PARTRIDGE OF ACTON, SUDBURY, AND
LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

PART I.

It is hoped that the following Wills, now printed for the first time, will be found of more than mere genealogical interest. Most of the foot-notes have been kindly contributed by the friends and correspondents whose help is there individually acknowledged, and I may therefore say, without apology, that these notes contain much interesting information.

Both Robard Partrich the elder of Sudbury (1489), and his widow, Mawde Partrich of Sudbury (1494), made many public bequests, namely, to the poor, to churches and monasteries, to the gild of the Holy Ghost at Acton, to the enfranchisement of the borough of Sudbury, to the repair of roads and of a causeway. Their various legacies of wearing apparel tell us something of how they were dressed, even to the material, colour, and trimming of their gowns, and Mawde Partrich’s list of “all othir Juels whether they be Masurs Sponys pecis Girdillis bedis or. any odir thingis as potts pannys and all vtensillis of hustilments of myne house,” shows us what a good housewife’s valuables were four hundred years ago. To the parish of Wickham S. Paul in Essex she gives “A Masseboke,” price £5. To those studying the subject of Church Plate, her gift to All Saints’ Church, Sudbury, of “a chales* of Syluer and gilt,” price £10, will be of interest; and her husband’s bequest to the

* This was perhaps the “Chalice one, wayinge xxij oz iij qz” included in the return for this church in the time of Edw. vi.
buying of "a Guynebell bell" (see note) for the same
curch, and to "the belles" of Acton Church, will interest
the student of bell-lore.

Another point of interest is the names of Robard
Partrich's various small properties, all apparently lying
within the parish of Acton. He speaks of tenements
called Smethes, Rayes, Archendemys (or, Archedemys),
Stokes, p'menters, "Strutts w't blyndmannes crofte," and
"Deyes and with a croft called gotescroft."

Lastly, let us look at these documents from a genea-
logical point of view.

This was a yeoman branch of Partridge (probably,
corrupted from Patrick) of Suffolk, descended perhaps
from the Adam Partrich who, about 1340-43, was living
at Bolemere (Bulmer) in Hengford Hundred, Essex.*
Bulmer is about 2 miles south of Sudbury. The Robard
Partrich the elder of Sudbury, formerly (in 1468) Robert
Parteryche of Acton, who made his will in 1489, was
evidently of good yeoman standing. His only son,
Robert Partryche of Acton, made his will in 1525, and
therein styled himself yeoman.

I must add that I cannot trace any relationship
between the Partridges of Acton; etc., and my own
progenitor, Thomas Partridge of Higham, afterwards of
Capel S. Mary, yeoman, born probably about 1560, who,
in 1600, bought lands at Stoke-by-Nayland (deed penes
me).† Stoke Church is, as the crow flies, about 8 miles
from Acton Church.

Partridge of Great Finborough (see the Heralds'
Visitations) was, apparently, the only branch of Partridge
of Suffolk entitled to armorial bearings, and, therefore,
to the rank of "gentleman." Their shield (chequy argent
and sable on a bend three escallops) no longer remains in
any church in the county.‡

* Nonarum Inquisitiones, 1807, p. 304.
† See The East Anglian; or, Notes and Queries on subjects connected with the
counties of Suffolk, etc., third ser., vii., 12–13.
‡ It was formerly among the fine series of heraldic shields in the windows of
Preston church (Add. ms. 8200, fo. 218a), and Partridge impaling Timperley was in
Hintlesham church (Add. ms. 5829, fo. 202a).
The Partridges of Woodbridge were tradesmen. There was formerly in Woodbridge Church a brass to the memory of Robert Partrich, botcher (butcher), d. 1533, and Mariory (d. 1514-15) and Alis his wives.*

It is necessary to add that these Wills are only copies of the registered copies of the original Wills; so that, before reaching the printer’s hands, the actual vivd-voce wishes of the testator and testatrix have passed through three different processes: (1) they were written down by some scribe at the respective given dates, (2) registered copies of the original manuscripts were made by another scribe, and (3) these registered copies were copied by myself. This means that, before reaching the printer’s hands, every word may have been miswritten three times! I do not know if the original Wills are even in existence. The second scribe has either made or copied several mistakes. In the first Will, for instance, he has written “mcccclxxxv” for “mcccclxxxix,” “Reginein” for “Requiem,” “Guynnebell” for “Euynebell” or “Evynnebell,” “of” for “or,” “at” for “that,” “Gmdences” for “Evidences” or “Evidences.” A careless scribe is often the originator of many of those “difficult words” that strain to the uttermost both the imagination and the powers of laborious, yet pleasurable, research of the amateur antiquary! The third scribe ventures to hope that the careful printer will carefully print even his mistakes.

These old Wills are a mine of wealth to many branches of art, literature, and archæology, and yet there are, in the Sudbury Archdeaconry Registry at Bury S. Edmund’s, six volumes of Wills before 1500, which have not yet been even indexed. In 1850 the Camden Society published the late Mr. Tymms’s “Bury Wills and Inventories”; but the six volumes referred to above contain “county Wills,” i.e., Wills relating to parishes in the western half of Suffolk outside the boundaries of the Borough of Bury.

* Weever’s Ancient Funerall Monuments, 1631, p. 762.

Stowmarket, Suffolk. CHARLES PARTRIDGE, JUNIOR.
SECTION A.

Extract from Turner and Coxe's Calendar of Charters and Rolls preserved in the Bodleian Library, 1878, p. 410:


Ch. 253."

Sheldrake's is the name of a farm at Stoke-by-Nayland. A branch of Sheldrake of Suffolk lived formerly at the Stonhams. The name begins in the parish register of Stonham Aspall as early as 1544, and in that churchyard there is a headstone to Tho. Sheldrake, b. 1698-99. It is sometimes spelt Sheldrick.

Ward Green, Old Newton, got its name probably from a family represented in Old Newton churchyard by a series of head-stones beginning with that to Will. Ward, b. 1681-82. (See The East Anglian, new ser., v., 150-51.)

SECTION B.

Will of Robard Partrich thelder of Sudbury (P.C.C., 1 Dogett).

