The Manors of Alleston, Appleby and Ashby Folville.

BY

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Preface.

Since the appearance of Nichols' History of Leicestershire, published between 1795 and 1815, the materials for original work upon local history and topography have been considerably extended, and many classes of documents are now available for research which serve at once to supplement and correct the information contained in the older county histories. While Nichols' famous volumes must always remain the foundation for any future work upon the history of Leicestershire, the student who knows how to make use of them finds that their statements constantly stand in need of verification and that their accuracy is seriously impaired by their author's partial and arbitrary use of his documents. For some time past the present writers have entertained the idea of bringing together the results of their several collections of material illustrating the manorial and ecclesiastical annals of the county, and it will be found that the notes which follow in the form of connected narratives endeavour to fill up gaps in the story of the three places concerned and to present in consecutive order information which hitherto has been treated merely in outline or overlooked altogether. For the chief part of the work, tracing the descent of the manors, and for the pedigrees Mr. Farnham is responsible. The notes upon advowsons and the lists of incumbents, which considerably amplify Nichols' imperfect and carelessly compiled lists, are supplied by his collaborator. They hope to continue the work in future numbers of Transactions, and so to put on record what they have gathered with regard at any rate to a certain number of places whose history needs elucidation.
I.

ALLEXTON.

[Wapentake of Goscote East; Rural Deanery (ancient) of Goscote, (modern) of Gartree III.].

Forms of the name: 1086 Adelachestone; 1124-9 Adelacstone; 12th cent. (n.d.) Aelachestone; 1205-6 Aslakeston (to 1210-11); 1207-8 Alakeston; 1212-3 Adelakeston (to 1216); 1220 Hathelakeston; 1225 Athelakeston (to 1239); c. 1225 Aslakeston; 1234-5 Athelakeston (to 1468); c. 1258 Atlakeston; 1310 Albxton; 1316 Athelaxton; 1349 Athelaxton; 1364-5 Adeloxton; 1367-8 Adloxton (to 1473); 1450-1 Adlaxton (to 1493-4); 1555 Allaxton; 1602 Alexton; 1754 Alaxton.

The principal manor of Adelachestone was valued in Domesday at twenty shillings and was the property of the countess Judith, under whom it was held by Grimbald. One plough was employed in the demense; and four villeins, with one bordar, had another plough. There was a mill of two shillings value.

Grimbald held also of the countess another small manor in this lordship, containing only half a plough-land. It was worth five shillings, and half a plough was employed in the demesne. There was a mill of sixteen pence value. The soke of Rothley at this time extended to six oxgangs, described as being waste.

In the Leicestershire Survey (1124-9) the land of countess Judith was held by David, king of Scots (as earl of Huntingdon), and consisted of five carucates and one virgate of land. The king of England still held three virgates, equivalent to the six oxgangs of Domesday, as of his royal manor of Rothley.

Robert Grimbald was hereditary possessor of the whole lordship early in the twelfth century; and under him the larger or superior manor was held by his sister's husband, Robert de Bakepuiz, and was therefore distinguished by the name of Bakepuiz Manor. At a later date this manor was called Nether hall, the smaller or Crown manor being known as the Over manor. The family of Bakepuiz or Bakepuiz took its name from the village of Bacquepuis (Eure) near Evreux: the name survives in those of Kingston Bagpuze, Wiltshire, and in a corrupt form, of Newington Bagpath, Gloucestershire.

Nichols prints a charter of Aeliza (Alice), daughter of Robert de Bakepuiz, who held the manor in fee of her uncle Robert Grimbald. This charter, translated, is as follows:

Aeliza, daughter of Robert de Bakepuiz, to all her men and friends, French and English, greeting. Know ye that I have given and granted to John de Bakepuiz, my brother, all my land of Aelahestone in fee and by hereditary right to hold from me and my heirs at a yearly rent of one mark; and for this John will acquit that land of all services which pertain to the chief lord. And I have granted this with the assent of sir Robert Grimbald my uncle and John my son; and for this grant the said John my brother has given me first a golden ring before my father in his court, then a silver buckle before Robert Grimbald in his court. These being witnesses; Nicholas de Jubria, William son of Grimbald and the whole court of Robert Grimbald.

The family of Bakepuiz thus became the chief lords of Allexton, holding apparently the whole lordship except the small portion held by the Crown. If they ever lived at Allexton they left it in the time of Henry II. for Barton in Derbyshire, ten miles west of Derby, which became known as Barton Bakepuiz and was their chief residence. Their last male representative was William de Bakepuiz, living in 1375. Dying childless, he was succeeded by his sister Helen, the wife of Nicholas Longford of Longford, co. Derby; and in 1381 the manors of Barton and Allexton, with most of the Bakepuiz property, was purchased by sir Robert Blount, from whom Barton Bakepuiz was re-named Barton Blount. The descent of these chief lords will be traced in connexion with the advowson of Allexton, but their connexion with the manor is of secondary interest compared with that of their resident under-tenants.

The family of Nevill held the lordship under the house of Bakepuiz, holding also the Crown fee of the Knights Templars, to whom the king had granted the soke of Rothley. Any information concerning the cadet branches of the great mediaeval house of Nevill is interesting; but, while Nichols' account of Allexton is full of such information, it seems to be mostly incorrect. This is the more to be regretted, since from the marriage of Peter of Allexton with Alice the sister of Hugh Nevill, the chief forester, descended families of Nevill connected not only with Allexton, but with Carlton Curlieu, Prestwold, Somerby, Wymeswold and other places in the county.

Peter of Allexton appears in 1205-6 as the guardian of William de Jorz,a to whose fee belonged land in Wymeswold; and mentions of him occur in 1207-8, 1210-11, 1212-13. b In the last year his name

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*a The family whose name survives in Burton Joyce, near Nottingham.

b Rotuli Litt. Claus. (Record Comm.) i. 67. c Rotuli Litt. Pat. (Record Comm.) p. 73; Pipe rolls 12 and 14 John.
is entered on the Pipe roll as owing 50 marks to the king. 25 marks however, of this debt were transferred to a fine of £100 which, together with one good horse, stood in the name of his son Hasculf. For this fine Hasculf, by his father's wish, succeeded to his bailiwick of the king's forest, which Peter had quit-claimed before the king, and obtained custody of the king's houses, i.e. the castle, of Sauvey.  

Peter appears to have died about 1216. On 13 April in that year his wife Alice, sister of Hugh Nevill, who stood surety for her, paid a fine of 20 marks for having all the lands and tenements of Peter of Allexton, her husband: and the sheriffs of Nottingham and Leicester and the keeper of Sauvey were ordered to give her seisin.  

On 29 June, 1220, Hasculf of Allexton was appointed to the office of royal forester, formerly held by his father Peter, in Rutland and Leicester. He continued in this office for many years, and probably throughout his life. On 4 April 1225 he was commanded to allow the king's hunter Richard Butler (Pincerna) to hunt with his hounds in the parts of the forest of Leicester; and on 28 June 1226 the sheriff of Rutland was ordered to give him help for impounding stray cattle in the king's park of Ridlington.  

In 1237 a fine was levied between Hasculf and Robert Nevill, by which Robert paid twenty marks for three and a half carucates of land in South Croxton. Complaints were brought to the king at Northampton in January 1227-8 that Hasculf treated the men in his bailiwick unjustly, and on 16 January Alan Basset and others were ordered to make an enquiry in the bailiwick and transmit the facts to the king.  

In 1231 Hasculf of Allexton appears for the first time as using his mother's maiden name of Nevill. Until 1242 he is called indifferently by both names, but after that date Nevill becomes the habitual surname of him and his descendants. He was ordered in 1231 not to hinder the men of Peter son of Hubert from their custom of gathering nuts in the king's forest of Rutland for one day for Peter's use. On 16 September 1234 he had an order to provide the prior of Laund with thirty logs from the wood of Frithewood for the works at his church, as a gift from the king.  

The limits of his jurisdiction as forester were curtailed in 1234-5 by the disafforestation of the forest of Leicester, from which, however, by an order of 17 August 1236, addressed to him as king's forester in Rutland, the demesne wood of Withoote was excepted, on the ground that Henry III's forest charter had provided that royal de-

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\a Pipe Roll, 14 John. 
\b Fine roll, 17-18 John. 
\c Pat Rolls 1216-25, p. 239. 
\d Rot. Litt. Claus. (Record Comm.) ii., 26 
\e Pat. Rolls 1225-32, p. 209. 
\f Feet of Fines, Leicester. 
\g Pat. Rolls 1234-7, p. 51. 
\h Close Rolls 1231-4, p. 2. 
\i Ibid. p. 517.
mense afforested by Henry II. should remain forest. On 3 October 1237 he was commanded to give Hugh Paynell three does from the forest of Rutland, and three more from the forest of Sauvey on 14 Nov. 1239.

Husculf, with Alan Basset, was put upon the commission of the peace and array of arms for Rutland on 20 May 1242. At Michaelmas 1243 he was sued by Rohese de Verdon for 200 marks; and she appointed attorneys to sue him and Gilbert Segrave in a plea of debt during the following year. At Easter 1243 he was defendant in a fine between him and the master of the Knights Templars for three shillings, as customs and services for the free tenement which he held of the master in Alleston.

Husculf died before 22 April 1250, when his son Peter was granted relief for £324 due for his father's debts for the eyre of the forest in Rutland. The custody of Sauvey castle was transferred from Philip Marmion to Peter Nevill on 3 February 1251-2. On 28 October following he was ordered to give the custody to Reynold de Moun, who was to pay a rent of five marks yearly. This order, however, does not seem to have taken effect; for on 16 February 1252-3 another order transferred the castle from Peter to Ernald de Boys. Letters of protection issued on 8 July 1253 show that Peter accompanied Henry III. to Gascony; and on 18 February 1253-4 the king granted him £10 yearly at the exchequer, payable at Easter in the name of a fee until he should obtain an equivalent grant in land from escheats or wards. A second grant of Sauvey castle occurs on 26 September 1254, to hold at farm for three years from 1 November following, with an addition of two marks to the rent paid by Ernald de Boys. Ernald, justice of the forest, was accordingly commanded to deliver up the castle; but on 11 January 1254-5 Peter had a mandate to give it back to Ernald.

We find Peter Nevill marshal of the kings household in May 1259. On 11 June 1260 he was sent to take over Whitchurch castle in Shropshire for the king and deliver it to Hugh Bigod, the justiciar, on the occasion of a dispute touching the wardship of the lands and heir of William of Whitchurch (de Albo Monasterio).

Once more, 14 July 1260, he was appointed keeper of Sauvey castle, succeeding a Frenchman, Roger de Aubuf. This appointment was made by the council which, under the provisions of Oxford, bore rule in the realm; and Peter very probably was in sympathy with the baronial opposition to the king's favourites. He had letters of protection as going abroad with Henry in July 1262,

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* Ibid. p. 305.  
+ Ibid. p. 499.  
# Ibid. 1237-42, p. 485.  
Curia Regis roll, Mich. 1243.  
Close Rolls 1242-7, p. 237.  
Feet of Fines, Leicester.  
Fines roll, 34 Hen. III.  
Ibid. pp. 336, 393.  
Ibid. 1258-66, p. 11.  
Ibid. p. 77.  
Ibid. p. 82.  
Ibid. p. 222.
when the king went to Reims, returning in December. A year later, he was in debt to the king and had to adjust accounts with regard to his yearly fee of £10.\textsuperscript{a} A month after the battle of Lewes, he and others, then in Windsor castle, had a safe-conduct to come with all speed to discuss important business with the king, under pain of being outlawed as rebels.\textsuperscript{b} Although he seems from this to have joined the baronial party, he certainly made his peace with the Crown; for, on 4 March 1266-7, the corporation of King's Lynn was directed, with the loyal subjects in those parts or coming there with horses and arms, to aid Peter Nevill, appointed keeper of the town and the sea-coast adjoining.\textsuperscript{c} On 28 July of the same year he and John of Kirkby were sureties for Eustace Folville, to whom pardon was granted for his share in the late disturbances.\textsuperscript{d} On the other hand, he got into trouble about this time for intruding, with others procured by him, into certain lands in Hallaton, and taking and plundering the bailiff of William and Thomas Bardulf of goods to the value of forty marks. The culprits confessed their offence, Roger of Leyburn was ordered to take the lands for the king, and on 10 September Peter was commanded to come before the King and receive justice.\textsuperscript{e}

On 26 April 1274 Peter Nevill was outlawed for a trespass committed on the Saturday before St. Denis (7 October) 1273. The inquisition taken at the bridge of Rockingham by the king's escheator on 29 December following the outlawry shows that in September 1273 Peter had conveyed much of his property to his son Theobald by four several grants. On 22 September Raynold de Bakepuz, as Peter's attorney, had given Theobald seisin of three virgates of land in Carlton Curlieu, with a messuage which Peter had of the gift of Alice, daughter of Robert Curly, being of the yearly value of three marks, and a messuage and eight virgates in the same place which were the inheritance of Alice, the mother of Theobald and wife of Peter, yearly value eight marks. Two days later Peter, by the same attorney, put Theobald in possession of the manor of Allexton, in which the capital messuage and three virgates of land were held of the soke of Rothley, given to the Knights Templars by Henry II. A third grant consisted of two mills in Tugby and a 'wong' (cultura) containing four acres, yearly value twenty shillings, and of Peter's land in Hallaton. On 25 September Peter, with the consent of his mother Christine Nevill, who died 6 December following, sent his attorney and serjeant, the same Reynold, with a charter of feoffment to Leighfield (la Leye, co. Rutland, where he put Theobald in seisin of the manor of Leighfield. After Peter's outlawry Theobald was ejected from the

\textsuperscript{a} Ibid. p. 269. \textsuperscript{b} 16 June 1264 (ibid. p. 324) \textsuperscript{c} Ibid. 1266-72, p. 130 \textsuperscript{d} Ibid. p. 149. \textsuperscript{e} Ibid. pp. 158, 159.
Carlton Curlieu property on 3 May 1274 by Osbert Bereford, sheriff of Leicester, from Allexton on the same day by sir Roger Clifford the younger, and from Leighfield on 10 May, the feast of the Ascension, by the same sir Roger, justice of the forest south of Trent. He was also ejected from the property in Tagby and Hallaton.

The escheator returned that the moat and old garden with two virgates of land in Allexton were once of the king's demesne, and the ancestors of the said Peter were enfeoffed in them by the king of England: the Templars of Rothley received yearly therefrom three shillings. The residue of the manor of Allexton was held of sir Peter de Bakepuz by yearly service of a pair of gilt spurs. The year, day and waste of the manor were £53 10s. for which the exchequer ought to answer. The manor of Hallaton was held of sir William Bardolf by homage, two appearances at his view of frankpledge at Shelford, co. Nottingham, and by scutage: the year, day and waste were worth £19 10s. 2d. for which the exchequer ought to answer.a

At Trinity 1275 Theobald Nevill demanded the restitution of the escheated property in the king's bench, entering an acknowledgement that he held the manor of Leighfield in chief of John Peyvre, son and heir of John Peyvre, son and heir of sir Paulin Peyvre, by service of a pound of cummin or twopence and by payment of forty shillings yearly. The homage and service of sir Peter Nevill, his heirs and assigns, in that manor had been granted by charter to the said sir Paulin and his heirs by Geoffrey Mannes, formerly the tenant in chief.b Theobald's claim to the chief messuage and three virgates in Allexton was disputed by the mesne lord, the master of the Temple, who claimed them as his escheat in consequence of Peter's outlawry.c

A fresh inquisition, taken by Geoffrey of Lewknor and John of Mettingham, established Theobald's right to the manors of Leighfield and Braunston, co. Rutland, of which he had obtained seisin before his father's outlawry, and which therefore could not be escheated on account of Peter's trespass; and on 15 November 1275 the steward of the king's lands in Rutland was ordered to cause the manors to be delivered to Theobald in the same state as they were in on the day when they were taken into the king's hands.d The question was raised, however, whether Theobald's seisin before the outlawry had been full and uninterrupted, or whether Peter, after conveying the property, continued his own seisin so that Theobald never had full possession. This, as it concerned the manors of Allexton, Hallaton, Leighfield and Braunston, was committed for

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a Cal. Misc. Inquisitions, 1. 300-2 (no. 984)  
b Coram Rege roll 18, m. 37d.  
c Ibid. m. 27d.  
inquiry on 20 May 1276 to Geoffrey of Lewknor and Richard of Holbrook, with instructions to determine by a jury of Leicester and Rutland the dates of Peter's felony and outlawry and its publication, and of the feoffment made to Theobald, the termination or continuation of Peter's seisin on or after the date of the feoffment, the lords of whom and services by which the manors were held, their present holders, the escheators, whether the Crown or others, to whom they should have fallen by Peter's trespass, and the value of the year, day and waste. Theobald and William Bardolf, the chief lord of Hallaton, appeared in court and put themselves upon the inquisition.\(^a\)

Theobald evidently recovered his seisin. On 26 February 1285-6 an order to the exchequer acquitted him of all debts due to it from his father and grandfather\(^b\); and on 20 January 1286-7, he, with William Murdak, was appointed justice of the peace in Rutland.\(^c\) In 1297, however, Theobald Nevill, knight, and Thomas Nevill were in arrears with £150, part of a debt of £450 10s. 9d. which they ought to have paid in two halves at Michaelmas 1295 and Easter 1296 to Edmund, earl of Cornwall. The sheriff was ordered to arrest them and made an extent of all Theobald's lands except his chief messuage in Allexton. This was a 'fortalice' surrounded with a moat and water, which could not be entered without forcing the bridges and doors; so that the buildings and the fishing in the moat had not been extended. All Theobald's goods and chattels, however, that were found, valued at £21 6s. 8d. were seized, the residue of his lands and tenements was extended at £9 10s. 1d., and the earl's bailiff was put in seisin. Meanwhile, as it was witnessed that there were still goods and chattels of Theobald in Leicestershire which had not been extended, the sheriff was ordered to extend these, with the buildings and fishings aforesaid, at a reasonable rate, and to make his return at Michaelmas.\(^d\)

In spite of this incident, Theobald continued to maintain his position in his neighbourhood. On 14 January 1299-1300 he was joined with the sheriff of Rutland in a commission of array to summon the landholders of their bailiwick with £40 a year or more to provide themselves with horses and arms to meet the king at Carlisle for his Scottish campaign at Midsummer.\(^e\) On 13 September 1300 he was granted in fee simple the custody of the forest of Rutland for the rent previously paid by his father; and on 9 March 1300-1 he was appointed with others to hold an inquiry touching deer-poachers in the park of Oakham, when it was in the king's hands—i.e. after the death of Edmund, earl of Cornwall, in 1300—and in John Segrave's park at Cold Overton.\(^f\) In 1303

Theobald was with Edward I. in Scotland. During his absence, his cousin Thomas Nevill died, and the bishop of Lincoln laid claim to property in Stoke Dry, co. Rutland, which Thomas had held of him. Theobald, who was found by inquisition to be his cousin's next heir, begged stay of execution; and the escheator south of Trent was commanded to give notice to Theobald and his first cousin, John Nevill of Wymeswold, who claimed hereditary right in the land, to appear in the King's bench at Michaelmas.\(^a\)

There is no further mention of Theobald until 16 February 1315-6, when an order occurs for the replevin of his bailiwick in the forest of Rutland to him, surety being given by Richard Lovel and Robert of Kendal.\(^b\) He died towards the end of 1316. The inquisition taken after his death states that he held the bailiwick of the forest of Rutland, held of the king in chief, for the yearly rent of forty shillings at the eschequer. He was seised of a messuage and two carucates of land in Allexton, of which he and Cecily, late his wife, had been enfeoffed jointly, with remainder to the heirs of Theobald, by Thomas Nevill,\(^c\) of these, two-thirds of the messuage and three virgates of land were said to be held in free socage, by service of three shillings yearly, of the Hospitallers, to whom the king had given the soke of Rothley on its forfeiture by the Templars.

