

Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and Natural History.

WULCY OF SUFFOLK.

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No satisfactory history of Cardinal Wolsey's ancestors has yet been written. The poor attempts to set forth the conditions which surrounded the boyhood and early years of the great statesman have been, for the most part, compiled from desultory information to be found among the writings of his contemporaries who despised him for his humble birth. Subsequent writers, among whom was the late Bishop Creighton, considered that "contemporary slander, wishing to make his fortunes more remarkable or his presumption more intolerable, represented his father as a man of mean estate, a butcher by trade. However, Robert Wolsey's will shews that he was a man of good position, probably a grazier and wool merchant, with relatives who were also well to do. Thomas seems to have been the eldest of his family, and his father's desire was that he should enter the priesthood."

There is nothing in the will of Robert Wolsey to warrant these statements. He was neither a grazier nor wool merchant: he mentions no relative (unless John Cady, co-executor of the will with his wife Joan, or Richard Farryngton, the supervisor, were kinsfolk); Thomas Wolsey was his only child, and the desire for Thomas Wolsey to enter the priesthood

does not seem to be expressed by the request that his son should sing mass for his soul, if "he be a prest within a year." Skelton, the poet (1460-1529), stated the truth when he asserted that Cardinal Wolsey was a butcher's son :—

For drede of the mastyve cur,
 For drede of the butcher's dogge,
 Wold wyrry them like a hogge.
 Howbeit the primordiyall
 Of his wretch originall
 And his base progeny,
 And his greasy genealogy,
 He came of the sank royal
 That was cast out of a bochers stall.

It is most probable that William Roy and Jerome Barlow were thoroughly conversant with Skelton's poem, "Why come ye not to Courte," from which the foregoing lines are taken, when they produced their satirical poem, "Rede me and be nott wrothe," 1528. These two friars observant of the Franciscan Order, illustrated their book by a coat of arms, followed by a poem explanatory of the arms :—

Of the prowde Cardinall this is the shelde,
 Borne up betweene two angels off Sathan,
 The sixe blouddy axes in a bare felde
 Sheweth the cruelte of the red man
 Which hathe devoured the beautifull swan
 (Edward Stafford)
 Mortal enmy unto the whyte lyon (Duke of Norfolk)
 Carter of Yorcke the vyle bochers sonne.
 The sixe bulles heddes in a felde blacke
 Betokeneth his stordy furiousnes.

* * * *

The bandog in the middes both expresse
 The mastif Curre bred in Ypswitch towne
 Gnawing with his teeth a kings crowne.

The venomous spite manifested throughout the poem can only be ascribed to "jealousy with rankling tooth that inly gnaws the secret heart." Readers should make themselves familiar with the life of Roy before reading his verse. It is a pity that the late Professor Arber, in the introductory pages to his reprint of the poem, should betray such strong bias in his judgment upon Wolsey's actions. The Professor has failed to consider the character of the times in which Wolsey lived, although to be a butcher's son he considers 'in itself no degradation to an honest man.'

The Wolseys of Suffolk date from early Saxon times: they came not to England in the army of William the Conqueror. They were natives of the land; as tenants *in capite* they held lands in four distinct counties. In Saxon days they enriched religious foundations with land, for Wulsi of Brightwell is recorded to have endowed the house of the monks of Ely with three hides of land in Sutton to the honour of God and St. Etheldreda. A Wulsi held a large estate at Beodericsworth, now Bury St. Edmunds. Thither resorted Talebot, the prior, Herveus and Wlmero the sacristans, when the famous manuscript, "Vita Martyrium et Miracula Sancti Edmundi Regis Angliae," was written in the 12th century. For many centuries the family of Wolsey held possessions at Beccles and in the Lothingland Hundred, and it is probable that the Wolseys of Ipswich were descendants of the Beccles family of that name.

It is not, however, before the early part of the fifteenth century that we have definite information of the Wolseys of East Suffolk, who, from father to son, carried on the trade of a butcher, combined as was customary in those days with the calling of an

innkeeper, at Yoxford, Dunwich, Blythborough, Stowmarket, Ipswich and elsewhere.

