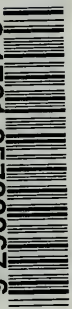



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HISTORY & ANTIQUITIES

OF

*STRATFORD-UPON-AVON.*











W. H. P. 1870

W. H. P. 1870

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HISTORY  
AND  
ANTIQUITIES  
OF  
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON:

COMPRISING  
A DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH,  
THE LIFE OF SHAKSPEARE,

AND  
*Copies of several Documents relating to him and his Family,  
never before printed:*

WITH A  
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF OTHER EMINENT CHARACTERS,  
*Natives of, or who have resided at*  
STRATFORD.

To which is added, a particular Account of  
THE JUBILEE,  
Celebrated at Stratford, in Honour of our immortal Bard.

BY  
R. B. WHELER.

Embellished with Eight Engravings.

---

O gratum Mors, O duxeris amabile Phœbe,  
Quam scirem abesse, Mors, tu quoque Mors,  
Ac tibi, cara heus, si mors dividat, et te  
Iuxta SHAKSPEARI MORS ERIT OMNIS:  
Sic grammat: crebroque scales crebrae multaque scilicet  
Petrus hic Mors, sic tibi Plinius est.

MS. 986  
11/19

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Stratford-upon-Avon: -

PRINTED AND SOLD BY J. WARD:  
SOLD ALSO BY LONGMAN AND CO. PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON,  
WILKS AND CO. BIRMINGHAM, AND BY MOST BOOKS-  
SELLERS IN TOWN AND COUNTRY.

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## PREFACE.

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THE want of a work in some degree similar to the present undertaking encouraged the publication of the following sheets, the offspring of a few leisure hours; and it is hoped that the world will, on an impartial perusal, make allowances for the imperfections, by reflecting as well upon the inexperience of the *juvenile* author, as that they were originally collected for his own private information.

Nescire quid antea quam natus sis acciderit, est semper esse puerum.  
*Cic. in Orat.*

It has long been a subject of regret, that a work of this nature has not been published: Sir William Dugdale's voluminous antiquities of Warwickshire (containing the only historical account of this town before printed) is scarce; added to which, it records little of the modern, and nothing relative to the biographical history of the town. With respect to the latter, Stratford boasts of producing, not only the greatest dramatic poet that ever appeared in this or any country, and whose name alone will render his native place famous to latest posterity, but several other characters, highly eminent for their great learning and piety, who have

filled the most exalted situations both in Church and State to which a subject could attain, and acquired the proudest honors their monarch could bestow.

The author, being a native of Stratford, has been much in the habit of contemplating and admiring whatever he thought worthy of notice in this place, particularly the venerable church, its greatest ornament; and he flatters himself with a persuasion, that an accurate description of that Collegiate structure, and the other public buildings, together with their history collected from indubitable authorities, will afford some amusement, and probably information, not only to the inhabitants, but to the numerous travellers who come at every season of the year to pay a tribute of respect to that spot,

“ Where his first infant lays sweet SHAKSPEARE sung,  
 “ Where the last accents faulter’d on his tongue.”

In this compilation, much assistance has been derived from the M.S. collections of the late learned and Reverend JOSEPH GREENE, formerly Master of the Free Grammar School, at Stratford, and Rector of Welford, in Gloucestershire, which were obligingly communicated by his relative, Mr. Wright of Lichfield; to whom many thanks are thus returned, for his so generously promoting this work.

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HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES  
OF  
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON.

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STRATFORD-UPON-AVON (in north latitude, 52 deg. and west longitude, 1 deg. 40 min.) is pleasantly situated near the south-west border of the county of Warwick, on a gentle ascent from the banks of the river Avon: which derives its source from the village of Naseby, in Northamptonshire; and continuing its meandering course in a south-west direction, passes by Warwick, Barford, and other places, and approaches Stratford in a broad and proudly-swelling stream, not to be equaled in any other part of this beautiful river. “Avona denique fluvius, (says Leland,) qui et numero quintus ceteris fama non cedit; oritur Navesbiæ circa limites Avoniæ mediterranæ. Verovicum urbem cum antiquam tum nobilem alluit: Chigneglessi etiam Castrum, quod nunc Killingworth, et Stratfordam; postremo Evesum, Persoram, ac Theocicuriam [*Tezksbury*], ubi Sabrinæ conjugio se nobilitat. Sunt et alii passim fluvioli in Britannia Avonæ nomine; at sufficiat in præsentia quinque maxime memorabilem meminissee.”