The remaining third of the messuage and five virgates were held of John de Bakepuz, knight, by service of a pair of gilt spurs or sixpence yearly, and for a quarter of a knight's fee. Theobald's next heir was his daughter Alice, aged sixteen and more, and married to John Hakelut.\(^d\)

John Hakelut thus succeeded to the manor of Allexton in right of his wife. He did homage for her heritage, and on 1 June 1317 the escheator was directed to deliver Theobald's lands to them.\(^e\) Alice's mother, Cecily, was still alive, and at Easter 1321 sued Roger Morwode and Joan his wife and William Inge for a third part of a messuage, four carucates of land, forty acres of meadow and 100s. rent in Stoke Dry.\(^f\)

In the Lay subsidy roll for 1327, under Allexton, John Bakepuz, the chief lord, is taxed three shillings; and in the same roll and in that for 1332 John Hakelut is taxed four shillings. It was in 1332 that Hakelut, with Robert Lovel, rector of Ashwell, co. Rutland, and Walter of Yarmouth were indicted before Ralph Nevill and his fellows, justices ofoyer and terminer in cos. Lincoln, Rutland and Northampton, for receiving and harbouring felons, and were sent to prison. They found bail to appear before the justices at Lincoln on 14 Dec.; and, their sureties having undertaken to answer for

\(^a\) Cal. Close Rolls 1302-7, p. 49. \(^b\) Ibid. 1313-5, p. 270. \(^c\) This must refer to a quit-claim of his right in the manor by Thomas, the fourth and youngest brother of Theobald's father. \(^d\) Cal. Inq. p.m. vi. 5, 6 (no. 17). \(^e\) Cal. Fine Rolls ii. 329. \(^f\) De Banco roll 238, m. 65d.
their good behaviour meanwhile, their release was committed on 13 September to the constable of the Tower.\(^a\)

Sir John Haklutz in 1346 was commissioner of array in Rutland and served among the knights in the king's army in France.\(^b\) In 1348 he had protection till Michaelmas, when he is mentioned as having served in the Black Prince's retinue.\(^c\) On 15 December 1350, the keeper of the forest south of Trent or his deputy in Rutland was ordered to replevy to John Haklutz his wood at Braunston, which had been taken into the king's hand for trespass of vert, if it were repleviable in accordance with the assize of the forest.\(^d\)

John Haklutz died on 28 January 1361-2. The inquisition post mortem returned 13 April 1362, that he held no lands in chief in Leicestershire on the day of his death. He held the manor of Allexton of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem in England, as in right of his wife Alice Nevill, who survived him. The manor contained a capital messuage worth nothing beyond the outgoings, twenty shillings of rents, one carucate of land worth yearly 20s., the site of the manor worth yearly two shillings, services worth three shillings yearly, and half a virgate of land worth twelve pence yearly, held of Thomas Bakepuz by yearly service of sixpence. He also held, as in right of Alice, a capital messuage in Hallaton, and a carucate of land, etc., held of the heirs of Robert Peverel by yearly service of threepence and suit of court at his (sic) court of Hallaton twice a year; and a carucate of land in Carlton Curlieu, held of Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Holand, by service of homage and suit of court twice a year. He also held lands, etc., in Rutland. William Haklutz, son of John and Alice, age 26 years and more, was their next heir.\(^e\)

As the inquisition established that the lands were not held in chief and in right and heritage of Alice, the escheator had a mandate, 12 May 1362, to remove his hand from the manor in Allexton and lands, etc., in Hallaton, and to deliver the issues taken therefrom to Alice.\(^f\) She subsequently married John Wardedieu of Bodiam, co. Sussex, and died on 21 March 1370-1. By inquisition taken at Hallaton, 21 August following, it was found that she held the manor of Allexton, worth £10 a year, of the prior of the Hospitals and of William Bakepuz, and 20s. rent in Somery of Roger Buler, both by services unknown to the jurors. Her heir was her son William Haklutz, thirty years of age—a statement which, compared with that of the inquisition of 1362, shows the extreme untrustworthiness of this type of document as evidence of the age of persons concerned.\(^g\) On 18 September the escheat was
ordered to be removed from a manor in Allexton, five marks of rent in Carlton Curlieu and 20s. rent in Somerby, which Alice had held jointly with her husband John Wardedieu by enfeoffment and gift to them and the heirs of John by Henry Wardedieu and John Courthorp. The escheator was to deliver to John Wardedieu any issues taken therefrom.\(^a\)

This looks as though William Hakelut had quit-claimed his right in his mother's property in Allexton to her and her second husband, who had leased it to Henry Wardedieu and John Courthorp. William, however, who died on 1 October 1373, was found by inquisition taken at Allexton on 21 December following to hold his lands of William Bakepuz by knight service. He was seised of 18s. 4d. rent from a moiety of a carucate of land in Carlton Curlieu, held of Henry Ferrers, knight, which Alice Hakelut his mother had leased to William Weston for term of life, and of the rent of a pound of pepper at Christmas yearly from two virgates of land in East Norton which William Morwode held of him. The Leicestershire jurors did not know who was his heir; but the jurors in Rutland returned that his heirs were John Meres, chivaler, of Loddington and John Trussel.\(^b\) A further inquisition however, was taken causa melius inquirendi by Thomas Walsh, escheator in Leicestershire, at Hallaton, 22 February 1374-5, by which it was found that William Hakelut held a certain manor in Allexton of sir William Bakepuz, chivaler, in chief by a service of sixpence, the manor being worth 60s. yearly, and a plot with two granges and a virgate and a half of land held of the prior of the Hospitallers as of his manor of Rothley by service of three shillings; and that John Mey of Loddington, aged thirty and more, was William Hakelut's next heir of blood.

It appears that the escheator, having no visible evidence of John Mey's existence and no assurance whether he was alive or no, seized the premises into the king's hand—it is said on 20 February, but this date is wrong, as the inquisition did not take place till two days later. They are given on 17 March 1374-5, when the escheator was inhibited from meddling further with them, as a manor in Allexton, three virgates of land, valued 33s. 4d. a year, and eighteenpence of rent of freeholders in Carlton Curlieu, and 16s. 8d. rent in Somerby.\(^c\) What happened to the manor is not clear. Whatever may have been the relationship of John Mey to William Hakelut, he must have parted with the manor, if he entered upon it, very shortly afterwards; for at Easter 1377 it was conveyed by a fine by Edward Dalyngregge, chivaler, and Elizabeth his wife, to William Gower, clerk, William of Loughborough, John of Bridgford and Richard of Oxendon.\(^d\) Sir Edward Dalyngrigge,

\(^a\) Col. Close Rolls 1369-74, p. 247.  
\(^b\) Inq. p.m. 1373.  
\(^c\) Col. Close Rolls 1374-7, pp. 149, 150.  
\(^d\) Feet of Fines, Leicester.
well known as the founder of Bodiam castle, Sussex, acquired that
property by his marriage with Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of
John Wardedieu or Wardeux. It thus appears that, by the terms
of the feoffment mentioned in the order of 18 September 1371, the
manor of Allexton passed to the heirs of John Wardedieu, the step-
father of William Hakelut, who thus parted with it.

The poll-tax of 1377-8 for Allexton assessed William de Burgh,
serjeant, at 40s. or 10s., John de Burgh, his attorney, at 6d., and
William Hore, their servant, at the normal rate of 4d. William
de Burgh must at this time have been tenant of the manor, but
probably on a lease from a lessee of the persons who had acquired
it in 1377. By a fine levied 12 September 1385 one John Norton
conveyed the manor to William de Burgh, chivaler, and Margery
or Margaret his wife, for term of life in survivorship, with the re-
version of a messuage, a mill and three acres of land in the same
manor, held by Alice, the widow of Robert Milner of Allexton, and
John, son of the same Robert, for life; with remainder of the
entire manor, after the deaths of William or Margery, to John
Holt, chivaler, William Hobyn, rector of Babworth, co. Nottingham
Thomas Friseby, Thomas ‘de Queneby de Assheby’ (sic, for Ass-
sheby of Quenby), Ralph Lawys, John, son of Robert Sewaldeby,
clerk, Richard Oxindon, and the heirs of John, son of Robert. This
group of persons represents the successors of the feoffees of
1377, of whom the manor was now held under the chief lords.

It will be noticed that in September 1371 the manor whose
descent we have been tracing is called ‘a manor.’ Before this date
the larger and smaller manors which composed the lordship held
by the Nevills and their heiress are treated as if they formed a
single manor; but now they begin to be distinguished by separate
names. In 1385 the Rothley fee is called the Over manor, and
appears under this name in 1428; it was also known as Hakelut’s
manor. The Bakepuiz manor, on the other hand, is called in 1428,
Nether hall. Before this time, the Bakepuiz family had ceased to
be tenants in chief of the Crown; for on 12 January 1348-9 the
escheator in co. Leicester was ordered to deliver to Agnes, widow
of Lawrence Hastings, earl of Pembroke, the fee in Allexton held
by John Bakepuiz, and on 24 January 1375-6 a similar order was
made for the delivery of a knight’s fee in Allexton, extended at £18
and held by John Bakepuiz, to Anne, widow of John Hastings,
earl of Pembroke, in dower. John Hastings, as Nichols notes,
died in 1374, being seized of this fee. The last male of the house

a 30 years of age at the death of his father in 1377 (Sussex Archaeol. Collections
IX 283.) The Wardedieus acquired the lordship of Ecdiam, probably by mar-
rriage, about 1278. Their shield of arms occurs with those of Bodiam and Dalyngrigge, above the great gateway of Bodiam castle. b This appears to be the
word, but it is almost illegible. c Lay Subs. 133/26. d Feet of fines, Leicester. e Cal. Close Rolls 1346-9, p. 582. f Ibid. 1374-7, p. 191.
of Bakepuiz, William, died without issue after 1375; and, as already mentioned, the family property was sold in 1381 to sir Walter Blount, who in 1413 enfeoffed trustees in his manor of Allexton, with other property to the use of his second wife, Sanche de Ayala, a Spanish lady, for life, with remainder to his second son, Thomas Blount, and his issue male, and so to James, his third, and Peter, his fourth son, with remainder to his right heirs. The 'Nether hall' portion of Allexton thus descended to Walter, son of Sir Thomas Blount, who was seised of it with Elizabeth his wife in 1441.

Meanwhile it appears that Margaret, the wife of William de Burgh, had acquired by purchase the Over or Hakelut's manor, previously held on lease. Her daughter Anne married Robert Chiselden, esq., called of Allexton in connection with a plea of 46s. brought against him in 1419-20 by the executors of the will of Lawrence Blakesley, late rector of a mediety of Hallaton. Margaret Burgh died on Wednesday, 3 June 1428, as stated at the inquisition taken at Leicester, Saturday, 10 July following. The jury returned that she was seised in demesne as of fee of the manor of Allexton called 'Over Maner,' formerly of John Haklute, held of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem in England as of his manor of Rothley by a rent of three shillings yearly for all services. In the said manor there was a site worth nothing yearly beyond reprises; rents of assize, value 26s. 8d. paid by divers free tenants there at Michaelmas and Easter in equal portions; 140 acres of land worth twopence per acre; 40 acres of pasture worth a penny per acre; 12 acres of meadow worth eightpence per acre; four acres of wood worth nothing beyond reprises; and two closes worth two shillings and 6s. 8d. respectively. She was also seised in demesne as of fee of a virgate of land in Allexton, held of Thomas Blount, chivaler, as of his manor of 'Nether halle' by service of sixpence yearly at Easter. In this virgate, valued at 6s. 8d., there were thirty acres of arable land worth twopence yearly per acre, and there were also 2½ acres of meadow worth eightpence per acre. She also held a piece of meadow in Halyhok of John Wakerly by service unknown to the jury. This contained two acres and was worth two shillings. Her daughter and heir was Anne, wife of Robert Chesilden, aged 40 and more.

Anne Chesilden appears to have been married early in life to Theobald Warde, who left a daughter Margery, probably by a previous marriage, married to John Dansey. By a writing dated at Burrough-on-the-Hill in 1443 or 1444, she granted a messuage and lands in Burrough and a rent in Somerby to her younger son

* See Nichols, iii. 6, and Cox, Churches of Derbyshire i. 6, where the history of the manor of Barton Blount is summarized.  
* De Banco roll 636, m. 82.  
* Holy Oaks in Liddington parish, Rutland.
Robert Chiselden and his issue male, and to John Chiselden, the younger son of her son John, and his issue male, a messuage and nine virgates of land in Thorpe Satchville which John Dansey and Margery his wife held for the life of Margery. Her son John appears to have died before his mother. Anne herself died on Sunday, 11 March, 1441-2. The inquisition taken at Market Harborough on Thursday, 28 December 1445, returned that she was seised of 'Hakelettes manor' in Allexton in demoisne as of fee, held of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem in England by service unknown to the jury. The contents of the manor were the site as in her mother's inquisition, 100 acres of land worth fourpence per acre; 20 acres of meadow worth eighteen pence per acre; 40 acres of pasture worth twopence per acre; two crofts worth two shillings apiece, and a water-mill worth nothing beyond reprises. She was seised in dower after the death of Theobald Warde, late her husband, of seven virgates of land and four crofts in Carlton Curlien, of the inheritance of Margery, wife of John Dansey, daughter and heir of the said Theobald, held of the king in chief as of the honour of Leicester by service unknown. Margery was aged 40 years and more.

Anne's heir was her grandson, John, son of John Chiselden, aged 20 years and more. An inquisition was taken in Rutland by writ dated 9 November 1446 for proof of John's age. By this it was found that he was born at Seaton, Rutland, on St. Valentine's Day, 14 February 1424-5, and was therefore twenty-one on 14 February 1445-6. The details are interesting. One juror, William Baxter, said that on the day of John's birth he rode for the lady Elizabeth Langforde, that she might be godmother of the said John son of John and lift him from the sacred font. Thomas Carter said that he carried the child in his arms to church for baptism, and John Beretville said that his wife carried him back to his father's house after the christening. John Club said that on the day of John's birth he carried fire for lighting the candles in church, and John Murdock said that he filled the font in which John was baptized. If, as is possible, Elizabeth Langforde, John's godmother, was one of the Derbyshire Longfords, she belonged to the family into which the heiress of the Bakepuizes had married. The wife of Sir Ralph Longford, however, the head of the family at this date, was named Margaret, and, after his death a few years later she married Seth Worsley, esq. It seems probable, from the fact of his birth at Seaton, that John, son of John's mother, was a Boyvill.

* The date is Thursday before St. Thomas the Martyr, but as Christmas intervened, this is an unlikely date. Thursday, 1 July (before the translation of St. Thomas) is more likely; or it may be Thursday, 16 December, before the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle.
In 1450 John Chiseldon released all his rights in Allextón to John Boyvill and others, by whom they were re-conveyed to Sir Walter Blount, created lord Mountjoy in 1465. Thus the two manors were united under one owner. Lord Mountjoy died on 1 August 1474. According to the inquisition then taken, he had given the manor of Allextón to his son William and Margaret his wife, who survived her husband. Edward Blount, their son aged seven years and more in 1474, was his grandfather's heir. He died in his minority, 1 December 1476, when John his uncle, then thirty years of age, had livery of his lands. This John Blount, knight, lord Mountjoy, died 12 October 1485, leaving a son and heir, William Blount, aged seven and more, as reported by inquisition taken 19 August 1486. From this it appears that the manor of Allextón was leased to Henry Gatton,\(^a\) rector of Barton Blount and Henry Tykkyll, gent., who re-granted it to John Blount and Lora his wife, who survived him, with remainder to the heirs male of his body. John's possessions included the manors of Allextón and Hallaton,\(^b\) and seven messuages, 40 acres of meadow, 260 acres of pasture and 40 acres of wood in Allextón, Leicester and Desford, worth £4, tenure unknown.\(^c\)

From this point Nichols' account of the descent of the manor appears to be accurate in the main.

The advowson of the church of Allextón appears to have been appurtenant to the Bakepuiz manor. In the Leicester Matriculus of Hugh of Wells, compiled between 1220 and 1290, the patron is entered as John de Bakepuiz, and the rector as the patron's brother Peter, instituted by Hugh, sometime bishop of Lincoln, i.e. before 1200. The church was served by W. the vicar, who had been instituted by the archdeacon sede vacante. i.e. before the end of 1209, and received the entire fruits of the church as his vicarage, except a yearly pension of two marks paid by him to the rector.\(^d\)

Of the vicarage we hear nothing at a later date: such benefices, in churches held by individual rectors, were seldom permanent and frequently lapsed at an early date. The patronage of the rectory remained in the hands of the chief lords, as will be seen by the following list of rectors and patrons. It was frequently held in dower, and in later days is found for some time in the hands of lessees.


2. 1226. William de Benetle, chaplain, pres. by sir John de Bakepuiz, kt. Ibid. ii., 301.

\(^a\) Called Gretton by Cox, op. cit. iii. 9. He was instituted to Barton Blount in 1475.\(^b\) It must not be inferred from this statement that John Blount held the whole manor of Hallaton. Any holder of manorial rights, however small, was constantly called "holder of the manor."\(^c\) Inq. p.m.\(^d\) Rot. Hug. Welles (Corn., and York Sec.) i., 258.
7. 1310, 6 May. Thomas de Bentle, acolyte, pres. by sir John de Bakepuze, kt.,* on res. of B. Lincoln Reg. ii. fo. 205.
9. 1355, 19 Dec. Ralph, son of Ralph de Barton, priest, pres. by Thomas Bakepus, on death of Edmund. Ibid. fo. 363d.
12. 1383, 6 Nov. Roger Tolthorp, chaplain of the chantry of All Saints in All Hallows Barking, London, pres. by Joan, relict of sir William Baggepuz, on exch. with T.A. Ibid. fo. 282 and d.
17. N.d. Roger Peck.

* Presented incumbents to Barton Blount in 1299 and 1307.  b Presented to Barton Blount in the same year.
* Presented to Barton Blount in 1375.  a For an account of this clerk see Visitations of Religious Houses (Lincoln Record Soc.) i. 81, 201. He resigned Allexton in consequence of his institution to the church of Hanslope, Bucks.
THE MANOR OF ALLEXTON.

26. 1493-4, 23 Feb. John Brome, priest, pres. by Thomas Mongomery, kt. patron for this turn in right of dower of Loras his wife, b on res. of N.F. Pension of four marks yearly to the retiring rector. Reg. xxii. fo. 217d.
28. 1567. Philip Hayes d: compounded for first-fruits 28 April. e
29. 1570. Ralph Bradly : compounded for first-fruits 4 July. f
30. 1573. William Fenton, pres. by the Crown 31 Nov., on res. of last incumbent. Ibid.
31. 1578, 27 Oct. Thomas Tonstall, clerk, pres. by Henry, lord Crumwell, on death of Ralph Bradly. g Compounded for first-fruits 14 Nov. Ibid. p. 41.
32. 1597, 15 December. Anthony Cade, clerk, h pres. by

* Presented to Barton Blount in 1423, 1444, and 1451.
* Widow of John Blount, 3d lord Mountjoy, who d. 1485.
* See the statement of the descent of advowson and manor in Nichols iii. 7, where it is said wrongly that Brome or Broune was presented by William, lord Mountjoy. Dorothy was widow of this William, fourth lord Mountjoy, who died in 1535.
* Student of Ch. Ch. Oxon. B.A. 1562, M.A. 1565-6.
* No institution recorded. According to the statement in Nichols, the church was vacant by the cession of Hugh Penington or Penlington. Hayes was presented by the Crown in the minority of Edward, son and heir of Anthony Andrews. The transactions by which the family of Andrews obtained an interest in the advowson are given by Nichols. e Presented by John Blount esq., son of William, fourth lord Mountjoy, on res. of Philip Hayes. Edward Andrews claimed the right of presentation: for details of the suit see Nichols, u.s. Blount recovered the presentation. The Lincoln Liber Cleri, 1576, contains the entry ' Ralf Bradlie parson of Allaxon (£6 18s. 4d..) resident, presented by John Blount, patron, and now the lord Cromwell; 50 yeres of age, married, ordered by Richard of St. Assaph Bishop in Wales [Richard Davies, bp. of St. Asaph 1560-1, of St. Davids 1561-81.] meanlie learned but without judgment. ' Blount's sale of the advowson to Andrews and his re-sale of it to Henry, lord Cromwell, led to long litigation. f From this it appears that the Crown pres, in 1573 did not take effect.
* Sizar Caius coll. Cambridge 1580-1, aet. 16; incorporated M.A. Oxon 1607; vicar of Billesdon 1599; rector of Grafton Underwood, Northants 1621; author of A Justification of the Church of England, 1630, etc,
Edward, lord Cromwell. Compound for first-fruits 6 February, 1597-8.\(^a\) Reg. xxx. fo. 74d., and Presentation deed, 1597, no. 49.


