms given in any books of reference to the Waldingfeld family; and the grant is from "Johes Waldingfeld de Capell to Rog de Reymes et Roesie uxi sue." The "Records of Suffolk," IV, 356, records a grant in Reydon by Gervase de Vallibus to Roisia de Waldingfeld of land which the said Gervase purchased of William de the holt and Sir Fulk de Vallibus. The land connected with seal No. 44 is described as "in villa de Wenham pva et brente Wenham." I cannot find a coat of arms like this in Papworth or elsewhere that I could attribute to any person belonging to this part of England.

SEAL 45.

This is also a seal which is I am sure of an earlier date than the charter on which it is here used. It concerns land in Pentlow, Foxearth and the Belchamps in co. Essex, and is dated 17 Ed. III (1343). On the shield is "A chevron between three escallops," which Papworth gives as the coat of Bayard. Azure a chevron between three escallops or. It is a grant from "Thomas filius Sir Will Botevilley, to Johi ffermer de ffoxherde." The inscription which is rather mutilated is ". . . ARD BAYDE C." The names of the witnesses are "Joh de Coggeshall, Will de Wanton et Joh de Liston, militibus, Joh de hereford, John de Boys, Walt de Redeswelle, Ad de passefeld et aliis." It is rather curious that such an important family as were the Botevilleyns in the southern part of Suffolk, should use an old seal like this, if the man who had it made, was not an ancestor of the family. I can find out no records whatever of any of the family of Bayard. Morant does not even record the name.

SEAL 46.

This is another Foxearth charter, dealing with land in that parish and in Pentlowe, and it is dated 22 Ed. III (1348). The shield has thereon "Three cinquefoils between six cross-crosslets fitchèe" which according to Papworth was borne by Crocheman. Sable, three cinquefoils between eight cross-crosslets fitchèe argent. The inscription around is chipped in three places, but it has on it "SIGILLVM WILL CROC. MAN." It is a grant by "Will Crocheman milit, Ric de Stoke rector ecclie de Lavenham et John de Asshen., to Johi ffermer milit de ffoxherde" and the witnesses to the charter are "Sir Andrew de Bures, Sir John de Lyston, Sir John de Goldingham, Knts., Ed. Botiller, Will de Engleys, Joh de Cavendisch et aliis." One of the other seals is that of the rector of Lavenham. Morant II, 365, tells that the family of Crocheman held the manor of Woodhall in Finchingfield in the reign of Edward III, as did successively his two sons, and furthermore, Morant says that they also held the manor of Hemsted Hall in Hemsted.

SEALS 47 and 48.

These are two similar seals, as far as design is concerned, for neither of them have any inscription, and on both are two separate shields of arms. No. 47 was found by me at the bottom of a tin of yellow dust, the remains, I expect, of some charters, and possibly also some of the grants made by the Lord Keeper, of which the parchment used was very susceptible to rust and damp. On the one shield was the coat "Barry of six over all a bend" which I believe to be the coat of arms of Poynings. Barry of six or and vert, a bend gules., and on the other shield is "A fesse between six martlets," which must be for Beauchamp. Gules a fesse between six martlets or. My reason for assigning the first coat to Poynings will be seen later on. On No. 48 are also two shields. On the dexter one is "Lozengy" which is the coat of arms of Creketot or Criketot. Lozengy or and sable. On the sinister one we have "Three bars and over all a bend" for Poynings, who bore, Three bars or and vert a bend gules. On No. 48 seal the grant is "Johane la femme Mons Johanes fiez Rauf, to Mons Andree de Bures." It is dated 31 Ed. III (1357). Luckily these two shields are in the porch of Ashfield Church, and for years I did not know whose coats they were, but Dr. Copinger's "Manors of Suffolk," I, 257, tells us that Sir William de Creketot was possessed of the manor of Ashfield and he married Joan de Ponynges. He died in 1354, and no doubt before 1358 she had married Mons John Fitz Ralph. Thus these two seals became of especial interest to heraldic students. Only the other day when looking over my book of these 1,500 charters I came upon another one dated 1358, dealing with land in Essex which is a grant by "Johane q'fuit la femme de Mons Will Creketot to Mons Andre de Bures." It was sealed by No. 48, which led me on to discover all about the ladies' alliances.

SEAL 49.

The shield on this seal exhibits the only instance of a dimidiated

coat of arms, among the charters of the Redgrave Hall muniment room. It deals with the Foxearth property, the grant being by "Thomas de Wancy to Thomas Withowe de ffoxherd." The charter is undated, and the whole design and appearance of the seal denotes that it was made in the 13th century. On the dexter side of the shield is "Three right-hand gloves pendant" for Wancy, Gules three dexter gloves pendant argent, and on the sinister side, dimidiated with Wancy is "An eagle displayed," which I think must be the coat of Bellocampo, or Beauchamp. Unfortunately, No. 49 is a rather mutilated seal, but of the inscription remains this "S' TOM . . WA CI." Now there are two more charters in the collection, both, I think, of a similar period and both concerned with the Wanci family. The first of these is dated 46 Hen. III (1261) by "Thomas de Wanci to Rob fil Rici de Broc." It concerns some land "some time of Walt Wodekoc." It will be as well to give the witnesses to this deed as it is so very early in date. "Will de Bradefeld, Joh de Menlesham, Walt fil Ric de Stok, Rob fil p'sone de pentelowe, henry de Stour, Jacob de ho, Mich de Westone, Everardus fil Willi, Ric fil Rici, Seman de Broc, Will de Westone, Rob de asigtune (Assington), Rob clico et aliis." The other Wancy charter also dated, has thereon a fine seal on the which is represented a lady wearing a butterfly head dress, and standing full face with her left arm extended. The inscription is "SIGILL MARIA DE WANCI." The whole of this charter is much decayed, but the grant is by "Maria de Wanci to Gilebo Ossemud," and it concerns "feof de soros sue." The lady concerned may have been the wife of Thomas de Wancy, if so she may also have been one of the family of Bellocampo or Beauchamp, who owned so much land alongside the river Stour. Morant II, 325, writing about Westons or Brooke-hall in Foxearth, says "About the beginning of Edward the first's reign (1272) Thomas de Wancy enfeoffed with it for life William de Monchensy, who dyed possessed of it in 1286; whereupon it reverted to the said Thomas." This is the manor held later by John de Liston and Roger de Reymes, and later on by the family of Bures and then Bacon.

SEAL 50.

This is most certainly another 13th century seal, though the charter to which it is attached is dated 6 Ed. II (1308). It deals with land in Waldingfield and Melding and on the shield is "A fesse between two chevrons, with a label of three" and on the inscription we find "S' THOME DE GREY." On the charter is "Beatrice de Tendringge, la sœur de frere Thom de Grey saluy. tre chere sœur ay donce a Robt de Bures." The Grey family owned a manor and land at Cavendish, and Sir John de Grey married one of the daughters of Sir William Odingsels. Their son, Sir Thomas de Grey (the man of Seal 50) married Alice, daughter and sole heiress of Sir Richard de Cornearth, and so became possessed of the estate in Little Cornard, and to this charter the sister of Thomas de Grey uses his seal. Beatrice de Grey was no doubt the wife of William de Tendring, of Stoke-by-Nayland, for in 1282 William de Tendring and Beatrice his wife levied a fine against Ralph de Berners respecting the manor of Tendring Hall,

and besides William and his wife Beatrice had a grant of Market and Fair in Stoke in the year 1303.