In dei nomi[n]e amen the viij day of December in the yere of our Lord god mcccclxxxxj1 And in the vth yere of the Reigne of kyng Henry the viijth I Robard Partrich thelder of Sudbury in the Norwich in goode mynd being thankys be god make and ordeigne this my testament And Last Will [p. 6b] vndre this forme that folowith ffirst I bequeth and Recommende my soule to the holy Trynitie oure Lady saint Mary and to all the saintes of heuen And my body to be buriede in the church yarde of Aketon [Acton] next the buriell of Agnes my first Wif Also I will that xxx daies next aftre my decesse dirigei anti masse be kept dayly in Aketon church for the soulis of me and hir and of mire frendes Whoerfor I will that the curate of the church shall haue dayly with his masse peny iiijd Euerich [Every] other clerke ijd etly childe that can [knows] his dirige jd And eich child lernyng his dirige ob [obolus, a halfpenny] Also I bequeth to the fryer of the house of Sudbury at the no[n]acion of the prior there to say daily during the said xxx dayes placebo2 and dirige with masse of Requiem3 for the soules aforesaide and beside that I bequeth that [sic] to the Prior and couent of the same friers for a trentall 2 within the same terme

1. A scribe's error for mcccclxxxix. 8 Dec. 5 Hen. vii. was in 1489, not in 1491. This will was proved 22 Oct., 1491.

2. Now dirige, "from the first word of the anthem 'dirige, Domimus mens,' Ps. v. 8, in the office for the dead (Skeat). Placebo is the vesper-hymn for the dead, beginning Placebo Domine. A trental is an office for the dead, consisting of 30 masses rehearsed for 30 days successively.

3. But this word looks like Reginein. "Requiem" was suggested by Mr. J. G. Waller, F.S.A.
tobe don xs Item vnder like forme to a frier of the house of Clar[e] vijs vijd and for a trentall there xs Also in like wise to a frier of the house of Rabwell vijs vijd and for a trentall there xs Item I bequeth to the high Aulter of the Church of Alhalowen [All Saints] in Sudbury for tythes and offeringes withholden or neciligently forgotten and that the vicar ther pray for my soule iijs iiiijd Also in like wise to the high Aulter of the church of Aketon vs Item I will that myn executors Immediately aftre my decesse do [cause] tobe made a Crucifix of the pitie [passion] of our lorde Conueniently tobe sett vndre the glas windowe with oute the Chauncell ende of Alhalowen in Sudbury before-said with this scriptur vndre writen pray for the soule of Robart Partrich with the day and yere of my decesse rembred ther Also to the Repacion of the church of the said friers in Sudbury xxs Item to the Repacion of the belles in Aketon church ijs Also to the making or gilting of A newe tabernacle w an Image of Alhalowen in the north side of the chancell of the same church w xiijs vd which I owe of the yift of Thomas Raynhîn and with xxs which I owe of the yeft of Thomas Gyer of Colchestr x marc Also I bequeth to the Repacion of the said Church of Aketon v marcs Item to the kerving or paynting of the tabernakyll w the Image of the Trinte in the same Church xs Also to the making of a newe tabernakyll for the Image of or lady in the south side of the said Channceell of Aketon xxs Also I bequeth to the Repacion of the high wayes most noyous in the same towne aboute Archedemys and pmentes x marc Also besid vjs viijd which I owe to the fratenite? of the holy gost in the same towne I bequeth ther vnto vjs viijd Also of the money growing to me by John Dey and Johnson I bequeth to the beying of a Guynebell bell to the said church of Alhallowen in Sudbury if such be ther bowth [bought] xxs and els that money in other Charitable werks tobe disposed by myn executoes PROVIDIDE allwyes that myn executoes be natt charged with myn said The Franciscan Friary of Babwell (Babberwell, Babewell), in the parish of Fornham All Saints, was built in the time of Pope Urban iv., the Benedictine monks of Bury Abbey having at last succeeded in driving their Franciscan rivals out of Bury. Weaver states that the founder of Babwell monastery gave the foundership to the Honour of Clare. At Sudbury there were two Priories, one Benedictine, the other Augustine. The former was pulled down in 1779, the last remains of the latter in 1821. Clare Priory (Augustine) was, in 7 Hen. v., converted into a College. Both it and the Benedictine Priory at Sudbury belonged to Westminster Abbey.

4. The Franciscan Priory of Babwell (Babberwell, Babewell), in the parish of Fornham All Saints, was built in the time of Pope Urban iv., the Benedictine monks of Bury Abbey having at last succeeded in driving their Franciscan rivals out of Bury. Weaver states that the founder of Babwell monastery gave the foundership to the Honour of Clare. At Sudbury there were two Priories, one Benedictine, the other Augustine. The former was pulled down in 1779, the last remains of the latter in 1821. Clare Priory (Augustine) was, in 7 Hen. v., converted into a College. Both it and the Benedictine Priory at Sudbury belonged to Westminster Abbey.

5. Tall crucifixes of iron, with an ornamental wreath surrounding the Figure, and bearing a similar inscription, may be seen in every churchyard and cemetery around the little ancient town of Saint-Pol-sur-Ternoise, Pas-de-Calais, France.

6. “An ornamented erection or representation of an edifice placed on the Roman Catholic altars as a receptacle of” (here) an image of All Saints. Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite, F.S.A., writes: “Such images are often mentioned, but, so far as I know, none has been identified. I once suggested that a curious figure, which occurs twice at Westminster and once at Romsey, might be All hallows; but I think now it is a certain Armagil of whom little is known. The use of the image of All hallows is condemned by Lyndwode; but unfortunately he does not tell us what it was like.”

