

INVENTORY OF FURNITURE AT MENDHAM HALL, 1548.

THE earliest account that can be obtained of Mendham Hall is that it was a Lordship of the Abbots of St. Edmund's Bury, and enfeoffed by Abbot Baldwin in Hugh de Vere, of whom it was purchased in the reign of William II. by Nicholas de Mendham, whose family took their surname from this village. It continued with them until 1318, when John de Mendham sold it. This manor was afterwards added to the manor of King's Hall, in Mendham, and King Edward I. settled it upon Eleanor, his first queen. On her decease it became the property of the De Veres, Earls of Oxford, who sold it to the Fressingfields. Sir John de Fressingfield sold them to Sir Walter de Norwich and his heirs. In 1353 Sir John de Huntingfield held them at half a knight's fee. They were soon after settled by the trustees of Roger de Huntingfield upon Mendham Priory, and continued in that house until the Dissolution; and in 1540 King Henry VIII. granted them to Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, of whom they were purchased by the Frestons. In 1551 Richard Freston was lord, and the property still continues in that family.

The original manuscript from which this inventory is printed, formerly belonged to the late Henry Seekamp, of Ipswich, esq., a well-known collector of coins, antiquities, &c. It came into his possession as executor to Mr. Shave—many years an eminent bookseller in the same town. Mr. Shave purchased several large libraries from gentlemen in the county, which were disposed of by means of sale catalogues.

W. S. FITCH.

MENDHAM HALLE, IN SUFF.

The inventory taken there the seconde daye of Septembre, in the seconde yeare of the reigne of our sov'aigne Kynge & Lorde Edwarde the sixte [1548], ageynst the comyng of my Lady Marie's grace.

The Grete Chambre.

Ffyrst, the seyd chambre is hanged rounde w^h ix pec's of verder, w^h ij curtaynes of blew and grene dornyx* for the grete wyndow, wherin is a carpet for the grete windowe of red say, imbrodered w^t blake satyn, a carpet of verder for the lesse window, w^h a quytyan of satyn & velvet for the same, imbrodered w^h dropes of golde. A cupbord w^t a carpet of nedyll work w^h a curtyan of satin & blacke velvet embrodered w^t dropes. A joynd chayre w^h seates and blacke velvet at backe, imbrodered w^t a quitian of blacke velvet for the same. A square Flaunders stole, cov'd w^t a seate of yalowe sattin and crymsyn velvet, chekered, ffrynged w^h yalowe & crymsyn silke. A joynd forme & iij square turned stooles of joyner's worke, w^t ij aunde irons.

Grene Chambre.

It'm, the said chambre is hanged rounde w^h dornyx, wherein is one grete bedstede w^h roses, hedes, and antyque gilt, and the testor of the same, valence of blewe and grene sylke. iij curtayns of grene sarsenet, the hede of grene saten of Brydgs† lyned. A donge‡ & ffetherbed. A payre of ffustyans, a blanket of twylle, a bolster & ij pyllowes. A carpet for the windowe of blewe saye, imbrodered w^t blacke velvet & blewe flower de lys of satten, a quytyan for the windowe of yalowe damaske & crymsyn velvet. A cupbord w^h a carpett of nedyll worke of roses. A Flemyshe chayre w^t rede clothe, & a quytyan of nedyll werke, w^h harts, w^t a payre of shets, and ij pillowberes.

Chappell Cha'bre.

Ffyrste, the seyd chambre is hanged w^t iij pec's of verder, lyned, w^t a cartayne for the grete wyndowe of blewe and grene dornyx, wherin is a bedde of joynt worke turned, lute colored, w^t teystor and hed of cloth of golde and crymsyn velvit, valence of blacke sylke & golde; iij blewe curtaynes of sarsenet, a matrasse, a donge, a ffetherbed, a bolster, ij pyllows, a paire of ffustyans, a rede happen, a cov'nyng of v'ders, a cov'nyng of sylke of v payres lyned w^t blewe and iij quytyans of the same sylke for wyndowes lynid w^h tawnie damaske, a carpett of nedyll worke for the gardyn wyndow. A carpett of ffrayne worke for the chappell wyndow, a quytyan of nedyll worke lynid w^t tawney satten of Brydgs. A cupbord w^t a carpett of nedyll worke, a chayre w^t seate and bake of nedyll worke, ffryngid w^t blake and yalowe sylke. A lytell fouled stoole w^t seate of nedyll worke. A skrene and a glasse. A payre of shetes.

