

Historical Notes

An Early Seventeenth Century Dial from Ridlington, Rutland

by T. H. McK. Clough

The dial which is described and illustrated here was the subject of an enquiry to the Rutland County Museum, Oakham, in 1976 by Mr. J. M. Moubray of Ridlington House, in whose garden it was standing. He had occasion to remove it from its station, and as a result found that the underside was of unexpected interest. I am grateful to Mr. Moubray for the opportunity to record these details of the piece.

The face of the dial bears the following legend:

Isaack 1614 Symmes

*The*gift*of*Sir*Willyame*Bulstrode*

The plate is of copper or bronze, $6\frac{1}{4}$ " square, and it was fixed to its stand through a hole $\frac{1}{4}$ " in diameter in each corner. The gnomon, a plain flat plate forming a right-angled triangle, is 3" tall, $2\frac{3}{4}$ " wide, and $4\frac{1}{8}$ " along the hypotenuse; it is $\frac{1}{8}$ " thick.

The design of the dial is standard, showing the cardinal points N, S, E and W, and the hours from IIII to XII and I to VIII, each hour being divided into its quarters. The sun, personified in familiar fashion as a simple face, appears in the centre roundel. The maker's initials are engraved in one corner; they can be read as D T or T D. The design is carefully executed, and is entirely geometric in construction. Because of surface corrosion, the scheme is not easily seen on the photograph (Pl. 9), between pages 102 and 103 and it is therefore also shown in a schematic line drawing (fig. 12). The placing of the figures was determined as part of the design by setting out with the compass as indicated (fig. 13). The engraving was completed before the gnomon was fitted, and the letter N for north and the central face are therefore partly obscured.

The reverse or underside of the dial (Pl. 10, between pages 102 and 103) had previously been used for trial or demonstration work, both in lettering and in scrolls and cartouches. Two principal styles of lettering, one roman and the other italic, are found, apparently by the same hand as the face of the dial. The interest of this trial work lies in the fact that it was evidently carried out with a view to making a dial for Ridlington Church – the words Ridlington, Dial, Church and Belong appear in full, and there are also fragments of these and other words, executed in a wider range of lettering styles. The intended message was clearly "This Dial Belongs to Ridlington Church" in that or some similar form, and, if the engraver was successful in winning a commission, the style