7. Or Gild. Hadleigh at one time had five Gilds—Trinity, Corpus Christi, S. John, Jesus, and Our Lady.

8. The best explanation of this puzzling phrase is the suggestion, by Mr. Henry Bradley of Oxford, Co-Editor of the New English Dictionary, that, just as,
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legacies made to Aketon Church but only as they may be Recovered of my dettes. Also I bequeth A Cough price vijs to finde and maynten continually for cûmor A lyght of wax befor the said Image of Alhalowen in Aketon vndre mai? and forme of other lightes accustomede ther Item I bequeth to eñych [every one] of myn godchildryn xijd if he vnto his marriage or full age of xx yer dwell still wt Robert my sonne wt a bedde iiiij shep [sheep] and A [p. 7a] bussheell [of] malt xls Also to Alice Coston late my šûnt with . xvij. which she claymeth of me vjs viijd Also to Johane Ducke my šûnt a little grene chest Also to Johanne Smyth my šûnt xijd which William Crochyn apon A true accompte betwene us made at this day owth to me clerely for purchase of lande and wollen cloth I bequeth therof to the same William and to grace his wif my daughter vijî xijd And to euerich of Robert Agnes Thomas and John the Childryn of them xls and thay rest due [there remains owing] clerely by the same William Crochon during my lif or ellis Immediately aftre my decese to ensale and for his dede to deliuer vnto the behoffe of pformacion of this my last will the said obligacion or ellis if the same William will not be bounden to myn executo's to discharge them agenist the said iiij Childryn of the same Willià at ther marriage or full Age of xxi yer of the said money to them bequethen than I will [th]at my said bequests to the same William his Wif and Children made as I haue aboue reheraid shalbe voide and of no strenght And that it shall than be laufull to myn executo's to recoR of the same William and of his assignes

**"Gmdences" is, as Mr. W. H. S. John Hope has pointed out (see note 10), a scribe's error for ['Evidences" or] "Evidences," so "Guynebell bell" is a scribe's error for "Evenebell bell" or "Euynebell bell," which Mr. Bradley explains as "a bell for ringing the vesper bell." adding, "Such a repetition of 'bell' would not necessarily be a blunder—though rather awkward—as bell would be used in two senses. Even-bell was probably felt as one word, denoting a certain time of day as marked by bell-ringing. It would be like saying 'the Christmas mass.'" In support of this reading he quotes line 2236 of Le Morte Arthure (written before 1450), "By the tyme of evynbell."**

Canon Raven, author of The Church Bells of Suffolk and The Church Bells of Cambridgehire, gives this solution the hall-mark of his approval, and kindly adds:

"This bell seems to be intended for the Ave Maria della Sera (C. B. of S., p. 87), and very possibly is the present seventh, inscribed + Stëlla. Marïa. Maris. Succurre. Pissima. Robís. The 'great bells iiij' of the 1553 return seem identified with the present 5, 6, 7. Stephen Tronel's 1576 bell, recast 1875, turns the adoration from the Virgin Mother to the Saviour Himself, 'Filius Virginis Marie dat nobis gaudia vitae.'" He quotes from R. Thornton's Lincoln manuscript (E. E. T. S.) of Morte Arthure, "or ewyne" (l. 1788) for "before evening," and "Esterne ewyne" (l. 1006).
the said hole suone of xli ijs iiiijd And to dispose it as they shall thinke most to the pleur of god & for the helthe of my soules aforesaid. And if any or all of the said children befor marige or full age of xijth yer decease than I will the pte or ptes of one or of all that so decessen Remayne clerly to the disposicion of the said William on his behalf pformynge the pmessis and of grace his wif And of their assignes Also I bequeth to p§ same grace my longe Russett gown Also I bequeth to Maud my wif she finding myn buring cloth my best blew gown my mantell and my typett of frisee ij horse and a bullocke w my hostilments Corne and other stuff of household in Sudbury Also I will that all my shew [sheep] and corne in Aketon beforesaid be sold to the pformacion of this my last will of which money I will and also charge myn executors that Cs in xxxd yersys next folowing aft my deceesse shalbe disposed in the same towne conveniently that is to say vs yere to the kepynge of a yer mynde [year-mind or anniversary] for my soule with the soules befor rehearsed Also I bequeth to Robert my sonne the Residue of all myn horses and bests and clothis to my body w my spruce Compter and Gndences in the same Also I will that the same Robert shall haue my tenement called Smethes in Aketon w thappurtenancs to hym his heirs and assignes for eiunor Also I will the same Robert and Isabella his wif shall haue Jontly to them their heirs and assignes for einore my tenement called Rayes w thappurtenancs And the land which that I purchased of John Clopton esquier [prob. of Kentwell Hall, Long Melford] Also I bequeth my tenementes called Archendemys stokes and pmenters in Aketon beforesaid to Maud my wif during her lif and one yere complete next folowing aftre hir deceesse and so do I will my said iij tenementes remayne to Robt my sonne during his lif and aft his deceese if he haue any sonne or sonnes Able to purchase the samè iij tenementes or ellis ij or iij sonnes in Abilitie to [p. 7b] purchase the same iij tenementes I will the sale of theme to be made by myn executors or by their assignes vndre this fo-me first one sonne to haue a pferment in the purchasse of Archendemys by xiij ii better chepe thane a stranger of Stokes vii better chepe than a stranger And in pmenters xi vndre the price of a stronger And if none of the same sonnes be than not able nor willing to purchase the same tenementes I will that xxli commyng of the sale therof be disposed amonge them of which sale I will also xxli be disposed to one