In 1405, a John Wulsy (the name is more often written Wulcy, which was the Cardinal's customary spelling of the name) appears on the Court Rolls as holding land in Yoxford, and in 1410 his name occurs on the Court Rolls for Westwood Manor in Blythburgh. One peculiarity of the family is the frequent adoption of the name John for its male members, so that John Wulcys at times became numerous enough to designate them John senior, John the middler, and John junior. It is a John Wulcy, the middler, whom we first find as holding a butcher's stall both at Dunwich and Blythburgh. When John Wulcy, senior, died in 1426, there was yet another John to maintain the name, le Myddeler, as well as an additional John who bore the significant name, John Wolcy, bastard. Robert and Thomas were other names adopted by the Yoxford and Blythburgh Wulcys. Occasional entries within the manor rolls record the fact that, like the generality of copyholders, they found opportunities for the evasion of manorial rights, and found themselves amerced in fines for selling and brewing ale, baking horsebread, and other venal offences.

It seems that the Wulcys had to some great extent the monopoly of the butchers' trade in the Loes and Wilford Hundreds; they were to be found at Campsey Ashe, Eyke, and Halesworth holding stalls within the butchery, and their connection with the Yoxford family is to be noted from entries within the rolls in the reign of Henry VI.

A Robert Wulcy defaulted in a suit of court, Brentfen Manor, Yoxford, 1433, and an entry in the rolls of the manor records the death of Robert Wulcy,

of Sternfield, 1436, leaving a wife, Alice, who died 1449, and a son and heir, John, and a son Robert. It is noticeable that, save in one instance to which I will presently allude, Wolsey's contemporary detractors do not lay on his shoulders the charge of nepotism. Among the petitions to Cardinal Wolsey is one from a John Fayerchild, who claims to have been the son of John Fayerchild, of Sibton, deceased, 1515, and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Wolcy, of Sternfield. The petitioner desires a position of trust as steward of a manor, lands of which in Farnham and Sternfield had been granted by Henry VIII. to Wolsey. It would be interesting if the reply of the Cardinal to his relative could be found; Fayerchild did not obtain the appointment of steward. His application appears to have been based upon an existing relationship.

John Wolcy, of Sternfield, migrated to London, and was buried in the Savoy Chapel. He left land at Farnham to a sister and his two daughters. At the same time John Wolcy of Blithburgh and Walberswick was acquiring several tenements and messuages, and was doing a good trade as butcher, when the great fire of Blithburgh devastated the market place. He was wealthy enough to hold in ferm the manors of Pernhowe and Elyngham. At his death his wife, Agnes, held lands at Campesbrygge and Stonbryggefen, which was subsequently held by their son, John Wolcy, butcher and innkeeper, 1461. If we can place any truth upon tradition, it appears most probable that Wolsey's Bridge, mentioned by Gardiner in his History of Southwold, as erected by the Cardinal, was, in fact, either Campesbrygge or Stonbrygge. It may be that Robert Wolcy and John Wolcy, both of Ipswich, were descendants of John Wolcy, of Blythburgh and Walberswick. It is an interesting fact that John Wolcy, of Blythburgh, who

died 1481, has as executors to his will John Wulcy and Thomas Wulcy. John Wulcy is last mentioned in the Blythburgh Rolls for 1497; a Robert Wulcy occurs in the Court Rolls of Blythburgh Priory for 1526. After that date the name ceases to be found; it does not occur in the Yoxford Manor Rolls after 1460. It is worthy of notice that the name Thomas is frequently adopted by the Wulcy family of Yoxford and Blythburgh. Before discussing the Wolseys of Ipswich, it should be noted that in 1494 a Robert Wulcy sought judgment in the King's Bench against Richard Colvyll, of Farnham by Benhall, yeoman, John Colvyll of the same, labourer, and William Greyne, husbandman, of Farnham, on a plea of assault and trespass, 20 June, 1494.

A full investigation of the Ipswich Corporation Records, both at the Town Hall, Ipswich, and at the British Museum, where interesting Court Books relating to the borough (1420-1520) are deposited, has revealed the fact that the earliest notice of a Wolsey as inhabitant of Ipswich occurs in the Lete Roll, for the South Ward, 1464. In this year, Robert Wulcy was fined twelve pence for keeping an inn and selling victuals for excessive gain. In 1466, he kept a hostel in St. Mary Elms, in which parish he remained till 1469, and, probably, till the year 1473, in which year he purchased in conjunction with his wife, Joan, a house in St. Nicholas Parish of Bartholomew Dameron, and Alice, his wife, who had obtained it by purchase of the executors of John Creyk, occupier of the premises to March, 1471-2. From this we may conclude that Robert Wulcy was resident in St. Mary Elms' parish in 1471, the year believed by some to have been the year of Cardinal Wulcy's birth: if 1475, as other writers state, were the year of his birth then he was born in the parish of St. Nicholas, where his father remained till 1496. It is difficult to judge