SEAL 51.

This seal exhibits a coat of arms of the Rookwood family of Suffolk, which was unknown to me till I found the charter to which the same was attached. It bears on the shield "A chevron between three birds" which surely must be a canting coat of Rookwood, even as that well known bearing, Six chess-rooks (Rookwood, Argent six chess-rooks sable) or that of the Euston branch of the family, Argent three chess-rooks sable, two and one; a chief of the last. The date of this charter is 16 Ed. III (1342) and it deals with land in Pentlowe. The inscription is "ROBERT DE ROCWODE," and the grant is from "Robtus de Rocwode to John ffermer de ffoxherde." This is the only charter in the which a member of the Rookwood family acts as grantor or grantee; however, the aforesaid Robert de Rocwode witnesses a great many of the charters connected with the Bures property. He resided at Acton, and I think that his mother was one of the family of Bures of Acton. With regard to the coat of arms on this shield, I do not find it recorded in any armory or ordinary of arms.

SEAL 52.

This seal, which is of the ordinary mid-14th century type, bears on its shield rather a curious coat of arms. "A fesse between a chevron in chief and a dolphin in base, with a trefoil which is possibly a mark of difference, just above the fesse." The inscription around is "S' Johis Curteys de Leleseye," which would be "The seal of John Curteys of Lindsey." The land connected with the charter lies in Polstead, and the grant is from "Johnes Curteys de Leleseye, Magr Johes ffraunceys de Ixworth, Joh le Smyth de Edwardiston capell, Simon holvaye de lelessey, et Will hogenn de Boxford., to Sir And de Bures milit." The witnesses to the grant are "Joh de Nusted, Joh le Chapman, Ric Stot, Jacob le Chapman, Joh clico et aliis." The name of Curteys or Corteys is very frequent in the 1327 Subsidy List, but there are none of the name round Lindsey or Polstead. None of them appear among the owners of land, nevertheless John Curteys of Leleseye in the 23rd Ed. III (1350), when he used the seal on this charter, must have been a well-to-do person. There is no coat like it in Papworth.

SEALS 53 and 54.

These two seals were used by members of the great Beauchamp family in the mid-14th century. No. 53 is attached to a charter concerning land in Foxearth, around which several members of the family owned property. On the shield is this simple coat "An eagle displayed." I have looked carefully through Burke and Papworth, and I find no coat like it attributed to either Bellocampo or Beauchamp, and yet the inscription is certain "S' JOHIS DE BELLOCAMPO." The grant is from "Johes de Beauchamp de Wryemerch, to Andrea fil Robti de Boures milit, et Mich fil ejusdem Andrie." The witnesses

to it are "Rob de Tye, Will de Tye, Joh de Boys, Edward Genge, Joh fil Beneyt et aliis." I cannot find that Morant has anything to say about Wryemerch, and yet in the mid-14th century, a member of the great Beauchamp family hails from there, and he records but one coat of arms, which is not at all like this. I think it must be the same branch of the family as that which provided a wife for Will de monte caniso, and also one for Thos de Wancy (see Seal No. 49). Seal No. 54 has on the shield "A lion rampant crowned." I do not think that the wide edging round the shield ought to be taken as "a bordure." The inscription, which is mutilated, runs thus, "S' JOHIS D'BELLO-CAMPO D' . . D." I think this space stands for "D'FIFIELD." Now Burke gives for Beauchamp of Fifield, Or a lion rampant sable, crowned gules. There can therefore be but little doubt that we have an identification for the coat of arms on this seal. The land connected with this charter lies in Eston, and it was dated "apud Eston-hall 9 Ed. III (1335)," and the said land is called "hasilcroft" or "hazylecroft." The grant is from "Matellis quondam uxor Willi de Bello-campo to Joh le ffermer de ffoxherde." It may be as well to give the names of those who witnessed the deed, "Joh Boutitourf et Joh de Lyston, militibus, Ed le Botiller, Roger Perpond, Rob atte slade, Joh Jemes, de Eston, Will atte Brok." According to Morant, II, 319, Eston-hall is in Borley and if we refer to Morant, I, 134, under Fifield, we shall find that Roger de Beauchamp held the manor in 1288. It was also held by John de Beauchamp who died in 1305, and then quoting from Newcourt II, 261, he says that Nicolas de Beauchamp held the whole Fifield estate and presented to the living in 1331, that is four years before this charter was sealed at Eston-hall. Probably Will de Bellacampo was the son of the latter.

SEAL 55.

This is a small but pretty seal of a well known Essex family in the 13th and 14th centuries, and who like the family of the Monchenseys did not think that any further indication of their name was necessary, if the seal had the family coat of arms. It bears "Three piles wavy for Gernon. Argent three piles wavy gules." The wording of the charter is rather complicated. However, I give them here, just as I copied it. "William Gernon a Water, le fiz Willi de Bures, et Alys la filie Will Pert de Mayne, la vile tes tenans Saluz., to Robt de Bures et heredibus suis." It is dated 2 Ed. II (1309) and I think from the style of the seal it belongs to that date. I will give here Morant's description of the site of their home, not that of the head of the family at Stansted Monstfichet, but of this branch of the family in Wormingford. He says it was called "Gernons" and the house is moated around and stands at the lower end of the parish towards the river Stour, but at some distance from it opposite to Wiston in Suffolk." I well remember many years ago looking down on Gernons from Wiston, and it did not appear to me to be far from the banks of the Stour, and I thought that at certain seasons of the year, the family might well be styled "Gernon a Water." William Gernon who held it died in 1259. Ralph his son succeeded and died in 1273. He was

followed by William Gernon, his son, who died in 1327. He would be the man who sealed this charter, and he was owner of the manor of Wythermondeford, part of the premises being held of Thomas de Ponyngs, who was Lord of Wormingford. However, soon after the male line of this branch came to an end. Sir John Gernon left two daughters, one of whom married a Botetourt, and the other Sir John Peyton. I do not know anything about any member of the Bures family mentioned in the charter, except of course Sir Robert Bures.

SEAL 56.

This seal is of no great importance, except that it bears a coat of arms of the family of Maldon, of Sudbury in Suffolk, which is apparently unknown. On the shield is what looks like "A cross lozengy, between four escallops," but which may be intended for "A cross engrailed between four escallops." The land concerned in the charter lies "in holegate" in Sudbury, and the grant is by "Thomas de Maldon de Sudbury, to Nigell theband de eadem." The date is 13 Ed. III. (1339). The witnesses are "Will Waryn, Joh de Eston, Rob de Renshall, Joh Knevet, Rob Banayng, Walt le dester, hug sewad, Joh Waryn et aliis." On the inscription only the name "MALDONE" remains. I know nothing about the family.