10. I am indebted to Mr. W. H. S. John Hope for the following explanation. After pointing out that "Gmdences" is a scribe's error for ["Evidences" or] "Evidences," he writes: "In other words, it was a deed chest. The top of the box was perhaps square, and painted with a chess board on which the owner did his accounts with counters in the usual manner then prevalent. That is how we get the word 'compter' or 'counter,' because it was a *computatorium.* 'Spruce' of course means fir wood." Professor Skeat writes that "spruce usually means 'Prussian,' or made or originating in Prussia," and adds that "sprwys-chyst" occurs in the Paston Letters (ttt. 407), and that in Tymms's Bury Wills there is "pruce hutche" (p. 12) and "spruce hutche" (p. 82). In Prof. Skeat's *Concise Etymol. Dict. of the Eng. Lang.* it is stated that, "*spruce* fr meant Prussian fir."
doughter or amenge all the doughters of the same Roberte if thanne any
be or ellis to the Repacion of Aketon church and to the high wayes ther
Item beside that oþr xxli therof to the Repacion of the same church of
Aketon Item xxli to the Repacion of the high wayes ther in the same
towne betwen Sudbury and Lavenham Item to the finding of a pst to
sing by an hole yere for the soules of me and my frendes in the said
church of Aketon ix marce And to the house of friers of Sudbury for
the same soules ther tobe praid for I bequeth therof v marce The Residue
of all my money conyng of the same sale I will shalbe disposide in almes
Dedes to poure people and in other charitable werks as they shall
thinke most to the pleasur of god And if the said Roberte my sonne
haue non such sonne or sonnes to purchase these iij tenementes or any of
them than I will the sonne or sonnes of the said William Croechon and
Grace his Wif shall haue like þferment and fauor in price of the same iij
tenementes as aboue is Rehersid to the sonnes of the said Robert my
sonne And if none such be than to the sonnes of Roger my brother
vnder like forme And if none such be thanne to the sonnes of John
Partrich my brother to haue A like þferment be fore a stranger Also I
will my tenement called Strutts wþ blyndmannes crofte by myn
executors Immediatly aftre my decesse be sold And as well the money
theroft conmyng as the xij xijs iiijd to me by the said Roger by
brother owing for and upon the sale of a tenement called Deyes and
with a croft called goteacroft in Aketon shalbe disposid to this the
pformacion of this my last will And also I will that all my shepp
[sheep] and come in the same towne of Aketon be sold to the pformacion
of the same will Also I will that my two tenementes in Lauenham
which I late purchaside of the said John my brother And stane [stand]
ym chargid for the morer [greater] pte of payment of the same at the
fesl of saint Mighell tharchaungill which shal be in the yere of oure
lorde mcccclxxxxij be sold to the same John if he than or at any tyme
Athishalf will purchase and pay for them like wise as I haue and am
chargid to pay for the same or tobe sold to a nother sufficiant psonne
And I will that x ti commyng of this sale be truly disposid in stir and
sufficiant Repacion of the said high wayes than most noyous in Aketon
betwene Sudbury and Lauenham The Residue of all my goodes And
Catalles aboue not bequethen aftre my detts truly paide and this my
pnt testament and last will fulfilled I will and bequeth tobe disposed
in masses Almes Dedes and other werks of Charite for the soules be
foresad by myn executo's whome I name the said Robert Partrich my
sonne Roger Partrich and Robert longe And I bequeth to the said
Roger for his due attendaunce and labor in this behalf xls Item in like
wise to the said Robert longe xxs And of theme in all the pmisses

11. Professor Skeat has favoured me with the following explanation; "at his half
 is three words; it means 'on his behalf'; mod. Eng. 'for his part'; it is used in
opposition to 'like wise as I have,' &c."

12. He was probably the Robert—Longe (? of Acton) who was associated with
Robert Parteryche of Aketon in the transaction referred to in section "A" (above).
Rightfully to be performed and fulfilled I make and in the Worship of allmighty god beseech the veable and my Right confident marstre Thomas Appulton & gentillman tobe supuiso and cohelper Willing and Rewarding to hym for his Diligent labe14 the vicar [p. 8a] of Alhalowen in Sudbury Sir Henry Moreland vicar of Aketon William Parker of Sudbury and other yoven [given] at Sudbury the day and yere abouesaid

Probatum fuit suprascriptum testam Coram et c' Audp Lamehith die mensis Octobris Anno Diii Mittimo cccc° Nonagesimo primo Juramento Roberti Partrich executoris et c' Ac approbatum et c' Et cœmissa fuit administracio omi et singulorum bonorum et debitorum dicti defuncti dicto Roberto ps constitutione et alij executoribus in hœce testo noiat in persona magistri Ricci Cooke notarij puæ procuratoris eorumdem de bene et c' Ac de pleno Inuentari et c' de festum sancti Andree Apiti proximo et c' in debita juris forma jura in Neon de plano et vero compoto et c'

13. Probably theTho. Apleton who m. Marg., da. and h. of Rob. Crane of Stonham, and who was second son of the John Apleton of Waldingfield Parva who d. 22 Ed. iv.

14. On 31 Jan., 1465, Robert Hinderwelle became Vicar of All Saints, Sudbury; in 1505 "Ioes Morell" was Vicar; on 8 Jan., 1511, Will. Grene became Vicar. (The Hist. and Antiquities of All Saints' Church, Sudbury, etc., by the Rev. Cha. Badham, M.A., Vicar, 1852, p. 111.)

15. Lambeth: "The place on which the suburb stands was known to the Saxons as Lampbythe or Lamehith; and is thought to have got that name from the words 'lam' and 'hythe,' signifying dirt and a haven; but it figures at Domesday as Lamehei."—Wilson's Imperial Gazetteer of England and Wales, 1874, 1., 1144.

SECTION C.

Will of Mawde Parterich of Sudbury, wedew (p.c.c., 23 Vox).

In dei nomine amen The xxv day of the Moneth of februaire the yere of oure lord god mececlxxxxiiij I Mawde Parterich of Sudbury Wedew holoe of mynde and of good Remembraunce make this my last Wille in this maner folowyng ffyrst I bequeith my sowle to allmyghty Ihg to our blessed Lady saint Mary and to all the company of hevyn And my body to be buried In the Chappell by my husbond Late Thomas Wellis of the pish of Alhallow [All Saints] in the said towne of Sudbury Item I bequeith to the high aulter of the said church for my oblacions and tythes forgotten xxs Item I bequeith to the High aulter of Saynt Gregory of the said townie vjs viijd Item I will at my day of burying that eily preeste comyng to my dirige haue iiijd egy man that is a clerk ijd and to children that be clarks and -mune synge jd Item I will that