what was the character of the building which Creyk thought was not worth £10, and for which Robert Wolcy gave £8 6s. 8d. The premises must have been very small; Wolcy had to share the use of a well with his neighbour, Edward Winter. The other neighbours were Robert Rolff and Thomas Denys. If the Cardinal in his boyhood days joined in sports and games with his neighbours' children, may he not in the days of his prosperity have remembered those joyous times and have found pleasure in the advancement of Thomas Winter, the probable son of Edward Winter, when he showed marked ability and keen intelligence? This may be the foundation for Roy's slanderous verse wherein, having ascribed to the Cardinal a progeny of illegitimate children, he states:—

Ye (yea) and that full proudly they go
 Namly one whom I do knowe,
 Which hath of the churches goodes clerly
 More than two thousand pownde yerly,
 And yett is not content I trowe—
 His name is Master Winter.

This Thomas Winter was rector of St. Mathew's, Ipswich (1526–1538). Although Robert Wolcy's calling brought him frequently before the local court both as plaintiff and defendant, he never appeared in a dispute with his neighbours. His offences were chiefly in connection with the manner in which he carried on his trades; his ale and beer measures did not give the official aletaster, or alefounder, satisfaction: his guests found his halfpenny pies unwholesome: he slaughtered his oxen without shewing their skins in the market place, and he cast out offal into the highway where his pigs wandered about at large and unattended. His house was declared to be disorderly, and frequented by women of ill-repute during the days of the Yorkist Kings, but after the Tudor monarch came to the throne new regulations governed

his affairs, for he never again appeared charged with the like offences, although he frequently appeared to recover debts. In 1491-1494, he held with one John Pell the office of churchwarden of St. Nicholas. In the year of his death, 1496, he summoned one William Mersh, fuller, for the detention of a piece of woollen cloth, a blood coloured Kersey.

In 1494, before the King's Bench, Gregory Adgore and Elizabeth Buxton, executors of the will of Robert Buxton, sought a day to lay their claim against John Cullom of Brundish, yeoman, John Nicoll of Tadyngton, yeoman, Robert Hervey, of Ipswich, baker, and Robert Wulcy of Ipswich, *innholder*, and Joan, his wife, executors of the will of Bartholomew Dameron. From this we gather that Cardinal Wolsey's father was known to his fellow-townsmen as an innkeeper as well as butcher, and, also, that there was an intimate connection, if not relationship, between the Ipswich Wulcys and Damerons of Ipswich and Henley: the latter held important offices in the borough.

It is probable at the later period of his life Robert Wulcy gave up the butcher's craft and devoted his attention to the duties of a Boniface. In 1477 a warrant was issued for the arrest of John Sherrowe, of Kirketon, clerk, John Hunt, of *Combes*, husbandman, Robert Wolcy of the same place, butcher, John Bast of the same, chaplain, and others. Wolcy appeared before Justice Robert Wymbyll, of Ipswich, and was granted bail. Robert Wolcy was not a free burgess, he carried on his trade as an alien. The allusion that he was of *Combes* confirms the opinion that the scribe who entered Robert Wulcy's will in the register at Norwich misread Newmarket for Stowmarket, when writing "my body to be buryed in the churche yarde of our lady mary of Newmarket." In the handwriting of the fifteenth century the word

Stow might easily be mistaken for New. There appears, then, some just right for Hollingsworth's correspondent of Stowupland to claim to be a descendant of the family by a brother of Wolsey's father. The correspondent's name was Wolsey. It would be interesting to know if the wish of Robert Wolcy with respect to his burial was carried into effect. Cardinal Wolsey held lands at Combes in 1529.

That the Wolseys held land near Stowmarket is seen from the entry in the Survey Book of Bridge Place, Coddendam, drawn up in 1596, which states that a bondsman, John Goode, son and heir of Thomas Goode, held three acres of land formerly the property of Agnes Woolsey, and abutting on the land of Robert Daundy, who was lord of the manor of Combes.