34. 1640-1, 15 January. Mountjoy Cradocke, clerk,\(^b\) pres. by [Mountjoy Blount,] earl of Newport.\(^c\) Compound for first-fruits 8 April 1642. Canterbury Bishops' certificates,


\(^a\) Details about Cade are given in the Libri Cleri for 1603 and 1614. He was ordained deacon by the bishop of Lincoln 4 July 1593, and was licensed to preach by the university of Cambridge 4 July 1596. He was dispensed to hold two livings by the archbishop, 4 June 1699, on the qualification of his degree of B.D. In 1603 he was returned as non-resident. In 1614 the patrons of the living are said to be the heirs of lord Mountjoy.

\(^b\) Of New coll. Oxon; matric. 1631-2, aet. 21; B.A. 1633; rector of a medity of Hallaton 1650; Vicarmal preb. of Bargham in Chichester, 1669. Son of John Cradock, fellow of New College and Winchester, preb. of Selsey in Chichester 1609-41 and canon residuary.

\(^c\) Admitted by Archbishop Laud, in the vacancy of the see of Lincoln. The Liber Cleri 1662 states that Cradocke was ordained deacon 30 March 1635, and priest 5 March 1636-7 by Walter [Curil,] bishop of Winchester, and was licensed to preach by the archbishop 6 June 1637. He was non-resident. Son of Thomas Peake of Laund abbey, esq. Of Magdalen hall, Oxon, matric. 1 696 aet. 16; B.A. 1699-1700; M.A. 1702: vicar of Belgrave 1703. Daughter and heir of the honble Henry Noel of North Luffenham, Rutland, second son of Bapst, third viscount Campden. She married in 1687-8 Charles Boyle, who succeeded his father in 1694 as viscount Dunganan and lord Clifford of Lanesborough and his grandfather in 1698 as third earl of Cork and second earl of Burlington. She died in 1750, aet. 78. Of Queen's coll. Oxon, matric., 1758, aet. 19; B.A. Magd. coll. 1762; M.A. Magd. hall 1766; rector of Doddington, Cambs. and vicar of Long Sutton, Lincs.; d. 1815.

\(^d\) Succeeded his brother as 5th lord Berners, 1838; d. 1851.
44. 1870, 12 June. Harry Berners Upcher, B.A., b pres. by Henry William lord Berners, on res. of T.B. Ibid.
45. 1877, 14 March. Thomas Norris, B.A., pres. by the honble Harry Tyrwhitt-Wilson of Keythorpe hall, c on cess. of H.B.U. Ibid.
46. 1890, 4 July. Hugh Parry, d pres. by the honble Harry Tyrwhitt-Wilson of 11 Victoria square, London, on death of T.N.

a 6th lord Berners, d. 1871.  b Rector of Dingley, Northants. 1876; of Ashwell, Rutland, 1889-98.  c Eldest son of Emma Harriet, baroness Berners, niece of the 6th lord Berners.  d Also vicar of Tugby from 1883.
PEDIGREE OF "NEVILL, ALLENE ALTHEASTON."

Peter de Athelakeston = Alice sister of Hugh Nevill.


Pipe roll 1212. Has culf de Athelak'eston = Christiana. Assumed his mother's name of Nevill.

Pipe roll 1212., has a quitclaim from his father for his bailiwick of the forest. Patent roll, June 29, 1320. Aprehension at Posieux.

Pipe roll 1312. Has a quitclaim from his father for his bailiwick of the forest. Patent roll 1312. Aprehension at Posieux.

Pipe roll 1320. Letters of protection.

Pipe roll 1320. Has letters of protection.

Fine roll, Apr. 13, 1320. Alice, the wife of Peter de Athelak'eston, gave 20 marks for the lands, &c., of her husband. Adheaterion, sister of Hugh de Nevill. Dies so mortue for the lands, &c., of her husband. Adheaterion, sister of Hugh de Nevill. Her lands in Womsewold were held.

Close roll, April 14, 1326. William de Nevill and Margaret had been enfeoffed in lands in Womsewold and H by Stephen de Nevill, 100l to William and Margaret and the heirs of William. The lands in Womsewold were held by John Hakelut and Alice, his wife and others.

Close roll, circa 1326. The lands held by Hakelut, &c., from a prior grantor were held by Hakelut, &c., from William de Nevill and Margaret.


John de Nevill = Joan de Wimeswold.

Close roll, April 14, 1326. William de Nevill and Margaret had been enfeoffed in lands in Womsewold and H by Stephen de Nevill, 100l to William and Margaret and the heirs of William. The lands in Womsewold were held by John Hakelut and Alice, his wife and others.

Close roll, circa 1316. The lands held by Hakelut, &c., from a prior grantor were held by Hakelut, &c., from William de Nevill and Margaret.


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John de Nevill = Joan de Wimeswold.

Nichols quotes an Inq. P.M. dated 1427. She died in 1445.

Anne died June 1445. She was the daughter and heir of Robert Chiselden.

Nichols quotes an Inq. P.M. dated 1427. She died in 1445.

Heir to his grandmother in 1445, then aged 20 years at Stretton Enlefeld.

In 1450, John Chiselden sold his rights in Allerton to John Boyville, by whom they were conveyed to Sir Walter Blount, 1st lord Mountjoy, who died Aug. 1, 1474. seised of both manors in Allerton. His son John Chiselden died in 1515, then aged 20 years.

Pedigree of Chiselden — Wright's Rutland p. 7.
II.

APPLEBY.

[Wapentake and old rural deanery of Sparkenhoe. Modern rural deanery of Akeley, western division].

Form of the name: D.B. Apelbi, Apleby, Apleberie. The forms Apelby, Apilby, Appelby, Appilby, are very general: Appulby is the usual 15th and 16th century spelling.

At the Domesday survey five ploughlands in Appleby, four of which were held by the abbey of Burton-on-Trent and one by the king, were worth 60s. Two ploughs were employed in the demesne, and eight villeins and one bordar had one plough.

Three other ploughlands, worth 20s., are stated to have been held by the countess Godiva. In the demesne were two ploughs, and eight villeins, with six bordars, had one plough. One plough-land also was held by Robert of Henry de Ferieres, worth twelve shillings: four sokemen had two ploughs, and there were three acres of meadow.

Nichols gives considerable particulars of the property of the abbey of Burton in Appleby. This property is described in the document known as the will of Wulfric Spot, the founder (c. 1004) as 'the land which I bought with my money at Apelby.'

In the reign of Henry i. the abbot of Burton held twenty-four yardlands in Appleby, and had three ploughs and twenty-four oxen on the demesne.

There were two manors in Appleby, known respectively as Appleby Magna (Nether Appleby) and Appleby Parva (Over Appleby). Of these, Appleby Parva came to the Vernons of Haddon, co. Derby, by marriage with Margaret de Stockport, the great-granddaughter and co-heiress of Thurstan Banaster, in the thirteenth century. As the history of the Vernons has been fully written by Mr. Le Blanc Smith, it is necessary only to give the pedigree of the Banaster inheritance:

Thurstan Banaster =

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Margaret, lady of Appleby = Richard Fitz Roger

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<tr>
<td>Maud = Robert de Stockport</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret = Quenilda = Roger Amisia or Amiria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gernet or Butler</td>
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<td>of Warton in Amounderness, Lancs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ralph de Bethum</td>
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Quenilda, the fourth daughter of Margaret Banaster and Richard

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Fitz-Roger, died in 1251, seised inter alia of a burgage and a waste place in Lancaster, for which she had exchanged a quarter of the manor of Appleby. As her heirs were Sir Ralph de Betham and Robert de Stockport, both of full age, she probably left no issue surviving. Among the Lytham charters preserved at Durham, however, together with charters of her husband and herself, 'Quenilda, wife of Roger, the lady of Warton', are those of a son, 'Richard the Butler, son of Quenilda of Warton,' and of his son Eustace, 'son of Richard the butler of Warton.' Both these must have predeceased her.

The descent of the manor of Appleby Parva comes into prominence in connexion with the advowson of the church. In 4 Elizabeth (1561—1562) it was acquired by the Griffins of Braybrooke, co. Northampton. It was sold by Sir Edward Griffin to Charles Moore in 41 Elizabeth (1598—1599) and has remained in the family of the purchaser until the present day.

The manor of Appleby Magna is of greater interest to us. It was held by the family of Appleby; and, although no pedigree can be considered correct unless an authentic reference can be given to prove each descent, it may be claimed for the pedigree given here that it is more accurate than the one printed by Nichols (iv. 442,) or that in Glover's history of Derbyshire. Burton says of the Appleby family that many lie entombed in the Church, and gives their arms as 'Azure, six martlets or, three, two and one.' Their manor-house remains to-day not far from the church, with its dovecote and outbuildings: the site is moated, but no part of the present building is earlier than the later part of the fifteenth century at earliest. Some carved stones built into the wall above a large fireplace may be of earlier date; but their detail indicates that they are merely imitations of twelfth-century work and are probably not earlier than the reign of Elizabeth. The relieved inscription built into the same wall, and reproduced, with the other carvings, in Nichols from not very accurate drawings, has baffled all skilled interpreters, although very clearly cut: the conclusion to which the present writer has come, after close examination and much consultation, is that the resemblance to a cursive inscription is intentionally deceptive, and that the carver either

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*a Cal. Inq. p.m. i. 64 (no. 253) cf. Cal. Fine Rolls.  b See C. H. Hunter Blair, Durham Seals (Archaeol. Aet. 3d. ser. vii. 59, nos. 498—501.) A deed of Margaret Banestre occurs in the same collection (ibid. viii. 20, no. 146.) There are also charters of Ralph de Betham (ibid. viii. 30, no. 232 Roger Gernet (ibid. viii. 124, no. 1070.) Quenilda, daughter of Richard Fitz-Roger (ibid. ix. 198, no. 1580, and xi. 255, no. 2077, ) Amiria, daughter of Richard Fitz-Roger (ibid. xi. 255, no. 2078,) and Richard Fitz Roger (ibid. xi. 260, no. 2110.) See also v. C. H. Lancs. i. 368; iii. 53.  c The arms occur on the seal of Edmund de Appleby to a charter in 1325 (Durham Seals, ut sup. vii. 13, no. 81.) They are illustrated ibid. plate 7. They were in a window of Smisby church, co. Derby, noted by Wyrley in 1596 (Cox, C.Hh. of Derbyshire iii. 456.)
employed symbols to which he alone held the key, or merely cut
the shapes at random to puzzle the credulous, probably in the
sixteenth century.

William de Appleby is said to have been living here about 1166 ;
but the first authentic bearer of the name was Waleran de Appleby,
placed by Nichols c. 1170. Waleran witnessed a grant by Ralph
de Seille to William de Noreis late in the reign of Henry II. a His
son Robert was witness to a charter of Ralph, son of Ralph de
Seille, granting a virgate in Seal to the abbot and convent of More-
vale, temp. Richard I. The same Robert also witnessed two
charters of Lucian de Deserto of Seal, granting a meadow to the
same abbey and part of his wood at Seal to the church of St. George
of Gresley and the canons there. b

In 1199 Nicholas de Appelbi is mentioned in the Pipe roll for
that year. c In the same year Geoffrey Vunithering asked for two
virgates of land in Appleby, which had been taken into the king's
hand for Geoffrey's default against Roger Crassus; and in 1201—2
Roger Crassus demanded two virgates of land against Everard de
Apelbi and Amisia his wife, of which Roger's father William had
been seised temp. Richard I. The defendants denied Roger's right
and William's seisin, as the land was the inheritance of Edith,
Amisia's mother, who had married William Crassus, and they
pleaded that William had no other entry or right in the land than
by Edith. d It thus appears that Amisia was Edith's daughter by a
previous marriage. By default, of Everard and Amisia the land
was taken into the king's hand, and at Michaelmas 1204 Geoffrey
Fitz Piers, the justiciar, signified to the justices that they asked
for their land by plevin. e

Nicholas and Everard seem to have been younger sons; and the
Robert de Apelbi, who occurs at Easter 1208 as pledge for a fine
concerning certain tenements in Seal, is probably the Robert of the
Gresley charters. At any rate, this Robert had a son, William
de Apelbi, who was a co-witness to the charter of Lucian de Deserto
to the church of Gresley. f The date of this charter is quite
uncertain, as William, parson of Seal, who also witnessed it,
was certainly instituted before 1191, and probably in the vacancy
of the see of Lincoln between 1184 and 1186, and was still rector c.
1220—30. g William de Appleby occurs also as a witness to four
other charters concerning land in Seal, to three of which, granted to
Merevale abbey, William, the rector of Seal, was also a witness. i

In Testa de Nevill William de Appleby is named as holding a
quarter of a knight's fee in Appleby of the earl Ferrers. k The

a Gresley Charters, no. 9. b Ibid. nos. 18, 32, 34. c See p. 369.
above. d Curia Regis roll 18, m. 10. e Pipe Roll 3 John, m. 10. f Curia
Regis roll 32, m. 4. * Gresley Charters, no. 34. h Rot. Hug. Welles (Cant. and
York Soc.) i. 250. i Gresley Charters, nos. 33, 42, 49, 52. k Testa de Nevill
(Record Comm.) p. 95.
genealogy of the family, however, becomes at this point exceedingly puzzling; and it is not at all clear whether we can identify the William son of Robert de Appleby, of the beginning of the thirteenth century, with the William de Appleby who at Hilary 1259—60 was the subject of an assize brought by his sister Clemence and her husband William Charnells against the abbess of Polesworth concerning a virgate and a fifth of land in Snarestone. It was found that William de Appleby was not seised of the premises in demesne as of fee at his death, for, eight days before he died, he had enfeoffed the abbess of them by charter. His death took place before 1253, when William le Sauvage claimed custody of Henry de Appleby, his son and heir, from Walter de Bereford, on the ground that William de Appleby had held his land in Seal and Appleby by knight-service of Geoffrey le Sauvage, whose kinsman and heir William le Sauvage was. Walter de Bereford was possibly a half-brother of William de Appleby; for Clemence Charnells appears, from a charter printed by Nichols, by which Symon de Bereford gave with her, his daughter, in frank marriage to William Charnells the land which he had acquired from various proprietors in Snarestone, to have been the daughter of Symon de Bereford by the mother who, by a second marriage, became the mother of William de Appleby. We shall return to Henry de Appleby when other thirteenth-century bearers of his surname have been considered.

1. Two charters, between 1230 and 1232, are witnessed by Geoffrey de Appleby. One of these is a grant by Ranulf de Blundevill, earl of Chester and Lincoln, to the church of the Holy Trinity and the canons of Repton, which was also witnessed by William de Vernon, justice of Chester, the husband of the heiress of Appleby Parva. The other is a quit-claim of tithe to the abbot and convent of Burton from Thomas, rector of Appleby, and was witnessed by sir Geoffrey de Appleby. This Geoffrey, who may have been a younger brother of William de Appleby, had a son James, who was defendant in a suit concerning nine acres of land in Appleby brought by William, son of Matthew de Appleby, of whom more hereafter, at Easter 1262. There exists also an agreement between James the son of sir Geoffrey de Appleby and Roger Faber, by which James granted to Roger half an acre in Appleby Parva for the term of twenty years, lying between the land of William Huclyn and that of Richard le Harper. As one of the witnesses was Thomas d' Aundevill (or de Andely,) rector of Appleby, the date of the charter appears to lie between 1234 and 1268; while, as another was Henry son of William de Appleby,

b Curia Regis roll 148. m. 9.  
c Nichols iv. 981.  
d Derbyshire Charters, no. 1934.  
e Ibid. no. 48.  
f Assize roll 954. m. 43d.
who apparently was a minor in 1253, it is confined to the later part of the same period, and to 1265 at latest, the year of James de Appleby's death.

An inquisition held on 12 October 1265 found that the land of sir James de Appleby in Appleby was seized by Ralph (? Robert,) earl of Derby, because he was in the service of sir Nicholas de Segrave. It was worth five shillings yearly, and there was no Michaelmas rent, because all was in demesne.\(^a\) On October in the same year, a grant was made to Isabel, wife of James de Appleby, of the manors of Whisseudine, co. Rutland, and Tathwell, co. Lincoln, late of her said husband, to hold in tenancy for her maintenance.\(^b\) She seems to have married, as her second husband, William le Bret; for, in a fine levied in 1288—9, Geoffrey, son of Geoffrey de Appleby, and presumably the younger brother and heir of James, is found as defendant of lands in Appleby and in co. Lincoln of Geoffrey's inheritance, which were held in dower by Isabel, wife of William le Bret.\(^c\) At Hilary 1289—90 Isabel and William were summoned to recognise what claim they had in a virgate and a half of land, six acres of meadow and eight shillings rent in Appleby, which Geoffrey son of Geoffrey de Appleby granted in court to Florio Cruel of Tridino by a fine.\(^d\) From this point this younger branch of the family can be traced no further.

2. A second William de Appleby appears in 1248, while William, presumably the son of Robert, was still alive. The facts, however, clearly show that the two men cannot be identified, and it may be said at once that this is a case in which one must beware of the theory that such forms as 'de Appleby,' occurring in Latin and French documents, but purely hybrids if used in English, have always a special territorial significance or can be confined to members of a single family. That such a limited application is helpful, as regards the thirteenth century, is possible; for at this date local surnames were used much less indiscriminately than at a later period. The present example shows, however, that they were used in the first half of the thirteenth century by families in manors who were not related to the owners, as became the general custom in later times. While we find a villein known as Robert of Appleby, the second William of Appleby's actual surname was Hugelen or Huclyn, and his family cannot be connected by any proof of relationship with the ruling house of Appleby.

A suit arose at Trinity 1243 between Lettice, widow of Hugh de Sumervill, and William de Appelby, concerning a messuage and two and a half virgates of land in Appleby, which Lettice claimed as her right and inheritance.\(^*\) Her plea at Easter 1244 was that

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\(^a\) Misc. Inq. no. 696: Hundred of Repton.
\(^c\) Feet of Fines: mixed counties, 17 Edw. 1.
\(^d\) De Banco roll 81, m. 3rd.
\(^*\) Curia Regis roll 130, m. 22d.
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William had no entry except by one Matthew Hugelin, to whom the premises had been demised by her husband Hugh de Somervill, in whose lifetime she could not withstand. William de Appleby denied that Matthew Hugelin, who was his father, had entry of the premises by the demise as stated; but said that he had it by two separate enfeoffments. Matthew Dispenser, the father of Lettice, had another daughter and co-heiress Agnes, who enfeoffed Matthew Hugelin of three parts of a virgate of land and half a messuage by a charter which William produced. Lettice married Henry Hugelin, and after his death enfeoffed Henry’s son Matthew Hugelin of the rest of the land.

In her answer, Lettice denied that Agnes her sister was ever in seisin of the land granted by her charter to Matthew Hugelin. Agnes herself, in the lifetime of her father Matthew Dispenser, married a villein of the abbey of Burton named Robert de Appleby, and therefore excluded herself from her share in her father’s heritage, of which Lettice thus became sole heir. As for her own enfeoffment of Matthew Hugelin, she denied giving him entry, as she married Hugh de Somervill, her second husband, in her father’s lifetime and before his inheritance came to her: Matthew’s right of entry therefore, as stated before, came by demise of Hugh.a

This suit produces the following pedigree:

Matthew Dispenser  
/           
(1) Henry Hugelin—Lettice—(2) Hugh de Somervill — Agnes—Robert de Appleby, a Villein.

Matthew Hugelin  
/           
William de Appleby.

