

MEETING AT BURES,

14th July, 1868.

The Venerable Lord ARTHUR HERVEY, President.

The members assembled at the Church, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, where their attention was chiefly occupied by the monuments of the Waldegrave family, and the font, which were ably illustrated by Richard Almack, Esq., F.S.A.

The Church of Bures dates from the fourteenth century. On the South side of the Chancel is the Waldegrave chapel, built late in the sixteenth century. On the North side is an earlier chapel, now used as the vestry; an altar-tomb with the matrix of a fine brass supposed to be the resting-place of the first Sir William Waldegrave, and a fine early grille, divide it from the Chancel. In the North Aisle is an effigy in wood of a cross-legged knight in armour, "said to be De Bures" (Martin's "*Church Notes*,") but now supposed to represent some member of the De Cornard family, possibly Sir John de Cornard, who is said to have sold the farm called Cornhall for 4*d*.* The Tower (Early Decorated) has on the


* About 23 effigies of Knights in armour executed in wood still exist. Cross-legged figures are found at Little Horkeley and at Danbury, Essex. An

effigy in Gloucester Cathedral is said to represent Robert, Duke of Normandy. At Banham, Norfolk, there is one attributed to Hugh Bardolf.

North side an arched recess for a tomb, with a triangular canopy ending in a finial surmounted by a figure apparently representing a fish pierced by a spear. The South Porch of the Nave is an example of early brickwork, and on the North is a fine wood Porch of Decorated work; this has been lately restored (1873). The register of marriages dates from 1559, of baptisms and burials from 1558. From 1559 to 1613 the register of burials is defective.

The font, c. A.D. 1485, is a fine example of the heraldic type. On it are eight shields, commencing with that facing the East: 1, France and England; turning to the right 2, Mortimer, of Clare Castle; 3, De Bures; 4, Waldegrave impaling what appears to be a plain cross, but is probably some coat quarterly; 5, a fess between two chevrons [De Cornard or De Grey?] impaling two lions passant gardant, Felton or Le Strange; 6, six fleur-de-lis, 3, 2, and 1, [Mortimer, of Preston?] a branch of the Mortimers of Attleborough. The heir general of this family married Ferriers of Bures. The arms were, temp. Edward III., "Or, semé of fleurs-de-lis sa.;" 7, three chevrons each with three fleur-de-lis, Fitzralph; in the adjoining parish of Pebmarsh is a brass of this family, c. 1320, figured in Waller's and Boutell's works on monumental brasses; 8, De Vere.

From the Church the party proceeded under the guidance of the Rev. Arthur Hanbury to the "Chapel Barn." It is a beautiful specimen of an Early English Chapel, the East end with the original stencilled walls in a fair state of preservation. This Chapel is now used as a barn!*

A short drive brought the party to *Smallbridge*, once the residence of the eldest branch of the Waldegraves, now a farm house. The house is a good example of the Elizabethan era, having probably been built in the earlier part of the reign of the maiden Queen. The building, on the usual  shaped plan, with the mullions of its windows and its

* No record, not even a tradition, concerning the origin of this Chapel is known to exist.

string courses of moulded brick instead of stone, still remains in a fair state of preservation. The original internal plan, though somewhat altered to meet the requirements of a modern farm-house, can still be made out; in some of the rooms the panelling yet remains, especially in one large chamber, where possibly Elizabeth herself may have rested. Queen Elizabeth twice visited Smallbridge in her progresses through the Eastern Counties; once in 1561 and again in 1579. A record of the expenses incurred in 1561 is preserved in the Cotton MSS., Brit. Mus. The following extract refers to Smallbridge:—