There are two persons with whom Robert Wolcy was so intimately connected as to name them in his will, viz., Thomas Cady, his executor, and Richard Farryngton, his supervisor. Both were of the parish of St. Mary Elms, Ipswich, the former was a yeoman, the latter a shearman. Cady died in 1511, his widow married the said Richard Farryngton *alias* Qurnell, but died the following year, leaving a daughter, Agnes. Evidence seems to point to the conclusion that Joan, the wife of Robert Wolcy, was the elder daughter of that name of William Cady, of Stoke by Ipswich, who died in 1487. He named as his executors, Thomas Cady and John Bramston. His wife, Joan, who died the same year, named as her executors, Thomas Cady, her brother-in-law, and Edmund Daundy. Frequent dealings between the Cadys and Robert Wolcy are recorded in the Ipswich manuscripts, and Mr. Clement Casley has shewn by his excerpts from the manor rolls of Stoke Manor that Robert Wolcy held land in Stoke. Other lands which Wolcy purchased of William Cady are not mentioned, as they formed part of the borough property.

If Joan Wulcy were not the daughter of Thomas Cady, she may have been the Joan, youngest daughter of Edmund Daundy, and on this account Daundy founded a chantry, 21 February, 1510, for one chaplain of the altar of St. Thomas in the southern nave of the parish church of St. Lawrence the Martyr, Ipswich, to say mass for the good estate of the King and Queen Katharine, the said Edmund Daundy, Thomas Wolsye, Dean of Lincoln, of William Daundy his son, and for the souls of the King's ancestors, of Anne, Daundy's wife, of Robert Wolsye and Joan his wife, father and mother of the said Thomas Wolsye. Such a relationship would connect the Cardinal with some of the most wealthy and influential families of East Suffolk—Odeni, Falstaff, Russhe, Rede, Ferneley, Bacon, Gresham—and might account for his lands in Suffolk falling, upon his death, into the hands of Robert Daundy, son of the said Edmund Daundy, and of Wolsey's secretary, Thomas Alverd, whose sister Agnes married William Daundy mentioned above.

Robert Wulcy bequeathed all his lands and tenements in St. Nicholas, Ipswich, and his lands 'free and bond' in the parish of Stoke, Ipswich, to his wife, Joan, whom he constituted one of his executors and residuary legatee. As executrix, Joan Wulcy, in 1497, began to collect debts due to her late husband, and was herself sued for her husband's debts. The process was slow, so that in 1500 we find her still trying to collect sums of money, no longer, however, as Joan Wulcy, but with one William Patent, then her husband. I do not find her mentioned after this year, although her husband, William Patent, appeared before various Petty and General Courts as late as 1504. From the tenour of the licences granting Edmund Daundy the right to found his charity in St. Lawrence Church it is clear that Joan Patent

died before 1510. Although it is recorded by some writers that a stone slab covered the bodies of Robert Wulcy and his wife Joan in the church of St. Nicholas, there is no written evidence to warrant this statement. I have been unable to gather any further information about William Patent, the Cardinal's step-father.

I have only slight reference to the other Wolseys who resided in Ipswich, Richard Wolsie of St. Peter's, who in 1563 was assessed to provide the preacher with his stipend, and who in 1564 was assessed for the repairs of St. Peter's Church. In 1580 it was agreed by the Common Council that Richard Wolcye should have allotted to him out of the estreats of the late Chamberlain of a certain two shillings and sixpence, one-half as informer. An item in the Treasurer's and Chamberlains' Accounts for 29 December, 1578, marks the payment "unto Wolsey for making clene the Hill and Butchers' stalls," but there is nothing to shew whether it refers to Richard Wolsey or to John Woosie, husband of Elizabeth Woosie, of St. Mary Quay, who was buried, 19 September, 1588. As she is referred to in the parish register as late wife of John Woosie, she may be the widow Wolsey mentioned in the Chamberlains' Accounts for 1585:—Paid to Mother Wolsey for her paynes in clensing, the Corne Hill, the Butcherage, and the New Keye for her whole yeres wages, XXs.—and if so, her husband, John Wolsey, carried out the work during his lifetime. There is nothing to shew any connection between these two families and the family of Cardinal Wolsey, it is more likely they were connected with the family of Elizabeth Wolsey, of Ipswich, widow, who was taken and detained by Thomas Felton, lord of the manor of Necton in Sproughton, as a bondwoman attached to his manor, 1531.