Robert of Appleby the villein, if villein he was, may be dismissed without comment: there is obviously nothing to be gained from him. Nor is there any certain connexion between the Hugelins and the Applebys. William Hugelin’s father is called Matthew de Appleby in the notice of a suit, already mentioned, for nine acres of land bought by William against James de Appleby in 1262.b This, however, proves no relationship. William Huclyn was witness, with Henry de Appleby and others, to an undated charter by which Roger Pescher of Appleby granted to Peter Pescher his son a virgate of land in Appleby of the fee of Seal which Ralph de la More formerly held.c This Peter Pescher married William Huclyn’s daughter Lucy, with whom her father granted in frank marriage a messuage on the opposite side of the road to his house.d

On 21 November 1274 William Hulyn of Appleby came before the king and asked for replevin of his land in Appleby which, on

a Ibid. 1344, m. 14d.  b Assize roll 954, m. 43d.  c Hastings MSS]  d Ibid.
account of his default against Roger Lestrange, had been taken into
the king's hand. He may have died before 1278—9, when, on 12
March, Matthew son of William de Appelby, imprisoned at
Leicester upon the charge of murdering Emery of Seal (de Shele,)
had letters to the sheriff granting him the privilege of bail. Of
Matthew we hear nothing more; but Peter le Pescher, probably
the husband of William Huelyn's daughter, was defendant at
Trinity 1304 in a fine between him and Robert de Herle regarding
22 acres of land in Appelby. In the Lay Subsidy roll for 1327,
Richard Pescher was assessed at eighteenpence in the manor of
Appelby Parva; but he does not appear in the roll for 1332.
Peter Pecher, in an undated charter among the Hastings MSS., is
the grantee of a grange and the moiety of a cottage in Appelby
with a toft, croft and a virgate of land, one rood of which lay by
the said Peter's garden, extending as far as the land which was of
sir James de Appelby. The date is therefore later than 1265,
which, as we have seen, was the year of sir James' death.
It is possible, however, that William Huelyn did not die till after
1278—9. He was alive, at any rate, in 1278, if this is the corre-
date for a charter of agreement between the prior and convent of Rep-
ton and the parishioners of Measham concerning repairs to the chan-
cel of the church of Measham, to which sir Adam de Montalt, lord of
Measham, was one witness, and William Hugelyn of Appelby an-
other. On 6 February 1291—2 Robert de Pynkeney, knight, ac-
knowledged a debt of £8, to be levied upon his lands and chattels in
co. Northampton, to Henry de Appelby and Gilbert son of William;
but whether the William of 1288 and this Gilbert were father and
son, or whether they were Huelyns or not, is impossible to say.

3. An inquisition taken 27 June 1313 found that William de
Appelby, otherwise called de Herle, held a quarter of a knight's fee
in Appelby of John de Hastynge the elder. The same return was
made to the writ of certiorari de feodis, 27 January 1324—5, on
the death of John de Hastynge, lord of Abergavenny. William
de Herle, however, had nothing to do with the Appelby family: his
chief property lay in Northumberland. He appears to have died on 8 March 1346—7. Among his Leicestershire property,
however, to which his son Robert de Herle was heir, is returned
20s. rent held of the abbot of Burton by fealty.

We have seen that Henry de Appelby, the son and successor of
William de Appelby, was a minor in 1258. Nichols says that this
Henry gave lands in Seal to the abbot and convent of Merevale,
whom he acquitted of the dower of his mother, Margery Tochet,

389 (no. 612).  g Ibid. ix. 20 (no. 39).
arising from a mill in Seal. The date of his death is unknown. 
Presumably, however, he is the sir Henry de Appleby, knight, who 
by a deed dated 25 September 1278 released to William son of 
Philip de Scheyle and his heirs, for the payment of twenty shillings, 
the suit of his court which fell due every three weeks, except two 
yearly appearances at his court at Appleby at Michaelmas and 
Easter.\(^a\) He was dead, however, in 1287, when Henry son of 
Henry de Appleby was defendant in a fine respecting the advowson 
of the church of Appleby to which reference will be made later. 
The second Henry remained in possession of his inheritance until 
about 1319. In 1292 he granted to Peter Peycher, son of Roger 
Peycher, whom we have already met, a virgate with a messuage in 
his demesne in Appleby.\(^b\) On 18 February 1291—2 he acknow-
ledged a debt of £42 to William le Pesshuner of Northampton, to 
be levied, in default of payment, upon his lands and goods in co. 
Leicester; and on 14 June 1294, he was creditor to the amount of 
£96, owed by John de Riparis, to be levied similarly upon John's 
lands and chattels in co. Southampton.\(^d\) Henry de Appleby, knight, 
was a witness in 1302 to a quit-claim of any right in the manors 
of Appleby [Parva] and Haddon, granted by Michael de Hartaela 
to Richard de Vernon, his heirs and assigns.\(^*\) On 21 October 1306 
he and his heirs had a grant of free warren in all their demesne 
lands in Spytelsheyle (i.e. Overseal).\(^f\) At Michaelmas 1310 the 
sheriff was ordered to take forty shillings from the goods and 
chattels of Henry de Appleby, knight, throughout the liberty of 
the honour of Lancaster, for a debt which he owed to the prior of 
St. John of Jerusalem in England.\(^c\) At Hilary 1308—9 Henry de 
Appleby sued William Wymund of Seal in a plea of having made 
waste and destruction, to Henry's disinheritance, of land, houses, 
woods, gardens, etc., which had been demised to the said William 
in Seal for the term of his life.\(^a\) In 1312 he was witness to a 
charter granted to the prior and convent of Repton; and at Hilary 
1317—8 he was defendant in a plea of four marks brought by 
Robert de Charneles, rector of Sweystone.\(^k\) Henry de Appleby was 
dead by Michaelmas 1318, when his executors sued Robert de 
Staunton for a debt, appointing Roger de Norton their attorney.\(^1\) 
The executors were Henry de Norton, John de Overton and Richard 
de Twyford, chaplain. Henry de Norton and John de Overton may 
be identified with witnesses whose names appear in the charter of 
Henry de Appleby to Peter Peycher in 1292, already mentioned.

\(^a\) Charter at Wyggeston's hospital, Leicester. 
\(^b\) Hastings MSS. 
\(^c\) Cal. Close Rolls 1288—95, p. 256. 
\(^d\) Ibid. p. 389. 
\(^e\) Belvoir MSS. (Royal Histor. Comm.) iv. 28. 
\(^f\) Cal. Charter Rolls iii. 72. 
\(^g\) De Banco roll 183, m. 140. 
\(^h\) Ibid. 174, m. 210d. 
\(^i\) Derbyshire Charters, p. 249. 
\(^k\) De Banco roll 221, m. 258d. 
\(^1\) De Banco roll 231, attorneys.
His heir was his son, Edmund de Appleby, who, in a plea concerning the advowson of the church of Appleby in 1325, definitely stated that Henry de Appleby (i.e. the elder Henry) was his grandfather. In the same year (3 June 1325) William de Appleby held a quarter of a knight’s fee in Appleby, value 50s., which occurs among the fees belonging to John de Hastynge, tenant-in-chief, to be delivered as dower to Juliana, late his wife. William de Appleby, presumably the same person, and John de Melbourn acknowledged on 26 February 1326—7 a debt of £30 to Henry Prodomme, citizen of London, to be levied upon their lands and chattels in co. Leicester. William, however, if he was of the same family, did not stand in the direct line of inheritance. On 3 June 1327 Edmund de Appleby, knight, was fellow debtor with Hugh de Audleye, knight, to William Melton, archbishop of York, in a sum of £40, to be levied on their lands in co. Gloucester. Edmund and his wife Joan, at Hilary 1330—1, gave four marks for licence to agree with Simon de Norton in a plea of covenant concerning five messuages, three virgates and 22 acres of land, 22 acres of meadow, 60 acres of wood and 30 acres of furze and heath in Stretton-on-le-Field, and 14 messuages, two mills, 15 virgates of land and 11s. 6d. rent in Nether and Over Seal, Oakthorpe and Stretton, and four marks for tenements in Appleby Magna and Parva and Atterton, a third part of the manor of Atterton, and nine messuages, a mill, six virgates of land, 15 acres of meadow, ten acres of pasture and sixpence rent in both Applebys and Measham. By the consequent fine, dated at Easter following, the premises were entailed upon Edmund, Joan and their issue, with remainder, in default of issue, to John, brother of Edmund, and his issue.

Two acknowledgements of debts in the name of Edmund de Appleby are found on 9 February 1328—9 and 10 January 1329—30, the first of £100 to the Crown, to be levied in co. Northampton; the second of £20 to Simon de Bereford, to be levied in co. Leicester and Derby. Sir Edmund de Appleby, knight, and John his son witnessed a quit-claim of land in Willesley and Packington, enrolled at Hilary 1333—4 by John, son of Henry Wyschard of Osbaston. At Michaelmas 1336 Edmund sued Richard de Belton, formerly his bailiff in Osbaston, in a plea of accounts. From 1340 to 1344 we meet Edmund in connexion with William of Leicester, abbot of Meresvale, whose convent had a grange and land in Seal. The abbot, at Michaelmas 1340, appointed Henry de Appleby or John de Neuton as his attorney against Edmund de Appleby in a plea of detention of cattle. On 9 October 1342 the abbot appointed...
attorneys to deliver seisin of a toft and meadow-land called Bussewell to Edmund and dame Joan his wife; and at Hilary 1343—4 Edmund de Appleby, chivaler, sued Simon de Norton to acquit him of the service which the abbot of Merevale demanded for the free tenement in Overseal held by Edmund of Simon as intermediary between him and the abbot.

Edmund de Appleby, knight, with five others, acknowledged on 13 August 1345 a debt of £440 to John de Gynewell, clerk, a member of the household of the earl of Lancaster, who two years later became bishop of Lincoln. This was to be levied, in default of payment, in co. Leicester. Next year, the year of Crecy, Edmund, for a fine of eight marks, was remitted his assessment of a man at arms and an archer in cos. Gloucester and Leicester, the fine to pay the expenses of a hobeler and an archer. On 9 October 1350 Edmund de Appleby, knight, and John Waleys, knight, acknowledged a debt of £544, to be levied in co. Leicester, to Henry earl of Lancaster. In the same year John Charmels, another clerk in the earl’s household, recovered seisin of a free tenement consisting of 19 acres of land, three acres of meadow and the third part of a messuage in Donisthorpe, which he had of the demise of Edmund de Appleby, chivaler, and Hugh Gednell.

On 28 March 1351 Edmund de Appleby, knight, was one of the Leicestershire commissioners ordered to limit the collection of wheat and other victuals for the provisioning of Calais to 200 carcases of oxen and 200 bacon hogs. At Trinity in the same year an inquisition was ordered to examine into the question of the wardship of John, son and heir of Thomas Wychard, which, it was said, had been demised to Edmund de Appleby, chivaler, by Robert de Twyford, chivaler, until John came of age: the jury, twelve men of the vicinity of Newbold Verdon, were to have no affinity with Edmund or with Elizabeth de Burgh.

According to Nichols, Edmund de Appleby died about 1375. After 1351 the documentary evidence with regard to him is rather scanty. He and Edmund de Appleby the younger, knight, witnessed on 24 June 1357 a grant of two messuages and two virgates of land in Netherseal, made by William Oky to Hugh de Hopewas, rector of Clifton Campville, co. Stafford. On 24 February 1369—70 a grant of certain lands in Netherseal, made by sir Richard de Stafford, knight, lord of Clifton Campville, to the same Hugh, canon of Lichfield, in which church he held the prebend of Curborough, was witnessed by Edmund de Appleby, knight, and John his son; while sir Edmund and sir John were again witnesses to

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the charter by which, on 13 December 1373, Hugh de Hopewas conveyed the two messuages which he had acquired in 1357 to sir John de Hopewas and others. ¹ Meanwhile, at the Lichfield assizes in 1368, a jury of the hundred of Totmonslow, co. Stafford, had presented Edmund de Appleby, chivaler, John his son, William de Spaldyng and others unknown, for a felony committed at Horning­­­low on 20 September 1366, when they had robbed Thomas de Ilkeston, merchant, of a pack of woollen cloth worth forty marks and of 25 marks in gold and silver. A writ, dated 2 February 1368—9, ordered Richard de Stafford to return the indictment into the court of king's bench; and at Easter 1369 Edmund and John surrendered themselves for trial and were released on bail. Subsequently, John of Gaunt interceded for them, and their pardon was granted by letters patent dated 16 May 1370, which were produced in court two years later. ²

In or about 1371 Edmund was appointed upon the commission of the peace and of oyer and tenermin in Leicestershire, together with John of Gaunt and others; but by letters close of 12 December 1371 he was discharged of his office on the ground that he must needs he occupied with other and more difficult business, and the duke of Lancaster and his fellows were ordered to proceed without him. ³ At Easter in the same year he had been summoned by Ralph, earl of Stafford, in a plea of 100 marks. ⁴ If he was not of John of Gaunt's actual household, he stood well in his favour; and we have seen that at an earlier date he was in financial relations with the house of Lancaster and its clerks. It is noteworthy that, of the four men who stood bail for his release from custody in 1369, one, Simon Pakeman, was a member of the duke of Lancaster's privy council; while Godfrey Foljambe the younger, who was a surety on the same occasion for John de Appleby, belonged to a family which was in close relation with the same prince. Edmund de Appleby, knight, was a witness with John of Gaunt and others to a grant on Saturday after Ascension day 1369, by which Walter Blount devised the site, etc., of his manor of Hazle­­­wood, co. Derby, to Godfrey Foljambe, knight, Auiva his wife, their heirs and assigns. Letters of John of Gaunt, dated from ' nostre loge de Briddesnest ' (probably Birdsnes, near Kirby Muxloe) 29 July 1372, order the receiver of the honour of Tutbury to pay forty marks to ' nostre bien ame chivaler monsire Esmon de Appelby.' ⁵ This was by way of loan for the war. On 27 September following only ten marks had been repaid, and the receiver was ordered to secure the remainder by withholding £20 from the annuity which the duke had granted him out of the issues of the honour. ⁶

¹ Ibid. ² Coram Rege roll 433, m. 17d. ³ Cal. C. W. Rolls 1369—74, p. 342. ⁴ De Banco roll 442, m. 67. ⁵ John of Gaunt's Register, ed. Armitage-Smith (Camden Soc. 3d. ser.) i. 182. ⁶ Ibid. ii. 146.
this second letter he is called 'noster tres cher bacheler'; and it is certainly doubtful whether the reference is to the older or the younger Edmund. Indeed, as the terms of the letters removing Edmund de Appleby from the commission of the peace in 1371 imply that the business in which he was engaged was active business which involved his absence from the county, they may indicate that he was occupied in affairs relating to the wars with France; and therefore the younger Edmund may be meant, as his father was by this time an old man.

If there is some likelihood of confusion between the two Edmunds, father and son, it seems at any rate that the elder sir Edmund had two sons, sir Edmund and sir John; and, from the documents already cited in which sir Edmund and John his son appear in company, the elder sir Edmund was alive in 1373. Documents, therefore, which refer to Edmund de Appleby without any distinction of 'the elder' or 'the younger,' cannot be taken, during the father's lifetime, to imply unquestionably the son. The father seems to have been still living in 1375—6, when Adomar Taverner was attached to answer Edmund de Appleby in a plea of breaking his free warren at Seal on 1 August 1369, and without his leave hunting therein and taking away thence six pheasants, twenty partridges, ten hares and twenty rabbits taken with bow and arrow.

If Nichols' statement that the elder Edmund died about 1375 is founded upon definite evidence or is more than a probability, Edmund de Appleby, knight, summoned to parliament in April 1376 as one of the knights of the shire for co. Derby, was probably Edmund the son; while his father must have died about this time. On 10 July 1376 the sheriff of the county was ordered to levy a rate upon the commons of the shire to pay the expenses of their two representatives for their journey to and from Westminster and for their stay there, amounting to four shillings a day each for eighty days, £32 in all. A similar writ of expenses was directed on 16 November 1378 to the sheriff of Leicester in favour of Edmund de Appleby, knight, and Thomas de Erdyngton, knight, the members for Leicestershire at the Gloucester parliament of October—November 1378: the amount this time was £13 12s. 0d., covering 34 days at the usual rate. Edmund Appleby, on 2 November 1376, was associated in a commission with Ralph Basset of Drayton, William Flamvyle, John Talbot and Lawrence Hauberk to inquire into the perpetrators of the murder of a man and woman at Rearsby.

A breach of the free warren of Edmund de Appleby, chivaler, at Measham occurs again at Trinity 1380; and at Hilary 1380—1 Edmund brought a suit for damage at Appleby Parva against

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*a* De Banco roll 461. m. 125.  
*c* Ibid. 1377—81, p. 221.  
*d* Ibid. 1374—7, p. 468.  
*e* De Banco roll 479, m. 137.
Nicholas, son of Henry le Warde of the same place. At Easter 1382 he sued John, son of Roger de Appleby, for stealing one of his horses. This John may possibly have been the son of Roger Gilbert of Appleby, who, with his brother John and William Hende of Snarestone and Margery his wife, claimed in 1348—a right in twelve acres of land in Appleby, which John, son of Elias de Appleby, had conveyed to Henry de Appleby by a fine. During the next seventeen years Edmund de Appleby, chivaler or knight, was plaintiff in a large number of pleas. John, son of Robert de Staunton, and others were appealed at Michaelmas 1382 for breaking his close at Worthington. Herman Fauconer of Rugeley was defendant at Michaelmas 1386 in a plea of accounts. At Michaelmas 1388 Thomas Mygers or Myners was sued for the recovery of a debt of £40 for which he had given his bond at Appleby in 1386. Myners had leased the manor of Blakenall, co. Stafford, to Edmund for five years: this manor was forcibly occupied by William de Asshe of Barton-under-Needwood and two others, who were summoned at Easter 1389 for withholding the issues and carrying away Edmund’s goods to the value of £20. Myners’ debt was not paid till Trinity 1393, when he was released from prison on the acknowledgement of the payment by his creditors. Breach of free warren at Overseal is the subject of a plea at Easter 1390. Another debt of £40 was claimed at Michaelmas 1394 from William Tyrry of Oakthorpe and Alice his wife, formerly the wife of William de Cheyle; while Thomas Myners at Easter 1395 was again a debtor, this time for £20. At Trinity 1396 Edmund sued John Kynston of Oakthorpe for a chest containing various title-deeds; and pleas of debt were bought by him at Trinity 1399 against John Pollare of Measham and John Stan­ ford of Tamworth, draper.

Here mentions of Edmund de Appleby’s personal activities cease, and he may have died about 1400. His wife is said to have been Agnes, daughter of sir Alvery de Sulney, by whom he appears to have had two sons and a daughter, Margaret, who married sir Nicholas Longford of Longford, co. Derby. Of the sons, Edmund de Appleby the younger, son of Edmund de Appleby, chivaler, occurs at Michaelmas 1392 in a plea of accounts, as plaintiff against John Yonge of Burton-on-Trent, wright. Edmund, son of sir Edmund de Appleby, knight, was one of the grantees to whom Robert, son of John de Brewid, conveyed land in Netherseal on 1 July 1402. At Hilary 1402—3 he brought a plea for forty marks

* Ibid. 481, m. 379. ** Ibid. 485, m. 172d. *** Ibid. 337, m. 106. **** Ibid. 487, m. 91d. ***** Ibid. 503, m. 56d. ****** Ibid. 511, m. 113d. ******* Ibid. 513, m. 188. ******** Ibid. 511, m. 113d. ********* Ibid. 517, m. 182. ********** Ibid. 535, m. 129. *********** Ibid. 537, m. 78. ************ Ibid. 542, m. 205. ************* Ibid. 554, m. 81. ************** Cox, Chkh. of Derbyshire iii. 188. ******* De Banco roll 527, m. 67d. ****** Gresley Charters.
against Nicholas Harte. He was witness in 1405 to a charter by which John Brewode and Simon Nel granted land which they had acquired from Robert Cartwryght to Richard Cartwryght his son and heir, and in 1406 he was the lessee of property from Richard Cartwryght. Here, however, we lose sight of him; and if, as seems probable, he was the elder son, he either died in his father's lifetime, assuming sir Edmund the second to have lived later than 1400, or held his inheritance for only a few years after his father's death, dying without issue.

It is certain, however, that Thomas Appleby, presumably another son of sir Edmund the second, had seisin of the manor before 1412, either as elder son upon his father's death, or as younger brother and next heir on the death of his brother. Thomas was dead by Michaelmas 1412, when his widow Joan claimed a third part of the manor of Over Appleby (i.e. Appleby Parva) as her dower against Richard Vernon. The rights of the Applebys in Appleby Parva have not appeared hitherto; but they may be inferred from the interest claimed by the Applebys in the advowson of the church, and we shall meet them later. Thomas' son, John, was probably young at this time and his name is first found as witness to an Appleby charter in 1415. At Michaelmas 1416 Joan, the widow of Thomas, sued John, son of Robert Taillour of Shackerstone, for ten marks, and John Pescher of Nether Appleby, husbandman, for forty shillings.