1. "In the notes of Sir J. Blois and Mr. T. Martin on this Church, we find some mention of monuments partly defaced, which are now entirely so." These included a memorial to "Wallys, Mayor [Mayor of Sudbury]."—The Hist. and Antiquities of All Saints Church, Sudbury, etc., by the Rev. Cha. Badham, M.A., Vicar, 1852, p. 67.
the freres dominike of the said towne syng a dirige for my sowle that same day of my buryng hauyng for ther labour xs Item I will that Syr John Morell, vicar of the said church of Alhallow say a trentall of saint Gregory for my sowle and all my frendis as sone as it may be done after my deceasse hauyng for his labour xs Item I will that the said freres of Sudbury say a nodir [another] trentall within xxx dayes after my deceasse hauyng for ther labor xs Item my viiith day and my xxxth day I will the preestis and clerkes of the said church syng a dirige for my sowle and my frendis soules And I will that those said too dayes be gevyn to preestas and clerks and to poe folke ther moste nede ys and specially at my xxxth day v fike Item I give to Willia Marchall frere of this said howse a Whight Abyte Item I geve to the said William to say A trentall for my sowle and my frendis sowlis xs Item I will that myne executors and supervysor do make the freres mylle hous in the said freris [friary] yf I make it nat my selffe by [in] my lyfe and that they be sette [there be spent] ther Aponne x fice Item I will that the said freres of Sudbury syng ely yere myne obiti4 for me and my frendis soulis the terme of x yere after my deceasse hauyng ely yere xs Item I geue to the said church of alhallow to pray for me and my frendis sowlis a chales of Syluer and gilt price xti Item I geve to Annes brounesmyth my Suster my gowne of Skarlet furre6 and all as it is Item I geve to the said Annes my Suster my beste pair of bedis6 of Corall during her lyfe and aft her deceasse I will that Mawde my god-daught her dough the to geve and selle Item I geue to Iche of her children as many as she hathe vjs viijd Item I geve to Wyllia parkys children of Sudbury A foresaid whos names be called Henry John Alis and Elen to Iche of those iiiij [children] vjs viijd whanne they come to mariage And yt it happes any of those Children as wele of my Susters children as of William pkers that be vnmarrid to dye or they be maried thanne I wyll that the money be disposed in dedis of Almes to pouer folkes by myne executoys and supervysor to pray for me and all my frendis sowlis Item I geve to Richard herward of Sybilliongham [Sible Hedingham, Essex] vjs viijd Item I geve to Isabell Webbe of the said towne vjs viijd Item I geve to Alyson Gyon of yeldam [in Essex] vjs viijd Item I geve to Isabell Alen of hyngham ad Castrum vjs viijd Item to John her sonne vjs viijd And to Iche of her children vjs viijd all these A fore Rehersed of children and those folowing to be paid of

2. This Priory of Dominican or Benedictine monks, otherwise Blackfriars, was pulled down in 1779. There was also an Augustine Priory at Sudbury.
4. Obit: an anniversary service for the soul of the deceased on the day of her death.
5. Mr. W. H. S. John Hope explains this as “a loose description of a furred gown of scarlet.”
6. Set of beads. Chaucer wrote of the Prioress in the Canterbury Tales (The Prologue, l. 158—59):—
   “Of smal coral aboute hir arm she bar
   A peire of bedes, gauded al with grene.”
Prof. Skeat, in his note on l. 159, says:—“The word bede signifies, (1) a prayer, (2) string of grains upon which the prayers were counted, or the grains themselves.”

ACTON, SUDBURY, AND LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK. 159
[by] myne executors and supvisor as it may be allowed and hadde Item I geve to Annes Ilger of halstedde my Russet gowns and vjs viijd Item I geve vnto Isabell Drayles my Musterler7 gowne color [collar] and Cuffes lyned with velwett Item I geve to Isabell ptrich my engreyned8 gowne with outhe the furre Item I geve to Johanne her Suster Wyf to Robert Cowper myne Edwardstowne iijs iijd Item I geve to Margarete palmer myn [suanant vjs viijd and A couerlett Item I geve to alis hyne Servaunt vjs viijd And [Whight coverlet with blew Item I geve to Maude bolton daughter to Isabell drayles vjs viijd Item I geve to Williá herward thelder of the pishe of saint Gregory vjs viijd Item I geve to Iche of his Children vjs viijd Item Igeve to Johanne Russell xijd Item I geve to Annes laborer xijd Item I will that my brode clothes10 within my howse and withoute aftir the day of my deceasse be sold by the discrecion of myne executors and supviso the money therof had and allowed to be disposed vndir this condicion that is to say A seculer preeste11 of good condicion to sing for me and myffrendis in the seid church of Alhallow at Jhus Aultier by the terme of iij yere And the Residew to pal folke Item I geve to the seid towne of Sudbury to haue the Custume of the said towne free for euyr xxli vndir this condicion folowyng that is to sey if the seid menne of the same towne or of any odir towne will take it in hande to make it freex in the space of viij yere after my deceese I will that the seid
day 11 of good condicion to sing for me and my ffrendis in the seid church of Alhallow at Thus Aulter by the terme of iij yere And the Residew to pal folke Item I geve to the seid towne of Sudbury to haue the Custume of the said towne free for euyr xxli vndir this condicion folowyng that is to sey if the seid menne of the same towne or of any odir towne will take it in hande to make it free within the space of viij yere after my deceese I will that the seid
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7. Mr. W. H. S. John Hope writes: "The 'Musterler' Gowne was made of the cloth known as Musterdeevillers."

Canon Raven has kindly sent the following valuable notes:—In the list of towns, etc., that Henry V. "did gete in his second viage," 1417–19, occurs "The Town of Musterivileres" (Gairdner's Paston Letters, l., 8). In the will of Marg. Asscombe, wid., of London, 1434, occurs the following bequest: "also ye quethe to Clemens. the woma that kepes me a gowne of Musterdevylers & a kyrtell of musterdevylers wt. grene sleues" (The Fifty Earliest Eng. Wills, etc., E. E. T. S.), which the editor explains as "from Mustarde Vylers, Montiviliers in Normandy where the stuff was made," adding the following quotations: (? Hall's Chronicle, 28 Hen. vi., 1449–50) "In the mene whyle was the (city) of Roon, Mustarde Vylers. and Herflete i-loste before Crystmasse," and (? Hall's Gloss.) "a kind of mixed grey woollen cloth, which continued in use up to Elizabeth's reign," Returning to The Paston Letters: (J. Payn to John Paston, 1465, referring to events of 1450, Vol. i., 134) "And there he [Sir J. Fastolf] toke a fyn gowne of muster dewyllers furryd with fyn bevers;" (Agnes P., 28 Jan., 1458, p. 422) "He [the boy Clement P.] hath achat [a short] mustardeevillers gowne;" (Margery P. to John P., 18 Dec., 1477, Vol. iii., 214) "a gowns cloth of mustyrddevyllers," which Gairdner explains as "a kind of grey woollen cloth;" (from An Inventory, iii., 411) "a cotte of master deevillers xld."