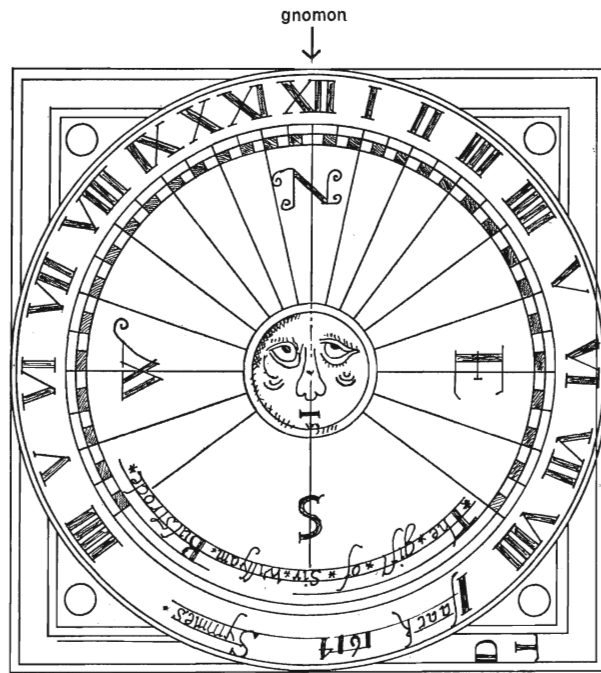


Fig. 12. Ridlington Dial

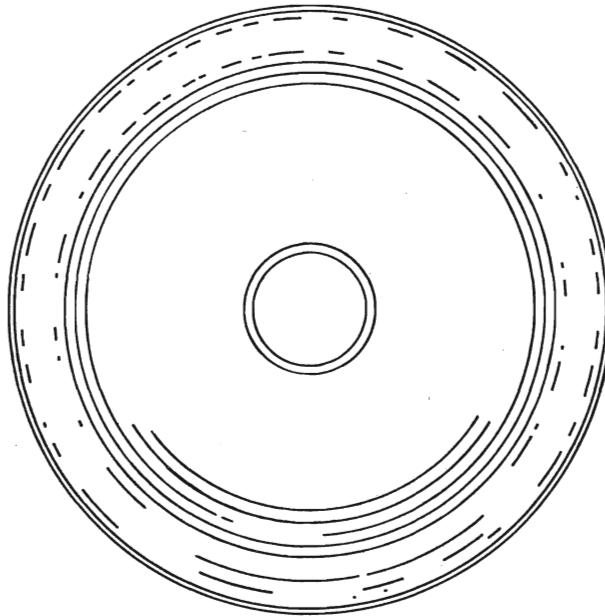


Fig. 13. Ridlington Dial

of lettering chosen would probably have been selected from those offered here. Some of the other literary fragments, S^r Tho, for example, suggest that there were other potential customers who cannot now be identified; the initials T P are found within a heart-shaped outline. The decorative graffiti include a representation of an eye (near one of the fixing holes, Pl. 10, lower right).

The Ven. E. A. Irons' notes on the archdeacon's visitation of 1681 include a reference to the effect that the churchwardens of Ridlington, amongst other instructions, were directed to repair the dial in the churchyard.¹ This may, but need not, refer to a dial made at the same time as the Symmes dial described here, which would by then be some 67 years old.

Also of interest are two amusing caricatures on the reverse of the dial which seem to be contemporary with the other engraving. One is of a bald-headed man, whose neckwear may represent clerical or legal attire, and the other is of a man smoking a pipe. The former reflects a style of dress which can be accepted as Jacobean, although it could be later; it is probably too much to hope that it is a sly portrayal of Thomas Gibson, junior, Clerk, the then incumbent of Ridlington.² The pipe-smoker, if contemporary, forms a most interesting reference to the habit – or vice – of “drinking” tobacco, perhaps some 150 years after the custom was first recorded by Europeans, but only some 30 years after its general introduction to England, and eleven years after King James I had penned his oft-quoted *Counterblaste to Tobacco*.³

Further research is necessary to establish the identity of Isaac Symmes and the relationship between him and his benefactor. The Symmes or Symmys family is found locally in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, but no mention has been found of Isaac himself. The lordship of the manor of Ridlington, lately belonging to Margaret, countess of Richmond, was leased by the crown to Robert Symmys in 1517, and in August of the same year he also acquired the lordships of Preston and Uppingham manors.⁴ His father, John Symmys of Ridlington, died in that month and his will was proved at Lyddington, where the bishop of Lincoln still retained his house (Rutland being in the Lincoln diocese until 1541 when it passed to Peterborough). John Symmys left his mill at Uppingham to his other three sons, John, Thomas and Charles, on condition that none of them was priested.⁵ The wills of several other members of the Ridlington branch of the family have survived from this period, namely those of John (1556–7), John (1624) and his son William (1629),⁶ but if Isaac left a will it has not been found. Although the family name appears not infrequently in the Ridlington parish registers, and indeed the episcopal visitation book for 1614 itself shows that William Sims was then a churchwarden, there appears to be no mention of Isaac.⁷ He may therefore be from another branch of the family in one of the neighbouring parishes, but the search has not been extended that far.

Sir William Bulstrode was returned to Parliament as one of the two knights of the shire for Rutland no less than five times between 1620 and 1628,⁸ and had held office as sheriff of Rutland in 1604.⁹ On at least one occasion Bulstrode, described as of Ridlington Parva and Exton, was nominated by Henry Hastings, fifth earl of Huntingdon,¹⁰ Lord Lieutenant of Rutland 1614–42, whose horseshoe, proffered in homage to the lord of the manor of