SEAL 57.

This seal was made for one Robert Cole, and the charter belonging to it is dated 4 Ric II (1380). It was used on this occasion by Sir Guydo de Bryan Junior. On the shield of it is "A chevron between three garbs" and around it is "Sigillum Roberti Cole." I should think the man was connected with farming. The grant is by "Guydo de Briensis Junior, miles et Dns de Sponhale, To Thom hathewey et helena ux sue," and the witnesses to it are, "Walt hathewey, Joh Rodeley, Joh atte Broke et aliis." The grantor would be the son of Sir Guydo de Bryan, and Dame Alice (Bures) his wife, and Mr. Redstone tells us that he died Feb., 1386, and that he was of Oxenhale, co. Gloucester. Where is Sponhale, of which Sir Guydo was Lord? The name of Cole was not unusual about Acton at that period.

SEAL 58.

This is the second of two seals, attached to a charter dated 35 Ed. III (1361), which concerns land at Foxearth. The grant is by "Nichus le Chambleyn de ffoxherde, et Alicia ux ejus to Sir Robt de Bures chivaler." The first seal bears on it merely an estoile or escarbuncle, used by the aforesaid Chamberlain of ffoxherde, and this seal I have described was used by Alice his wife, and on the shield is "A fesse dancettee between three roundels" and this inscription "SIGILLVM ROBERTI DORRE." The name thus spelt was not common, though one meets occasionally with a Dore in the 14th century. I do not find anything like it in Burke or Pepworth. I think the Chamberlain's wife was a Dorre.

SEAL 59.

This is a very fine seal, which has on its shield a coat of arms I have been unable to identify. It bears "Bendy of six, on a chief three lions rampant." There is no coat at all like it recorded in Papworth nor do I think that it was ever borne by any member of the family of the grantor of the charter. It is dated 8 Ed. III (1334) and the grant is by "Dns Johes de Lystone to Joh Chickren et Joh atte Hoo," and this seal was again used by "Johes de Lyston Chivaler, to John le ffermer de ffoxherde" in 1336. Around the Gothic decoration of these two seals is an inscription in Norman French, of which one can make out a letter or two here and there, and yet get no sensible solution. I think the first word of it is "PARLES," and the last letters seem to make "SAVERALYIE." The family of Lyston is dealt with in Morant, II, 320, under Liston, when the family resided in a house near the Church. They held their lands by grand serjeancy of making and placing five wafers before the King as he sits at dinner, on the day of his coronation; and they continued to hold it by this serjeancy for generations. What coat of arms the early members of this family bore I do not know. One Sir John died in 1332, and he was succeeded by a son — another Sir John Lyston — who died in 1349. He would be the grantor of these two charters. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir William Carbonell, and about this period the family bore "Vert, ten bezants" or "Vert six bezants." This coat one sees occasionally in Suffolk churches for Liston, in conjunction with Carbonell. I fear this seal No. 59 must be classed among those with unknown coats of arms.

SEAL 60.

And here is yet another seal bearing an unknown coat of arms. It is dated 29 Ed. III (1355) and the charter deals with land called "hast-yngs crofte" in Wherstead. The coat on the shield is "On a bend between six escallops three cross-crosslets." Unfortunately the inscription to it, fails at the very word which is most important, that is the family name. "SIGILL. WILLI DE VILGTONE." The grant is by "Joh Berefeld p'petua vicarius ecclie de Werestede., to Sir Andree de Bures chivaler et Alicie ux sue." I give the names of the witnesses as the seal might have belonged to one of them. "Joh Cobat; Joh Ryngild, Rog de Whulferstone, Joh Aroandel de Peyton, Joh Englissh et aliis." I cannot find the coat in Papworth, nor can I make any suggestion as to the name except that it might be for Singleton. Here ends the description of the seals which I endeavoured to illustrate.

I will now give a description of a dozen shields, taken from a similar number of the Redgrave Hall charters, of which the seals are too much damaged to illustrate.

SEAL 61.

This seal is attached to a charter which relates to land "in villa de Werstede de pte tenement qd fuit Gerardi de Marisco in eadem villa." It is dated Ed. I (1280). The seal is quite small and on the shield is

"Two chevrons; in chief at the dexter top corner a mullet, and at the top corner on the sinister side a crescent." The inscription is "S' SEMANI CLEMENT," and the grant from "Seman Clement de Gypewico et Alicia uxor mea, to Hugon de Reymes de Werstede." And there is another charter which contains a grant from the wife with a seal which bears five leaves meeting in point, and inscription "S'ALCIE VXOR SEMANI." The witnesses to the first of these charters are, "Dns Ric de holebrok, Dns Barth d'Avyllers, Dns Gerard de Wachesham, Thom de freston, hamon de Wlferston, Walt de Stronde, Joh helewys, Ric fader de Gypewico, Will Sek et multis aliis." I presume that Seman was also a surname, in that there is a charter of about the same date, and around the seal "S' SEMANI BOTMAN" however the aforesaid Seman Clement witnesses many 13th century charters. We also get the name Seman used often as a Christian name, and in one early charter concerning land in Wherstead we find the grant "Bartholomew de Aveler miles, to Willo fil semann de ponte Gypewic."

SEAL 62.

This is from a loose seal, that is from a charter destroyed by damp and rust, many such were found amongst yellow dust. On the heater shaped shield is "A crescent and a six pointed mullet in pale." This is quite an early attempt at heraldry. Only the word "SIGILLVM" remains of an inscription.

SEAL 63.

This shield is also taken from a damaged charter, and it bears a rude attempt at heraldic bearings. "In the base of the shield is a cockerel sideways, and on the chief an animal of sorts running." Around it is "SIGILL WILLELMI LE LARGE." The name of Large occurs in other charters at an early date; but I have been unable to identify any as being connected with this one.

SEAL 64.

On the seal attached to a Wherstead charter dated 14 Ed. III (1340) are within a Gothic decoration four shields of arms, one is at the top, another at the bottom, and then on either side is one. As may be imagined, the heraldic charges thereon are very minute; however, the top shield has thereon a coat which has been always recognised as that of Reydon. "Chequy." That is, Chequy argent and gules, a cross azure. Of the other three shields I can but offer conjectures. One of them bears "A fesse, and on it either three roundels or escallops." Another has certainly either "A cross lozengy, or a cross engrailed"; this latter is more likely; and on the last one is what appears to be "Four bars ermine." The charter deals with land "in campo Mellecrofte" in Wherstead and the indenture is between "Margeria ffioliol ex una pte, and Will Bonde et Mabilia uxor ei, de frestone ex altera pte." I cannot but think that the top coat of arms is the most important, and that it is a Reydon seal, and possibly Margery ffioliol was a Reydon of Wherstead, and she may be the daughter of John Filiol, who with Egidius de Wachesham heads the list under Wherstead in the subsidy

of 1327. There is a grant of lands in Reydon dated 1328 from "Dns Johes ffilliol miles et Margia ux ejus." It is most unfortunate that nearly all the inscription has broken away from the seal itself.