The duration of John Appleby's tenure of the manor is quite uncertain. At Michaelmas 1420 he brought a suit for damage to his herbage at Stretton-en-le-Field, value £10, against John Maxstoke of Stretton, husbandman; and at Michaelmas 1422 occur pleas brought by John Appleby, esq., against John son of Richard of Auston, co. Derby, husbandman, for £39, and Robert Chaloner of Chesterfield, baker, for £29. A plea for 17 marks was entered by him at Michaelmas 1429 against John Bromley of Yoxall, co. Stafford. At Hilary 1431—2, John Appleby of Appleby, esq., was assessed at 20s. for a fourth of a knight's fee in Measham and Appleby, and for half a fee in the manor of Chilcote. At Michaelmas following he brought a plea for 14 marks against Margaret, widow of John Trussell, knight, of Gayton, co. Northampton. It was also presumably this same John Appleby, who, on 22 July 1447, entered into a bond for £100 to Nicholas Longford, knight, undertaking to abide by an award of John Portyngton, justice of the common bench, respecting a disputed title to a quarter of the manor of Newton Solney, co. Derby. Sir Nicholas Longford was

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* De Banco rol 656, m. 165.  b Gresley Charters.  c De Banco rol 607, m. 484.  d Charter at Wyggeston's hospital, Leicester.  e De Banco rol 623, m. 44.  f Ibid. 639, m. 239.  g Ibid. 647, m. 37.  h Ibid. 675, m. 536.  i Inq. Knights' Fees, ed. Pym Yeatman, p. 504.  j De Banco rol 687, m. 482d.  k Derbyshire Charters, no. 1763.
husband of Margery, sister and co-heiress of sir John Sulney of Newton; and John Appleby was related, as we have seen, to the Sulney's through Agnes, wife of sir Edmund Appleby the second, and to the Longfords through Margaret, daughter of the same sir Edmund and wife of sir Nicholas Longford, who died in 1402.

In 1469, Edmund Appleby, kinsman and heir of John Appleby, esq., was a minor whose marriage had been granted to George duke of Clarence. The duke sued Humphrey Peshall of Knightley, co. Stafford, esq., and Joan Appleby of Donisthorpe, widow, for abducting Edmund from Appleby. The name of Joan's husband does not appear, but she was a sister of Humphrey Peshall. Although between 1447 and 1469 there are no allusions to the Applebys, it is certainly probable that John Appleby lived for some time after 1447 and was succeeded by his kinsman Edmund Appleby, who may either have been his grandson or the son or grandson of a younger brother of John. There was a certain Thomas Appleby, of Appleby, esq., who was one of a number of gentlemen impleaded by the queen-mother Katherine for a breach of her chase at Leicester, which she held in dower, and this Thomas may have been a younger brother of John. Edmund came of age before Michaelmas 1476, when he was defendant in an action brought by Henry Vernon, esq. This action came up at Hilary 1476—7, when Edmund Appleby of Nether Appleby, gent., Richard Appleby of the same, gent., Thomas Wode, husbandman, and others, were attached for breaking into Henry Vernon's free warren at Over Appleby (i.e. Appleby Parva) on 14 April 1475, and chasing and taking hares, rabbits, pheasants and partridges. Edmund pleaded that he was seised of two-fifths of the manor of Appleby in his demesne as of fee, and that he and his ancestors, time out of mind, had taken game out of the Vernon warren: he acknowledged entering the warren with the other defendants as his servants on the day stated and taking twelve hares and 200 partridges. Henry Vernon denied his right and claimed damages. On the defendants' petition for a jury, the case was removed by a writ of Nisi prius to the assizes at Leicester, where Henry Vernon was adjudged 20s. damages and six marks cost, but, as regarded his claim for rabbits and pheasants, was in

a Cox, Chh. of Derbyshire iii. 450. b De Banco roll 83t. m. 100. The inq. p.m. Humphrey Peshall, dated 16 Oct. 1498, gives Richard Peshall, aged 3 years, as his son and heir; but among the Early Chancery Proceedings between 1500 and 1515 is a suit in which it is stated that Humphrey Peshall had a son Hugh Peshall by his first wife, who had a daughter Katherine, and Richard Peshall was son of Humphrey by his second wife Lettice Harcourt, and after the deaths of Humphrey and Hugh the manor of Knightley was in dispute between Katherine and Richard. Richard Peshall died 10 August 1520, and in the inquisition taken after his death his heirs are stated to be Richard Appleby, gent. son of Joan, sister of Humphrey Peshall, and Alice Lytelton, widow, daughter of Kath­erine, sister of the said Humphrey, both aged 60 and more. c De Banco roll 675, m. 536. d Ibid. 866, m. 479d
mercy, as none had been taken.  

Edmund Appleby, at Michaelmas 1481, sued John Dadde of Atherstone, husbandman, for breaking his close at Atherstone. At Michaelmas 1495 Edmund Appleby of Appleby, gent, and William Kylburn of Haleston, co. Warwick, gent., sued Margery Bret of Donisthorpe, widow, executrix of the will of Robert Bret, for £4.  

In 1500 Henry Vernon, knight, brought an action against Joan Appleby of Donisthorpe, widow, and Edmund Appleby of Nether Appleby, gent., for breaking his close at Donisthorpe. The trespass complained of had apparently been committed at a much earlier date: at any rate, Joan and Edmund were attached at Trinity 1501 for having entered on 20 May 1486 and forcibly expelled Henry from two messuages and three virgates of land at Donisthorpe, for which Henry claimed £20 damages. At the same time Edmund was summoned to answer William Baledon in a plea of assault at Seal.  

The will of Edmund Appleby was proved on 31 January 1504—5 by his brother, Richard Appleby, and his relict Margery. The testator desired to be buried with his ancestors in his chapel of St. Helen in Appleby; by which he must not be understood to assert any proprietary rights over his parish church of St. Helen, but as referring merely to the chapel in which his family was buried, probably that on the north side of the chancel in St. Helen's church. To his sister Margaret he bequeathed £20s. and a room called 'the Trap chamber' for life.  

Richard Appleby, who succeeded his brother, survived him nearly a quarter of a century. His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Langham of Gopsall, esq. Their tomb is in the chapel already mentioned in Appleby church, with the arms of Appleby and Langham over their heads. By Elizabeth Richard had a son George, who in 1526 married Joyce, daughter of Thomas Curson of Croxall, co. Derby. By a deed dated 7 August 1526, noted in the certificate of the inquisition taken after his death, he settled part of his property upon George and Joyce. By a further deed of 20 June 1527 he granted the manor and lands in Appleby, Overseal, Netherseal and Donisthorpe to Edward Aston, esq., and William Curson, Robert Farnham, Thomas Langham and Thomas Eyton, gents, as trustees for the use of himself and his heirs and for the performance of his last will. By his will he granted a messuage and land in Donisthorpe, worth £4 yearly, to his younger son Humphrey Appleby, with reversion to George Appleby, his son and heir; while his wife Elizabeth was to enjoy his house at Appleby Magna until George, his heir, attained the age of twenty-one. The inquisition taken at Leicester 25 September 1529 found that Richard

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a Ibid. 861, m. 405  
b Ibid. 878, m. 532  
c Ibid. 934, m. 202d  
d Ibid. 954, m. 197d  
e Ibid. 957, m. 333  
f Ibid. m. 204  
g F.C.C. 1 Adeane
Appleby died on 3 January 1528—9, seised of the manor of Great and Little Appleby, and two messuages, nine and a half virgates of land and twelve acres of pasture in Appleby; four messuages, a cottage, seven virgates of land, forty acres of wood and a mill in Overseal, a messuage and three virgates of land in Netherseal, a messuage, two tofts and eleven virgates of land in Donisthorpe, a third part of the manor of Atterton and certain lands in Witherley, Stretton-en-le-Field, Oakthorpe, etc. His heir was his son George, aged 14 years and upwards.  

George Appleby was slain at Musselburgh field in 1547; and Joyce his relict, who married Thomas Lewes of Mancetter, was burned for her religion at Lichfield in 1557.  

George Appleby, son of George and Joyce, sold the manor of Appleby in 1560, and so ended the connexion of his family with the place from which it derived its patronymic after an uninterrupted male descent of nearly four centuries. The manor of Appleby Magna was purchased by sir Wolstan Dixie, knight, temp. James I., who gave it to the trustees of the free grammar school which his great-uncle had founded at Market Bosworth, in whose possession it remains to-day.

The advowson of the church of Appleby was the subject of a succession of law-suits, of which some account is given by Professor Tait in his summary history of Lytham priory in the Victoria County History of Lancashire. Richard Fitz Roger, the husband of Margaret or Margery Banastre, lady of Appleby Parva, founded towards the end of the twelfth century the Benedictine priory of Lytham in Amounderness, which became a cell of the cathedral priory of Durham. It seems that Margaret Banastre gave the advowson of Appleby, appurtenant to the manor of Appleby Parva, to the prior and convent of Lytham. This was certainly after 1200, and in the Leicester Matriculus of bishop Hugh Welles, which was not compiled until after 1220, the patron is stated to be the heir of Richard Fitz Roger. The grant, however, must have been contingent, whenever it was made, upon the death or resignation of the existing rector; and, as the rector named in the Matriculus, Richard de Midda or Mydde, had been instituted before 1200, the prior and convent were at this date still waiting for entry. The abbot and convent of Burton had the entire demesne tithe from of old, and received two-thirds of the tithe of sheaves from their property in the parish.

Although the prior and convent claimed the right of presentation on the death of Richard Mydde, they were opposed by William son of William Vernon, who brought a writ of Quare impedit against

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* Exchequer Inq. p.m.  
*c Rot. Hug. Welles (Cant and York Soc.) i. 249, 250.
them. The prior recovered his right, and answered with a plea of Quare non permisit, on which William Vernon conceded him the presentation. Meanwhile, the right of collation fell to the bishop by lapse, and the Crown, disregarding the claims of both parties, ordered him to admit a suitable person. He thereupon admitted Thomas de Andely, otherwise called d'Aundevill or (by error) Mandevile, who was shortly after re-instituted on the presentation of the prior and convent.\(^a\) The account given of previous suits in 1325 placed this transaction in 50 Henry III. i.e. 1265; but this is obviously wrong, as it took place in 1234.

In 1268 Richard Vernon and Henry de Appleby, the lords of the two manors, combined to present a rector without opposition from the prior and convent, who may have granted them the next presentation.\(^b\) At the next vacancy in 1287 Richard Vernon sued Henry, son of Henry de Appleby, for the presentation. It was agreed that the claimants should present alternately;\(^c\) and it looks as if the prior and convent had temporarily allowed their claim to lapse. As there seems to have been no doubt that the advowson was an appurtenance originally of the manor of Appleby Parva, also known as Over Appleby, the right of the Applebys must have rested upon their holding in that manor, which, as we have seen, led to disputes with the Vernons at a later date. The prior of Lytham, however, woke up to the fact that his advowson was passing out of his hands by what appears to have been a piece of sharp practice arranged between the two lords of Appleby. When Richard Vernon presented Hugh de Cave to the church, the prior brought an action against him, pending which the canonical period of presentation lapsed, and the bishop collated the church to John Darayns, also called John de Cave, on 22 February 1287—8. The prior won his suit, of which there is no record on the plea rolls, and a writ was issued on 4 July 1288, directing the bishop to admit the prior's presentee. This was brought to the bishop on 11 July by the presentee in question, John of Sheffield, who, however, was refused institution on the ground of the previous collation.\(^d\)

John de Cave held the living for thirty-seven years. On his death in 1325, Edmund de Appleby prepared to exercise his turn of presentation. He was opposed by the prior of Lytham, whose statement of the facts of the case, borne out by the episcopal institution rolls on all main points, has been summarised above with the further evidence of the rolls. Edmund's plea, on the other hand, rested on the contention that his grandfather, Henry de Appleby, whose heir he was, had presented Henry Lovel, i.e. in 1268, and that the church was now vacant by Lovel's death, as by the death of him who was last presented by the true patron. This

\(^a\) Ibid. ii. 322—4: De Banco roll 257, m. 255.  
\(^b\) Rot. Graveseend p. 148.  
\(^c\) Feet of Fines, Leicester.  
\(^d\) Rot. Sutton, Leicester, m. 2.
plea, while ignoring the bishop's right of collation in 1287–8, also ignored the fact that Lovel had been instituted by a joint presentation made by two patrons, and seems to overlook the Vernon claim altogether. It is not surprising that the prior won the case. Edmund withdrew his presentation of John, son of Walter, lord of Stretton, and the prior remitted him the damages.¹

Thomas of Hepscott was now instituted on the presentation of the prior and convent, whose right was undisputed in 1331, when Hepscott exchanged Appleby for the church of Morpeth in Northumberland, near the place from which he took his name, with William Bereford. On Bereford's death in 1365, Richard Vernon, chivaler, presented Nicholas Allerwase, and was opposed by the prior. Richard claimed that the advowson was appurtenant to the manor of Appleby Parva, and traced his descent back to his great-grandfather Richard Vernon, the father of Richard, father of William, his own father: he said also that, at the time of the presentation of Bereford, his father was under age. These statements were true, apart from the positive assertion of the point at issue, viz. that the advowson was still appurtenant to the manor. This the prior denied: he also denied that William Vernon had been under age in 1331. He produced a different version of the pedigree asserted by his opponent. On the death of Richard Mydde, he said, William, son of William Vernon, the brother of the Richard Vernon whom the defendant called his great-grandfather, had opposed the prior's presentation: the prior thereupon had brought a writ of Quare impedit, and, having produced Margaret Banastre's deed of gift, had recovered the presentation. Meanwhile, the legal six months had expired, and the bishop, as ordinary, had presented Thomas de Maundevile. After the death of Thomas, Richard Vernon, the grandfather of the defendant, being kinsman and heir of William, son of William Vernon, as the son of his brother Richard, had opposed the prior. Ambrose, then prior of Lytham, had recovered the presentation. At this point the record of the prior's statement becomes hopelessly confused, muddling up the suits of 1288 and 1325, and representing the collation of the church to John Darayns as consequent upon the second suit. The presentations, however, of Thomas of Hepscott by Richard of Teigmouth, prior of Lytham, and of William Bereford by his successor, John of Barnby, were stated correctly; and the inaccuracies are probably the result of the clerk's notes. It is unquestionable, however, that, in the earlier part of his plea, the prior repeated the mistake made in 1325, of assigning the institution of Thomas de 'Maundevile' to 1265; while the statement that the writ of Quare impedit was brought by the prior at that time is another error repeated from the previous suit, which is corrected

¹ De Banco roll 257, m: 255; Lincoln Reg. iv, fo. 120.
by the more accurate account in the institution roll of 1234, the right date. In his reply, Richard Vernon impeached the prior's assertion that William son of William was the brother of Richard, his great-grandfather. In this he was quite right, as William son of William was actually the grandfather of the mother of Richard in question, who assumed his mother's maiden name and founded the second line of Vernon.

The suit was decided at Michaelmas 1366, when Richard did not appear and the prior recovered the presentation.\textsuperscript{a} In spite of the prior's imperfect genealogy, Margaret Banastre's deed of gift was a fact which outweighed the question of the descent of the manor; and Richard's statement that his great-grandfather had died seized of the advowson was evidently not allowed. Apparently, Nicholas Allerwase, whom the roll erroneously describes as 'chivaler,' a slip for 'chaplain,' had been instituted before the recovery, as in 1369 the church was said to be vacant by his death, and in the lists of pluralists returned in 1366 to archbishop Langham he is certified as rector of Appleby and sacrist of the church of Lichfield.\textsuperscript{b} He was also rector of the free chapel of St. Giles, Blaston, from 1366 to 1369. There is, however, no record of his institution to Appleby. The prior and convent of Lytham presented without a break from 1369 to 1422. In 1462, however, on the resignation of John Lenche, an inquisition into the patronage was held. The jury returned that the presentation of Lenche in 1422 had been, according to the witness of the oldest and most trustworthy inhabitants, an usurpation of the right and title of John Appleby, esq., patron for that turn, who claimed alternate presentation with sir William Vernon, knight.\textsuperscript{c} This was going back to the fine made between the two lords of Appleby in 1287; but the local witnesses, however trustworthy, must have been extremely aged to prove a claim of which nothing had been heard since 1366 and which, for nearly eighty years previously, had been rejected more than once in the law-courts. Nevertheless, sir William Vernon's presentee, Thomas Browne, was instituted.\textsuperscript{d} At Easter 1467, however, the prior of Lytham brought an action for recovery of the presentation against sir William and Browne, on the ground that Richard, late the prior, had been seized of the advowson when he presented John Lenche. Sir William, in reply, pleaded the appurtenance of the advowson to the manor, founding his claim upon the presentation of Henry Lovel in 1268 by his ancestor Richard Vernon, from whom the advowson had descended to himself, through the gift of the manor by his great-grandfather sir Richard Vernon (d. 1376) to his son Richard. The prior recovered seisin and remitted damages.\textsuperscript{e} Browne was now re-instituted after presentation by the

\textsuperscript{a} De Banco roll 421, m. 121.  \textsuperscript{b} Lambeth Reg. Langham, fo. 28d.  \textsuperscript{c} Reg. xx. fo. 215d.  \textsuperscript{d} Ibid.  \textsuperscript{e} De Banco roll 823, m. 325.
prior and nomination by the prior and convent of Durham, as the
house to which Lytham was appendant.  

Browne resigned in 1490. The presentation was allowed to
lapse, and the bishop collated the church to John Helperby. It
may be presumed that Browne's second institution was regarded by
the old and trustworthy as an usurpation of the Appleby turn. At
any rate, sir William Vernon, at Easter 1491, implored William,
prior of Lytham, and the bishop of Lincoln, stating his claim as
son and heir of William Vernon and demanding £40 damages from
the prior. The prior had leave to imparl granted him for Hilary
1491—2. Sir Henry eventually won the suit. The long dispute
ended at Hilary 1493—4, when sir Henry renewed the action
against Richard, prior of Lytham, and recovered seisin.

The whole story is extremely complicated, but the main features
may be summed up as follows. The advowson was an appurten-
ance of the manor of Appleby Parva. By the gift of Margaret
Banastre, it passed legally from the manor to the prior and convent
of Lytham, who, though opposed by William Vernon, made good
their right in 1234. In 1268, however, the two lords of Appleby
managed to get their presentee admitted without opposition, which
placed the manorial claim upon a good footing. Subsequently,
they settled matters between themselves by the fine which provided
for alternate presentations. Although the prior and convent were
successful in a series of attempts to oust them, their position after
1268 was never secure, and they seem to have compromised with
their opponent after the long suit of 1365—6 and to have allowed
his presentee to retain possession of the benefice. Eventually, by
insistence upon the descent of the manor with its rights from the
copatron of 1268 to himself, sir Henry Vernon obtained an acknow-
ledgement of his claim, and the advowson thenceforward remained
attached to the manor. Subsequent presentations will be found in
the list of rectors which follows.

The church was taxed, c. 1255—8, at £5. In 1291 it was taxed at
£17 6s. 8d., of which seven shillings was due as a pension in lieu of
tithe to the abbot and convent of Burton. In 1566 the taxation is
given as £16 13s. 4d. In 1526 the figures are as in 1291, from
which are deducted a pension of 40s. to the church of Seal and 11s.
0½d. in synodals and procurations. The assessment in 1584—5
was £20 9s. 3d., appearing in the Liber Valorum as £20 9s. 4½d.

For valuable details with regard to the rectors of the sixteenth
and early seventeenth centuries, we are greatly indebted to the
Rev. C. W. Foster, canon of Lincoln and prebendary of Leicester
St. Margaret's in that church, who also, in the case of Alletson
and Ashby Folville, has supplied us with full details relating to the
succession of incumbents for that difficult period.

a Reg. xx. fo. 222.  b Reg. xxii. fo. 213.  c De Banco roll 918, m. 159.
d Ibid. 927, m. 335.
1. Richard Midde, Midda, de Mydde, pres. by Margaret Ban­aster before 1200. Rot. H. Welles r. 249. De Banco roll 421, m. 121.

2. 1234. Thomas de Andely (otherwise Aundevill, Mandevile, etc.), by collation: subsequently pres. by the prior and convent of Lytham and re-admitted. Rot. H. Welles ii. 322-4.


5. 1325, 9 November. Thomas of Hepscott (Happiscotes, Heppescotes), pres. by the prior and convent of Lytham, on death of John [Darayns] of Cave. Lincoln Reg. iv. fo. 120.