	£	s.	d.
Die Martis, duodecimo die Augusti, ibidem Smalebridge, dispens's,* 7 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> ; Buttell',† 19 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> ; Gard',‡ 7 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i> 2½ <i>d.</i> ; Coquina,§ 28 <i>l.</i> 14 <i>s.</i> ; Pullia, 16 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> ; Scutt',¶ 7 <i>l.</i> ; Salsar,** 20 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> ; Aula, &c., 23 <i>s.</i> ; Stabulum, 25 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 6½ <i>d.</i> ; Vadia,†† 10 <i>l.</i> ; Elimosina, 4 <i>s.</i>	124	6	5½
Die Mercurii decimo tertio die Augusti, ibidem dispens's' 7 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> ; Buttilia, 18 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i> ; Gard', 7 <i>l.</i> 16 <i>s.</i> 11¼ <i>d.</i> ; Coquina, 29 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> ; Pullia, 16 <i>l.</i> 7 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> ; Scutt', 119 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> ; Salsar, 19 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i> ; Aula, &c. 4 <i>l.</i> 9 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> ; Stabulum, 19 <i>l.</i> 17 <i>s.</i> 6½ <i>d.</i> ; Vadia, 10 <i>l.</i> ; Elimozina, 14 <i>s.</i>	121	7	8¾

Calculating the value of money in the sixteenth century at one-tenth of its present value, the cost of entertaining a Royal visitor for two days may be estimated at £2457 *l.* 8*d.*

This family is said to have flourished at Walgrave in Northamptonshire before the Conquest, from whence the name must have been derived. After the Conquest the

* Steward's department.

† Buttery.

‡ Wardrobe.

§ Kitchen.

|| Poultry.

¶ Scullery.

** Salt meats.

†† Presents, fees, vails. In the Gorbamby accounts (1577), these are called *Rewards—item in Rewards for Presents. In Rewards for Officers of the Queen.* In these accounts, Capons, Pullets, Chickens, Geese, Herons, Bitterns, Ducklings, Pigeons, Birds of the West, Godwittes, Dotterds, Shovelers, Pheasants, Partridges, Quails, Maychicks, Malards, Teals, Larks, Curlews, and Knots are all included under the head of poultry. Maychicks, doubtless Spring chickens, would average in present money 6*s.* 7*d.* a couple.

Walgraves or Waldegraves received a re-grant of the lands from the Conqueror, which grant in old French is stated by Morant, in his "*History of Essex*," to have been in possession of the Navestock branch in the year 1612.

According to Stow, John de Walgrave was Sheriff of London in the year 1205. From him in direct descent sprung Sir Richard Waldegrave of Smallbridge, who served as Knight of the Shire in the reigns of Edward III. and Richard II., and was Speaker of the House of Commons in 1381. By his marriage with Joan, the heiress of the Silvesters, the family acquired the Lordship of Bures and Silvesters. By his will, made at Smallbrug April 22, 1440, he orders his body to be buried on the North side of the parish church of St. Mary, at Bures, and gave 20s. to the high altar, 3s. 4d. to the chapel of the Virgin Mary, and 12d. to every priest praying for his soul on the day of his burial; to his son Richard he gave a missal with a vestment and chalice; to the parish church of Walgrave a cope; to the chapel of St. Stephen, in the parish of Buers, a missal; besides gifts to divers convents and monasteries. He was buried at Buers, near Joan his wife. Joan was the heir to the Manor of Sylvesters, which by this marriage passed to the family of the Waldegraves. In Weever's "*Funeral Monuments*" the inscription upon the Knight's tomb is thus given:—

"Hic jacet Richardus Waldegrave miles qui obiit 2 die Maij. Anno Dom. 1400 & Joanna uxor ejus que obiit 10 Junij 1406 Quorum animabus propitiatur Deus. Amen.

"Qui pro alijs orat, pro se laborat."

This monument must have disappeared in the troublous times which succeeded the date of Weever's record, since no mention is made of it in Martin's "*Church Notes*," who visited Bures some 90 years later.

A difficulty occurs about the exact date of the Knight's death. The monument, as quoted by Weever, places it in 1400. Collins states that Sir Richard's will was dated

April 22, 1401. Yet in this will he orders his body to be buried in the North side of the parish church of St. Mary of Bures near Joan his wife. This could not have been, if, as Weever says, he died in 1400 and his wife in 1406. In a MS. of Church Notes by Robert Edgar (*penes Charles Golding, Esq.*), Sir Richard's death is given as having occurred on 2 May, 1410, the will being dated the 22nd day of the April next preceding.