SEAL 65.

This seal is connected with a Burgate charter and is dated 33 Ed. III (1359) and the coat of arms on the shield is "A chevron between three mullets of six points; a bordure engrailed." On the broken inscription one can easily make out "S' Johis de . . eyelon." And the grant is from "Johes fil Willi Seylond to Rad de Tendryngge." The name may be intended for Selone, which occurs in the 1327 Subsidy. I can find no reference to it elsewhere, nor have I met with it among the many who witnessed charters.

SEAL 66.

This seal is connected with a charter which came into Bacon possession either with the purchase of the Mettingham College lands, or those acquired from the Duke of Norfolk. The land therein mentioned lies in Bromfield, which means Bramfield. On the shield is "On a fesse, between six mullets three trefoils slipped" and the grant is from "Ricus de Stonham to Dno Johi de Norwico militi." It is dated 27 Ed. III (1353). The inscription to it has broken away from the seal, and the witnesses to the charter are "Hamon de Mikelfeld, Will de ffelmingham, Ric Gorge, Joh Hervy, Thos Packe et aliis." Papworth gives a coat for Salway like it. Argent on a fesse between six mullets gules, three trefoils of the first. However, here it was used by Richard de Stonham, and it would relate to Brook Hall in Bramfield, which was styled "alias Stonhams" and which passed into the hands of the Norwich family from Richard de Stonham.

SEAL 67.

The shield here illustrated is on a seal of unique design, and it is supported within the circle by either two lions rampant, or possibly by a couple of talbots, and possibly these supporters may be in connection with the office then held by the user of it. The date is 18 Ed. II (1325). The coat of arms on the shield is "A chevron between three crescents," and on the inscription, much broken, the name of "WACHESHAM" remains, and is quite plain. The deed, which is evidently a receipt, concerns the Manor and Honour of Clare, including the "manor de thakstede et Berdefeld et omnium terrer" and on the charter we get "Egidius de Wachesham, vic Norf et Suff. recepe de Rob de Bures . . per Rob de Aspale, etc." The coat of Wachesham is unusual. Burke gives it "Argent three crescents gules." In the Subsidy List of 1327 the name occurs under Wattisham assessed at Xs., Wortham VIIs. and Wherstead IIIs., and in the latter parish Sir Giles de Wachesham heads the list with John de ffilliol. Dr. Copinger, in his "Manors of Suffolk," VI, 121, says that Gerard de Wachesham held the manor of Pannington in Wherstead in 1202; however, the only Gerard de Wachesham recorded in the Wherstead charters is the Sir Gerard de Wachesham who is generally associated

with such names as Sir Ric de Holebrok and Sir Barth d'Anillers, in charters round about 1279 to 1290. In many of the earlier Wherstead charters we get Sir Egidius de Wachesham and on one which is undated we get "Dns Egidius de Wachesham et Egidio fil suo." The name does not often occur after 1300 in Wherstead charters.

SEAL 68.

This shield of arms is taken from a very mutilated seal, and it is the only one of its kind. It is represented amid Gothic decoration, and the border of it is a scroll of loops, in each one a cinquefoil, and there is no inscription. On the shield is this coat, "On a chevron between three eagles heads erased, as many roundels." It is dated 32 Ed. III (1358). The coat of Gedding is, Gules a chevron between three eagles' heads erased or. The grant refers to a portion of the manor of Foxearth, and it runs thus, "Willms de Geddyngg to Mons Andr de Bures." One of that name is assessed at IIIs. under Magna Finborough in 1327, and I presume the grantor here may have been of a younger branch of the same family, who added to his family coat "the roundels" on the chevron of this shield. Probably he had some interest in the manor of Foxearth which he sold to Sir Andrew de Bures.

SEAL 69.

Here we have a seal which has on its shield a variation of the coat of arms of Boteveleyn, who held at an early date much land in this part of Suffolk, but of whom records are scarce. I must confess I was surprised though to find but one seal of the family among the Bures charters, and this was much damaged. However, the coat of arms is quite distinct. It has "Three crescents; a bordure engrailed." Botýveleyn bore, Argent three crescents gules. The shield is, I expect, still to be seen in a window of the church at Newton, near Sudbury. The land about which this charter is concerned lies in Pentlowe, that used to belong to Sir William Giffard and Isabell his wife, and the grant of it is from "Willus Botevileyn de Essex Chivaller, to Joh le Peche." The date of this charter is 12 Ed. III (1338). Morant has but one record of the family. He says, II, 316, "In 1345 Thomas, son of William de Botevileyn, possessed the manor and advowson of Brunton, and with the manor of Newton Hall in Suffolk passed it to William de Bohun, Earl of Northampton." Apparently there is no decoration of any kind on this seal, and the inscription is entirely gone. It may be much earlier than the date when it was here used, in fact it may be round about 1300, but I cannot account here for "the bordure engrailed" only as a mark of difference.

SEAL 70.

This shield, with its coat of arms, is quite distinct but both the seal and the inscription are much damaged. The coat is "A cross engrailed," and of the inscription we have "SIGILL JOHIS . . .TONE." I very carefully examined the letters of it, and I think the last word requires four more letters to complete it, and not three. I am there-

fore inclined to think it may be FRESTONE and not PEYTON, though I am not aware that Freston ever bore the coat and I am certain that Peyton always did so. The land about which the charter is concerned lies in Freston, and the grant is by "Joh de ffreston to Sir Andr de Bures Milit et Aliciæ ux ejus." It is dated 30 Ed. III (1356). Thus John de Freston used the seal. A John de Freston witnessed many charters round about 1300, and one of them in 1308, concerning lands in Freston was granted by "Ada Tastard de Bergholte, filia Miches de ffrestone in pura viduatate et legia potestate, to Johi Tastard filio meo et hered, et Annore uxi ejus et hered earum, et assignatis." Charters of an earlier date are witnessed by Mich de ffreston, one rather an important one from "Rog de Badel Milit et Cathr. de Badel" as grantors, whose seal is a wonderful production of a man in armour, riding on a horse also fully armed, but on it there are no attempts at heraldry.

SEAL 71.

This is a shield from a small but pretty Foxearth seal which was used by one "William de Wendon capellanus, to Joh ffermer de ffoxherd, Will Crocheman, Will de hercherst p'son ecclie de pentelowe, John de Asshen et Will Doreward." It is dated 13 Ed. III (1340), and it has on the shield "On a bend cotissed three martlets," and the inscription is very clear "S'ROBERTI DE RAYNDIS" and the same seal was used to a similar charter dated 1349. Papworth, page 263, gives for the coat of Mons Dinard de Rus, Argent on a bend between two cotisses sable, three martlets of the first. In that there is no decoration whatever about the seal, I think it dates earlier than 1340; but who Robert de Rayndes was I do not know. Of course it may have belonged to any of the grantees or even one of the witnesses. Thus I will here add their names, "Andr de Bures, et Joh de Lyston militibus, Will atte Brok, de ffoxherde, Joh Jemes, Joh fil Ric clic, de Pentelowe, Thom page de eadem et Joh atte Tye."

