

executors ; and I give to every of them ten pounds, or a piece of plate to the value thereof. And I do earnestly intreat the Right Honorable Sr Edward Coke, Knight, Lord Chief Justice of England, to be supervisor of this my last will ; and that he will be a friend to my son, as he hath been to me ; and I do give him my great iron chest, in token of a poor remembrance. And in witness that this is my last will, I have set my hand to every leaf, and written it all with my own hand the first day of June, in the fourteenth year of our Sovereign Lord King James, 1616.—HENRY WARNER.

M^a that this was published to be the last will of Sr Henry Warner, Knight, the eighteenth day of July, in the fourteenth year of our Sovereign Lord King James, 1616 ; and written all with his own hand, in the presence of Leonard Mawe, John Blower, William Symonds.

Probatum apud London, 5 Julij, 1617.

Sir Henry Warner died on the 6th of May, in 1617, and was interred agreeably to his desire, by his first wife, in the chancel of Mildenhall church. His son Edward succeeded to the estate, which descended to his son Henry ; but how or when it passed away from the family is not known. The estate is now vested in Sir Henry Bunbury, Bart.

SAMUEL TYMMS.

NOTE

AS TO THE MAYOR OF SUDBURY'S LETTER IN 1577.

(Printed in p. 201.)

AMONG the documents relating to Sudbury, published in the last No. of these Proceedings, was a letter from the Mayor of Sudbury in 1577, which related to the forfeited goods of a felon there, and had been understood to have been addressed to the Abbot of Bury. In a note it was shown that it could not have been written to an Abbot of Bury, but all endeavours to discover to whom it was addressed had been unsuccessful. I have since found reason to believe the mayor's correspondent was Sir Nicholas Bacon (the father of the celebrated philosopher), who, being at that time Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, was on that account styled " your Lordship ". I had supposed that the franchise of the Liberty of Bury had continued in the Crown from the dissolution of the abbey till the time of James I. Some grant or grants, however, appear to have been made of it, and the title to it was for some time in dispute. In 2nd Edw. VI. Sir Thomas Darcy claimed the seven hundreds ; but in 2nd & 3rd Philip and Mary,

Nicholas Bacon, Esq., is mentioned as having had all the franchises and liberties of Bury St. Edmund, in Suffolk, granted to him and his heirs. A claim by Sir Nicholas to all those franchises and some others was made in Hilary Term, 1st Elizabeth; and it is mentioned in Jones's Index to the Originalia and Memoranda in the Exchequer that "the pleadings upon the claim state very fully the title of Sir N. Bacon to all the franchises of that liberty; and the judgment entered thereon is the most solemn one to be found; inasmuch as it states the Court to be assisted by the Queen's Serjeants, the Attorney-General, &c.; by virtue of which claim the said Sir Nicholas Bacon and his descendants regularly claimed and had set over to them in the Exchequer all post-fines and other fines and forfeitures arising within the said liberty, until the end of King James's reign; about which time a grant was made to one ——— Shaw and another person to recover back all the said fines, &c., mentioned therein to have been improperly adjudged to Sir N. Bacon and his heirs, but no proceedings appear to be had in the Exchequer in consequence of this grant." In 13th Eliz. (1570-1) the Queen granted to Nicholas Bacon the office of bailiff of the liberties of St. Edmund, in the county of Suffolk, for his life. The object of obtaining this grant was probably to facilitate the recovery of the fines and forfeitures; but if the franchise itself was adjudged to him, it is strange the Queen should be found granting the office of Bailiff. This looks as if the profits of the franchise, and not the franchise, had been adjudged to him. However in either case sufficient, I think, appears to show that Sir Nicholas Bacon was intitled to the forfeitures within the liberty in 1577, the year in which the letter was written. He was made Lord Keeper in 1558, and continued in that office till his death in 1579; and therefore in all probability he was the person to whom the letter was addressed. The high station he occupied fully accounts for the deferential language in which it is expressed.

The original records above alluded to would be likely to furnish some important particulars relative to the history of the franchises that had belonged to the abbey, from the dissolution to near the end of the 16th century. References to them will be found in Jones's Index, vol. ii. under "Edmundus" and "Suffolcia".

W. S. W.