One of the most distinguished members of the family was Sir William Waldegrave, who was nominated 5th Henry VIII. as one of the most discreet persons for assessing and collecting the subsidy. By his will, dated 26th Jan., 152 $\frac{4}{5}$, 16th Henry VIII, he appointed his body to be buried in the parish church of St. Mary of Bures, in a tomb he had caused to be made under the arch between the high altar and the chapel of Jesus, and that he be buried within twenty-four hours after his decease. He appears to have died seized of divers manors, among which were the manors of Walgrave, Twylwell, and Slipton in Northamptonshire, Roydon and Whersted in Suffolk, both of which he purchased of Robert Buers. [*MS. penes Charles Golding, Esq.*] Collins states that Sir William died January 30, 152 $\frac{7}{8}$; the Edgar MS. places the death of the Knight in the year preceding. Weever, who gives the inscription on his tomb, omits the date. The chapel of Jesus mentioned in the will is now used as the Vestry. His eldest son, George, survived him but a short time, and died in 1528 possessed of the manors of Smallbridge, Silvesters otherwise Nether-hall, Overhall and Freps in Bures, together with the manor of Westhermonford *alias* Wormyngford, in Essex.

The grandson of this Sir William took an active part in raising the standard of Mary. He died in 1553, and was succeeded by Sir William who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Mildmay. The arms of this Sir William bearing date 1572 may still be seen in a window at Smallbridge: Quarterly of ten, 1, Party per pale arg. and gu. *Waldegrave*. 2, Arg. of 4 bars sa. *Montchensey*. 3, Gu.

— a spread eagle arg. *Vauncey*. 4, Or, a fess vair, *Creake* or *Creke*. 5, Arg. 2 bars and in chief, 3 mullets sa. *Mayne* or *Moigne*. 6, Erm. a fess sa. between 3 fig. frays or. *Fraye*. 7, Gu. a chevron engrailed between 3 fleur-de-lis arg. 8, Gu. 6 spread eagles 3, 2, and 1 or (?) 9, Arg. on a fess sa. 3 bezants. 10, Gu. a cross flory arg. *Mannock*; Impaling for *Mildmay*, Party per fesse nebule arg. and sa. 3 greyhounds' heads erased counter-charged collared or. The usual arms assigned to *Mildmay* are, Arg. three lions ramp. az. armed and langued gu.; but the arms impaled with *Waldegrave* in the window at *Smallbridge* are also assigned to *Mildmay* in *Papworth* and *Morant's* "*Ordinary*," upon the authority of *Glover's* "*Ordinary*."

Sir William and his wife Elizabeth were both buried at Bures; the dates of their burials are given in our extracts from the Parish-Register. As Weever does not mention the tomb now in the *Waldegrave* chapel, it could not have been completed in 1631, the year in which the "*Funeral Monuments*" was published. *Martin*, who visited the church early in the next century, gives the arms upon the tomb, but omits the inscription which may now be seen on the South face. A few years later *Robert Edgar*, the author of the MS. of Church Notes in the possession of Mr. Charles Golding, visited Bures and made a copy of the inscription, which differs in no way from the existing inscription except in the omission of the date of the Knight's death. It is probable, therefore, that the inscription was added between the dates of these two visits, and the author of the inscription being in doubt about the exact date of Sir William's death, blanks were left until it could be verified.

"Here liethe buriede Sir William Waldegrave Knight and Dame Elizabeth his wife who lived together in godlie marriage 21 yeare and had issue 6 sonnes and 4 daughters. The said Elizabeth departed this life the 10 daye of may in the year of our Lord God 1581 and the said Sir William deceased the 1 daye of August in the year of our Lord God 1613."