SEAL 72.

The coat of arms on this shield was certainly used by the family of Fermer of Foxearth, but whether it is "Ermine a chevron" or "A chevron between ears of corn" I cannot tell, and moreover there seem to be variations of it in the designs. They are dated 1333 and 1347, and relate to lands in Foxearth and Waldingfield and several other parishes around. It is curious to note of the Fermer family how many different seals they used.

Having finished my description of those seals and shields illustrated, I have yet a few more of which I would like to give some account. Of these some were too difficult to sketch, and others too mutilated to provide an illustration.

SEAL 73.

This is a very beautiful and early seal, large in size, and a pointed ovoid in shape, and it is quite perfect, as is also its inscription. From

the top to the bottom of its groundwork stands a lady in a butterfly head-dress full face, supporting with her hands a shield, and thereon is "A swan" for Leyham, Gules a swan close argent, membered or" and the inscription is "SIGILLVM OLIWE DE LEYHAM." The charter, which is undated, and of the 13th cent., is a very long one, and land concerned in it is situated in Laleford, Essex. The grant is from "Olive de Leyham to Sir Robt de Reydone milit et Alicia uxor sue, et Rad fil eorum" and the witnesses to this deed are "Dns ffulco de Vallibus et hugone Talemache militibus, Walt Baudewyne, Joh de Reymes, John de Mauveron, Benedict de Cokefeud, Rog Michel, Nich Gernon, henr de Capon, Rog de Bellocampo clico et aliis." Laleford is evidently Lawford in Essex. Copinger's Records deal with a great many of the family, but not with Olive de Leyham. Morant's Essex, I, p. 436, says "In 1269 Peter de Leyham held one fee and a halfe in Lalleford," and then in the following century it was in possession of the Cokefields. This is a very interesting Essex charter.

SEAL 74.

This is again a fine and large seal, oval in shape, but unfortunately the inscription is damaged and unreadable. In the centre of the design, beneath a Gothic canopy, is a man standing full face with arms folded, and apparently his feet rest on the top of a tomb, which has on the front of it the figure of a man kneeling, hands uplifted in prayer. On either side of the upper figure are shields, on one of which is "On a cross five lions rampant," and on the other simply "Quarterly." The date of the charter is 17 Ed. III (1343), and it is concerned as to lands in Foxearth, Borley, Pentlowe and Liston, and the grant is from "Ric de Stoke, p'son ecclie de Lavenham, Walt de Redeswell et Joh Ossemond de ffoxherde., to Willi de Wendon capello." There are many witnesses, all of them 14th century names, which have been recorded elsewhere. The first seal to the charter is that of the parson of Lavenham, which represents beneath a canopy the Virgin crowned, holding the Holy Child. On the one side of her are two keys, and on the other a sword. These represent St. Peter and St. Paul, to whom Lavenham is dedicated. The second seal is that which I have described and it was used by Walter de Redeswell. The shield on the dexter side may bear his coat of arms, while that on the other side is certainly Fitz Humphrey. Robert Osmund uses a seal with two mailed hands crossed, and a squirrel above. Walt de Redeswell witnesses many charters.

SEAL 75.

This seal, which is the first of seven attached to a charter, may exhibit another coat of Redeswell (see No. 74). The date of it is 21 Ric. II (1397) and it deals with the "maner de Brachs in Kuynsworth in Waddon," which is in Cambridgeshire, evidently a bit of the Bures estate. On the shield is "A chevron between three hind's heads erased." There is a coat of Redeswell, co. Cambs, "Argent, a chevron between three hind's heads couped gules." The grant is from "Joh Redeswell, Thos. Sampkyn, Joh Byle, Joh Cook, Mich Byponn, Ric Gylderforde

et Gilb Stonham, to Andrew Bures fil et heres Andree de Bures de Com Suff." On the inscription but one word is perfect, and that is at the top of the seal, viz., "HENRICI."

SEAL 76.

On a shield surrounded by Gothic decoration, the seal of which was attached to a charter dated 14 Ed. III (1340) is this coat "On a bend three eagles displayed." The grant is by "Robtus Giffard to Walter de Redeswell et Agnet uxi sue." I do not think this coat was ever used by the Gifford family, and on the mutilated inscription I can clearly read "DEL." I think it must be the coat of the De la Mare family of Essex. Argent on a bend azure, three eagles displayed or. Morant, I, 375, says "John de la Mare held the manor of Bradwell in Essex by the service of half a knight's fee in 1313."

SEAL 77.

This is connected with a very damaged seal. The charter to which it belongs being dated 34 Ed. III (1360). It relates to the manor of Foxearth, and it is most unfortunate that even the shield is too mutilated to give any decisive coat of arms; however, the base of the shield is all ermine, and either a fesse crosses the shield, or there is a canton. The inscription is fortunately quite perfect and runs "SIGILLVM JOHIS ARVNDEL." The grant of the charter is from "Alicia qndm uxor Dni Andree de Bures milit, in pura viduatate et legitima potestate mea, to Rob de Bures fil meo militi, et Johne uxor sue." Dame Alice de Bures here used this Arundel seal, but I think she borrowed it. Here are the witnesses to the charter "Dns Thom de Grey, Dns Robt de Swyneborne, Joh de Rokwode, Joh de Suluy, Joh Lygonn, Joh Arundel de Peyton, John Osemund et aliis." Possibly John Arundel of Peyton was a relative; anyhow in 1327 he was assessed at xviii d. at Kersey, where I presume he was then residing, and in 32 Ed. III (1358) there is a grant recorded of him and others, to Will Chasteleyn, of the manor of Staneford in Waldingfield.

SEAL 78.

One would naturally expect to find Peyton seals on some of the Bures charters, but I found one only, and that was terribly mutilated, in fact, the whole centre of the seal had disappeared, leaving only some Gothic decoration around, and a little of the inscription, "DE PEY." It is dated 18 Ed. III (1344) and the grant is from "Hugo de Peyton to Dno Andree de Bures milit, Johi Boteler, rector ecclesie de ffoxherde et Johi Greneland de Swyneforde capell." The coat of arms of Peyton is, Sable a cross engrailed or. I expect Hugo de Peyton must be a junior member of the family.

SEALS 79 and 80.