* A kind of stuff used for curtains, carpets, &c., so called from Doornick or Tournay, in Flanders, where it was first made.

† Satin of Bruges, being manufactured there.

‡ A matrasse.

The Inne Cha'bre.

It'm, therin is a joynd bedd w^t a teystor joynd, a ffetherbede, a payre of blanketts, a bolster, a pyllowe, a twylt, a counter, a cupbord, a chayre, ij heoches*, one ffourme, and a payer of shetes.

The Mewes Chambr.

It'm, the seyde chambre is hanged rounde w^t rede and grene saye, w^t ij curtaynes for the ij wyndowes of blew bokeram, & ij carpetts of grene & white dornyx, ij cutyons for wyndowes of nedell worke, and one of satin of Brydgs, imbrodered w^t R. and A., iiij joynd stooles w^t iiij quytyans of bawdkyn†. A cupbord w^t a carpett of nedell worke. A joynd bedd gylt w^t teystor and hede of stryped satten of Brydgs, valence of crewle, ij curteynes of grene and tayney sarcenet. A mattrasse, a fetherbedd, a bolster, and toow pyllowes, a payre of wollen blanketts, a red happyn. A cov'ng of grene sylke, twylted and lynes w^t oleive, a payre shetes & ij pyllowberes‡.

Chappell Clossett.

It'm, therein is a benche to leane uppon, w^t a carpett of dornyx & iiij curtaynes of dornyx, vi of lethere, a byble in Englysse§, and one in lattyn, Erasmus Paraphrasis, a payre shetes.

Seylyd Chambr.

It'm, the seid chambre is syled rownde, wherin is a joynd bedd w^t tester & hede of rede clothe, imbrodered w^t garter, valence of crewell, ij curtaynes of rede saye, a donge, a ffetherbed, a bolster, & a pyllow, ij blanketts of Iryshe ffryse, a cov'ng of verders. A cupbord w^t a carpett of nedell worke, a carpet of nedell worke for the chappell wyndowe, a quytyan of nedellworke, a joynd stoole, a cofer, a fyre shovel.

Mr. Wentworth's Chamber.

It'm, the seid chambre is hanged w^t grene and blewe dornyx rounde, ij carpetes for the wyndowes of the same, iiij quytyans for the said wyndowes of checkered velvet, grene and rede. A whyte joynd bedd, gylte testor & heade of black velvet & whyte saten of Brydgs, imbrodered w^t dropes and roses, valence of whyte and blacke sylke, ij curtaynes of whyte & blacke sarsanet, a matterasse, a ffetherbed. A bolster, ij pyllowes, a payre ffustyans, a blanket of Iryshe ffryse. A cov'ng of verders. It'm, a speruer|| of yalowe satten embrodered & blake velvet, w^t braunched letters and crosses, & w^t ij curtaynes of yalow say, a mattrasse, a ffetherbed, a bolster, ij piliows, ij blanketts, and a cov'ng of verder. A cupbord w^t a carpet of nedell worke, ij joynd chayres with ij quytyans of satin of Brydgs, a ffyre shovel, a payre of bellowes, a fourme.

* A hutch.

† Tunic or cloth of gold, upon which figures in silk were embroidered.

‡ Cloths for laying over the pillow, sometimes of very rich material and work.

§ Probably that ordered by royal injunctions in the previous year (1547) to be set up in some convenient place in every church or chapel.

|| Curtains that enclosed or shut in the bed, from sparran, *abdere*, to shut or close.

The Rede Cha'bre.

It'm, the sayd cha'bre is hanged w^t red, wherin is a joynd bedd, w^t tayster & heade of red sarsenet, valence of red sylke, iij curtaynes of sarcenet. A ffetherbed, a bolster, ij pyllowes, & a payre blankets. A cov'ng of verders. A cupberd w^t a carpit of nedell worke, a turned chayre, w^t ij quytyans of hawdkyn, a fourme.