— The name of Stratford is, undoubtedly, derived from its situation on the great north road, leading from London

reign, founded the see of Worcester, and there built a Cathedral Church, in which Boselus was consecrated the first bishop A. D. 680, and presided in the episcopal chair ten years, being succeeded by Ostforus, who died in 693; when the before-named St. Egwin was promoted to the vacant see in the eighteenth year of Ethelred's reign. There is therefore some reason to conjecture, that Egwin was at first advanced by his sovereign to the dignity of Abbot of Fladbury, which he afterwards exchanged for the monastery of Stratford. Egwin could not have presided many years in the Stratford convent, before he filled the episcopal chair; which exalted station he resigned in 714 for the more retired office of the Abbaey of Evesham. By whom he was succeeded as superior in the Stratford convent is unknown, for very little mention is made of it, till about a century after it was annexed to the bishopric of Worcester; when Berthulph the nineteenth king of Mercia, by his charter, granted at Tamworth A. D. 815, confirmed it, with many additional privileges, to Heabert, the tenth bishop of that diocese: the charter referred to is as follows:—

“ ✚ In nomine Domini. Certe fugitiva et caduca itaque est status istius mundi, et omnia quæ videntur hic  
 “ vento velocius ad finem trahunt; et quæ non videntur,  
 “ fixa ac Mansura in æternum permaneant. Ideo cum istis  
 “ temporalibus ac transitoriis hujus sæculi divitiis æterna  
 “ præmia, ac semper gaudia manentia, studeamus in cælestibus comparare, vocante nos ad se Domino nostro  
 “ Jhesu Christo qui ait, *Venite ad me omnes qui laboratis, et onerati estis, et ego reficiam vos.* Qua de re Ego  
 “ BERHTUULF, gratia divina largiente, rex MERCIORUM, de  
 “ remedio anime meæ præcogitans, diemque tremendum  
 “ distincti examinis ante oculis cordis mei componens,  
 “ cogitavique, quod aliquit de istius mundani regni perceptione pro memetipsum in perpetuam eleemosinam, ac



“ libertatem ecclesiasticam, Deo vivo in æternum eroga-  
 “ rem; ideo, cum consensu & licentia episcoporum et  
 “ principum meorum et omnium seniorum gentis nostræ,  
 “ donabo HEABERHTO, meo venerabili Episcopo, hujus li-  
 “ bertatis privilegium, et ejus familie in ~~Ugerna~~ ~~Stratford~~,  
 “ illius monasterii bi ~~Cafan~~\* quod appellatur Ufera Strat-  
 “ ford † cujus quantitas est XX manentium, eo quod  
 “ placibile pecunio acceptus fui, id est, X libris argenti;  
 “ ea conditione, ut libera permaneat in sempiternum. So-  
 “ luta et liberata sit ab omni jugo humane servitutis, ab  
 “ omnibus sæcularibus tributis et vectigalibus, cum cunctis  
 “ utilitatibus ad illam ecclesiam recte pertinentibus, campis  
 “ vel silvienculis, pascuis vel pratis, fluminibus vel pesca-  
 “ tionibus, ab opere regali et pastu regis et principis, vel  
 “ juniorum eorum, ab hospitorum refectione, vel venato-  
 “ rum etiam, equorum regis, falconum et ancipituum, et  
 “ puerorum qui ducunt canes. Quid plura? ab omni tri-  
 “ bulatione noti et ignoti, magni et modici, libera consistit  
 “ in ævum, quamdiu fides christiane religionis apud Anglos  
 “ in Brittannia insula permaneat. Si quis vero regum aut  
 “ principum, vel præfectorum, aut alicujus gradus homo  
 “ hanc nostram conscriptam libertatem per diabolicam gas-  
 “ trimoniam deceptus, frangere vel minuere temptaverit,  
 “ sciat se separatim a consortio sanctorum omnium in die  
 “ Magni Judicii et in æterna dampnatione dampnandum  
 “ cum diabulo et angelis ejus, nisi ante hic theoponto Cra-  
 “ tore, et hominibus cum bona satisfactione emendaverit.  
 “ Hii testes adfuerunt, quorum nomina hic infra ilavescent.  
 “ Gesta est autem hæc donatio anno Domini incarnationis  
 “ DCCC<sup>o</sup>XLV<sup>o</sup> indictione VII<sup>a</sup>. in loco regali qui dici-  
 “ tur ~~Comelworthig~~, in nativitate Domini.