These are seals on two Hertfordshire charters, but both of them connected I think with the Bures estate. In No. 79 the coat of arms is very distinct. "On a chief three roundels," and the date of it is

30 Ed. III (1356). The whole document is in Norman-French, and the land lies in Halesbury. The grantors are "Rauf Russel, Sire William Crokenburgh p'sone l'eglishe de haselbere, Joh de Leddred and others to Joh de Sudton, henr Radmond, Rich Onyn, Rauf Bacton, et fitz Joh Camoisele." It is curious that the coat of arms on the seal fits two of the families of those recorded, viz., Russel and Camoys. Both of these bore, Argent on a chief gules three bezants, but of the two I should think it would be Russel, as Rauf Russel was chief grantor. No. 80 was attached to a charter concerning land in Magna hormad, that is Great Hormead. The seal is altogether very much damaged, but on it are "Three six-pointed mullets." The grant is by "Henr de Chilterne filio et hered, Johi de Chilterne, to Joh Radeswell et Margarete ux ei." This may be an unrecorded coat of Chilterne.

SEAL 81.

This is on a seal of which quite half has disappeared. On the shield is "On a chevron three cinquefoils." The land lies in Foxearth, and the grant is from "Will atte Brok de ffoxherde to Johi le ffermer de ffoxherde," and the date of the charter is 6 Ed. III (1333). It was therefore used by William atte Brok, who hailed from the banks of the Stour; however it may have no connection with the family, who probably did not bear arms, and the witnesses to the charter were "Dns Joh Lyston milit, Joh de Cristeshale, Robt de ffermer, Symon le Neweman, Martin le carter, et multis aliis." Papworth gives no coat of arms at all suitable.

SEAL 82.

This seal is connected with a charter that deals with land in Pentlowe and Foxearth, which passed from "Johes fil quondam Johis de hoo de pentelowe, to Andree de Bures milit et Alicia ux ej." It is dated 32 Ed. III (1358). There is a piece of the shield remaining, amid some Gothic decoration and on it apparently "Two bars, and on a canton a quatrefoil or cross." I should say there would have been three more bars, on the broken off portion of the shield. The witnesses are much as usual for a Foxearth and Pentlow charter at that date, save one Knight whose name is fresh, viz., Joh de Unton milit.

SEAL 83.

This seal is in very good condition, and was used only once, viz., 3 Hen. IV. (1401). However, I feel sure the date of it is much earlier. The land lies in Colne Engaine in Essex, but became part of the Bures estate. On the shield is "Fretty, on a chief three roundels," Chamberlayn. Or, fretty sable, on a chief of the second, three bezants. See Papworth, p. 887. The grant is by "Johes Brook p'son ecclie de polstede, Rarus Chamberleyn, et Johes de Reydon, to Andre filio Andree de Bures," and the inscription is "S'RADVLPHI CHAMBERLAIN." There are three good seals to this charter. The rector of Polstead uses a fleur de lis amid Gothic decoration. Ralph Chamber-

lain used the one I have described, and John de Reydon seals with one of the most interesting sporting seals in the collection. It represents a man riding on horseback, hounds running alongside, and perched on his left arm is a hawk.

SEALS 84 and 85.

These are two slightly broken seals, the shields of which remain perfect and but little of the inscriptions remain. The charter is dated 1412. The coat on the shields appears to be "On a chevron between three crescents, either as many escallops or cinquefoils." It was used by John fframlingham, probably the one who purchased Crows Hall in Debenham in 1397; however, he bore, Argent a fesse gules between three Cornish Choughs sable, beaked and legged gules. The deed relates to the transfer of some Gislingham property to the Geney family. The seals are both very decorative, and alike, but whose coat they bear I know not.

SEAL 86.

I do not think that the charter to which this broken shield is attached has anything to do with the Bures estate. On it is "Barry of six, a bordure" for Grimbold of Leicestershire. Barry of six argent and azure, a bordure gules. It is undated, and therefore fairly early. It deals with lands in the counties of Northampton, Lincoln, and Huntingdon, and grant is by "Willus Grimbaud Miles filius et hæres, Dni Roberti Grimbaud, to Rob Grimbaud filio meo primogenito." There are nineteen witnesses to this early deed, and a good many of them appear to be knights, and several others bear well known names.

SEAL 87 and 88.

Here are two Suffolk seals or charters connected with the Mettingham Estate, but at a much later date than those previously recorded. No. 87 has on the shield "Fleury" for Redisham. Argent fleury gules, and the inscription is "SIG EDMVNDI REDISHAM." It is dated 2 Hen. VI (1424). However, I think if there was another Edmund Redisham at an earlier date the seal was made for him. The grant is from "Dns Johes hefnyngham Miles Junior, Edmundus Redisham Armiger, Johes Tyston clico Will Aleyn de Bungey, et Roger lynne de eadem, to Rici Warner de Bungey." The family of Redesham was residing at Stonham Aspoll at an earlier date, and is recorded in 1327 Subsidy List. No. 88 is a seal in very perfect condition, the charter to which it belongs being dated 6 Hen. VI (1428). On the shield is this, "A chevron between three escallops, with an annulet on the chevron for difference." Garneys used, Argent a chevron between three escallops azure. The inscription on it is "SIGILLVM PETRI GARNEYS." The grant concerns land in Ellough which is not far from Beccles, where some of the family resided at Roos Hall. They also hail from Kenton, which estate they owned for many generations.

SEALS 89 and 90.

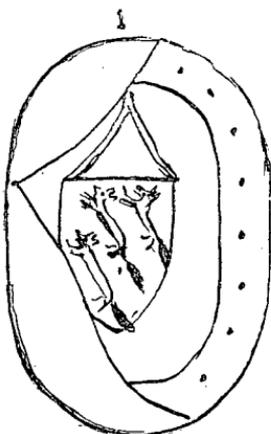
And here are two seals, connected with Bury St. Edmunds. No. 89 was among the loose seals discovered among the yellow dust, the remains of early charters. It may not be much before the days of the Lord Keeper Bacon. It is rather large, and in a good state of preservation. On a shield placed sideways is "Three Crowns," the coat I presume generally styled "East Anglia." Above the shield is a helmet with a crest on it. "The head and neck of an animal, gorged with a coronet," and the inscription in Gothic letters is fairly readable "Sigillum ballium villa de Buri. . . ." No. 90 relates to land in Bury in 1542, and must be about the latest charter connected with the Bures estate. The seal is oblong in shape and on the shield is "A chevron between three bulls' heads cabossed, with an annulet for difference." Baynham. Gules a chevron between three bulls' heads cabossed argent, and the deed is from Bartholomew Beynham, giving a power of attorney to Robert Bures of Bury St. Edmunds.

SEAL 91.

And I conclude my list of armorial seals with one, which to me is as interesting as any of them. It is attached to a deed in Norman-French, dated 27 Hen. VI (1448), and it has on the shield "Three lions passant guardant, with a label of three" for Thomas de Brotherton. The charter relates to lands in Ilketshall. It is from "John Duc de Norff, Count Mareshall de Metyngham, Marechall demi lete Seign de Mowbray de Segrave, et de Gower," and it was sealed "in my chapel a Framlingham, XI jour de Februer." John de Mowbray 3rd Duke of Norfolk succeeded his father in 1432, and obtained his majority in 14 Hen. VI. (1435). He married Eleanor, daughter of William, Lord Bouchier, and died in 1461. Mr. Wilton, the custodian of the MSS. at Norfolk House, St. James Square, in London, told me that he knew of no other case in which a Mowbray sealed with a Brotherton coat of arms. The Howard family occasionally used it, in front of their own family coat in their shield of arms; and the 4th Duke of Norfolk lost his head in consequence of doing so.