Oakham in 1620, is listed by Wright as among those to be seen on the walls of Oakham Castle. Sir William, son of Edward Bulstrode, was descended from a Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire family whose arms (Sable, a stag's head caboshed, wounded through the nose with a broad arrow Argent, entre his attire a cross formée fitchée Or) are found among the quarterings of those of Brudenell of Deene and Brudenell of Raunds, Northamptonshire.¹¹ A more important local association in this context, however, may lie in a relationship by marriage between Bulstrode and the Haringtons of Exton and Ridlington. Bulstrode's great-grandfather, Francis Bulstrode, was the brother of Cicely, whose daughter Anne by her second husband Robert Kelway (or Kelloway) was the wife of Sir John Harington.¹² Sir John was created Baron Harington of Exton by James I at his coronation in 1603, and he was carrying out his duties as tutor to the King's daughter Princess Elizabeth when he contracted a fever in Worms of which he died in August 1713 at the age of 73. Lord Harington's young brother, Sir James Harington, created first baronet of Ridlington in 1611, died in March 1613–14; and his second and only surviving son, John, died of smallpox in February 1613–14 aged 22, whereupon the barony of Exton became extinct.¹³ Only nine days before his death, John had negotiated the sale of the lordship of Exton, including the manor of Ridlington, to Sir Baptist Hicks, at the same time securing the position of his widowed mother Anne Lady Harington,¹⁴ who was later to leave her impressive library of religious books to Oakham church. Bulstrode's relationship with the family may perhaps have involved him in the negotiations that will have followed this three-fold bereavement. We cannot yet tell whether it was simply coincidence that Sir William Bulstrode had occasion to inscribe this sundial to Isaac Symmes in this year.

Notes

1. *VCH Rutland*, II (1935), 95
2. *Rutland Magazine*, II (1905–6), 100. He succeeded his father as rector in 1605 and held the living for 55 years
3. For extracts from criticism and accounts of smoking of the period see, for example, F. W. Fairholt, *Tobacco: its history and associations* (1859)
4. *Cal. Letters and Papers For. and Dom., Henry VIII*, 2.ii, No. 2935 (17 Feb 1517 = Pat.R. 8 Hen VIII p.2, m.22) and No. 3552 (1 Aug 1517 = Pat.R. 9 Hen VIII p.2, m.5)
5. A. W. Gibbons, *Early Lincoln Wills . . . 1280–1547* (Lincoln, 1888), 59 (abstract); A. Clark, *Lincoln Diocese Documents 1450–1544*, Early English Text Society, orig. ser. 149 (1914) 266 (full text); *VCH Rutland*, II (1935), 93, 95, 99
6. Respectively Northamptonshire wills, series I, book N, 275; Peterborough Consistory Court wills, book C, 114, and book L, 35; all in Northamptonshire Record Office (the first is noted in Index Library I, *Northamptonshire and Rutland wills 1510–1652* (1888), 59)
7. I am grateful to the Rev. J. Peirson for enabling me to consult the registers, and to the staff of the Northamptonshire Record Office for their assistance
8. *Return of Names of Members of Parliament, 1213–1702* (1878)
9. J. Wright, *History and Antiquities of the County of Rutland* (1684), 13
10. J. K. Gruenfelder, "The electoral influence of the Earls of Huntingdon 1603–1640", *T.L.A.H.S.*, L (1974–5), 21–2

11. W. C. Metcalfe (ed.), *The Visitations of Northamptonshire made in 1564 and 1618-19* (1887), 6 and 168-9
12. W. H. Rylands (ed.), *The Visitation of the County of Buckinghamshire made in 1634*, Harleian Society, LVIII (1909); G. J. Armytage (ed.), *The Visitation of the County of Rutland in the year 1618-19*, Harleian Society, III (1870), 38-9 (Bulstrode is not mentioned in this volume)
13. G. E. Cokayne, *The Complete Peerage*, s.v. Harington of Exton
14. *Rutland Magazine*, III (1907-8), 134-7; *VCH Rutland*, II (1935), 129

The Medieval Parks of Leicestershire, II by L. M. Cantor

In the first article on this subject (*T.L.A.H.S.*, XLVI, 1970-1, 9-24), 34 medieval parks were definitely located within the pre-1974 boundaries of the county of Leicester. Since then, further information has come to light which makes it possible to add another five parks to that list, making 39 in all. In addition, references have been found to two other possible sites. Moreover, as a result of the local government reorganisation of 1974, the former county of Rutland has been incorporated within Leicestershire, so that it is appropriate to list the nine parks located therein.