It is well to mention the other Wolseys living in

Suffolk during the time of the Cardinal. A William Wulcy, carver, engaged by Sir John Clopton upon work in Long Melford Church, resided in Bury St. Edmunds, as did also John Wolsey, of Old Baxter Street. Another William Wulcy was vicar of Bramfield, and died February, 1513; and a Thomas Wulcy, chaplain, was appointed rector of Redgrave in 1506. A Ralph Wolcy in 1472 bequeathed a vestment called a Sunday-cloth to the church of Alderton.

The Wulcy families of Norfolk were more numerous than the Wulcy families of Suffolk. Some members of the Norfolk families followed the trade of a butcher, but I have utterly failed to connect them with the family of Cardinal Wolsey except under one amusing circumstance which shews that a county family of Suffolk did not hesitate to claim family connection with the son of 'a poor but honest man.' Elizabeth, daughter of Edward and Dorothy Wolsey, of Newton, Norfolk, married Thomas Tuthall, of Newton Hall. On the death of her husband she married John, eldest son and heir of Richard Cornwallis. Her third husband was William Bedingfield, of Cretingham, at which place she was buried 25 March, 1630. Upon the tomb of her husband, John Cornwallis, are the arms of Cornwallis impaling the arms of Blennerhasett (his first wife was Katherine, daughter of John Blennerhasett) and the arms of Cardinal Wolsey as those of Edward Wolsey, of Newton. Upon the arms of the Cardinal are two Cornish choughs or becketts, probably adopted because he held St. Thomas of Canterbury, whose altar stood in the south nave of St. Lawrence Church, Ipswich, as his patron saint. In the East Anglian Notes and Queries (Vol. VII., p. 161) in the list of seals, or impresses of seals, in the Fitch collection, mention is made of the seal of Robert Wuley (? Wulcy) of Ipswich. Unfortunately it has been impossible, up to the present, to get fur-

ther information about the seal.

The notes from the Yoxford Court Rolls added to this paper were kindly supplied to me by Mr. R. T. L. Parr, son of a former Rector of Yoxford. To him I am also indebted for providing me the opportunity of supplying notes from the Blithburgh Manorial Rolls.

WOLCY OF YOXFORD.

The name is not found in the extant court rolls of Edward II., Edward III., or Richard II.

6. Hen. IV. Yoxford manor. Copyhold meadow called Longemedwe, granted to *John Wlsy*.
8. Hen. IV. Cockfield Hall manor. John Skotaugh cannot deny that he owes 6s. 6d. to *John Wolcy, junior*. *John Wolcy, senior*, did fealty for a tenement late of John Andrew, deceased, in Yoxford.
9. Hen. IV. Yoxford manor. *John Wlsy* has done damage in the lord's wood with his cows.
10. Hen. IV. *John Wolcy* is one of the defaulters in suit of court.
10. Hen. IV. (another court). *John Wlsy* is bailiff of Yoxford manor.
11. Hen. IV. Yoxford manor. *John Wlsy, sen.*, has sold to Robert Boty the tenement Dreymedduwes, without licence.
11. Hen. IV. (next court). *John Wlsy, sen.*, attended and surrendered the above tenement in due form.
11. Hen. IV. Court and leet of Yoxford manor. *John Wlsy* is one of the inquisition sworn.
11. Hen. IV. Meriell manor. *John Wlsy le Myddeler* is one of the inquisition sworn.
12. Hen. IV. The lord granted demesne lands, on a lease, to *John Wlsy*.
6. Hen. V. *John Wolcy, sen.*, is one of the jury at the leet of Yoxford manor. *John Wolcy, jun.*, is one of the persons sworn on the inquisition at another court of same manor.
1. Hen. VI. Meriell manor. *John Wolsy, jun.*, defaults in respect of suit of court.