It is remarkable that both Sir William and Elizabeth Lady *Waldegrave* were not buried until the 25th day after

death. Sir William's daughter Mary married Thomas Clopton, of Kentwell, who died 1597. His son Sir Wm. Clopton, Knt., had by his first wife, Anne, daughter of Sir Thomas Barnardiston, Knt., a daughter and heiress, Anne, who married Sir Symonds D'Ewes, the celebrated antiquary. During the recent repair of Melford Church, a brass with an inscription for Thomas Clopton was discovered, of which the following is a copy from a rubbing taken by Richard Almack, Esq., F.S.A. :—

“Depositum Thomæ Clopton armigeri sub hoc marmore tumulati filii et heredis (quatuor grandioribus natu fratribus Thoma Francisco Willielmo et Georgio sine prole extinctis) Willielmi Clopton armigeri et Mariæ filiae Georgij Perient generosi secundæ suæ conjugis; iste Thomas ex Maria uxore sua filia tercia Willielmi Waldegrave militis et Elizabethæ Mildmay consortis suæ duobus susceptis filiis Willielmo Clopton milite et Waltero. Clopton armigero et filiabus totidem Elizabetha et Maria nuncupatis placide in Domino obdormiuit die xi febr A° Dñi MDXCVII. A XL Regin Eliz superstite relicta eadem Maria quæ duobus A viri charissimi morte non exactis annis die xix Decembr A° Dñi MDXCIX A° XLII Reginæ ejusdem ultimum naturæ debitum persolvit et sepelitur in ecclesia Sancti Martini Westmonasteriensis.”

In Morant's "*History of Essex*" many notices of the Waldegrave family may be found, especially in connection with the parishes of Naverstock and Wormingford. Much interesting matter relating to the Suffolk branch of the family, may be found in the Rev. C. Badham's "*History of All Saints' Church, Sudbury*." We regret that we cannot state the year in which the Smallbridge estate passed from the Waldegrave family. By the kind permission and assistance of the Rev. A. Hanbury, we print extracts from the Parish Register, from which it appears that the last member of the Waldegrave family buried at Bures was Thomas, who died in 1692. According to Morant, Vol. ii., page 232, the estate of Wormingford was sold by this Thomas Waldegrave; his mother, the widow of the elder Thomas Waldegrave (ob. 1677) enjoying the estate until 1695, between which date and March, 1702 (when John Currants or Currance, Esq., the purchaser, held his first Court) the estate must have

been sold. Was the adjoining estate of Smallbridge sold at the same time?

EXTRACTS FROM THE PARISH REGISTER OF BURES, RELATING TO
THE WALDEGRAVE FAMILY.

Anno Don 1590 Thomas Clopton Esq. and Mrs. Marye Waldegrave were married 13 day of Sept.

BURIALS.

Margaret Waldegrave burd 24 Dec. 1565.

Barnaby Waldegrave burd 24 Feb. 1572.

Ladie Elizabeth wife of Sir William Waldegrave was buried 4 June 1581.

Elizabeth Waldegrave b. 3 November 1581

Sir William Waldegrave Knight the 26 of August 1613.

Sir Williã Waldegrave Knight the 27th of November 1613.

Mrs. Elizabeth Waldegrave daughter of Thomas Waldegrave Esq. was buried Feb. 18 1627.

William Waldegrave Gentleman, buried May 9 1648.

Mrs. Jeane Waldegrave was buried February 16 1667.

Isabella wife of Thomas Waldegrave Junior was buried November 13 1673.

Thomas Waldegrave Senior Esq. was buried April 19th 1677.

Isabella daughter of Thomas Waldegrave Esq. was buried Aug. 29 1681.

Mrs. Elizabeth Waldegrave Widd buried March 6 1683.

George Waldegrave gent was buried Jan. 22 1692.

Thomas Waldegrave Esq. was buried Dec. 14 1692.

This is the last burial of a Waldegrave recorded:

In the year 1723, upon October 31, the Church was visited by Tom Martin. We give the following extracts from his notes from a MS. in the possession of T. Mills, Esq., Saxham Hall:—

On the floor two stones wth brasses gone, a Bl Marb. with in Cap :
“ Here Lieth Interred y^e Body of | Ann Kelsally, only daughter | of
Miles Jenkinson of Tunstall | in Norfolk Esq. Grand Daughter | of
William Waldgrave of | Smallbridge Esq. who Departed | this Life
Jan^y the 30 170⁹.”