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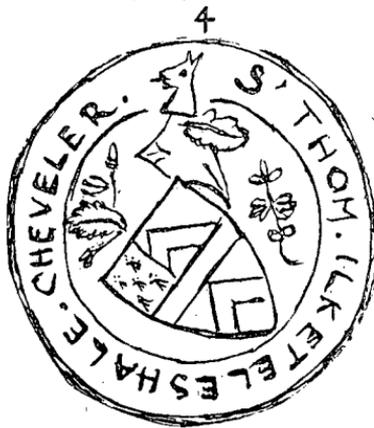
Morgan of Ilketshall. 13th Cent.



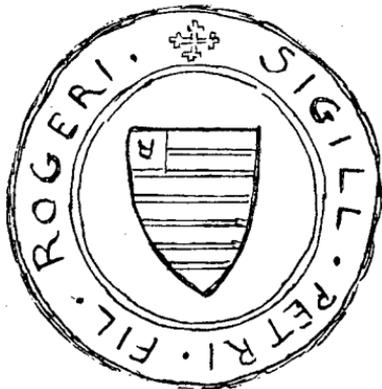
Ilketshall 1284



Ilketshall 1339



Ilketshall 1414



Roger 13th Cent.



Gode. 1379

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Norwych 13th Cent.

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Norwych 1343

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Houd 1306

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Howard 1383

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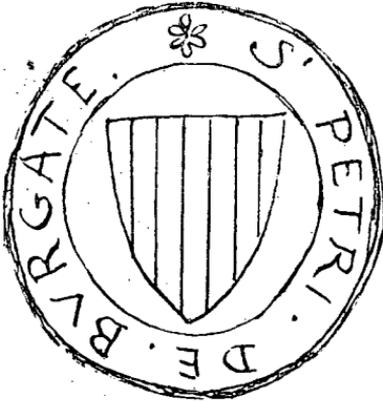
Plays 1383

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Boys 1383

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Burgate 1311

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Burgate 1343

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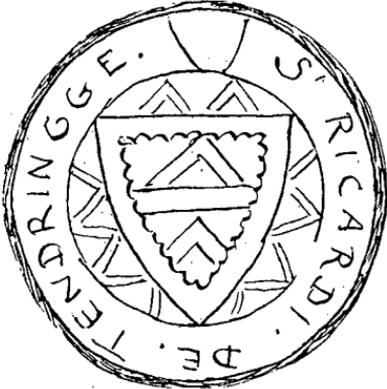
Swyneford 1315.

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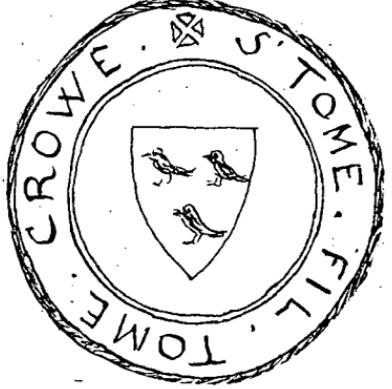
Swyneford 1340

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Tendring 1360

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Crowe 13th. Cent.

The Burgate Estate

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Heveningham 1414

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Debenham 1414

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Cherche 1414

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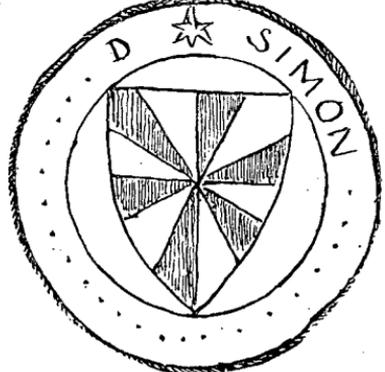
Goney 1413

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Berdwel 1413

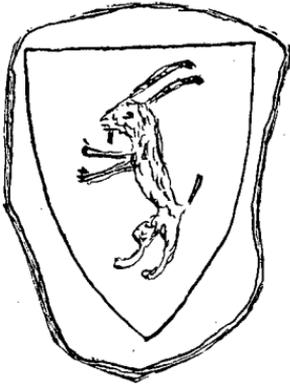
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Seal of 1413

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Chefrevill 13th Cent.

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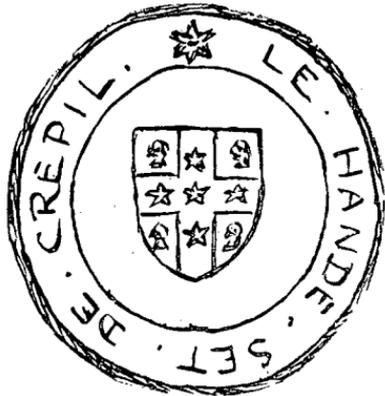
Salwayn 1321

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Gonville 1318

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Crepil 1337

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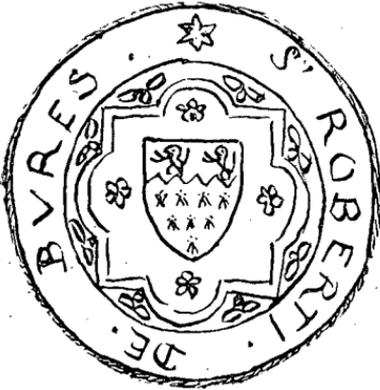
Fihol 1326

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Attmore 1337.

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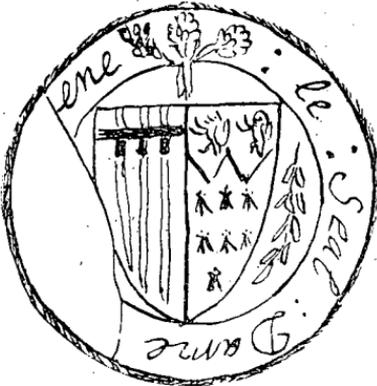
Bures 1322

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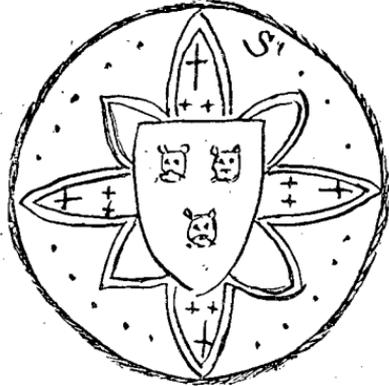
Bures 1349

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Bryan & Bures 1395

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Fermer of Stoke by Clare 1342

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Fermer 1346

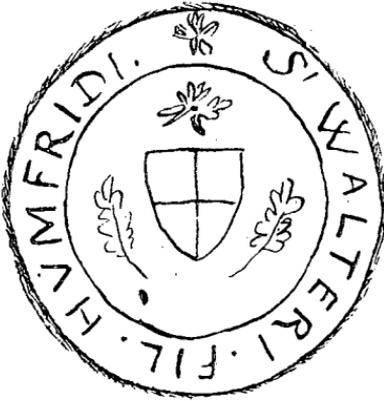
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Fermer 1343

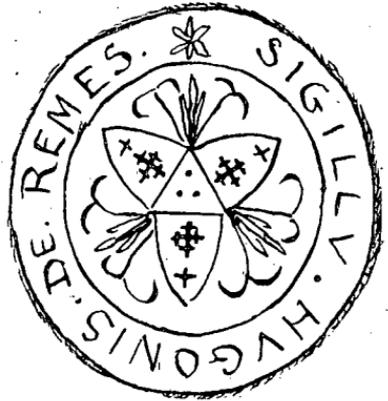
The Bures Estate

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Humfrey 1340

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Reymes 13th Cent.