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\* By, or near the Avon.

† Upper, or Over-Stratford; as Ufera-biri signifies Overbury, and Ufere-breedun denotes Over-Breedon.---*Mem. Charl.* p. 306 and 693.

“ ✚ Ego Berhtwulf, rex Merciorum, hanc meam largi-  
 “ suam libertatem, cum vexillo sanctæ crucis Christi ro-  
 “ boravi, ut fixa permaneat in æternum.

“ ✚ Ego Sathryth regina, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Hunberht episcopus, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Heaberht episcopus, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Ciorred episcopus, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Berhtgræd episcopus, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Cuthwulf episcopus, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Wihtræd episcopus, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Canmud abbas, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Aethelwulf presbiter, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Berhttric filius regis, consensi.

“ ✚ Ego Hucel dux, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Humberht dux, consensi et subscripsi.

“ ✚ Ego Aelfstan dux, consensi.

“ ✚ Ego Cynberht dux, consensi.

“ ✚ Ego Aethelwulf dux, consensi.

“ ✚ Ego Hucel dux, consensi.

“ ✚ Ego Sigeræd dux, consensi.

“ ✚ Ego Dudda dux, consensi.

“ ✚ Ego Atoberht dux, consensi.

“ ✚ Ego Aelfred.

“ ✚ Ego Wiglaf.

“ ✚ Ego Wicga.

“ ✚ Ego Eadwulf.

“ ✚ Ego Aethelbrah.

“ ✚ Ego Wulfred.

“ ✚ Ego Eadga.”

When Ossa, king of the Mercians, in 758, gave Shottery meadow in this parish, (by a charter preserved in Heming's Chartulary,) to the church of Worcester, he

gave also three farms at Nuthurst in the woodland: two of which, Wirefred, bishop of Worcester, anno 872, granted to Eanwulf for forty marks of gold, to hold during his own life, and the lives of any three that he should leave them to; and after their deaths to go to the monastery of Stratford. The charter by which this grant to Eanwulf was made, is also preserved; and as it particularly relates to the ancient monastery of Stratford, a copy of it is inserted.

“ ✠ Regnante in perpetuum Domino nostro Jhesu  
 “ Christo, cunctaque non solum cœlestia sed etiam terres-  
 “ tria legibus æquitatis imperio gubernante. Cujus vide-  
 “ licet anno incarnationis humanæ, DCCC.LXXII. indic-  
 “ tione V. Ego Wulfstih gratia Dei largiflua, gratuitoque  
 “ munere ab intonante ac regnante, Hwiccorum antistes,  
 “ et unianimo licentia illius familia in Wicgornastre, ali-  
 “ quam juris nostri Eanwulfo, regis ministro, pro sua amicitia  
 “ et placabili pecunio. XX. manecusis auri probatissimi, do-  
 “ nans concedo, id est, duas mansiones in Nuthurst,  
 “ sibi dies suos feliciter possidendum; et post se tribus  
 “ heredibus, qualibuscumque voluerit, reliquendum: ea vero  
 “ ratione, ut temporibus supradictorum heredum trans-  
 “ actis, hæc præfata terra, sine contradictione unius cujus-  
 “ que, ad illud monasterium, quod nominatur Stratford,  
 “ reddatur. Hoc est autem supra nominatus episcopus  
 “ potissimum consentiebat proxima afflictione et immenso  
 “ tributo barbarorum, eodem anno, quo pagani sederunt  
 “ in Lundonia; et ideo nunc rogamus et obsecramus cujus-  
 “ libet persone homines, ut hæc nostra consentio inviolata  
 “ ac stabilis posterum perseveret. Augentibus et servanti-  
 “ bus hoc donum, divina benedictio amplificetur. Minu-  
 “ entibus ac spoliandis, ultio demonicæ inponetur, nisi  
 “ dignæ, ut optamus satisfactione coram Deo et hominibus  
 “ emendaverit. Testibus autem hiis consentientibus, quo-  
 “ rum nomina infra signaculo alme crucis karaxantur.