Betw the Ch. and Chanc. a Grey Marb. Altar Tomb on wh^{ch} Escut.
fillet round & on the head & sides divers Escut. all gone.

Near a w^t S^t on w^{ch} in Cap : " Here lieth Isabella the wife | of Thomas Waldegrave Esq. | Junior who died the 11th. | of November 1673."

At the head a w^t S^t on w^{ch} in Cap. : " Here lieth Tho. Waldegrave | Senior Esq. who died | the 17th of April 1677."

The same M^S. has several entries of stones having the matrices of brasses " all gone."

On a Bl. Stone in Roman : " Here lieth the body of John | Sidey of Mountbures Gent | who departed this life the 29th day of May In the Year | of our Lord 1688 Aged 76 yrs."

In the N. Chantry on a bl. St. 4 chev. imp. party p. pale under in Cap. : " Here lyeth buried | John Barrington of Grays Inn | who departed this life the 25th of July 1668."

Near the N. a w^t S^t on w^{ch} in Rom. : " Here Lyeth the | Body of Abigal the wyfe of | Waldegrave Pelham who | dyed July 2 1698 aged 54 years."

In Weever's "*Funeral Monuments*," published 1631, the following inscription is quoted as existing in Buers Church :—

" Of your cherite prey for the souls of Edward Waldegrave and Mabell his wyff, daughter and heyre of John Cheney, of Pynehoo in Devonshyre, and one of the heyres of John Hill of Spaxton in the county of Somerset. The which Edward decessyd the yere of our Lord God, 1506. and the said Mabell on whose souls Jesus have mercy Amen."

Martin, in his notes on Bures, referring to this tomb or inscription, has the following :—

" In Risdon's "*Survey of Devonshire*," part 2, page 133, It is said y^t Mable daughter and heir of Cheiney was married to Waldgrave as appeareth on a tomb at Buers in Suffolk who died Anno 1306. There's now no Epitaph by w^{ch} to know w^{ch} was the tomb of the said Mable. Here's a great mistake in Risdon as to the time for I find in L^d Oxford's MSS. p. 64 that Mabill Cheney the wife of Edw^d Waldegrave died 1505, but whether she was buried in Buers or Sudbury tho' I reather think the latter because they lived there as did their son John who was buried there."

Under the head of Sudbury All Saints, Martin quotes "*Ex MSS. penes Ed. E. Oxford, p. 64*," the inscription which has been printed above from Weever; this extract differs somewhat from the notice in Weever, placing the

death of Edward Waldegrave in the year 1500, and completing the inscription with the words "*deceased the 7th of June, 1505.*"

Wiston was next visited. This Church has been partly rebuilt, the East end being an apsidal restoration raised upon the old foundations. The fine Norman door on the North side should be noticed. Unfortunately the Rev. C. E. Birch was too unwell to be present; some notes he had kindly prepared were read by a friend.

A short drive under the guidance of the Rev. C. M. Torlesse led to the welcome shade of the noble oaks of Tendring, beneath which the poet Earl of Surrey must often during his boyhood have played and mused,* and so to a refreshing rest in the gardens of the Hall, where a luncheon of cake and fruit and wine had been kindly prepared in anticipation of the visit. From the Hall to the Church is but a short walk, and here the Vicar read the Paper upon the fine Perpendicular Church of Stoke-by-Nayland, which has been elsewhere printed in the "*Proceedings.*" After a hurried cup of coffee at the Vicarage, the party returned to Bures to dispatch a dinner before the railway bell should summon them home. So ended a pleasant and successful meeting—one which proved to be the last presided over by the Venerable Lord Arthur Hervey.

D.

1869.

In this year there was no Excursion, in consequence of the Annual Meeting of the Royal Archæological Institute being held at Bury St. Edmund's, under the presidency of the Most Noble the Marquis of Bristol.

* Proc. Suff. Inst., Vol. IV., p. 193.