The additional five pre-1974 Leicestershire parks are as follows:

35. *BURLEIGH OR BURLEY* park in Loughborough was mentioned as a possible site in the first article when a 1530 reference had been identified. Since then however, it has become clear that, as Nichols states, the park was in existence in 1485 when its keeper was John Lee (*Nichols* III, pt. II, 909, citing *Rot. Parl.* I, Henry VII, IV, 378).
36. *CROXTON KERRIAL* park was in existence in the twelfth century, when it belonged to an abbey founded for Praemonstratensian Canons (*Nichols*, II, pt. I, 151(a)). It is mentioned in 1162, when it appears to have had a wall (*Ibid.*, 151 (b)) and again in 1189 (1290 *inspeximus* of a charter of 1189). In 1246 it comprised "all the wasteland about the spring called Holiwell, and all the heath from the great road leading from Croxton to Waltham [on the Wolds], to the bounds of Branston westwards" (*Nichols*, II, pt. I, 153 (a)). It is not clear when it was disparked, but the place name "Croxton Park" occurs in deeds of 1610 and 1612 (*Duke of Rutland's MSS*, Deeds 2-843, Royal Grants 11-635, Belvoir Castle). The modern Croxton Park has long been the property of the duke of Rutland and was described in 1867 as containing 570 acres, enclosed with a stone wall, and containing a herd of 350 fallow deer (E. P. Shirley, *English Deer Parks*, Murray, 145).
37. *GREAT EASTON* was created in or about 1236 when William de Cantilupe received deer from Rockingham Forest to stock his park at Easton (*VCH* 5, 55). The enclosed area seems subsequently to have been known both as "Easton Park" and "Power's Park", and frequent references occur in the sixteenth century. In 1959, for example, Easton Park was estimated variously to cover 74 acres and 87 acres, in the words of the Victoria County History, "perhaps a distinction between statutory and customary measure" (*Ibid.*). By the sixteenth century, Great Easton Park had already been disparked as, by this time, it was divided into coppices

and leased out for pasture. The site of the medieval park was almost certainly the present "Great Easton Park" (O.S. 133/833953).

38. *OWSTON* park was in existence in 1279 when it was owned by the abbot of Owston (*VCH* 5,272). It fell into disuse after the Black Death, when it was valued only as a summer pasture (*Ibid.*).
39. *STOCKERSTON* There was a park here in the Middle Ages (*VCH* 5,305) whose site is almost certainly commemorated by the present "Park Wood" (O.S. 133/825976).

The two parks which may also have existed in the Middle Ages are as follows:

1. *BELTON* According to Nichols (III, p. II, 638), there was a park here about 1200 when Thomas de Verdon enlarged his park at Belton by adding to it a wood and meadow called "Snape". He also refers to a lawsuit of 1774 when reference was made to fields named "The Great Park" and "Little Parks" (*Ibid.*, 643). However, no definite medieval reference has been found.
2. *LODDINGTON* According to Nichols (III, pt. II, 1135 (b)), a park was in existence here at the time of Henry II and again in 1522, when it was broken into and animals stolen. However, no definite medieval reference has been found.

The nine Rutland parks (fig. 14) for which definite documentary evidence exists are as follows:

1. *BARNSDALE* There was a park here in 1269 when it was stocked with deer (*VCH* 1,253). Probably located in or near the present "Barnsdale