- “ ✠ Ego Wulfarþ, melliflua Dona Dei omnipotentis  
 “ largiente, episcopus hanc donationem signo sanctæ  
 “ Crucis confirmo.
- “ ✠ Ego Aethelheard prepositus consen. ✠ Ego Bicornfarth  
 “ presbiter consen. ✠ Ego Eafarþ presbiter consen.  
 “ ✠ Ego Wulfherc presbiter consen. ✠ Ego Ahherc  
 “ presbiter consen. ✠ Ego Eadwald. ✠ Ego Wlig-  
 “ heard. ✠ Ego Barthelm. ✠ Ego Bicornferd. ✠ Ego  
 “ Dehred. ✠ Ego Wligberht. ✠ Ego Eared. ✠ Ego  
 “ Aetherc. ✠ Ego Burgheard. ✠ Ego Wynhelm.”

At what time, or by whom the Stratford monastery was dissolved, there is no certain information to be obtained; and, as it is not noticed after the last grant, in 872, we have some reason to conjecture it might have been dissolved about the time of King Edgar or Edward the Martyr: for it is related by Roger Hovedon and Simeon of Durham, that one Elfer, a powerful Earl of Mercia, (who probably acted as regent,) had conceived an inveterate hatred against the monks; and by his power and authority expelled them from all their convents in this province, and placed secular canons in their stead. From this circumstance it may be imagined, that at this time the monks were expelled and driven from Stratford; and perhaps never returned: and as the monastery was the property of the bishop of the diocese, it seems probable, that some prelate of that see afterwards consolidated it with his own episcopal chapter; because there is no particular mention of this place from the time of Wirefred, during the prelacies of the twelve succeeding bishops, a period of more than two hundred years. As the ancient monastery appears, by the charter, to have been situated upon the banks of the Avon, Leland supposes the present collegiate church to have been erected upon the scite of it; which conjecture seems very probable.

The town of Stratford (which, from a few houses, whose inhabitants it may naturally be concluded were principally dependant upon the late monastery, must by this time have assumed a more flourishing aspect) was kept in possession by the bishops of Worcester during the Saxon æra; and continued to their successors many ages after the Norman invasion: to this perhaps may be attributed the silence of its history, while the estates of the laity suffered so much from the power of the barons, or from the great revolutions in the kingdom. In William the Conqueror's survey called Domesday-book, compiled at his command between the years 1081 and 1086, it is rated, as will be perceived by the following extract, at fourteen hides and a half, (a measure of very uncertain dimensions,) and possessed by Saint Wolstan, the twenty-fifth bishop of Worcester. At that time there was a church; a mill yielding ten shillings per annum, and a thousand eels; &c. &c.: but the value of the whole manor was calculated to amount to 25*l.* a considerable sum in those days.

“ Ea pars libri de Domesday, quæ ad ecclesiam pertinet Wigorniensem. III. Terra episcopi de Wircestre. “ In Patelau Hundr. Episcopus de Wircestre tenet et “ tenuit Stradforde. Ibi XIV hide, et dimidia. Terra “ est XXXI carucat. In Dominio sunt III carucate, et “ XXI villani, cum Presbitero, et VII bordarii, habentes “ XXVIII caruc. ibi molin. de X. solidis, et mille anguill. “ et pratium V. quarentenarum longitudine, et II quarentenarum latitudine. Tempore Regis Edwardi, et post, “ valuit C. solidos, modo valet XXV. libras.”

In the register belonging to the bishop of Worcester, called *his* Domesday-book, composed under the direction of Baldwinus, about the time of King Henry the Second, this manor is mentioned to contain fifteen hides and one

yard land: of which, Frederick de Bishopton held three hides; Stephen le Power two hides and a half in Clifford; the monks of Worcester one virgate; Frederick de Milicia one hide; Adam de Scecrive one hide and a half, &c.