Prof. Skeat refers me to his book A Student's Pastime, p. 286.

John Baspall of Orford, by his will dat. 4 Oct., 1482, left to his son Richard "uam togam de mustevler" (Proceedings of the Suff. Inst. of Arch. for 1898, Vol. x., part i., p. 91).

8. Dyed in grain, dyed of a fast colour.

9. Perhaps fringes. A lady suggests tufts or tassels. Mr. W. H. S. John Hope writes: "Possibly the 'brushes' were an heraldic badge, such as a fox's tail."

10. Broadcloth: a species of woollen cloth, so called from its breadth.

11. A secular is an ecclesiastic of the Romish church not bound by monastic rules.
Before marrying Rob. Partrich, the testatrix had been wife of Tho. Wells of All Saints, Sudbury, prob. Mayor of the Borough (see note 1). This bequest was toward the enfranchisement of the borough. The enfranchisement of the borough of Ipswich is treated at some length in the sec. edit. (1764) of The Suffolk Traveller, p. 15-31. The sixth clause of King John's Charter to Ipswich, granted 25 May, 1199, runs as follows: That they should hold their lands and tenures within the borough according to the Custom of the Borough of Ipswich (p. 22).

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13. Unspent. In The Sompnoures Tale (l. 241—45), Thomas, the sick husbandman, says to the begging friar:

As help me Crist, as I in fewe yeeres
Have spendid upon many divers freres
Ful many a pound, yet fare I never the bet;
Certeyn my good have I almost byset.
Farwel my gold, for it is almost ago"

14. A mazer was a large drinking-bowl, from Icel. misurr, a maple-tree. Mazer-bowls were made of maple wood.

15. Mr. W. H. S. John Hope writes that pecis "is a general term for all sorts of silver plate."

16. Hostilements: "Furniture, Utensils, Household-Goods" (Bailey's Dict.).

17. Bede-folk (A.S. bed, a prayer). Bedes Men: "Aims-men, who prayed for their Benefactors and Founders" (Bailey's Dict.).
to delyg Astate whanne they be Required to myne executors and
supvisor The Resydew of all my goodis nat sette [spent] nor
byqueithen I charge and Require myne executors and supvisor that
they dispose them in almis dedis and amending of high weyes'
boute the seid towne of Sutbury that it may be moste ple?
to almghty Ihū and to the help and cowmeforth [comfort] of my sowle
and all my firendis sowlis whome I sette [appoint] and ordayn John
Reynold of this said pish Tanner John Harvy fuller and Syr Williā
lynsey parson of Glemesford Supvisour of this my Laste wille Tche of
them having for ther Labour xls In Wittnes wherof vnto this ßsent
wrytyng I haue putte my Sealle made the day and the yere a boue
Rehersed At Sudbury A fore seid.

PROBATUM [blank].

(To be continued).*

* Part ii. will contain copies of the Wills of Rob. Partryche of Acton, yeoman,
1523, Geo. Pateriche of Lavenham, 1542, and Isbell Partrich of Acton, widow, 1545.
PEDIGREE. (Drawn up from the two wills.)

Partrich.

Agnes=(1) Robard Partrich theldor of (?All Saints,) Sudbury; will dat. 8 Dec. 1489, to be bur. in Acton church-yard. (1st wife.)

Mawde, da. of Robard Partrich of Sudbury, wid. (prob. all at Acton) called Smethes, Rayes, Archendemys or Archedemys, Stokes, Parmenters, Strits with Blyndmannes Crofte, and Deyes with a croft called Gotescroft; will prov. 22 Oct., 1491 (p.c.c.). He made a causeway at Twinstead in Ess. (see his wid.'s will). [On 31 July, 1468, he was Rob. Parteryche of Acton—see section A, above.]

Mawde I arterich of Sudbury, widow.) dat. 25 Feb. 1494, to be bur. in the Chapel of All Saints Ch., and had a house at Sudbury and another at Ballyngton, bequests to Annes Brounesmyth "my Suster" and Mawde her da.; will prov. p.e.e., 23 Vox.

Mawde Parterich; co-ex'or of and devisee in his father's will, which and in that of Mawde Parterich, who also made a bequest to Isabell's sister Johanne, wife of Rob. Cowper of Edwardston.

Isabell, da. of (2) Mawde, da. of . . . ; devisee (1)=Tho. Wellys or Wellys of All Saints, Sudbury will dat. 8 Dec. 1489, to be bur. in the Chapel of All Saints Ch.; will prov. p.e.e., 23 Vox.

Roger Partrich; co-ex'or of and devisee in his bro. Robert's will; sold to his bro. Rob. 2 ten's in tenement called Deyes & with a croft called gotescroft in Aketon."

Grace Partrich =Will. Crochon or Rob. Partrich; co-ex'or of and devisee in her Croehyn; devisee in his father's will.

Isabell, da. of . . . ; devisee in her father-in-law's will, he proved 22 Oct., 1491 (p.c.c., 1 Dogett).

Rob. Crochon; he and his sister and brothers were Agnes Crochon. Tho. Crochon. John Crochon. devisees in their grandfather Partrich's will, being then under 21 and unmarried.
THE ANNUAL EXCURSION,

THURSDAY, AUGUST 24TH, 1899.

The County of Suffolk is rich in localities of intense interest to the antiquary. Marsh-land and fen, heath and bracken, hill and dale are made picturesque by the relics of past ages. The many tumuli, barrows, and haughs retain unrevealed secrets of remote days, but the noble piles of abbey, church, and stately hall, permit the records stored up in their silent stones to become manifest to the earnest enquirer.