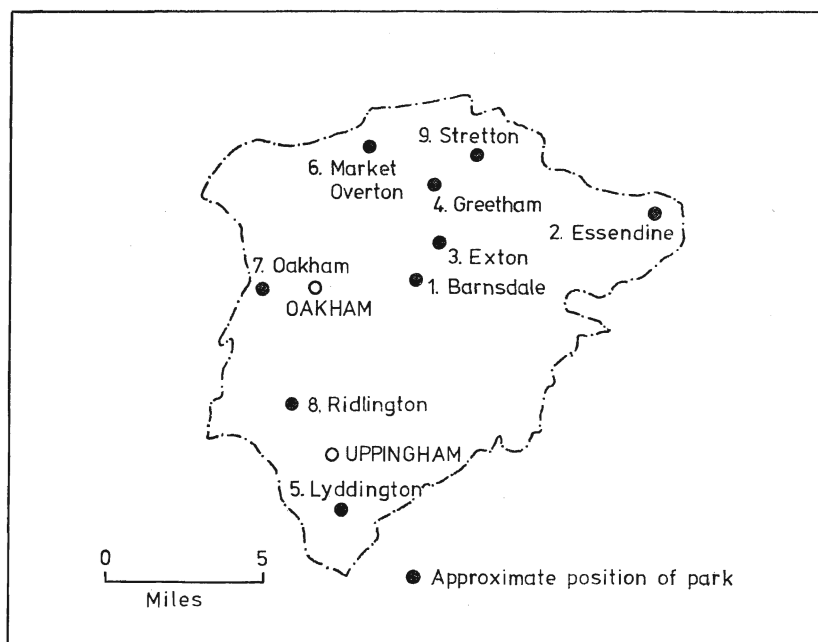


Fig. 14. The Medieval Parks of Rutland

Wood" (122/910088), it may already have been in existence for many years because references occur in 1206 to a park belonging to Henry de Armenters (*VCH* 2,114) who at this time owned the manor of Burley-on-the-Hill. No further references have been traced but Saxton's map of 1576 shows a park hereabouts as does an anonymous map of 1602.

2. *ESSENDINE* was in existence in 1296 when Robert de Clifford stocked the park with deer (*Cal. Close* 1288-96, 472). In 1318, John de Cromwell complained that his park had been broken into and deer stolen (*VCH* 2,250) and there is a subsequent reference to the park in 1333 (*Cal. IPM* VII, 392). By 1447, when it was granted to Cecily, duchess of Warwick, it had probably grown considerably in size for at this time it consisted of 200 acres of wood, 20 acres of land, together with 20 acres of meadow and hay across the county boundary in Lincolnshire (*Cal. Pat.* 1446-52, 37). A century later it appears in a grant when it is described as "a wood called Essendine Park" which suggests that it had been disparked by this time (*VCH* 2,250).
3. *EXTON* The first reference occurs in 1185 when the park was owned by David, earl of Huntington (*VCH* 2,130). No further references to the medieval park occur though it has been suggested that it may be identified with "Barnardeshilpark" (Bernards Hill Park) of 1421 (*VCH* 2,130). The modern Exton Park was created about 1639 by royal licence. Shirley, writing about a century ago, described it as "a noble existing park of 800 acres with a herd of 400 fallow deer" (p. 147).
4. *GREETHAM* The only reference to a park here occurs in 1446 when, because of the minority of the heir of the duke of Warwick to whom the manor belonged, the Crown appointed a park keeper (*VCH* 2,136).
5. *LIDDINGTON* This park was first enclosed by the bishop of Lincoln early in the thirteenth century, as a document dated 1229 confirms (*Cal. Close* 1227-31, 265). In 1227, the bishop received from the Crown permission to have a deer-leap (*Cal. Chart.* 1226-57, 42), a valuable perquisite as it enabled the owner to augment his herd of deer from the adjacent forest. During the last quarter of the thirteenth century, the park was further stocked with deer by permission of Edward I and in 1291 it was broken into and deer carried away (*VCH* 2,191). In 1331, it was increased in size by 60 acres when it was enclosed by a stone wall in place of the old bank and paling fence (*Shirley*, 146). No further references to it have been found though a park is shown here in a map of 1602.
6. *MARKET OVERTON* The only reference to a park here occurs in 1269 when it is referred to in a perambulation of the Forest of Rutland (*VCH* 2,253).
7. *OAKHAM* The park here was known for centuries as "Flitteris Park" and lay on the extreme western edge of the manor hard against the county boundary. Its position is commemorated by the modern farm called "Flitteris Park" (122/820078). It appears to have been created about 1252 when Henry III granted Richard, earl of Cornwall a licence to impark Flitteris Wood in the royal Forest of Leighfield, as the Forest of Rutland was frequently called (*VCH* 2,13). In 1275, reference is made to a "Little

Park”, probably an extension of Flitteris Park; in the course of its creation, the earl of Cornwall had enclosed two roods of the King’s highway (*Ibid.*). In 1300, the park was stocked with deer, in 1371 reference is made to a lodge in the park, and in 1399 it belonged to Edward, duke of York, who bestowed the keepership on Roger Flore (*Ibid.*). In 1521, it was described as “a little park called Flitteris Park containing about a mile and a half and having in it 80 fallow deer” (*Ibid.*). It is shown on Saxton’s 1576 map of Leicestershire and on John Speed’s 1610 map of the same county.