King Richard the First, in the seventh year of his reign, granted to John de Constantiis the thirty-sixth bishop of Worcester, (and who, according to Godwin, Abington, and other writers, was consecrated at *this town*, October 20, 1196,) a charter dated January 25, 1197, for a market to be holden here on the Thursday in every week, which remains to this day. This prelate immediately after by his own deed, referring to King Richard's charter, settled upon *his* burgesses of Stratford, (for by that name he called them,) the inheritance of their burgages; reserving to himself, for all services, the annual payment of twelve pence: to each of these burgages he allotted a stipulated quantity of land, three perches and a half broad, and twelve perches long, making them free of toll for ever, according to the custom of Bristol, and excommunicating all persons who should presume to infringe upon their privileges; all which Maugerijs the next bishop confirmed. Walter Grey, the succeeding prelate, obtained a charter the 29th of October, in the 16th of John, for a fair to be holden annually on the eve of the Holy Trinity, and to continue for the two succeeding days. William de Bleys, consecrated the fortieth bishop of Worcester, A. D. 1218, obtained a charter for another annual fair to be kept here on the eve of St. Augustin, (May 26,) and to be continued on the two following days: and in sixteen years after, his successor, Walter de Cantelupe, procured another, by charter dated at Winchester, the 23d of December, in the 21th of Henry the Third, to be kept on the eve of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, (September 14,) and the two subsequent days; the toll whereof was anciently leased for 9s. 4d. and the toll

of the market at 16s. per annum. The same bishop also obtained a charter of Free Warren, bearing date at Merton the 2d of April, in the 39th of Henry the Third, for himself and his successors in all their demesne lands here. In the 53d of Henry the Third, Godfrey Giffard, the forty-third bishop of the diocese, procured a charter for another fair, to be holden upon Holy Thursday and the two following days; and, in the very next year, procured a new charter for renewing the old fair, (granted and established by King John,) upon the eve of Trinity Sunday, to continue for three days after. The bishop had in this manor in the 19th of Edward the First, A.D. 1291, a revenue of 20*l.* two carucates of land, rated at 20*s.* a mill yielding 5*l.* the pleas and perquisites 3*l.* and the profits of the store 20*s.*; and in 1299, the revenue of the bishop stood thus:—

	L.	S.	D.
“Eleven score acres and a half of arable land, at 5 <i>d.</i> per acre, yearly, .....	4	11	10½
“Twenty-seven acres of meadow, at 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per acre, yearly, .....	3	7	6
“Seven acres of pasture, .....	17	8	
“His wood brought him in, yearly, .....	6	8	
“His mills, .....	9	0	0
“And the land adjoining to them, .....	5	5	
“The fishery, .....	17	0	
“The eights and salleys, .....	2	0	
“The curtilages and easements, .....	2	0	
“Chirchset, .....	1	11	6
“The aid of the bondmen, and their com- mon fine, .....	2	0	0
“Pannage, .....		8	
“Fines and perquisites, .....	1	0	0
“Rent of assize, .....	20	19	11
“From the customary tenants, .....	11	18	11
In the whole,	57	1	0½”

It appears also that Bishop Gifford had a park here; for “on the 3d of May, 1280, he sent his injunctions to “the deans of Stratford, Warwick, Hampton, Blockley, “and Stow, solemnly to excommunicate all those that had “broke his park and stole his deer.” Soon afterwards the weekly market (on Thursday) began to be much neglected; for Walter de Maydenstone, (consecrated bishop of Worcester, in the 2d of Edward the Second, A. D. 1313,) did in his first year procure a new charter, dated at Westminster on the 4th of March, in the 2d of Edward the Second, for a market to be kept on the same day in every week, as well as a new fair, to begin yearly on the eve of St. Peter and Paul, (June 29,) and to be held for fifteen days.

The market and fairs being thus established, Robert de Stratford, rector of the church, (but afterwards highly advanced, as will be seen in the biographical part of this work,) procured a patent in the 5th of Edward the Third, to take toll for the space of four years upon sundry vendible commodities brought hither for sale, and the profits arising from thence were appropriated towards defraying the expence of paving the streets. That patent directed “Ballivis et probis hominibus villæ de Stratford super “Avene,” expressed that it was obtained “ad requisitio- “nem dilecti Clerici nostri Roberti de Stratford;” but the toll which was collected by virtue of the patent being inadequate to the purpose required, a renewal of the patent at the request of the same person was granted in the 8th of Edward the Third, for four years longer; and at his desire a third time renewed, in the 10th of Edward the Third, for two years more. To John de Peto, junior, (of the ancient and honourable family of Peto, then living at Chesterton in this county,) a lease of the manor of Stratford was granted for his life, in the 13th of Edward



the Third, by Wolstan, bishop of Worcester, at the rent of 60*l.* per annum: but nothing very memorable is recorded of the succeeding bishops relating to this town, till the year 1549,\* when Nicholas Heath, in the 3*d* of Edward the Sixth, exchanged it with John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, (afterwards created Duke of Northumberland,) for lands in Worcestershire. The Earl, in the same year, advantageously disposed of it to the King, for lands in Oxfordshire, and other counties; but by another exchange this manor came into his possession again in four years