East and West Suffolk have alike valuable monuments speaking of laws, customs, and manners long in disuse. It is not difficult to mark out a series of historic sites which might be visited in a day's excursion; the real difficulty is to select such a number of these sites as will afford a sufficient variety of interesting details of ecclesiastical and domestic architecture as to make the excursion one of archaeological interest rather than of a pic-nic character. Seeing the excursion is an annual one, it has been the custom to cover too much ground in one day, so that time is not given for members to study all the details of interest which the spot visited presents. However it frequently happens that, by means of the annual excursion, certain districts are made known to members dwelling in a remoter part of the county, and so deep an impression is made upon the mind, that another and more leisurely visit is undertaken by individual members in order to become better acquainted with the district and its objects of interest.

The excursion made by the Institute on the 24th August, 1899, was one which covered ground crowded with historic sites, and if sufficient time was not given for the complete examination of church and priory, it cannot be said, that any one of the hundred members who partook of the generous hospitality of T. Tindal Methold, Esq., did not learn something new in the Science of Archæology, either from the places visited or from the valuable papers which were read.

This excursion proved to be one of the largest and most successful gatherings which the Institute has held.
Stowlangtoft (miserere).
Members came from all parts of Suffolk to join in the expedition, Lowestoft, Southwold, Newmarket, Clare, Lavenham, Bury all sent eager antiquaries; the largest contingent travelling in a saloon carriage from Ipswich arrived at Thurston by the 11.8 a.m. train. Upon the arrival of the members from Bury the brakes proceeded to Stowlangtoft. The Ven. Archdeacon Chapman, in the absence of the Rector, spoke a few words of welcome, and pointed out some features of interest in the construction of the church. Mr. J. Jennings, Curator of Bury Museum, read a short paper on its history. This paper, as well as others which were read to the members, will be found in the pages of this number of the Proceedings. There is said to be documentary evidence of the building of the Church late in the fourteenth century, but there are many marks in the walls of the edifice which show that the greater part of the work was done towards the end of the fifteenth century. It is probable that the new system of tiling a roof, instead of thatching or leading, adopted about 1450, necessitated the reconstruction of a great part of the main building at that time. This appears to be the reason for the erasure in the will of John Lenge, made 1498, to which a codicil was added in 1516. Will 1498 "And ten marks the residue of the said ten pounds I assign unto the leading of the vestry belonging unto the said church of Thurston." Codicil 1516, "And ten marks the residue of the said ten pounds I assign unto the tiling of the chancel and vestry belonging unto the said church of Thurston."

From Stowlangtoft the vehicles proceeded towards Walsham-le-Willows. The Church tower nestling among trees presents a most charming picture to the visitor arriving by road from the former village. The Rev. C. D. Gordon welcomed the members to his church, and gave a short historical account of its structure. He dwelt upon the 'Crant' bracket, and Mr. Corder, who followed, spoke upon the architectural details of the edifice. A wolf's head, emblem of S. Edmund, is depicted in one of the panels of the screen, which, from the will of John Brock, who bequeathed three bushels of corn towards the building of a new rood beam, may have been erected prior to 1441. In those days, when money was scarce, John Brock left three bushel of mixed corn for the repair of Walsham highway. One pleasant feature in the drive to Hepworth was the manifest regard paid by the owner of the Martineau estate for the welfare of his labourers. Rows of well-erected cottages, along the fronts of which Scriptural texts abound, mark that the proprietor is not endued with the atheistic doctrines of the gifted authoress of "Deerbrook."

Hepworth House was reached at 2 p.m., and Mr. and Mrs. Tindal Methold were present to give their guests a hearty welcome to an open house and well-spread lunch, to which nearly a hundred members did ample justice. After lunch the host read an interesting resumé of the valuable papers on "The Development of the Hepworth Manors," which have appeared in the Proceedings of the Institute. Then the Rev. Dr. Raven gave the company a well-thought out paper on the Roman station,
HEPWORTH CHURCH.

Icini, which stood in the neighbourhood of Ixworth. The Hon. Secretary, Mr. V. B. Redstone, thanked the two gentlemen on behalf of the Institute for the papers which they had read, and then introduced the following new members:—The Right Rev. the Bishop of Ipswich; The Hon. Mary Henniker, 4, Berkeley Street, Piccadilly, w.; Rev. B. Wolsey, Brightwell Rectory; Rev. Francis J. Eld, Polstead Rectory, Colchester; Rev. Horatio L. Todd, Occold Rectory, Eye; Sir Henry Howorth, President of the Royal Inst. of Archaeology; The Trustees of Chetham College, Manchester; The Ven. Dean Blakiston, F.S.A., Hadleigh; J. T. Joliffe, Esq., The Lodge, Warrington Road, Ipswich; Miss H. H. Tatlock, Bramfield House, Halesworth.

Mr. J. Jennings, Curator of Bury Museum, introduced Mr. Owen Clarke, Abbeygate Street, Bury St. Edmund's as a new member; and Mr. Frank Woolnough introduced Mr. Thomas Parkington, junr., Leicester House, Ipswich, as a member. The members introduced at the annual meeting, held 28th April, 1899, were—Rev. H. Hasted, The Cottage, Nowton; Rev. S. B. Field, Patcham, Sussex; Admiral Pelham Aldrich, Woodbridge; Rev. C. C. James, Wortham, Diss; Rev. C. Clare, Wenhaston; T. Normandale, Esq., Needham Market; J. Jennings, Esq., The Museum, Bury St. Edmund's; W. M. Tapp, Esq., LL.D., 27, South Moulton Street, London, w.

Before leaving Hepworth House the Hon. Sec. warmly thanked Mr. and Mrs. Tindal Methold for the hearty reception which they had extended towards the members and friends of the Institute. Mr. Redstone expressed further satisfaction for the sympathetic support and encouragement which he had received in the carrying out of his secretarial work, not only from the generous host and hostess, but also from all members with whom he had entered into communication, remarking that he perceived the vitality of the Institute to be so great that he could predict for it another fifty years' existence.