8. *RIDLINGTON* is first mentioned in 1238 (*Cal. Pat.* 1232–47, 237) when it was in the hands of the Crown. In 1253 it was claimed by Peter de Montfort, who was lord of the manor; instead, he was given land in exchange in 1264 (*VCH* 2,92). It appears to have been in existence throughout the Middle Ages and according to the Victoria County History was in royal hands until 1623. It is shown both on Saxton and Speed and its position is probably commemorated by the modern “Park Farm” (122/834018).
9. *STRETTON* The only reference to this park occurs in 1291 when, with the manor, it was in the hands of the King who gave custody of it to Ralph de Rede for life (*VCH* 2,145).

Abbreviations

Cal. Chart *Calendar of Charter Rolls* (Public Record Office)

Cal. Close *Calendar of Close Rolls* (Public Record Office)

Cal. IPM *Calendar of Inquisitiones Post Mortem* (Public Record Office)

Cal. Pat *Calendar of Patent Rolls* (Public Record Office)

Nichols J. Nichols, *History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester* (1795)

Shirley E. P. Shirley, *English Deer Parks* (John Murray, 1867)

VCH *Victoria County History of Leicestershire*

A note on the signorial economy in N. W. Leicestershire in 1277–8
by *David Postles*

Little has been written of the rural economy of Leicestershire in the thirteenth century, and even less of the contribution of the lay estate.¹ This was, however, the seminal period for the direct exploitation of signorial demesnes.² Some evidence of the conditions on estates here can be deduced from two ministers’ accounts now deposited in local archive offices.

A pipe roll of the dispersed estates of the earl of Lincoln includes an enrolled account for the manor of (Castle) Donington, for the accounting year Michaelmas 1277 to Michaelmas 1278.³ This account was not, in fact, audited until 15 October 1278, presumably because the auditors travelled from manor to manor to audit the ministers’ accounts, rather than bringing the ministers to a central audit.⁴ The accounting officials were the constable of the Castle, Hugh de Brin’, John the reeve, and, unusually, the clerk who wrote the account, Richard Leuaine. The constable was probably implicated in the return for the borough and castle. Despite its burghal character, however, Donington also comprised extensive demesne arable. In 1278, 284 acres were sown for

harvesting in Autumn 1279. It is also worth noting that the private chase made a substantial contribution to the seignorial economy, for the sale of 1600 oaks from *Astwode* brought £61 9s. 10d.

For the same financial year, there is extant an account roll for the manor of Beaumanor.⁵ This is the original roll presented by the bailiff, Thomas Hemeri, to the auditors. It is consequently littered with amendments and cancellations in the auditors' hands. Moreover, all the *summe* of each paragraph were left vacant by the bailiff, and are filled in by the auditors. This is a contrast with the Donington roll, which is a fair engrossment of the account after the auditors' increase of the charge, decrease of the discharge, and disallowances. The Beaumanor roll also includes the auditors' *vendiciones super comptum*, which were fictitious sales charged against the accounting official for deficiencies in his account. The auditors also made marginal notes on the seed-yield ratios in the grange account. More will be said of this below, but it confirms the progressive practice at Beaumanor. This *responsio* or target accountancy was adopted on some larger estates only at a later date. One further indicator of administrative advance at Beaumanor is the inclusion of a *proficuum* calculation. The function of the medieval charge-discharge account was to assess the obligations of the accounting official to prevent fraud. From the middle of the thirteenth century, some lords began to calculate from the accounts how well their property was paying or how efficient their husbandry was. This usually necessitated a calculation at the end of the charge-discharge account. The Beaumanor roll merely contains the statement: *Proficuum manerii hoc anno xliiii. li. vii.s. iii.d.*, without any explanation of how the auditors arrived at this figure of how well the property was paying. What can certainly be deduced from these extraneous memoranda is that administrative practice at Beaumanor in 1278 was amongst the most progressive in England.⁶