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\* “ In crastino Sancti Mich. Arch. 17. H. 6. Thomas Bourchier  
 “ Episc. dimisit Johanni Hugford et Matildi uxori ejus, Manerium de  
 “ veteri Stratford super Avonam, cum una domo decem spatiorum sive  
 “ bernarum stramine cooperto, cum omnibus terris arabilibus, pratis,  
 “ pascuis, et pasturis dominicalibus, &c. ad terminum 40 annorum,  
 “ pro annuali reddito 8 librarum solvend. in festis annuntiationis beate  
 “ Marie Virginis & Sancti Michaelis Arcangetli.

“ 20. Apr. 1467 Episc. apud Stratford tenementum cum una vir-  
 “ gata terre, prati & pastur. cum omnibus suis pertinentiis nuper in  
 “ tenura Joh. Boreman, & antea in tenura Will. Saundres, concessit  
 “ Will. Harwell Arm. habend. ad terminum 99 annorum reddend. an-  
 “ nuatim XIII*l.* III*d.*

“ XXVI. Nov. anno regis Edw. 4*i.* tercio et decimo, Episc. con-  
 “ cessit ad firmam Magist. Thome Jolyff unum toftum & dimidium  
 “ virgate terre cum pertinen. in Oldtowne juxta Stretford super Abbon,  
 “ nup. in tenura Joh. James, & postea Joh. Webbe, et unum Messu-  
 “ agium, & unam Virgatam terre cum pertio. in Old-towne predict.  
 “ nup. in tenura Willi. Rokesley, & postea predict. Joh. Webb, quod  
 “ quidem toftum abutiat super terram ipsius Thome, & Messuagium pre-  
 “ dictum abutiat sup. terram nuper Joh. Hannes. Habend. & tenend.  
 “ ad finem termini 29 ann. reddendo annuatim 2*l.* ad quatuor anni ter-  
 “ minos usuales.

“ Joh. Combes factus ab Episc. Sub-sheriffus Manerii sive Burgi  
 “ de Stratford in Com. War. nec non Ballivus Hundredi de Pathelw,  
 “ durante vita, cum annuali reddito 20 sol. eid. solvend. 10 Jun. 37. H. 3.

“ 14. May. 37. H. 8. Nicholas bishop of Worcester demised to  
 “ Thomas Whatley, of Stratford, inholder, one messuage, one cottage,  
 “ a half-yard land, and two acres of land in Old-Town, one croft and  
 “ half-yard land in Welcome; and one close called Davis Close, or  
 “ Dabyst Close, lying besides Tynker's lane, at the yearly rent of 20*l.*  
 “ & 4*d.*”

after. Upon the accession of Queen Mary, the Duke of Northumberland was committed to the Tower, tried and found guilty of high treason, for having attempted to place Lady Jane Grey (whom his fourth son Guildford Dudley had married) on the throne of England. After his decapitation, which took place on the 22d of August 1553, the manor of Stratford, with all other his immense property, was confiscated to the crown; but was afterwards granted by Queen Mary to his Dutchess for life. Ambrose Dudley Earl of Warwick, (the late Duke's son,) restored in blood by Mary, had a grant of this manor made to him in the early part of Elizabeth's reign. Edward Greville, Esq. of Milcote also possessed this manor in 1596, from whose executors it came to King James the First, and continued in the crown till Charles the Second conveyed it to Charles, Earl of Dorset and Middlesex, in whose family it still remains; the most noble George John Frederick Sackville, Duke of Dorset, and Earl of Middlesex, being the present Lord of the manor, Patron of the Vicarage, and High Steward of the town of Stratford-upon-Avon.