7. 1385. Nicholas Allerwass, pres. by Richard de Vernon, chivaler, on death of W. of B. De Banco roll 421, m. 121.

8. 1389, 21 October. Walter Vavasoure, deacon, pres. by the prior and convent of Lytham, on death of N.A. Reg. x. fo. 246.


10. 1404, 6 December. John Bernard, priest, pres. by the prior and convent of Lytham, on exch. of the church of North Thoresby, dio. Lincoln, with master Richard (sic) M. Ibid. fo. 204 and d.

11. 1416—7, 4 February. Robert Valaunce, pres. by the prior [and convent] of Lytham, on exch. of the church of Beddington (Surrey), dio. Winton, with J.B. Reg. xiv. 2. 189d, 190.

12. 1417, 2 September. Thomas Wythede, chaplain, pres. by the prior and convent of Lytham, on res. of R.V. Ibid. fo. 192.


14. 1422, 12 December. John Lenche, pres. by the prior and convent of Lytham, on exch. of the vicarage of Stoke-by-Nayland (Suffolk), dio. Norwich, with W.G. Reg. xvi. fo. 95 and d.

15. 1462, 10 December. Thomas Browne, priest, pres. by William Vernon, knight, patron by hereditary right for this turn, on res. of J.L., to whom a yearly pension of five marks was granted. T. Brown was re-admitted 7 February 1468—9, pres. by the prior and convent of Lytham, who had recovered presentation, on nom-
ination of the prior and convent of Durham. Reg. xx. ff. 216d, 222.
16. 1490, 18 December. John Helperby, priest, by collation owing to lapse, on res. of T.B. Reg. xxiii. fo. 213.
17. 1498, 5 May. Thomas Cheshyr, priest,\(^a\) pres. by Henry Vernon, knight, on death of J.H. Reg. xxiii. ff. 231d, 232.
18. 1530, 30 March. Christopher Fowler, clerk, pres. by William Clophin, (sic), esq., and Margaret his wife, late the wife of Richard Vernon, on death of last incumbent.\(^b\) Reg. xxvii. fo. 157d.
19. 1545, 28 October. Geoffrey Page, clerk, pres. by Richard Maners, knight, and dame Margaret Maners alias Coffyn, his wife, in right of the said Margaret, on death of C.F. Ibid. fo. 173.
20. 1552—3, 21 March. Thomas Vernon, S.T.B.,\(^c\) pres. by dame Margaret Manners, widow, in right of her dower or jointure, on death of G.P. No institution recorded: he compounded for first-fruits 31 March 1553. Lincoln Presentation deeds 1553, no. 38.
22. 1558, 12 October. William Heythcott, pres. by Margaret Maners, lady Maners, widow, by reason of the jointure granted to her by Richard Vernon (sic), her first husband, on death of last incumbent. Ibid. fo. 145.
23. 1560, 5 November. Roger Banister, clerk, pres. by George Vernon, knight, on res. of W. Heithcote.\(^d\) Ibid. fo. 110.

\(^a\) Named as rector in 1526, when there was also a stipendiary chaplain in the church with £4 13s. 4d. yearly. Oliver Goddard was curate or parish chaplain, with £4 13s. 4d.
\(^b\) He was first pres. 9 December 1529 by Richard Sacheverell, knight, by reason of a grant made to the said R.S. (and to Robert Langham, esq. 2 August 1525) by Richard Appleby, esq. (Pres. deed 1525, no. 10: 1529 no. 16). Richard Vernon (d. 1577) was son and heir of sir Henry Vernon; he married Margaret, daughter of sir Robert Dimock, who married sir Richard Manners as her third husband.
\(^c\) Of Christ Church, Oxford, B.A., 1544—5. B.D., 1552.
\(^d\) By exch. for the church of Aylestone. At Parker's metropolitan visitation Roger Banystor or Fayrhuse was returned as 'priest, unmarried, competently learned; resides, exercises hospitality, dwells there; has no licence nor preaches; has no other benefice.' (MS. C.C.C. Camb. fo. 49.)
\(^e\) In right of his wife Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of sir George Vernon, Hugh Blithe was returned in 1578 as 'M.A. of King's college, Cambridge; resident: a prebendary in Windsor; 33 years of age, married; ordained by the late bishop of Lincoln; a preacher licensed by the bishop of Norwich.' (Liber Cleri 1576, fo. 3d.) He was ordained priest 21 September 1570. (Ibid. 1585, fo. 33.) Installed canon of Windsor 23 August 1572 by letters patent of 4 August (Le Neve iii. 396.) He was archdeacon of Leicester 10 May 1583—July 1591 (Ibid. 11. 62.) In 1603, when Edward Stanley, gent. was patron, Blithe was returned as 'M.A.; unlicensed to preach; resident; hospitable.' There were 252 communicants (Liber Cleri 1603, fo. 35.) He died before 7 August 1610 (Le Neve iii. 398.) He was B.A. King's college, Camb. 1563—4; M.A. 1587 (Cambridge Grace-Book delta, p. 454.) Le Neve calls him S.T.B.
25. 1610, 26 July. Thomas Mould, M.A. * Bishops' Certificates.


* On death of Hugh Blithe. The patron apparently was himself, as he was patron in 1614 (Liber Cleri 1614, fo. 124.) He was prebendary of Bubbenhall in Lichfield 26 July 1606 (Le Neve i. 588.) b Deacon 4 June 1637, by the bishop of Lichfield and Coventry: priest 23 December 1638. Licensed to preach by John, bishop of Lincoln: no plurality: resident. Letters testimonial of subscription 4 August 1662 (Liber Cleri 1662, fo. 194.) c Rector of Belton 1713—3—1744. d Rector of Belton 1744—53. Of Queen's college, Oxford; matric. 1736; B.A. 1740. e Of Trinity college, Oxford; matric. 1729: M.A. Cambridge 1764. Also rector of Normanton, Notts. Foster, Alumni Oxon queries the identity; but there seems to be no reason to doubt it. f Of Trinity college, Oxford; matric. 1818: B.A. 1822; M.A. 1824; fellow 1829—31; hon. can. of Peterborough 1844. Died 16 May 1877. g Of Buborough and Srelley, Notts., 1819—42. h Of Trinity hall, Cambridge. Vicar of Breeden on-the-Hill 1876.
Since the pedigree of Appleby was printed in this volume the following facts respecting the marriage of Edmund de Appleby with Agnes de Sulney have come to our knowledge.

Feet of Fines, Derby, on the quindene of Easter, 23 Edward III., A.D. 1349.

Between Alured, son of Alured de Sulney, plaintiff, and Edmund de Appleby the younger, and Agnes, his wife, defendants, of a moiety of the manor of Newton Sulney, Edmund and Agnes acknowledged the said moiety of the manor to be the right of Alured, and remitted and quit-claimed the same from them Edmund and Agnes and the heirs of Agnes to the said Alured de Sulney and his heirs for ever. And for this quit-claim and acknowledgment Alured gave to Edmund and Agnes 100 silver marks.

Assize roll No. 1488. Easter, 3 Richard II., A.D. 1380, m. 23. d. Derby.

A certain fine was levied at Westminster in the octaves of Hilary, 14 Edward II., A.D. 1321, between Laurence Trussell, plaintiff, and Alured de Sulney and Margaret, his wife, defendants, of the manor of Newton Sulney, Alured acknowledged the manor to be the right of Laurence, and for this acknowledgment Laurence granted the manor to Alured and Margaret and their issue, to be held by them by the service due to the chief lords of the fee for ever, and if it happens that Alured and Margaret die without issue between them, then the manor, after their deaths, will wholly come to the right heirs of Alured. And the jurors say that Alured and Margaret had issue between them certain Agnes and Ermentrude, Ermentrude being now the plaintiff together with John Foucher, her husband, in a plea of novel disseisin by John Sulney and others done to Ermentrude of his moiety of the said manor, they also say that John Foucher and Ermentrude were seised of a moiety of the said manor of Newton Sulney until John Sulney and the others dis-seised them to their damage £40. Therefore John Foucher and Ermentrude recovered their seisin of the moiety of the manor and their damages.

These extracts show the facts and correct the note to the Appleby pedigree printed by Nichols, iv., p. 442 on the subject of Edmund de Appleby's marriage.
PEDIGREE OF APPLEBY OF APPLEBY MAGNA.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pedigree</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Birth</th>
<th>Death</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Waleran de Appelby</td>
<td>9 temp. Henry II., Witness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gresley Charters Nos. 18, 37, 34</td>
<td>Robert fil. Waleran de Appelby temp. Richard I. and John</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Curia Regis Roll 148, A.D. 1253</td>
<td>Henry son and heir of William de Apelby then under age.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fine 15 Edw. 1, A.D. 1287</td>
<td>Henry son of Henry de Apelby</td>
<td>De Banco Roll no. 231. Michaelmas, 1312, then dead.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edmund de Apelby</td>
<td>1331</td>
<td>John de Apelby</td>
<td>Margery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>De Banco Roll 257, Trin. 1325, m. 255</td>
<td>Edmund says he is grandson of Henry de Apelby who presented to Apelby church temp. Henry III. Nichols says he died circa 1375.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edmund de Apelby chivaler (dau. of Thos. Astley)</td>
<td>1347.</td>
<td>John de Apelby knight</td>
<td>1370.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Knight of the shire of Derby, 1376</td>
<td></td>
<td>had pardon for a felony 16 May, 1370.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas de Apelby</td>
<td>1412</td>
<td>Edmund de Apelby</td>
<td>1402. Gresley Charter to Edmund son of Edmund de Apelby, kt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>dead at Michaelmas</td>
<td>1422</td>
<td>John de Apelby</td>
<td>1417, 1420, 1424, 1426, 1440, 1447.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edmund de Apelby</td>
<td>1392. Edmund de Apelby, the younger.</td>
<td>1402.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John de Apelby</td>
<td>1415, in a Stretton-le-heth charter; John de Bedenale, to John de Fyn-derne, lord of Stretton, grant of lands in Appleby, Twycross, Stretton and other places. Ex Wyggeston's hospital MSS. at Leicester.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edmund de Apelby</td>
<td>148, 149.</td>
<td>Margaret.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Under age in 1469.</td>
<td>Kinsman and heir of John Appleby.</td>
<td>His age is given as 60 in Inq. p.m. Richard Peshale taken in 1524 to whom he was coheir.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Will P.C.C. died in 1505. s.p.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Inq. p.m. died 3 January 1529.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>George Appleby = Joyce daughter of Thos. Curson = Thomas Lewes</td>
<td>1st husband</td>
<td>Humphrey Appleby</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>of Croxhaile.</td>
<td>1515.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>of Manchester</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>George Appleby</td>
<td>1547.</td>
<td>2nd husband</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Nichols) Drowned after 1561.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard Appleby</td>
<td>1581.</td>
<td>(Nichols) buried at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, 18 June 1581.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary = Edward Heyward</td>
<td>1589.</td>
<td>Barbara = Peter Burgoyne</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Nichols) bapt. 25 June, 1589.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Francis Appleby</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Nichols) (Nichols) bapt. 9 Aug. 1584.</td>
<td></td>
<td>died s.p. 1630.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
III.

ASHBY FOLVILLE.

Hundred of Goscote (East); rural deanery of Goscote (ancient), of Goscote i. (modern.)

Forms of name. D. B. Ascbi. The variants are, as in other Ashbys, simple and need not be dated: Essebi, Esseby, Essheby, Assheby, Ascbby, Aysshby, Asshby, Asheby. The name Folville appears as Folevile, Folevill, Folvill, Folvyll, Fulvyle, Folvile; and in corrupt forms as Fulveby, Folvell, Fovevile, Fulwell, Folwell, Follwell, and Fellows.

Newbold is D. B. Niwebold. Barsby is D.B. Barnesbi. These forms are subject to no important variations, and the form Barnesby is used almost invariably until a comparatively late period.

Four ploughlands in Ashby, worth £4, were held at the Domesday survey by Ralph under the countess Judith. Two ploughs were employed in the demesne, and two bondmen. Twenty-four villeins, with a priest and three bordars, had six ploughs. There were forty acres of meadow, a spinney one furlong in length and one in width, and a mill of four shillings value.

The hamlet of Newbold, now depopulated, was also held by Ralph under Judith and was worth twenty shillings. There was one plough in the demesne; and one villein with four bordars had another plough. There were three acres of meadow.a

A ploughland in Ashby, belonging to Newbold, was worth three shillings, and was held by Hugh under Henry de Ferieres. There were two villeins.b

The lordship of Barsby, a hamlet of Ashby, containing two ploughlands and a half, was held freely by Alwin before the date of the survey and was valued at eight shillings. At the time of the survey it was held by Humphrey the chamberlain. There was one plough in the demesne, and three villeins had half a plough. There were six acres of meadow.c Barsby is also mentioned as a member of the lordship of Rothley.d

In the Leicestershire Survey of 1124—9, Ashby was the head of a small hundred which included Humberstone, Belgrave, Thurmaston, Birstall, Wanlip and Anstey, an area from which Ashby

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a Domesday (Record Comm.) t. fo. 236 v. col. i.  
b Ibid. fo. 233, col. 2.  
c Ibid. fo. 236, col. 1.  
d Ibid. fo. 239 v. col. 1.
itself was at some distance. David king of Scots, as earl of Huntingdon, held five ploughlands in Ashby, and Hugh of Leicester one ploughland, i.e. of the Ferrers fee. The ploughland in Barsby is not accounted for.\(^a\)

The chief lordship of Ashby was thus held as of the honour of Huntingdon. The family of Folville, which gave its name to Ashby and Newbold, came from France and was probably derived from Folleville (Somme), some 16 miles S.S.E. of Amiens. Nichols says that a certain Fulk de Folville possessed the lordship of Ashby in 1187, temp. Stephen, and was succeeded in it by his son Maroye.

He gives a charter purporting to be of this Maroye, with the consent of Eustace son of Maroye, granting to John son of Maroye, his heirs and assigns, three acres of meadow 'in Waldo de Thorp' which Maroye bought from Thomas of Overton, to be held of the said Thomas by a yearly rent of one penny at Easter. To Eustace son of Maroye succeeded a son Walter, living in 1186; and to Walter succeeded William Folville, who sided with the rebellious barons in 1216. His lands were seized by the king and granted to William de Cantilupe; but he was afterwards restored to his lands and the king's favour.

This William Folville is the first of the family of whom there is satisfactory documentary evidence, although Nichols may have had good ground for his early pedigree. By a fine levied in 1202—8, William Folville, plaintiff, quitclaimed his right in the advowson of a mediety of the church of South Croxton to Cyprian, prior of 'Meanton' (i.e. Malton, Yorks.),\(^b\) for which the prior received him in the prayers of his house for ever. He also by another fine quitclaimed his right in 26 acres of land in the same place to the same prior and his successors.\(^c\) It is noteworthy that the chapter of the deanery of Goscote, at the inquisition into the patronage, etc., of benefices held c. 1228, while acknowledging the prior of Melton (sic) to have held the mediety in appropriation for thirty years, said that it should be a chapelry dependent upon Ashby Folville.\(^d\)

The sheriff of Leicester was ordered, on 10 October 1216, to give seisin to William de Cantilupe of the land in Ashby forfeited by William Folville.\(^e\) On 28 March 1217 Philip Marc was directed to release William Folville from prison, and to take security for 30 marks, the price of his freedom, on condition that William should marry the daughter of Eustace de Es.\(^f\) In 1219 William rendered account of two marks at the exchequer on behalf of a defaulter for whom he had stood surety.\(^g\) Subsequently, he appears

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\(^a\) Round, Feudal England, p. 199. His collation with Domesday (ibid. p. 207) is not quite accurate.
\(^b\) See V.C.H. Yorks. iii. 254.
\(^c\) Feet of Fines, Leicester.
\(^d\) Rot. Hug. Welf. (Cant. and York Soc.) i. 256.
\(^e\) Rot. Litt. Claus. (Record Comm.), i, 290.
\(^f\) Pat. Rolls 1216—25, p. 49.
\(^g\) Pipe Roll 4 Hen. iii.
on many commissions. On 22 July 1219 he was appointed a member of the commission to inquire into unlicensed assarts made in the counties of Leicester and Rutland. On 6 May 1223 he was appointed to take an assize of novel disseisin at Leicester in the octaves of Trinity, which Ralph Kirkston, rector of Oadby, had brought against Robert de Monte and others concerning a virgate of land, etc., in Oadby. He and William Charnells were deputed as justices for the perambulation of the forests of Leicestershire on 17 February 1224—5. On 20 October 1226 he had letters of protection for a year from 1 November following as the socius of Robert de Vaux. Appointments of William as a justice to take assizes of novel disseisin occur on 27 December 1227, 24 November 1228, and 30 January 1223—9. The first, to be taken at Leicester in the octaves of Hilary, was brought by Nicholas, son of Richard of Belgrave, against Robert de la Haye concerning a tenement in Humberstone. The second, concerning a tenement in Hemington, was brought by Maud Bordeny against Robert Menyl. The third to be taken at Lincoln on the morrow of the close of Easter, was brought by Nicholas, abbot of Vauday, against Richard, rector of Dalby-on-the-Wolds, concerning common of pasture in Dalby. The last assize was twice adjourned, viz. on 21 April 1229 to Melton for 22 August, and on 18 August to Harborough for 9 September.

In 1226 William Folville, by a fine, obtained from Roger son of Ralph the acknowledgement of the customs and services for a virgate of land which Roger held of William in Ashby. In 1230 a plea was brought against William by Robert de Salcey for the customs and services due for the free tenement, described as the quarter of two-thirds of a knight's fee, held by him in Ashby of Robert. He had withheld his quota of the scutage of Bytham (1220—1), levied at ten shillings per knight's fee, of the scutage of Montgomery (1223), levied at two marks, of the scutages of Bedford (1224) and Kerry (1229), both also at two marks, and of the recent scutage of Portsmouth (1230, 'de primo passaggio regis in Britanniam,') levied at three marks. William acknowledged that he owed the service in question, but said that he held his tenement of Henry, son of William of Boresworth (i.e. Husband Bosworth), who was under age and in the wardship of Maud, widow of the said William. He had done his service to Maud, whom he vouched to warrant. Accordingly Maud was summoned to appear and produce the title-deeds by which her husband had been enfeoffed of the said service.

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a Pat. Rolls u.s. p. 214. b Ibid. p. 393. c Ibid. p. 568. d Ibid. 1225—32, p. 64. e Ibid. pp. 207, 280, 285. f Ibid. pp. 289, 302. g Feet of Fines, Leicester. h Curia Regis Roll 105, Trinity, 14 Hen. iii. m. 12d.
On 8 February 1231—2 William Folville and William Basset were appointed keepers of the king's escheats and wards in the county of Leicester, and, on 28 September following, collectors of the subsidy of a fortieth levied on all moveables in the county. William Folville was also appointed collector of the aid of a thirtieth on 2 July 1237. On the aid of two marks per knight's fee levied in 1235 for the marriage of the king's sister Isabel to the emperor Frederick II, he had paid 4 marks for two knight's fees in Ashby and Newbold.

Nichols prints an undated charter of Eustace Folville, witnessed by Robert Folville, sir Ralph Chamberlain, sir Peter de Lincoln and others, confirming to the prioress and convent of Nuneaton the grant in frankalmoins by his father, William Folville, of a plot and a yardland in Ashby of the fee of David, earl of Huntingdon. This Eustace succeeded his father some time after 1237. On 4 August 1258 he was appointed one of four knights, in pursuance of the provisions of Oxford, to enquire into excesses, trespasses and injuries committed in the county of Leicester, and to return his certificate personally to the council in the octaves of Michaelmas. Eustace was thus an adherent of the baronial party and was one of the defenders of Kenilworth after the battle of Evesham in 1265. He was allowed, however, under the Dictum of Kenilworth, to compound for his estate, and on 28 July 1267 was pardoned by the Crown, producing Peter Nevill and John of Kercy as his sureties.