2. Hen. VI. Yoxford manor. *John Wolcy, sen.*, and *John Wolcy, jun.*, both sworn of the inquisition.
2. Hen. VI. (same manor but another court). *John Wolcy living in Stekelondstrete*, with a stranger whose name is at present unknown, has hunted within the warren of the lady of the manor, in Yoxford, and has taken two partridges and carried them away to the prejudice of the lady.
(Same court). *John Wolcy, sen.*, *John Wolcy, jun.*, and *Alice Wolcy* are all defaulters in suit of court.
3. Hen. VI. incipient'. Yoxford manor: court held die mart' px. post fm. nat' Be Marie Virg.' Death of *John Wolcy, sen.*, presented.
4. Hen. VI. *John Wolcy, sen.*, has withheld 3 cocks and 1 hen, issuing from his tenement, for eight years. Fined. (Same year, another court). *John Wolcy, sen.*, 20s. for assaulting the bailiff and preventing him from doing his duty (?this 'senior' is the previous 'myddeler'.).
6. Hen. VI. Yoxford manor. 1st court of Sir John Graa, knight. *Avice Wolcy, widow* (? same person called 'Alice' above), and *John Wolcy, jun.*, did fealty. *John Wolcy, sen.*, and *John Wolcy, jun.*, were of the inquisition.
(Same day: court for Meriell manor) Two Johns, sen. and jun., did fealty.
7. Hen. VI. Yoxford manor. Grants to *John Wolcy le Middeler* (? The same person who was 'junior' up to 3 Hen. VI.).
10. Hen. VI. *John Wolcy le Middeler* is of the inquisition.
11. Hen. VI. Brentfen manor. *Robert Wolcy* has defaulted in suit of court.
12. Hen. VI. Yoxford manor: court held die marti's px post festu' sci Jacobi apli. *John Wolcy le Middeler* on his deathbed surrendered into the hands of *John Wolcy bailiff* of the lord certain tenements, to the use of *John Wolcy his son*, and his heirs.
13. Hen. VI. *Avice Wolcy, widow*, surrendered into the hands of *John Wolcy*, a copyhold tenant of the manor, certain property, to the use of *John Wolcy, jun.*, her son, and his heirs.
14. Hen. VI. Yoxford manor. *John Wolcy, sen.*, surrendered copyholds to the use of *John Wolcy his brother*, and his heirs.

14. Hen. VI. Brentfen manor. *Robert Wolcy of Sternfield* is dead, and has surrendered copyholds to the use of *Alice his wife* for her life, but who has the reversion at her death is unknown.

Robert Wolcy—Alice of Sternfield.

Elizh. W.—John Fayerchild, of Sibton.

John Fayerchild, living. 1515.

At the next court these copyholds were granted to said *Alice*, with remainder to *John son of said Robert* and his heirs for ever.

15. Hen. VI. At a Yoxford court, *Avice Wolcy* is mentioned, while among the essoins are *John Wolcy, sen.*, *John Wolcy, jun.*, and *John Wolcy, bocher*.

27. Hen. VI. Brendfen court. *John Baker* surrendered copyholds to the use of *Thomas Wolcy* and *Beatrice his wife*.

(Another court, same year, same manor), *Alice*, wife of *Henry Genne*, formerly wife of *Robert Wolcy*, is dead, holding for the term of her life property of which the reversion belongs to the right heirs of *John Wolcy son of said Robert*. *Richard Wolcy*, 'consanguineus' of said *John*, is his next heir and of full age.

28. Hen. VI. At court for Yoxford manor, *John Wolcy, jun.*

At court for Brendfen manor, *Thomas Wolcy*.

- 29 to 39 Hen. 4I. *John Wolcy, John Wolcy, sen.*, *John Wolcy jun.*, and *Thomas Wolcy (of Middleton)* mentioned several times.

1. Ed. IV. Death of *John Wolcy, sen.*, presented. His copyholds are surrendered to the use of his last will and testament. Seisin is delivered to his executors, *John Wolcy of Blythburgh*, and *Thomas Wolcy of Halesworth, draper*.

Thos W. (died 1498)—Agnes.

Execrs., Agnes and W. Fyske.

(Same year). Attached to a Yoxford court is a list of persons who owe suit of court. It includes *Avicia Wolcy, John Wolcy, sen.*, *John Wolcy le Middeler*, and *John Wolcy, bocher*.

2. Ed. IV. *John Wolcy de Yoxford* and *Margaret his wife* surrendered several pieces of property to the use of *Robert Vyncent*.

49. Hen. VI. (readempcionis regie sue potestatis primo). *John Wolcy late of Stykelond*, surrendered copyholds to the use of Robert Snellyng and Agnes his wife.
11. Ed. IV. *John Wolcy late of Stykelond* gives a fine for respite of suit of court until next Michaelmas (court held 3rd August).
12. Ed. IV. Court for Yoxford manor held die lune px. post festum Sci. Michis. Archi. *John Wolcy Warrewici* has surrendered copyholds to the use of John Cook and Alice his wife.
(Same date: Muriell manor) similar surrender.