About two centuries ago the town suffered very considerably from the ravages of several fires. In the 36th and 37th years of the reign of Elizabeth, two dreadful ones happened which totally consumed 200 dwelling houses, household goods, &c. &c. to the value of 20,000*l.* and so reduced the inhabitants, that the Corporation petitioned Elizabeth, not only for a remission of certain subsidies and taxes granted in her last Parliament, but also to partake of the benefit arising from 30,000*l.* which had been granted by Parliament for the relief of decayed cities and towns: and it appears that the Queen, in consequence, remitted their subsidies, and granted briefs, empowering them to collect contributions from many of the counties and cities in this kingdom. On Saturday the 9th of July, 1614, the town

was in danger of being totally destroyed by another fire; which (according to the old brief granted on the 11th of May in the 14th of James the First), “within the space of  
 “less than two hours consumed & burnt fifty & four Dwelling  
 “Houses, many of them being very faire Houses, besides Barnes,  
 “Stables, & other Houses of Office, together with great Store of  
 “Corn, Hay, Straw, Wood & Timber therein, amounting to  
 “the value of Eight Thousand Pounds & upwards: the force of  
 “which Fire was so great (the Wind sitting full upon the Towne)  
 “that it dispersed into so many places thereof, whereby the whole  
 “Towne was in very great danger to have bene utterly consumed.”

The ravages of a fire at a time when the houses were principally composed of wood, must be very destructive; but since different materials came into use, none but partial accidents from that devouring element have taken place here. Specimens of the ancient mode of building may still be discerned in various parts of this town; but the most curious, and to appearance, the most permanent house of this description, is in High-street, adjoining the Garrick inn, which is very much carved and ornamented. The date of 1596 is on the outside; previous to which time we have little doubt but a considerable number of the houses in Stratford were erected according to that fashion. The few remaining houses built principally with timber are now much modernized, and the later buildings are in general neat and commodious, most of which have good gardens attached to them. There are numerous handsome structures, respectably inhabited, dispersed in most parts of the town, which is well paved, and remarkably clean; and, within the last fifty years, has undergone great and highly creditable improvements. It consists of twelve principal streets: viz. High, Chapel, and Church streets, which run from N. to S.—Old-Town leads from thence, southerly, down to the

church,—Back-bridge, Henley, Fore-bridge, and Wood streets, E. to W.—Sheep and Swine streets, through the centre of the town in the same direction,—Rother-market, from N. to S.—Greenhill-street, (now corruptly called More-towns-end,) E. to W. leading to Alcester. There are, besides, several lanes, &c.: viz. Chapel and Scholars' lanes, E. to W.—Henley and Meer-pool lanes, leading from Henley-street into Rother-market,—Waterside-row (from its contiguity to the river) nearly the length of the town, N. to S.—Bull (or Butt) lane N. to S. from the end of Church-street, &c. &c.—The principal inns are,—the White Lion in Henley-street; the Shakspeare in Chapel-street; the Red Horse and Golden Lion in Back-bridge-street; Green Dragon in Sheep-street; New Red Lion in Wood-street; &c. Upon the whole, Stratford is as pleasant, cheap, and healthy a market town as any of its size in the kingdom. The roads to it are remarkably good: the conveyances by coaches &c. from this place to any part of Eng'nd are very numerous: the adjacent country is fertile and salutary; being called by the learned Dr. Perry the Montpelier of England; and the surrounding scenery, though neither extensive nor grand, is everywhere beautiful and agreeable.

#### POPULATION.\*

The first correct account of the population of this town, to be met with, was taken on April the 19th, 1765,

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\* While treating of the population of Stratford, it may not be improper to observe, that in the summer of 1803, when the invasion of England was so much threatened, and at a time when almost every individual capable of bearing arms came forward with enthusiastic ardour, in defence of his King and native country; our townsmen were not remiss in expressing their zeal and loyalty to their beloved Sovereign; and 240 active men voluntarily enrolled themselves under their noble Commander, the MARQUIS of HERFORD; while those whose

by Mr. George Beauchamp; when the number of inhabitants of Stratford-upon-Avon, Old Stratford, and Bridgetown, united, amounted to 2287, and the houses 552. The last account taken in 1801 by order of government, stands as under:—

Males, 1170.—Females, 1248.—Total, 2418.

Persons employed in agriculture, -----	404
Ditto in trade, -----	1098
Ditto out of trade, which includes old people and infants, -----	916
Houses inhabited, -	510
Ditto uninhabited, -	20
Families, - - - - -	550

### GOVERNMENT.

The town was formerly under the jurisdiction of a Bailiff, fourteen Aldermen, and fourteen Burgesses, and incorporated by letters patent, dated in the 7th year of the reign of Edward the Sixth, June 28, 1553:† at which time the ancient Guild of the Holy Cross being dissolved,

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age, infirmities, or particular departments in life would not permit them to join in the common cause, unanimously contributed, with a liberal hand, towards the expences attending the formation and establishment of the corps.