Eustace Folville was murdered in his chamber in the manor­house of Ashby at midnight on Saturday, 24 November 1274. A commission of oyer and terminer to find out the culprits was issued on 30 November. They remained unpunished, at any rate for the present; for at Easter 1276—7 John, the son of Eustace, brought a plea against his father's widow Juliana, accusing her of instigating the murder, which was committed by one Ralph Caperon, who, by her precept and mission and feloniously and of malice aforethought, stabbed Eustace to the heart with an Irish knife. Juliana denied the accusation in toto, and the case was adjourned sine die until Ralph Caperon should be convicted. The following Michaelmas John Folville brought a suit against Ralph Caperon, Richard le Keu of Coston, and Richard Hotay of Ashby; but no result is recorded.

Meanwhile in 1275 Juliana, the widow of Eustace brought a series of pleas for land in Ashby Folville which she claimed in dower against John, son of Eustace Folville, Geoffrey Folville, Robert Folville and Alice, daughter of Eustace (sic) Folville, the

* Cal. Close Rolls, 1231–4, p. 130.  
* ibid., p. 158.  
* Testa de Nevill (Record Comm.) p. 92.  
* Ibid.  
* Ibid. 1260—72, p. 149.  
* Ibid. 1272—81, p. 115.  
* De Banco Roll 19, m. 57d.  
* ibid., 21, m. 102d.
THE MANOR OF ASHBY FOLVILLE.

abbot of Vaudey, Hugh of Mowsley, William Folville, Geoffrey, son of William Folville, Maunser Marmion, the abbess of St. Mary's without Northampton, Peter of Wysall, and John Haliday. The various parcels amounted to ten tofts, ten virgates, a bovate and two acres of land, 40 acres of meadow, and five shillings rent, of which Juliana demanded a third part. She also in 1276 claimed similarly a third part of twelve virgates of land in Ashby against Aubrey of Whittlebuxy and Margery his wife, guardians of the land and heir of Richard of Flythorpe, and a third part of 20 acres in Teigh, co. Rutland. A further claim is noted to a third part of a toft and two virgates of land in Lubbesthorpe: her claim led to a plea of right between Nicholas of Chishall, who called Geoffrey Folville to warrant, and Eustace son of Eustace Folville.

An assize taken in 1276 decided a dispute between the heirs of Eustace Folville regarding his free tenements in Teigh, consisting of two-thirds of a messuage, two tofts, two carucates, a virgate and bovate of land, etc. Eustace, son of Eustace Folville, brought an action of disseisin against Edmund, the king's brother, of whom the fee was held as of the honour of Leicester, Alice daughter of William Folville, William Chaworth and Thomas of Bowden. Edmund's bailiff, Robert of Belgrave, said that Eustace Folville, grandfather of Alice, whose heir she was, held the said land by knight service. Alice's statement was that she was the daughter of William Folville, son of Eustace, and a certain Joan, whom he married in the lifetime and at the wish of his father. William predeceased his father, and accordingly Alice entered on the said tenement on Saturday, 1 December, being the Saturday after Eustace's death, by Edmund as her guardian. She said that she was of age. Her uncle Eustace claimed the tenement as possessed by his father Eustace in his demesne as of fee: he had entered upon it immediately after his father's death, and was unjustly disseised of it eight weeks after. The jury found for Alice as the lawful daughter of the elder brother.

Eustace and Alice also disputed the succession to Ashby Folville. As the murder of the elder Eustace took place on the night of 23-24 November 1274, it is difficult to see how the assize concerning this succession can have been tried on the day given in the roll, the morrow of All Souls (3 November) in that year, unless we put the murder back to 1273. The action was brought by Alice against the younger Eustace for disseising her of the manor of Ashby Folville, except the advowson of the church, and twelve virgates and twelve acres of land. Eustace pleaded that he had taken seizin immediately after his father's death and had held it continuously, so that Alice could not plead disseisin where she had

a Ibid. 9 m. 33d.  b Ibid. 16 m. 41d.  c Assize Roll 1231.
never had seisin. Alice, on the other hand, claimed that Robert le Brus, as chief lord of the fee, of whom her grandfather had held the manor by knight service, had taken the manor into his hand as her guardian after the elder Eustace's death; so that she, being daughter and heir of William, the first-born son and heir of Eustace, was in seisin of the manor by her guardian until she was disseised. Both claimants asked for a jury; and Aubrey of Whittlebury, saying that he held twelve virgates of land with a park in the same manor, claimed to be included in the writ. The jury dismissed Alice's claim as false; but, as she was under age, she was pardoned.

Eustace the younger therefore succeeded his father in the manor; and he, with his brothers John, Geoffrey and Robert and others, was concerned in a plea brought against them in 1276—7 by Ralph of Lyndon for cutting down and carrying away trees belonging to him at Ashby, to the value of £10. The defendants did not put in an appearance. It was, however, John Folville, as we have seen, who, at Easter in the same year, accused Juliana of murder; and it is he who appears from this date as lord of Ashby. At Michaelmas 1283 he gave twenty shillings for a licence to agree with William Meyrslet and Alice his wife (probably his niece Alice Folville) in a plea of covenant of land; and, by a fine levied at Hilary 1283—4, William and Alice acknowledged a messuage and virgate of land in Ashby to be the right of John, for which John gave them a sparrow-hawk.

John Folville with his brothers Geoffrey and Robert was defendant in a plea of assault at Teigh brought by Alan Neuton at Michaelmas 1284. At Hilary 1291—2 he was summoned for unjustly impounding a steer and two heifers, belonging to Richard Marnham, at Gaddesby in a place by the mill of the said town on 8 and 10 January 1290—1. Richard claimed 100s. damages. John said that the beasts had been distraint on two counts for a debt for which Simon Kyng had impleaded Richard in John's court at Ashby, by order of the court on the ground of Richard's contumacy. He also acknowledged having taken no more than two beasts. Against him Richard argued that Simon Kyng's plea was simply a cover, by collusion between Simon and John Folville, for the extortion of money from him by John and to harass him; which John denied, saying that he took the two beasts only by the finding of the court. A jury was ordered to be summoned.

* This was Robert 'the Competitor' (d. 1295), whose rights in the honour of Huntingdon came through his mother Isabel, daughter of David, earl of Huntingdon, and niece of William the Lion. He was grandfather of the great Robert Bruce, who was born in this year 1274.  
* Assize Roll 1223 m. 26.  
* De Banco roll 18, H. 5 Edw. I. m. 46d.  
* Ibid. 41, m. 26.  
* Feet of Fines, Leicester.  
* Assize Roll 457, m. 13d.  
* De Banco roll 92, m. 18.
The inquisition following John Folville's death was taken on 19 June 1310. He died seised of the manor of Ashby Folville, held of the king in chief, as of the purparty of the honour of Huntingdon which was of Robert de Brus, by the service of two knight's fees and doing suit at the court of Huntingdon. John Folville his son, aged twenty-three at the feast of St. Katherine (25 November) 1309, was his next heir. It need hardly be added that, by the outlawry of Robert Bruce in 1307, his English possessions had reverted to the Crown. The escheator was ordered on 8 June to take into his hands the lands of John Folville, deceased, and on 8 July to deliver them to John, his son and heir, saving the dower of John the elder's wife Alice.

John Folville and Mabel his wife leased the manor of Ashby Folville in 1315—6 to master John Sutton, by letters patent licensing the grant to Sutton and re-grant to John Folville and Mabel and their issue, with remainder to the right heirs of the said John. John and Mabel gave two marks to agree, and a fine was levied at Easter following. On 20 May 1318 the treasurer and barons of the exchequer were ordered to discharge John Folville of £10, his fine for the relief of the manor of Ashby, the king having pardoned him the same at the instance of Hugh Audley the younger.

The Lay subsidy of 1327 contains the following payments from Ashby Folville: John Folville, 7s.; Alice Folville, 3s.; Robert, son of William Power, and John of Newbold, 2s. 6d. each; William of Clayby, Robert of Hoby, William of Rotherby, 3s. each; Robert of Teigh, 2s. 6d.; Eustace Cay, 2s. In 1332 John Folville's contribution was 13s. 4d. and Robert of Hoby's 3s. 4d. The other names are, John Fauconer, 9s.; Richard Cartere, 6s.; Henry Hortop, 5s.; Ralph Palmer, 4s.

The Leicester Assize rolls for the early years of the reign of Edward III. show that the younger members of the Folville family at this time were a disorderly and violent group of malefactors. On 14 January 1381—2 Richard Folville, rector of Teigh, Lawrence Folville, Walter Folville, Nicholas of Rotherby, and Nicholas of Stow, with others, feloniously took Richard Willoughby of Sewstern to Morkerhaugh (i.e., the Morkery woods, near Castle Bytham), co. Lincoln, and detained him for a night until he made a fine with them for 1300 marks. They were aided and abetted by Eustace Folville, Robert Folville, Thomas Folville, William Marmyon, knight, Robert Lovel, rector of Ashwell, John Lovel, William Peshour of Barrowby, William Langham of Wymondham

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William le Long of Oakham, Roger the parson's chaplain of Ashwell, Henry the chaplain of Bytham, John Pykehouse, groom of Eustace Folville, William of Burton, John Kyng of Teigh, proctor (i.e. warden) of the church of Great Hambleton, and others, who took their share of the spoils.

Again, Eustace Folville and his brothers Robert, Walter, Lawrence, Richard and Thomas robbed £20 with threats of Roger Woolsthorne of Grantham. At the Easter assizes of 1332, it was presented that the same brothers, with the exception of Thomas, had in 1327 burgled the manor of John Hamelyn at Wymondham, taking off nine sheep and goods to the value of £30; while in 1329 they made a descent in force on Leicester, and robbed the earl of Lancaster of heifers and mares worth £100, and the burgesses of goods and chattels to the value of £200.

A presentation was made at the same assizes that Robert and Lawrence Folville, Anketin de Hoby and John his brother, Geoffrey de Skeffington and Richard, Simon and Robert his brothers, had forcibly entered the church of Kirkby Bellars and taken the profits of the same church for half a year, and had entered the dwelling of the warden of the college of chantry priests there, feloniously broken the doors and windows and carried away goods to the value of 100s. With this is closely connected the charge that Eustace Folville, Robert and Walter his brothers, and Ralph brother of Roger la Zousche, on Sunday, 19 January 1325—6, killed Roger Beler, the well-known baron of the exchequer and founder of the college (later the priory) of Kirkby Bellars, in the field of Brookby. The murder was said to be instigated by Henry of Hardwick, who himself was accused of a murder in Leicester in 1319 and was said to be a common robber of oxen and horses, and by Roger la Zousche of Lubbesthorpe. The criminals were received on the day of the murder by Hardwick at Wanlip.

Attention must be called at this point to a foolish mistake of Nichols, taken from the Dodsworth MSS., and also apparently from the compiler of that curious collection called the Woodford chartulary. He refers to "a charter of pardon, that king Henry that was king John's son gave to sir Eustace Folville, lord of Ashby Folville, for divers trespasses that he had done against the king, and for slaying of his chief justice sir Roger Beler; dated at St. Paul's July 26, anno 51 Henry iii." Now, as we have seen, Eustace Folville, the grandfather of the Eustace who murdered Roger Beler, received a pardon on 28 July, 1267, for joining Simon de Montfort; but, as he himself was murdered in 1274, he can have had no part in the murder of Roger Beler, when, if he had been alive, he would have been a hundred years old or more. It is, of course, at once evident that a pardon granted in 1267 could

* Assize Roll 1411 B  
* Ibid.  
* Ibid.  
* Ibid.
have no reference to a murder committed in 1326; while Eustace the murderer, again, was not lord of Ashby, nor was Beler the king's chief justice. Such an error, while it illustrates the singularly uncritical habit of Nichols' mind, does not increase one's belief in the accuracy either of the Woodford chartulary or of the Dodsworth MSS., if Dodsworth, which does not seem quite clear, imagined that the perpetrator of the murder was Eustace, son and successor of William Folville.

The knowledge which we derive from the Assize rolls enables us to correct Nichols' mistakes concerning the perpetrators of the murder of Roger Beler. Sir John Folville, the owner of Ashby and the head of the family, does not appear to have had any hand in the murder; but there is no question that the deed was committed by his younger brother. The relationship is proved by an entry in the same Assize roll in which it is stated that sir John Folville and others stood bail for Alice, the mother of Eustace Folville, who is obviously Alice, the widow of John Folville of Ashby who died in 1309, and the Alice Folville of the Lay subsidy roll of 1327. Nichols' attribution of the murder to the Folvilles of Rearsby is thus absolutely groundless: the Rearsby Folvilles did not, as he says they did, lose their estates in consequence of the crime, but continued in the enjoyment of them until they were transmitted through the heiress of Rearsby to the family of Kebell a hundred years later.

If the murder of an old justice against whom the Folvilles of Ashby had a family grudge had stood alone, we should not have been so much surprised. The younger Folvilles, however, are shown clearly by the rolls to have been a lawless gang of robbers. It is asserted in the Dodsworth MSS. that Roger Beler had made himself extremely obnoxious to his neighbours by his greed in obtaining lands wherewith to endow his foundation of a warden and chaplains at Kirkby Bellars. Some colour may be given to this statement from the fact of the raid by the Folvilles on the warden and church of Kirkby; but the rapacity of Roger Beler was more than equalled by the predatory habits of the Folville brothers. The legend that Eustace de Folville received his death wound in the affray which accompanied the murder is untrue, he lived for many years afterwards. On the Patent roll, dated 11 February, 1327, Eustace de Folville, his brothers Robert, Richard and Walter, together with John Lovet and others [named] received a pardon for causing the death of Roger Beler. Their names appear several times subsequently on the Patent rolls. The leniency with which the murderers of Roger Beler were treated was possibly due to the disturbed state of the realm in the year following the murder.
Nichols' credulity in accepting the thirteenth-century Eustace, lord of Ashby Folville, as the murderer of Roger Baler led him into a further error. Although he quotes the inquisition of 1310, in which John Folville is given as the son and heir of his father John, he yet inserts in his pedigree a mythical Eustace as son and heir of the elder John, and treats the younger John as son of Eustace, while referring to the same John as lord of Ashby in 1308. Nichols is hopelessly inaccurate in his early pedigrees because he trusted to the stories of such compilations as the Woodford chartulary and to other abstractors' documents, instead of going to the originals and making abstracts of his own.

Another inaccuracy is his statement that in 1326 Roger le Brabazon at his death held of Robert de Brus two knight's fees in Ashby Folville, both of which were at this time in the king's hand. This is obviously wrong: the inquisition post mortem to which he refers says nothing about Ashby, and probably Nichols mistook Saxby, where Robert le Brabazon held at his death the manor, as of the honour of Huntingdon, then in the king's hand by the forfeiture of Robert de Brus. The embellishment of 'two knight's fees' is doubtless the result of jumping to a conclusion upon insufficient evidence.

The honour of Huntingdon, forfeited by Robert Bruce, came into the hands of Edward III's son, Edward, duke of Cornwall and earl of Chester, created prince of Wales in 1343. At Easter 1342 the duke, through his guardian, sued John Folville the elder, chivaler, for forcibly rescuing cattle at Ashby Folville which the duke's servant had attempted to impound as a distraint for customs and services unpaid. In 1346 John Folville was assessed 30s. on the aid for knightling the Black prince, for three-quarters of a knight's fee in Ashby Folville and Newbold Folville, of the fee of Huntingdon and Chester; while Robert Helewel was assessed 13s. 4d., for a third part of a knight's fee in Ashby Folville, of the same fee.

The rolls connected with Edward III's. expedition to Crecy and Calais give some particulars of the Folvilles of Ashby. Sir John Folville was probably too old in 1346 to go to France himself; but his eldest son, sir John Folville the younger, was one of the knights in the first division, nominally under the command of the prince of Wales, but actually commanded by the earls of Warwick and Oxford and Godfrey Harcourt. Sir John was one of the retinue of Thomas Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, and on 15 June 1346 had letters of protection available till Christmas. On 20 October 1346 a writ to the sheriff of Leicester directed him to supersede all demands for finding men-at-arms, etc., upon sir John Folville the

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* De Banco roll 330, m. 30.  
* See Wrottesly, Crecy and Calais, [Wm. Salt Archaeol. Soc. Coll. xviii. pt. ii.]
elder, as the said sir John had enfeoffed sir John his son in all his lands, and the said sir John the younger had served abroad in the retinue of the earl of Warwick. There is an entry of a similar writ, dated 20 June 1346 or 1347. Geoffrey Folville, the second son, and Henry Folville, the fifth son of sir John the elder, also served in the same division under the earl of Warwick. Their names appear upon the Norman roll for 20 Edward III. (1346) as receiving pardons on Warwick's testimony for any offences committed before the war, in consideration of their service abroad.

Sir John Folville the elder was still living in the summer of 1348, as appears from a suit relating to the advowson of Ashby Folville, which will be mentioned in that connexion later on. The date of his death has not come to light, but probably he died about 1350, possibly during the pestilence of 1349. Of his successor, sir John the younger, who had fought at Crecy, we have little information apart from the gossip of the Woodford chartulary, which is scurrilous and not particularly to his credit. The pith of the story is that he had a servant named Margaret who was well beloved of him. Getting presumably rather tired of her, or wanting to do her, or more probably himself, a good turn, he palmed her off upon his third brother Christopher and took to himself a rich wife, whom the compiler of the chartulary inaccurately describes as an old ancient lady of Yorkshire that was the wife of the lord Marmion, by whom sir John could expend 700 marks. The old lady in question, was Joan, daughter of John, second lord Marmion of Tanfield, and co-heiress of her brother Robert, third lord Marmion, who died without issue. She was widow of sir John Bernak: her age is unknown, but she may have been born about 1300. With the help of her money sir John Folville kept a great and worthy household at Ashby and was much given to entertaining, one of his occasional guests being John of Gaunt. This pleasant life, however, did not continue for many years; for in 1362 sir John had the misfortune to lose the old lady by death, and, whether from grief, old age, or some other reason, followed her to the grave within a few months. Meanwhile his sister-in-law Margaret, being a lady of resource and determination, saw her chance and, reinstating herself in sir John's house, inveigled him into giving her and her husband Christopher his manor of Teigh, co. Rutland, for their lives, although, as it was entailed upon his next brother and heir Geoffrey, sir John had no power to demise anything beyond his own life interest in it. Not satisfied with this, her appetite increasing with her opportunities, Margaret stayed with sir John till he was dead, and then, possessing herself of his seal and title-deeds and charters, made false deeds for the benefit of herself and forged the attestation, with the assistance, says the compiler, of Lawrence Hauberk, whom she
subsequently married. By her husband Christopher Margaret had a daughter named Elizabeth, who was married to sir Hugh Browe, knight. After Christopher’s death Margaret married Lawrence Hauberker, and, after his death, sir John Calveley, knight, whom she also outlived. The compiler informs us that, shortly before her death, being stricken with remorse, she made a confession of her guilt and restored the deeds to the proper heir, who was Mabel, daughter of Geoffrey Folville and wife of John Woodford of Brentingby.

There is a record of an action brought at Trinity 1360 by John Folville, chivaler, against William Serle of Luffenham for taking his horse, worth 40s., at Ashby Folville. This was in the palmy days of sir John’s prosperity, when he is said to have entertained the young John of Gaunt. As we have seen, he died in 1362; the executors of his will, mentioned in 1362—3, were master Henry Folville, Richard of Leicester, Richard of Foxton, Lawrence Hauberker, Simon Pakeman and John Veysey.