This seems to be the end of the Wolseys in Yoxford. I cannot find the name at all in the court rolls of Richard III. or Henry VII.

Brentfen (or Brendfen) manor is partly in Yoxford and partly in Middleton parish. Yoxford and Cockfield Hall manors are in Yoxford and Darsham. Muriell (or Meriell) manor is a very small one, in Yoxford.

Stickingland or Stykelond is a district of Yoxford adjoining Muriell manor. It was (I gather) once a separate manor, but there have been no separate courts for it since Edward II.

Extracts from "*The Rental of John Hopton, Squier, of hys maners of Yoxford, Brendfen, Meryell, Stykelond et Cokefeld, renewed the xj. yere of the reigne of Kyng Edward the iiije.*"

"*John Wolcy of Stikelona* yeldith for a bonde clos called Colneyscroft to the maner of Yoxford vs^s iiiij^d and for a pece of londe with a tofte called Coteyerd to the maner of Cokefeld xv^d, also for a pece of bonde londe called Whynnylonde to the maner of Yoxford vj^d, also for a other pece of londe to the maner of Meriell xx^d viijs, ix^d."

"*Beatrice late the wyffe of Thomeys Wolcy* yeldith for a bonde messuage called Rushwalles with other parcels to the same messuage longyng to the maner of Brendfen xxii^d ob." (and other pieces, all in the maner of Brendfen) total xv^s. iiiij^d, 9^r."

(These are the only two Wolseys mentioned in that rental).

WOLCY OF BLYTHBURGH AND WALBERSWICK.

- The name is not found in the extant court rolls of Edward II.
12. Hen. IV. Westwood manor. *John Wulsy* versus Allan Clérk.

6. Hen. VI. Westwood manor. *William Wolcy* on death-bed surrendered messuage alongside the market of Blythburgh formerly Richard Gossybs to the use of John May, clerk, *John Wolcy, sen.*, *John Wolcy le Middeler*.
Also a cottage and $2\frac{1}{2}$ acres formerly William Smyths, and a tenement Largys formerly John Hayls and other land in Blythburgh to the use of his wife *Alice* for life, the remainder to his sons *John* and *Thomas*.
Eleanor Foxle made hamsoken on *William Wolcy*, entering his garden and stealing his apples.
7. Hen. VI. *Alice Wolcy* fine 6d. as a brewster of ale.
Westwood manor. *John Wolcy, 'bastard,'* sold cottage in Blythburgh without licence.
Alice Wolcy late wife of *William* sells land to Baldwin Stot.
8. Hen. VI. *Alice Wolcy* swore fealty at first court of Henry Hopton, armiger.
John Wolcy 'le bastard,' surrenders cottage formerly Richard Gossibs to use of William Croxton and wife Catherine, payment at Ayssh.
Alice Wolcy sells ale against assize.
9. Hen. VI. *John Wolcy* owes suit of court.
10. Hen. VI. John Mey, clerk, sold to Robert Baker messuage in Blythburgh formerly William Wolcy's.
11. Hen. VI. John Mey surrenders messuage in the new market of Blythburgh formerly *William Wolcy's* to Robert Baker and wife Joan; John Palmer and wife *Alice* surrender all right to messuage which said *Alice* held by reason of dower.
John Wolcy of Aysshe, suiter at court.
18. Hen. VI. *John Wolcy* son and heir of *William Wolcy* versus John Wymond, plea of land. Also versus Agnes, late wife of Thomas Northal, same plea.
19. Hen. VI. *John Wolcy* son of the late *William Wolcy* versus *John Wolcy* of Blythburgh and wife, Agnes, power to pursue his complaint in the nature of a letter of the death of ancestors. The same *John Wolcy* versus John Wymond and wife Claricia. *John Wolcy, junior*, absent from Leet Court.
25. Hen. VI. *John Wolcy* is of the inquisition.
26. Hen. VI. *Thomas Wolcy* versus Thomas Resshmere.