The Gallery ov' the Grete Chambre.

It'm, the same is hanged w^t grene and red saye rownde, wherin is v pictuers, iij tables, ix cloths, & Saynt George in a table, imbrodered upon clothe of golde. The king's armes, iij carpets for the wyndowes of grene dornyx, iij quytyons for the windowes of yelow satin and crymsyn velvet, iij quytyons of red say. A joynd table w^t a carpet of framed worke, ij fourmes w^t carpets of dornyx, a grete glasse.

The P'lor.

It'm, therin is a chayre cov'd w^h purple velvet, bakked w^t clothe of golde imbrothered, w^t ij quytyans of fflowred sylke, lyned w^t saten of Brydgs, a table and a cupbord.

The P'lor Chamber.

It'm, the seid chambre is hanged w^t vij peces of dornyx, ij curtaynes for ij windowes of the same, wherin is one joynd bedd turned, w^t taystor of rede and whyte satten of Brydgs imbrodered, hede of rede damaske, and whyte saten of Brydgs imbrodered, valence of whyte & rede sylke. A materesse, a fetherbed, a bolster, ij pyllowes, a payne* of ffustyans, a cov'ng of verder lyned. It'm, a pallet unto a materesse, a fetherbedd, a bolster, 2 pyllowes, a payre blankets, a twylt, a cov'ng of tapystre, a rounde table, a square chayre, w^t seate of sylke & blake velvet. A cupboard w^t a carpet of framed worke imbrodered, w^t quytyan of velvet & cofers, a stoole, a payre of tongues, a skrene, ij payre of shetes, ij pyllowberes.

The Storehouse Cha'bre.

It'm, ij stande beddes, w^t one teystor and a hede, & iiij curteynes of dornyx, ij ffetherbeds, iij bolsters, one pyllow, and a payre blankets, one cov'ng of verders and one of tapystre, a table w^h trestells, iij fourmes, a joynd close cheyre, a quytyan of crewell,† & ij payre shetes.

Gallery Chambre.

It'm, the seid chambre is lyned rounde w^t a curtayne of dornyx for the wyndow, wherin is a bedd joynd w^t a tester & heade of blake damaske imbrodered w^t freers gyrdyly, valence of blacke & yelow sylke, iij curteyns of blacke and yelow sarcenet, a matterasse, a ffetherbed, a bolster, ij pyllowes, a payre of blanketts, a cov'ng of verder, a square joynd table, a cupbord w^t a carpet of verdures, a carpet of frame worke, with roses for the wyndowe, & a cucyon of yelow damaske & crymsyn velvet for the same, ij chayres joynd w^t ij quytyans of verders for them, ij cofers, a forme, a lytell square stoole, a fyre shovel and a payre of shetes w^t ij pyllowberes.

* A counterpayn; so named from the panes of various colours, contrasting with

each other.

† A kind of worsted so named.

The nexte Chambre.

It'm, therin is a bedd. joynd & tester of the same, matrassé, a ffetherbed, a bolster, a payre of blankets, a cov'ng of tap'stree, ij cofers, a close, and ij payre of shetts.

The inn' Chambre of the corn' Chambre.

It'm, a joynd bedde, a ffetherbed, a bolster, a payre blankets, a cov'ng of tapestree.

The Corn Chambre.

It'm, the same is hanged w^t blewe and grene dornyx rounde, wherin is one joynd bedd w^t bolster and heade of whyte lynnyng clothe imbrodered w^t blacke satyn. Valence of whyte and blake crewell, ij curtayns of whyte & blacke saye, a ffetherbed, a bolster, ij pyllowes, a payre of blankets, a cov'ng of verder, a cupbord, w^t a carpet of Arreys, a carpet for the wyndowe of blewe dornyx, and quytyan for the same of bawdkyn, a joynd chayre and a turned chayre, w^t ij quytyans of verders. A cofer, a payre of shetts, & ij pyllowbers.

Ye Porter's Chambre.

It'm, a joynd bedd, a donge, a payre blankets, a bolster, a cov'ng of dornyx, a grete cofer, a payre of shetts.

Porche Chambre.