Demesne husbandry at Beaumanor was performed within a very traditional framework. The demesne – 140 acres were sown for harvesting in 1279 – had been consolidated into severalty, lying in furlongs distinct from the selions of the tenantry. The different furlongs were named and each sown with a single grain. Wheat was sown in the furlong called *two faltr'* (8a.) and in the furlong lying towards Quorndon (43a.), and also in *le lyng* (24a.). Legumes were sown in the close in the park (*infra clausum parci*) over 52a. 3r., and *super campum quondam Iohanni Herny* (4½a.).

In 1277, an entirely new sheep flock was purchased and introduced to Beaumanor. No sheep were remaining from the previous accounting year, but 540 wethers were now bought for £60 12s. 6½d. at 2s. 3d. each *minus in toto* 2s. 5½d.⁷ A new bercary was also constructed of timber and stone⁸. The result of the investment was 540 fleeces with a total weight of two sacks and 23 stone. The average fleece weight would therefore have been about 2 lb.; this is a figure comparable with other fleece weights from Leicestershire, although Leicestershire fleece weights were generally heavier than those of the rest of England.⁹

The earl of Lincoln was also making improvements to his demesne, usually by marling. The cost of marling included a new cart (*una karecta ad marlam*), the employment of six marlers at a total wage bill of 16s. (*in stipendia sex*

marliatorum per vices), and 17 qtrs. of oats for the four avers carting the marl. A new mill was also built at a cost of £4 2s. 10d.

The resultant arable regime at Beaumanor was the equal division of the demesne between winter and spring grain, over 75 and 66 acres respectively. Wheat was the solitary winter or hard corn, produced preeminently as a cash crop. Oats were sown over 52 acres of the land sown under spring grain for harvest in 1279. Oats, of course, were produced mainly for the consumption of the livestock. Of the other land allotted to spring grain for harvest in 1279, only 14 acres were laid down to beans and peas, and none to barley in this year. The issues of the grange from the previous harvest (tabulated below) confirm this picture.

A similar arrangement obtained at Donington. Winter grain was sown over 129 acres for the 1279 harvest, and spring grain over 155 acres. Oats was here again the principal spring grain, barley and legumes being fairly insignificant. Of the winter grain, wheat was sown over 73 acres, but rye was also sown over 56 acres.

Whilst wheat was produced mainly for "domestic" consumption, rye here featured as the grain produced for sale. The contribution to the economy of sales of grain should not, however, be exaggerated. If the income from grain sales is calculated as a percentage of the total charge, then grain sales brought in 9% at Donington and 16% at Beaumanor. This is an admittedly crude indicator, since not all the items in the charge of the accounts were *real* income – for example, £38 in the Donington charge was arrears of rent not necessarily collected in.

The livestock, apart from the sheepflock at Beaumanor, merely complemented the arable husbandry. The main purpose was to replenish the plough-team, although even this was inefficiently maintained. Given medieval reproduction ratios, the expectation that at best each cow would have only one calf each year if sterility and abortion and murrain did not intervene, there were insufficient cows on both manors to maintain a full team of oxen. The number of demesne ploughs is revealed by the enumeration of ploughmen in the *famuli* paragraph. It is evident that there were four ploughs at Donington drawn by a mixed team of oxen and avers, and two demesne ploughs at Beaumanor each drawn by eight oxen.

Demesne farming on these two manors continued on traditional lines, although some perceptible improvements were being made. As technological change was achieved on a piecemeal basis in the middle ages, this is not an unprogressive picture.