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Cavendish 1349

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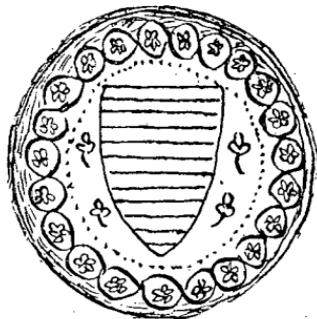
Dureward 1349

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Bacon 1337

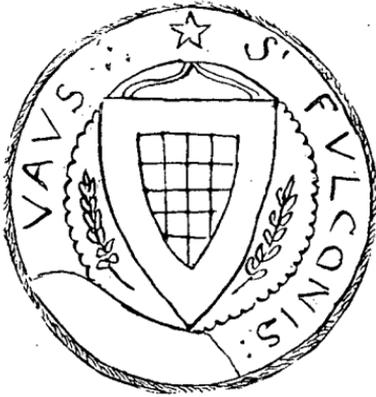
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Montecaniso 13th Cent.

The Bures Estate

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Vaux 13th Cent.

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Waldingfield 1315

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Bayard 1343

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Crocheman 1348

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Poynings & Beauchamp 14th Cent.

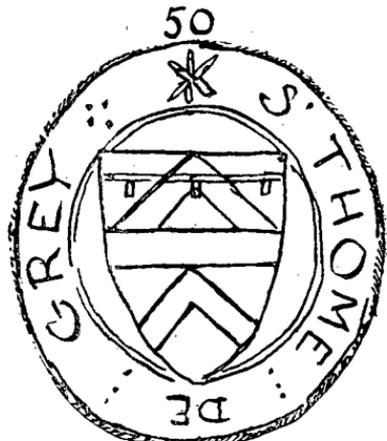
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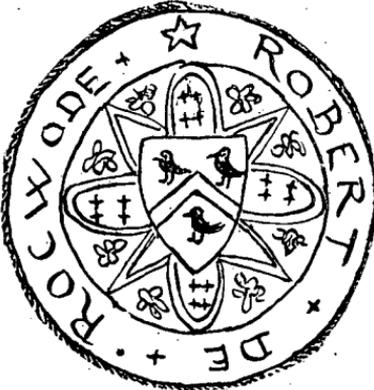
Criketot & Poynings 1357
The Bures Estate



Wancy 13^m Cent
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Grey 1308
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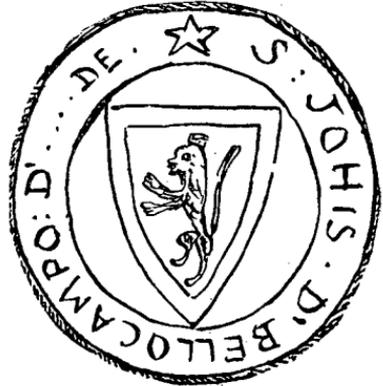
Rocwode 1342
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Beauchamp 1332



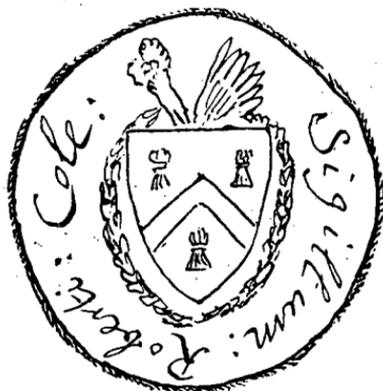
Beauchamp 1335

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Gernon 1300

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Cole 1380

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Lyston 1334

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Maldon 1339

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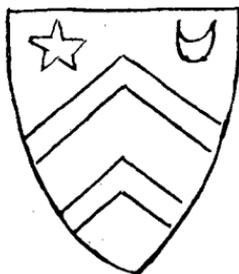
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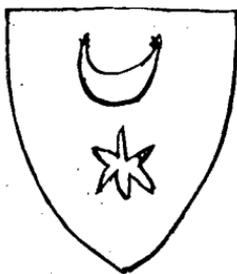
Seal of 1355

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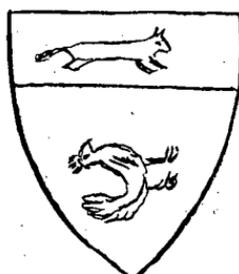


Clement 1280

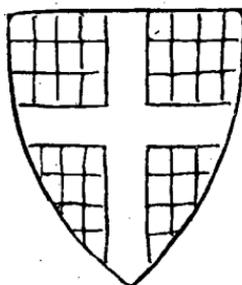
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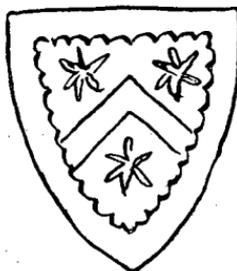
Large 13th Cent.

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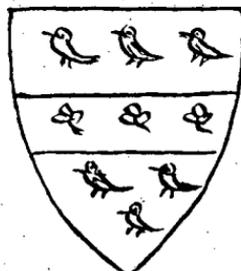
Reydon 1340

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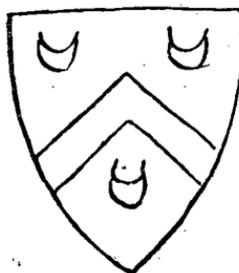
Seylond 1359

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Stonham 1353

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Wacheshame 1325

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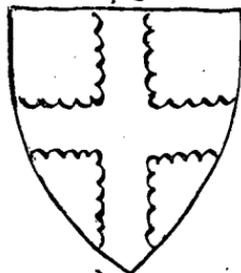
Geddyng 1358

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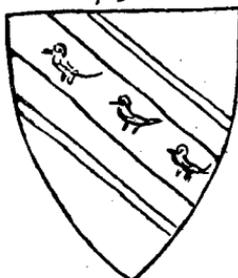
Boteviteyn 1338

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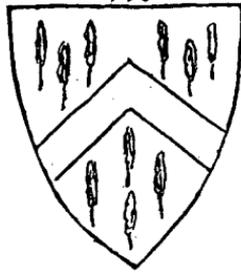
Freston 1356

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Rayndis? 1340

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Leferner 1333

Coat of Arms on Early Seals