It'm, it is hanged w^t grene say, wherin is a joynd bed w^t tester of blew imbrodered, valence of crewill, a matresse, a ffetherbed, a bolster, a pyllow, a payre of Wollyn blankets, cov'ng of tapestre. It'm, a tryndelbed*, a matteresse and ffetherbed, a bolster, a payre of blankets, cov'lyd, a cupbord, ij payre of shets, ij pyllowbers.

The nexte Chambre.

It'm, a stande bedde, a matteresse, a bolster, a payre blankets and cov'ng of dornyx, and a payre of shetts.

The Clerk's Cha'bre.

It'm, therin a stand bedd, where in a materyse, a grene cloth, ij cov'lyds w^t a bolster, a lytyll table, a cov'ng, a ffetherbed, a bolster.

The Pantry Chambre.

ij bedds therin, ij payre shetes.

The Chambre at Stayre Foot.

It'm, a ffetherbed, ij bolsters, a payre blankets, ij cov'lets, a stoole, a quytyan of verdrew, a square table, a cofer, a stand bedd, and a payre of shets.

The Stable.

It'm, a stand bedd, a matteresse, a bolster, a blanket of Lynsy wolsey, a cov'ng of redd, a hooche, & ij payre of shets.

The Old Darey benethe.

It'm, a stande bedde therin, a matteresse, a bolster of flocke, a blanket of wollen, a cov'let. It'm, another bedd unto a matteresse, a bolster of ffethers, a blanket, a cov'ng.

* The trundle or truckle bedstead was that in which the attendant slept in the same chamber, and which was run under the "standing bed" when not used.

Stuff borowid at Mendh^m Halle of dyverse p'sons, the seconde and iij day of September, in A^o ii^d R. Ed^d. VI., to helpe to furnishe the

Gallery Chambre,

Of Mr. Wharton : a fetherbed, a bolster, a payne ffustyan, ij pyllows, and one cov'ng, besydes ij pyllows apoynted in other places.

Corn Chambre in the Gallery

Mr. Wharton : one pyllow & a cov'ng.

Porch Chambre,

Of Mr. Ryppys : a fetherbed, a bolster.

Rychard Bacon : a cov'ng whyte and blewe ; and of

Mother Whytman : a pallet unto a matrasse, a fetherbed, a bolster, ij pyllowes w^t beres, a payre of blankets, a cov'ng.

Pantry Chambre.

Rychard Bacon : ij fetherbeds, ij bolsters, ij mattresses, ij payre blankets, a cov'ng of Pulh^m worke.*

Inn' Chambre to the Gallery Chambre.

Thomas Witche : a matteresse, a fether bedde, a bolster, a payre blankets, & cov'ng of Pulh^m work, all marked with redde.

Hye ward of a Chamb' of Mendh^m.

A fether poke of canvas and a mattresse.

Of Mother Whytman : a flock bed, a bolster of fethers, & ij bla'kets.

Red Chambre.

Mast. Reppes : a fetherbed and a bolster.

Mother Whytman : a cov'ng of Pulham work.

Armory Chambre.

Wm. Thomas : a fetherbed, a bolster, a cov'ng of Pulham work.

Of Thomas Molton : a fetherbed, a bolster, a blanket, and a cov'let.

Chamber at Stares Foot

Of Thomas Botewryght : a mattresse, a fetherbed, a bolster, a cov'ng of dornyx.

Of Nicholas Ffrensham : ij blankets of Lynsy Wolsey.

Stable

Of Thomas Botewryght : a flok bed, a bolster, a cov'ng of grene dornyx.

Of Susseham : a fetherbed, a bolster, & a cov'ng of grene dornyx.

Chappell Chambre.

Mr. Collyngdon : a carpet of w^t arres, of nedell werke.

Master Wentworthe's Chambre.

A carpet.

The Grene Chambre.

One carpet, a quytyan, and.....

In the P'lor, on the Cupbord.

A carpet.

Old Dayre beneathe

Of Thomas Melton : a fetherbed, a bolster, a payre of blankets, a cov'ng of Pulh^m worke.

* There was a celebrated manufactory of coverlets at Pulham, in Norfolk.