After sir John’s death, an action was brought by Lawrence Hauberker against William Woodford for the unjust detention of a bond by which Geoffrey Folville and his brother master Henry were bound to Lawrence in the sum of £300. This, as represented by Lawrence’s attorney, had been delivered for safe keeping to William at Melton Mowbray on Friday, 21 January 1361—2, to be returned to Lawrence at the feast of the Assumption (15 August) next following; and William, though often requested, had not given it up and was still detaining it: wherefore Lawrence claimed £300 damages. William Woodford, by his attorney, acknowledged the receipt of the bond, the conditions of which were said to be as follows. It secured to Ralph Secchevill, rector of Twyford, Thomas Gra, rector of Ashby Folville, Lawrence Hauberker of Grimston, John Friseby and John Veysey, chaplain, and their heirs free right of entry and seizin in the manor of Teigh, saving to Geoffrey Folville and his heirs the reversion of the services of all tenants of the manor who had not attorned to the said feoffees during the lifetime of John Folville, chivaler. If Geoffrey impeded such entry, he was bound, by warning of eight days, to take effect in case of his good health at the time of warning, to make compensation to the feoffees by granting to them, or at least two of them, or to others as appointed by the abbot of Owston, an estate by fine and deed of a moiety of the manors of Wath, Hunmanby and Langton-on-Swale, co. York, to hold to them and their heirs for ever, as fully and freely as they and the said abbot should ordain. By the delivery to them before the feast of the Assumption aforesaid of a remise and quit-claim made to Geoffrey by all who on his account

* De Banco roll 403, m. 148.  
* Ibid. 412, m. 269d.
had any estate in the manor of Teigh, the bond should be cancelled and delivered to Geoffrey and Henry Folville. Otherwise it should be delivered to Lawrence Hauberck in its full force and virtue. William Woodford said that he was ignorant whether the conditions had been fulfilled or not, and asked that Geoffrey and Henry should be summoned. The sheriff was therefore ordered to summon them for Hilary following.\(a\)

Woodford was also summoned for detention of a corresponding bond for £300 made at the same time by John Hauberck, knight, and Lawrence Hauberck of Grimston to Geoffrey Folville, which was delivered to Woodford at the same time, to be returned to them at Easter 1362. By this bond it was agreed that Ralph Sechevill, Thomas Gaddesby [called Gra in the previous document,] Lawrence Hauberck of Clawson, John Frisby and John Veysey, or at least one of them, having as full estate in the manor of Teigh as they had of the gift and feoffment of John Folville, knight, should grant and demise the said manor before Easter 1362 to Margaret, late the wife of Christopher Folville, chivaler, for the term of her life, with reversion to themselves and their heirs after her death. Further, after the same demise, the said feoffees agreed to grant the said reversion to Geoffrey Folville and his heirs, with their release and quit-claim of all their right and claim in all the lands and tenements lately given and granted to them by John Folville in Ashby Folville, reserving to John Veysey sufficient security for a yearly rent of 30s. lately granted to him for term of life from such tenements. They also were to remit to Geoffrey and all others who, after the death of John Folville, stood with him in the manor of Teigh, all manner of trespasses done by him or his adherents in the said manor. On fulfilment of these conditions, the bond was to be returned to Lawrence Hauberck of Grimston as null and void: otherwise it was to be delivered to Geoffrey in full force and virtue. Woodford brought the bond into court and said that he was ready to deliver it to whom the court should adjudge, but that he knew nothing of the fulfilment of the conditions. Accordingly, Geoffrey Folville was summoned for Hilary, Woodford standing in mercy for many defaults.\(b\)

These records bear out the story, at any rate in its main facts, of the conveyance of the manor of Teigh by John Folville to Margaret and her husband Christopher for their lives. They also show that in 1361—2, when the bonds were made, Christopher was already dead. The introduction of the three Yorkshire manors into the business is explained by the marriage of Joan, the Marmion co-heiress, to Sir John Folville. The moiety of the manor of Wath was apparently part of the dower of her mother Maud, daughter of Thomas, first

\(a\) De Banco roll 416, m. 457. \(b\) Ibid. m. 437d.
lord Furnival, and widow of John, second lord Marmion. Maud died about 1360; and it may be remarked that, if her daughter, who died soon after, was an old ancient lady, she herself must have put that daughter’s antiquity in the shade. John Folville appears to have released his right in the moiety, as of his wife’s purparty of the Marmion inheritance, to Richard of Leicester, William de Burgh and Lawrence Hauberk, who granted the reversion of the moiety to him after Maud’s death. Maud, however, did not attorn for her tenancy, and the reversion was subsequently granted by the said feoffees to John Mowbray, knight, and his heirs, to whom, by a writing dated 5 February 1363—4, the grant of the reversion to John Folville was surrendered by Geoffrey, together with a release of his right in the premises.\(^a\)

Joan, the wife of sir John Folville, had been previously married, as has been said, to sir John Bernak, and held in dower at her death, of the heritage of William, son of sir John Bernak, a manor in Buckenham and the manor of Besthorpe, near Attleborough, co. Norfolk. William Bernak died a minor in the king’s wardship, and on Joan’s death the two manors were taken over by the escheator. The Bernak inheritance came to William’s sister Maud and her husband Ralph Cromwell, and on 20 November 1361 the escheator in Norfolk was ordered to deliver the two manors to them, as Maud was of full age, and the king had taken homage of him for all the lands which John Bernak held in chief.\(^b\)

Geoffrey Folville, the brother and successor of sir John, seems to have inherited the violent instincts of his family. In 1364—5 he was attached to answer to Thomas Ashby of Quenby and William Ashby of Melton Mowbray in a plea of robbery upon them at Melton to the amount of 100s. Geoffrey asserted that the two Ashbys were his villeins, to whom he was not answerable. The jury, however, took their own view that they were freemen.\(^c\) A number of small suits in which Geoffrey was concerned occur during the next four years. At Michaelmas 1365 William Randolf was attached for depasturing his herbage at Ashby and Newbold.\(^d\) At Trinity 1366 John Veysy, vicar of Billesdon, whose name we have met among the feoffees of the manor of Teigh, brought an action against him for a debt of £4.\(^e\) Veysy and another of the same feoffees, John Friseby, rector of Carlton Curlieu, were impleaded at Michaelmas 1366 by Geoffrey Folville and Ralph Swift of Ashby Folville for abducting servants before their term of engagement had expired; and at Hilary 1368—9 Geoffrey brought a suit against Veysy for fishing in Geoffrey’s preserves at Ashby Folville and taking away £10 worth of fish.\(^f\) Veysy had been also an executor

\(^a\) *Cal. Close Rolls* 1364—8, p. 43.  
\(^c\) *De Banco* roll 419, m. 319d.  
\(^d\) *Ibid.* 421, m. 331.  
\(^e\) *Ibid.* 424, m. 203d.  
\(^f\) *Ibid.* 425, m. 306.  
\(^g\) *Ibid.* 433, m. 333d.
of sir John Folville's will, in which capacity he was sued in a plea of debt by Laurence Hauberk and Margaret his wife, executors of the will of Christopher Folville, chivaler, at Hilary 1376—7.\(^a\)

The death of Geoffrey Folville took place before the end of 1369, as at Hilary 1369—70 we have a mention of Isabel who was the wife of Geoffrey Folville of Ashby.\(^b\) It appears that she married a second husband, John Kendale.\(^c\) This certainly seems to be the explanation of the claim to the manor of Ashby brought at Hilary 1382—3 by John Wodeford and Mabel his wife against John Kendale and Isabel his wife, in right of Mabel.\(^d\) At Trinity following John Wodeford and Mabel, by Robert Sproxton her guardian, pursued the claim as founded upon Mabel's descent from John Folville, chivaler, and Mabel his wife and their issue, to whom the manor was given (in 1316) by master John Sutton. The descent is given correctly from John Folville and Mabel to John Folville as son and heir, from John to Geoffrey as brother and heir, and from Geoffrey to Mabel as daughter and heir. John Kendale and Isabel could not gainsay this; but they claimed eight messuages, four carucates of land, 100 acres of pasture and 40s. rent in Newbold Folville by a writing dated London, 3 June 1388, by which John Wodeford and Mabel granted to them, for the term of the life of Isabel, all the estate which they had in the tenements, rents and reversion which formerly were of Geoffrey Folville in Newbold. John Wodeford and Mabel therefore recovered their seisin of the manor, while the Kendales retained their seisin in Newbold.\(^e\)

John Woodford was son and heir of William Woodford, who died on 22 July 1369, seised of the manor of Sproxton, held of the prince of Wales by knight service as of the honour of Huntingdon. At the inquisition taken ten years later, John Woodford, aged 21 on 11 November 1379, is said to be his son and heir.\(^f\) The Folville inheritance thus passed in the female line to the Woodfords. We read in 1378 of John son of John Folville of Ashby, knight, who brought an action of wrongful disseisin against John Weston, chaplain, and Richard his servant, who had disseised him of two messuages and two virgates of land in Ashby Folville. Weston, however, said that Folville was a bastard and so won his suit.\(^g\) It is possible that John the bastard may have been a pledge of affection given to sir John by the wily Margaret.

By a fine levied at Hilary 1389—90 between Hugh Browe, chivaler, and Elizabeth his wife, plaintiffs, and John Wodeford and Mabel his wife, defendants, Elizabeth's right was acknowledged in six messuages, a mill, and six acres of land in Ashby, Newbold and

\(^a\) Ibid. 405, m. 16.  \(^b\) Ibid. 437, m. 361.  \(^c\) This John Kendale was assessed 3d. 4d. to the Poll Tax of the year 1377 (Lay Subs. 133, 26) under Ashby Folville, in which he is described as "John de Kyendale esquier, non terr. possess."  \(^d\) Ibid. 488, m. 410d.  \(^e\) Ibid. 490, m. 112.  \(^f\) Inq. p.m. file 6, 3 Rich. II.  \(^g\) Assize roll 1488.
Barsby; in return for which Hugh and Elizabeth granted the premises to John and Mabel and their issue for the yearly rent of a rose, with reversion in default of issue to Hugh and Elizabeth and their heirs forever. It will be remembered that Elizabeth Browe was the daughter of Christopher Folville by Margaret, and therefore the first cousin of Mabel Woodford.

At Trinity 1393 there was a suit between John Woodford and Richard, Robert and John Hortope, John Porter, John Bramwych, Robert Houby the younger, Roger Webster and Thomas his son, and John Temmesse, who had broken his close at Ashby Folville, fished in his separate fishing and taken away fish to the value of 40s. Robert Horetop was one of the defendants in an action for assault at Barsby, brought by Edmund Pykson at Michaelmas 1397; while John Hortop was summoned at Easter 1408 by Robert Houby for breaking his close at Ashby. These Hortops had been at Ashby before 1332, when Henry Hortop was assessed five shillings to the subsidy for his land there, and they continued to reside there until at least the beginning of the sixteenth century. There is no doubt that they were the progenitors of the families of Hartopp, afterwards of Braunston, Freeby, Burton Lazars, Buckminster and Little Dalby. The only representative of these families who now holds land in Leicestershire (1920) is Mrs. Burns Hartopp of Little Dalby hall. At Trinity 1423 John Horetop and others sued Ralph Blak of Gaddesby, husbandman, for carrying away their goods and chattels by force with £20 from Ashby Folville; but the family was certainly more often sinning than sinned against, and at Trinity 1425 John Hortop the elder, husbandman, was attached in a plea of felling and carrying away the trees of John Helwell, esq., growing at Ashby Folville, to the value of ten marks.

Nichols quotes the inquisition taken in 1401 after the death of John Woodford, who died seised of six messuages and six virgates of land in Wyfordby and a messuage and two acres in Melton Mowbray and Sysonby. Robert, son of John Woodford, was his next heir. Meanwhile, Mabel, the widow of John Woodford, held the manor of Ashby Folville for her life. In 1401—2 she was assessed upon two knights' fees there held in chief immediately of the king; and in 1428 upon three-quarters of a knight's fee sometime held, while Robert Holewell had a quarter of a knight's fee sometime held by John Holewell. She sued Thomas Smyth of Burton Lazars at Easter 1412 for a debt of £8; Roger Loghton of Owston, husbandman, at Easter 1422, for rescuing cattle from the pound at Ashby Folville; and Richard Wryght of Weston, husbandman, at

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* Feet of Fines, Leicester.  
* De Banco roll 530. m. 231.  
* Ibid. 547. m. 409.  
* Ibid. 560. m. 323d.  
* Ibid. 650. m. 356.  
* Ibid. 658. m. 328d.  
* Feudal Aids iii. 104, 119, 121.  
* De Banco roll 695. m. 94.  
* Ibid. 645. m. 66d.
Hilary 1422—3, for taking away her servant Margery Wryght from Ashby Folville contrary to law. At Easter 1438 William Wymondeswold imploed Robert Wodeford of Ashby Folville, chivaler, for a debt of 40s. Mabel was still alive at Michaelmas 1438, when she and Robert Wodeford were sued by William Grantham of Leicester, draper, each for a debt of 16 marks.

Robert Woodford, according to Nichols, married Isabel, daughter of John Nevyll of Rolleston, co. Nottingham. No owner of Rolleston at this date bore the name of John. Thomas Nevill of Rolleston died in 1365 and was succeeded by his son William Nevill, who may have been the father of Isabel. Nichols gives the date of the marriage as Saturday, 5 May 1403. Robert died on 20 February 1453 —4: his heir was his grandson Ralph Woodford, son of Thomas Woodford, Robert’s eldest son, who had died in Robert’s lifetime. By the inquisition taken at Melton, 18 March 1455—6, Robert was found to have died seised of the manors of Brentingby and Wyfordby and a moiety of the manor of Knipton, and of many other manors which were divided between his five younger sons. The inquisition also gives descents from Brabazon and Folville; but the latter is incorrect and the former is useless, because sir Roger le Brabazon, [died c. 1316] having no issue, gave his manors of Sproston and Garthorpe to one William le Brabazon his nephew; and no-one knows anything of the parentage of this William, or whether he took the name of Brabazon in consequence of the above gift.

Ralph Woodford succeeded his grandfather Robert in the manor of Ashby Folville, although, according to the Woodford cartulary, Robert had a grudge against him and endeavoured, by destroying the evidences, to disinherit him altogether. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Villers and had, with other children, a son William Woodford, who died in his father’s lifetime. William left an only daughter and heir Margaret, who was married later to Thomas Morton, nephew of the famous John Morton, archbishop of Canterbury. From this point it is unnecessary to re-tell the later history of the manor, which has thus been traced through its Folville and Woodford owners.

The advowson of the church of Ashby Folville was acquired by the prior and convent of Laund, but when or how is unknown. It was, however, in their gift at some time before 1220 and 1230, when the rector was G. Basset. The chapel of Barsby, dependent upon it, was served three days a week from the mother church. At the institution of Seman de Len’ in 1225 the due and ancient pension from the church was reserved to the canons of Laund. The church was taxed in the time of bishop Lexington at £5, and

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in 1291 at £18, after deducting the pension of £2 due to the prior and convent.

The list of rectors is as follows, but unfortunately is not very perfect. The presentation in each case, with one exception, was made by the prior and convent of Laund.

2. 1225. Seman de Len', subdeacon. Ibid. ii. 300.
3. 1233, 16 April. William of Arthingworth (Ermingworth), subdeacon.\(^a\) Ibid. ii. 263.
7. 1292—3, 13 January. Master Walter of Lowthorpe, on death of W.B., after a lapse of six months, during which the church was commended to William of Stockton, canon of Lincoln. Lincoln Reg. i. fo. 283d.
10. 1341, 8 December. William, son of Richard of Keythorpe, clerk, on death of master P.A. Ibid. fo. 159d.
12. 1348, 8 August. William Gynewell, clerk,\(^d\) master of St. Leonard's hospital, Newark, Notts., by exch. with master A. of S. Ibid. fo. 340d.
15. 1378—4, 9 January. Ralph (sic) of Bromley, priest, pres. by John Parker,\(^e\) on death of T.G. Reg. x. fo. 260d.
16. 1381, 8 May. Thomas of Badby,\(^f\) dean of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, by exch. with Richard of B. Instituted by commission by the archdeacon of Northampton. Ibid. fo. 275.

\(^a\) Apparently sometime rector of Arthingworth, Northants. In Rot. Hg. W predict. ii. 317, his institution to Ashby is dated in 1232.

\(^b\) Probably identical with Alan, rector of Abkettleby, who appears to have resigned at this date.

\(^c\) Apparently after 1272, from the details in De Banco roll 355, m. 107.

\(^d\) Archdeacon of Buckingham, 4 September, and prebendary of Leighton Buzzard in Lincoln, 13 October 1361. Exch. his archdeaconry for Lampart, Northants, 1380. Died c. 1390—1.

\(^e\) Apparently a lessee of the prior and convent.

\(^f\) Precentor of Lichfield 1340—79. See Assoc. Archit. Soc. R. and P. xxxiv, 11—12, to the account in which his tenure of Ashby and Southam should be added.
17. 1382, 5 July. John of Barford (Barford), rector of Southam, Warwicks, by excl. with T.B. Instituted by commission by the bishop of Cov. and Lichfield. Ibid. fo. 278 and d.

Barford apparently retained the rectory until the appropriation in 1403. In 1348 the prior and convent's right of presentation was impeded by John Folville, chivaler. An assize of darren presentment was called, upon the prior's claim, at Trinity, when the prior won the suit and remitted damages. In stating his case, the prior gave the following list of rectors, which, while it adds one name omitted in the episcopal registers, is otherwise inaccurate in several details.

Adam Costeyn, clerk, pres. by Reynold, prior, temp. Hen. iii.
Walter Basset, clerk, pres. by William of Somerby, prior, temp. Edw. i.

Walter of Lowthorpe, clerk, pres. by the same, temp. Edw. i.
Walter of Thorpe, clerk, pres. by John de Burgh, prior.
Philip Aubyn, clerk, pres. by Henry of Braunston, prior.
William of Keythorpe, clerk, pres. by the same, temp. Edw. ii. (sic).

The church was said at this time to be vacant by Keythorpe's resignation; but, as a matter of fact, it was full, as the prior and convent had presented Austin of Stockton before the assize was called, and he had been duly instituted. One is forced to the conclusion that sir John Folville was making a ridiculous claim in order to worry the prior, or that the suit was merely a fictitious one, instituted as a preliminary to conveying the advowson to sir John. If such a proceeding was contemplated, it never took effect.

On 29 April 1403 the churches of Abkettleby and Ashby Folville were appropriated to the prior and convent of Laund, and vicarages were ordained in them. The vicarage of Ashby was endowed with all the houses and buildings situate within the rectory with the garden adjoining, extending in length from the churchyard to the boundary of the town (ripam ville) and in breadth from the king's highway to the rectory wall; with a virgate in the fields of Barsby, tithe of hay in the meadows and fields of Bursby, tithe of wool and milk, and all the oblations and small tithes. To the prior and convent was reserved the tithe of sheaves and lambs and the live mortuaries from the whole parish, together with the tithe of hay from Ashby. They were charged with all burthens and with the distribution of six shillings yearly in money to the poor out of the fruits of the church.\*  

\* Reg. xiii. fo. 199d.
In 1526 the vicar's portion was taxed at £8, in 1534—5 at £9 0s. 0½d., and in the king's books at £9. The rectory, held by the prior and convent, was taxed for the subsidy of 1428 at 27 marks (£18).a

The list of vicars is as follows. The patrons until 1538 were the prior and convent of Laund.


4. 1419, 11 November. Ralph Power of Barsby, priest. Ibid. fo. 204.


7. 1466, 22 August. Thomas Cause, priest, on res. of R. Farnham. Ibid. fo. 220.

8. 1467, 17 October. John Somur, priest, on death of T. Causse. Ibid. fo. 221.


14. 1538, 18 October. William Wallis, chaplain,éc pres. by William Gregoreye of Asfordby and Roger Wells of Skeffington, by a grant from the prior and convent of Laund, on res. of W.B. Reg. xxvii. fo. 166.

*a Feudal Aids III. 113.
b Probably William Hyll, who in 1468 had a grace at Cambridge 'quod quatuor termini habit in artibus possint sibi stare pro Forma trium terminium in Jure Canonico.' (Cambridge Grace Book A., ed. Leathes, p. 68.)
c Returned at archbishop Parker's visitation (MS. C.C.C. Camb. fo. 55): 'presbyter, non coniugatus; mediocriter doctus; residiit; hospitalis; deget ibidem; non licenciatus; non predicat; nullum aliud beneficium habet.'


30. 1862, 4 December. John Boyle, at his own pres., on res. of W.P. *Ibid.

* Vicar of Bradwell, Bucks. 1578.

b Ordained priest by the bp. of Peterborough 21 September 1576; ‘scolaris’ (Liber Cleri 1585, fo. 27d.) Noted as possessing a ‘qualiver’ (Subsidy of Armour, 1590, fo. 8d.) B No degree; resident; hospitable; 226 communicants; recusants 5 men, 2 women (Liber Cleri 1603, fo. 34.) Ordained deacon and minister 4 March 1585 by the bp. of Gloucester; does not preach. (Ibid. 1614, fo. 114.)

c B.A.: deacon 25 June 1661, priest 24 June 1661, Lincoln; admitted to preach 4 Aug. 1661 Lincoln; resident. (Ibid. 1662, fo. 185.)

33. 1910, 29 December. Ernest William Hamper, M.A.,* pres. by the rev. J. Godson of North Road, Bourne, Lincs., on res. of the said J.G. Ibid.