27. Hen. VI. *John Wolcy, junior*, is of the inquisition. Also *Thomas Wolcy*.
Margery Fornham conveys land to *John Wolcy* of Eyke.
28. Hen. VI. *John Wolcy, junior*, is of the inquisition.
2. Ed. IV. *John Wolcy* conveys lands at Jollislane late William Wolcy, his fathers', in Blithburgh to William Mason, miller.
John Wolcy, one of the executors of the will of Claricia Wymond, widow, deceased.
John Wolcy sold horsebred contrary to assise.
Matilda Wolcy, brewster.
- 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 10. Ed. IV. *John Wolcy* is of the inquisition.
John Pashlew conveys land to use of *John Wolcy* of Blithburgh.
8. Ed. IV. Tenement Colmans in Walberswick bought by *John Wolcy*.
5. Ed. IV. *William Wolcy* is of the inquisition.
- 3-21. Ed. IV. Compotus Roll. Westwood manor. *John Wolcy* for ferm of Pernhowe and Elyngham manors £8 13s. 4d.. To *John Wolcy* for 66 rabbits 9s. 10½d.
39. Hen. VI. Court Leet, Blythburgh. *John Wolcy* is of the inquisition. Margaret Newere, servant of *John Wolcy*, Agnes, late wife of *John Wolcy* of Blithburgh, senior, surrenders land by Campesbrygge, Stonbryggefen, Rysshmer, Calvspyghtell and enclosure called Ledysowys to use of John Hoo who regrants same to said Agnes Wolcy, *John Wolcy*, baker of horsebread against assise. *Matilda Wolcy*, brewster.
17. Ed. IV. Leet Court. *John Wolcy* of Blithburgh on deathbed surrendered curtilage called Fenyerd, cottage called Frechericlos, 3½ acres of land, 2 marshes, a cottage called Foxles to use of wife *Matilda*. Executors, *John Wolcy* and *Thomas Wolcy*.
18. Ed. IV. *Matilda Wolcy* cut furze on lord's soil.
1. Ed. V. Lands in Blithburgh sold by *Matilda Wolcy* to hers *John Wolcy* without licence.
22. Ed. IV. *Margaret Wolcy* obstruct way leading to the Hermitage.
18. Ed. IV. *William Wolcy*, son of *Matilda Wolcy*, a card player, fine 3d.
1. Rich. III. *Katherine Wolcy*, brewster. *John Wolcy* dwelt within the precincts of the Leet for a year and had not taken the oath.

2. Rich. III. *Gregory Wolcy* takes oath of the Leet.
3. Rich. III. *Matilda Wolcy*, late wife of *John Wolcy*, widow, and *Thomas Wolcy*, lands mentioned Leet Court 17 Ed. IV. to *John Wolcy*, son of *Matilda Wolcy*.
2. Hen. VII. *Katherine Wolcy*, brewster. *John Wolcy* rebellious and abused the aletasters.
12. Hen. VII. *John Wolcy* is of the inquisition.

Court Rolls of Westwood, Blithburgh and Walberswick are continuous from 3 Hen. VIII. to 14 Hen. VIII., but no Wolcy appears in them.

6. Hen. VIII. Court of Hinton. *William Wolcy*, clerk, died, Land called Dernford Croft to use of executor of his will.

Court Rolls of Hinton continuous to 35 Hen. VIII. No further mention of Wolcy.

* Court of Blithburgh Priory 3 Hen. VIII.—4 Elizabeth.

17. Hen. VIII. *Robert Wolcy* came and was sworn of the Lete. The only mention of Wolcy.
2. Hen. VI. *Wm. Wolsy* is of the inquisition and sells beer and bread.
3. Hen. VI. *John Wolsy*, senior and middler, and *William Wolsy* assault *John Wryng*.
- 4 and 5. Hen. VI. *William Wolsy* is of the inquisition. "*Ancilla*" of *William Wolsy* cuts reeds.
16. Hen. VI. *Alice*, late wife of *William Wolsy* died two years since, sons, *John* and *Thomas Wolsy*, who did not take up lands, which were seized by the lord.
- Po 14. Ed. IV. *William Wolcy* sworn of the Lete.
36. Hen. VI. *Agnes*, late wife of *John Wolcy* senior takes up lands.
31. Hen. VI. *John Wolcy*, junior, is of the inquisition.
30. Hen. VI. *John Wolcy*, senior and junior, *Isabella Wolcy*, *Agnes Wolcy*, brew ale.

Rentals of Blithburgh Priory 15–22 Hen. VII.

- 15–19. Hen. VII. *John Wolcy*, 3s. 5½d., received of *William Wolcy*, 20–22 Hen. VII.