After quitting the delightful grounds of Hepworth House, a short visit was made to Hepworth Church, which, destroyed by fire in 1898, has been so quickly and well restored under the direction of Mr. J. S. Corder of Ipswich. It may appear at first sight that a departure was made from the rules of the Institute by visiting what is practically a new church, but Mr. Corder was able to show his hearers that the destruction of the building had brought to light many facts of significant value to the archaeologist. The discoveries made at the recent restoration were the little Low Side Window on the South side of the Chancel; the remains of a doorway leading to a room formerly over the porch; some Roman Arch stones built into the buttresses; and the base of the old Churchyard Cross. Mr. P. M. Johnston concludes a most able article on "The Low Side Windows of Surrey Churches," with these words:—"The low side window of parish churches in the great majority of instances was an outward confessional." A square low side window, "walled up evidently at an early stage in the long struggle of the

IXWORTH PRIORY—CRYPT.
Reformation," has recently been discovered in the south wall of Brightwell Chapel. The pink tint perceptible upon the stones, which had been subjected to the ravages of fire, corroborates the tradition that the same tint of the stones in the walls of Pakenham Church was due to the destruction of at least part of the early building by fire. Few members noticed in the churchyard fence the post with its iron ring, which once formed part of the old village stocks or pillory, standing near the churchyard gate.

A drive was next made past the two churches of Stanton to Ixworth Priory, which was visited through the kind permission of the owner, Captain Cartwright. While the visitors had been regaling themselves, the Ven. Archdeacon Chapman had most thoughtfully arranged for their comfort within the crypt of the Priory, by seeing that convenient sitting accommodation was provided for those who had the pleasure of listening to his interesting paper on "Ixworth Priory six hundred years ago." Every member fully appreciated his kind forethought, and listened with deep interest to the information he gave about the former occupiers of the old religious house in the crypt of which they were assembled. A hasty visit was made to Ixworth Church, at which the Rev. D. Harrison, Vicar of Ixworth, was waiting to receive the members. Unfortunately there was not sufficient time remaining to give a proper amount of attention to the principal features of the building, or to permit the Vicar to go into the details of its history. Many occupied the short time available in trying to decipher the inscriptions on glazed tiles inserted in the west and south walls of the tower. A curious fact escaped the notice of most of the visitors, namely that the exterior east wall of the chancel is bulging outwardly owing to the insidious attacks of mason-bees, and also that within the roof a swarm of bees had made their hive. Mr. Harrison is an ardent naturalist, but he does not appreciate the opportunity of becoming acquainted with the habits of insects by noting their destructive power upon the solid walls of his parish church.

Immediately on crossing the bridge leading from Ixworth into Pakenham there may be seen an old farm-house belonging to Mr. R. Burrell of Westley, on the right hand, at the back of which was a considerable burial ground, from which bones, funeral pottery, and Samian ware have been taken. A little further on the road forms a trivium, the right hand being the old Bury and Norwich turnpike road; the centre, the Hall Road; the left hand, the Watermill Road; the last has become a public road almost within living memory.

Proceeding along the Hall Road, the three-cornered field on the right has yielded Roman remains, and considerable amounts of funeral pottery have been dug up round about the site of the windmill on the left hand. A little further on, the first meadow on the left contains the site of Pakenham Hall, the only traces of which are to be seen in shapeless indentations, showing where the old cellars had stood, some brickwork by a pond "where they washed the carriages," and a few
trees, relics of the garden. Pakenham Hall Manor was part of the estate of the Monks of Bury, and was the seat of the Springs in their palmy days. Continuing along the Hall Road the way leads past the “Upper Town,” where it cuts the “Town Way” at right angles. By taking the road to the left, “Nether Hall” (the seat of E. W. Greene, Esq.) was seen. The field opposite the Lodge of Nether Hall is known as the “Owell,” and was the first in the county to be devoted to “Allotments.” Probably this field may have been the “Ovile,” the “addn faldam” of Domesday. At Streetsende, the residence of the Vicar, which was reached by following the road to the right, the old Guild Hall (now cottages belonging to the Town estate) came into view.

John Freman of Ixworth, who, in his Will dated 7 August, 1445, styled himself “servitor et servilitus condiciois d[n] Abbati mon Sc. Ed. de Bury ejusdem conventui raōe eo[r] manerii de Pakenham vulg. dict. Pakenham Hall,” mentions the Corpus Christi Guild of Pakenham, and bequeathed all the money to be paid on his behalf by the brothers and sisters of the said Guild for the repair and mending of the Church. William Camborn of Pakenham, by Will dated 1446, also mentions the money to be paid by the members of this Guild at the time of his burial, of which money he bequeathed three shillings and fourpence to the Guilds of S. Peter and of S. John the Baptist. Anna Catour, alias Reve, in her will mentions “John Skutt of Ixworth convent,” and wills her executors to find two torches for Ixworth church, “each containing 24 lbs. of wax and 4 lbs. of resin.” She mentions the Guilds of Pakenham, and also the two Guilds of S. Thomas and of S. James of Ixworth, bequeathing to each the sum of twelve pence.

The Rev. C. W. Jones and Mrs. Jones welcomed the members, and kindly provided tea upon the lawn of the Vicarage. Afterwards an inspection was made of the interesting relics from the site of a village, which, according to the opinion of Professor Dawkins, was pre-historic and fortified. The members thanked the Rev. C. W. Jones and his brother, Prebendary Harry Jones, of Barton Mere, for allowing them the privilege of viewing such an interesting collection. The Vicar then read a paper upon the history and characteristics of the church, which bears traces of the various periods of architecture from Henry I. to Victoria. All the visitors warmly supported a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. Jones for their hospitality, and then for the last time took their seats in the conveyances. Passing Barton church, the steeple of which was erected in 1449, and Thurston church, they arrived at the starting point in time to catch the trains for Ipswich and Bury.

Special thanks are due to all those who so readily assisted to make the excursion of 1899 one of the most delightful and instructive recorded in the annals of the Institute.