Notes

1. R. H. Hilton, *The Economic Development of some Leicestershire Estates* (1947), introductory chapter
2. N. Denholm-Young, *Seignorial Administration in England*, (1937), *passim*
3. Nottinghamshire County Record Office, Foljambe MSS. VI.I. (i).iii.3
4. See Denholm-Young, *op. cit.*
5. Leicestershire County Record Office D.G.9/1954

6. For such practices, see J. S. Drew, *Manorial Accounts of St. Swithun's Priory, Winchester*, *English Historical Review*, LXII (1947), 20-41; Eric Stone, "Profit-and-Loss Accountancy at Norwich Cathedral Priory," *Transactions of the Royal Historical Society*, Series 5, XII (1962), 25-48
7. The price makes it certain that the short hundred (100), and not the long hundred (120), was being used: see Ian Kershaw, *Bolton Priory* (1973), xiii, and R. V. Lennard, "Statistics of Sheep in Medieval England," *Agricultural History Review*, VII (1959), 75-81
8. Oats were fed to the horses for carting the timber and stone
9. See the statistics of fleece weights collected by R. Trow-Smith, *A History of British Livestock Husbandry to 1700* (1957), 167-8. My own research on the flocks of Oseney Abbey has revealed much lower fleece weights for the Cotswold region and Oxfordshire/Buckinghamshire

I wish to thank G. A. Chinnery, M.A., F.S.A., for reading this note in typescript and his suggestions for its improvement.

TABLE I

Grain production and use, 1277-8.*

<i>Beaumanor</i>						
	Issue	Sown	Sold	Household	<i>Famuli</i>	Stock
Wheat	126 ⁱ	19	89		11	
Beans & peas	25 ⁱⁱ	14	13		11	
Barley	12½		12½			
Oats	70 ⁱⁱⁱ	32½	18			15
<i>Domington</i>						
Wheat	78½ ^{iv}	18	9½	38½	7	
Rye	104 ^v	14	43½		48½	
Barley	25	10½	14			
Beans & peas	14	10			4	
Drage	21		7½		5	7½
Oats	172 ^{vi}	77½	7		5	167½

*To the nearest half quarter.

- i. Includes 4 qtr. by estimation, in sheaves, and 2 qtr. bought for seed.
- ii. Also 4 qtr. from another manor.
- iii. Includes 5 qtr. by estimation, in sheaves.
- iv. Includes 6 qtr. from the mill and 11½ qtr. bought.
- v. Also 22 qtr. from the mill.
- vi. Also 80 qtr. bought.

TABLE II

Grain sown for harvest in 1279.

<i>Castle Donington</i>				
	Quantity sown		Acreage sown	Rate of sowing
Wheat	18 qtr	2 bs	73	2 bs per acre
Rye	14	0	56	2
Barley	10	3	20½	4
Beans & peas	10	0	20	4
Oats	77	5	114	5½
<i>Beaumanor</i>				
Wheat	19	0	75	2 ⁱ
Beans & peas	5	1	14	3 ⁱⁱ
Oats	27	0	53	4 ⁱⁱⁱ

i. 2 bs additionally broadcast.
 ii. 1 bs additionally broadcast.
 iii. 5 bs additionally broadcast.

TABLE III

Auditors' estimates of grain yields at Beaumanor.

Wheat *R*³ *de iii qr dimidia bus plus se septimo*. Sevenfold.
 Legumes *R*³ *de i qr ii bz minus se quinto*. Fivefold.
 Barley *R*³ *de iii bz plus se sexto*. Sixfold.
 Oats *R*³ *de ii bz minus se tercio*. Threefold.

TABLE IV
Livestock, 1277-8.

<i>Beaumanor</i>				
	Remaining from last year	Added	Lost	Remaining at end of year
Horses	2	0	0	2
Oxen	18	5 bought	2 sold	21
Wethers	0	540 bought	16 died	524
<i>Donnington</i>				
Avers	6	14 from the marshal 3 from West 1 bought	5 sold 4 died 8 to reeves of other manors	7
Oxen	31	6 bought 10 from reeve of Kneesall	7 died 10 to larder 6 sold	24
Cows	1	0	1 sold	0
2-year old cows	1	0	0 sold	1
Yearling cows	1	1	0	2
Pigs	41	22 from last year's piglets 25 from reeves of other manors	9 died 25 to other manors 26 sold	29
Piglets	14 of issue	0	0	14