† Stratford is, undoubtedly, an ancient Borough, as appears, not only by the above charter, but also from an old deed made in the 9th year of Edward the Fourth, A. D. 1469, a copy of which is here subjoined.

“ Sciant presentes et futuri quod Ego Thomas Kent de Brayles in comitatu Warwicensi, dedi, concessi, & hac presenti Carta mea confirmavi Willielmo Bury, heredibus et assignatis suis, dimidium Burgi cum suis pertinentiis in villa de Stretford, et jacet in vico vocato Corn-Strete, et situatum est ibidem inter Tenementum Custodis Collegii de Stretford predicto, in quo Thomas Walker modo habitat, ex parte una, et Tenementum predicti Thomæ Kent, ex parte altera:

its possessions, then valued at 4*l.* 3*s.* 2½*d.* per annum, together with the great tithes, of the yearly value of 3*l.* were appropriated to their use; out of which they were enjoined by the charter, to maintain a Vicar, Curate, and School-master, to pay the alms-people their weekly stipend, and repair the Chapel, Bridge, and other public structures. This charter, in the 16th year of the reign of Charles the Second, was called in; and by a new one dated at Westminster, August 31, 1664, confirming former grants, the municipal government was vested in the Corporation; which is directed to consist of a Mayor, twelve Aldermen, (of whom the Mayor is one,) and the like number of Burgesses; to be chosen out of the principal inhabitants of the borough. The Mayor, *pro tempore*, is also Coroner of Stratford-upon-Avon, and Justice of the Peace within the limits of the borough, the town of Old Stratford, and within the church and church-yard. The High Steward, Recorder, Steward of the Court of Record, the two senior Aldermen, and the preceding Mayor (during one year after serving that office) are also Justices of the Peace within the same jurisdiction.

“ habendem et tenendum predictum dimidium Burgi cum suis pertinentiis, præfato Willielmo Bury, heredibus et assignatis suis, tenendum de capitali Domino Feodæ, (illi perfunctis inde debitis et de more consuetis,) libere, quiete, bene et in pace, in perpetuum, &c.  
 “ Ego vero predictus Thomas Kent et heredes mei, predictum dimidium Burgi cum suis pertinentiis, præfato Willielmo Bury heredibus et assignatis suis, contra omnes gentes warrantizabimus in perpetuum.

“ In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti Carta: meæ Sigillum meum apposui: Hujus testibus Richardo Lokyer, Capitali Ballivo de Stretford predicto: Willielmo Willets, Thoma Lacy, tunc Sub-Ballivo ejusdem; Thoma Clopton, Rogero Pagett, Magistro Gildæ de Stretford predicto; Johanne Hannes, Johanne Grew, Thoma Walker, Johanne Barbor, et aliis capitalibus apud Stretfordiam predictum.  
 “ Datum in Festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, et anno regni Regis Edwardi quarti post conquestum nono.”

The present Corporation is composed of

*Aldermen.*

Thomas Hemings, Gent.

Mayor.

John Payton.

John Lord.

Charles Pestell.

William Tompkins.

John Edwards.

Jonathan Izod.

William George Morris.

Robert Mander.

Thomas Sheldon.

Joseph Walker.

John Hitchman.

*Capital Burgesses,*

Charles Jenkins.

Edward Goate.

John Rowden Westbury,

John Tasker.

William Chattaway.

James Pritchard.

John Holmes.

Austin Warrilow.

Thomas Sanders.

Thomas Mills.

*High Steward*,—The Duke of Dorset,

*Recorder*,—Sir John Mordaunt, Bart.

*Steward of the Court of Record*,—William Hunt, Esq.

*Town Clerks*,—Thomas Hunt, and Robert Hobbes, Esqrs.

A list of the Mayors, from the time of Charles the Second's charter, August 31, 1664.

(Sworn in, annually, on the second Tuesday in October.)

John Woolmer, junior, (the last Bailiff,) was the first Mayor, to Oct. 1664.	Richard Jacksons, ... 1673
Symon Cale, .... Oct. 1664	Thomas Hiccox, ...., 1674
Francis Oldfeild, ..... 1665	John Woolmer, sen. ... 1675
Thomas Hill, ..... 1666	Matthew Blackford, .. 1676
Thomas Taylor, ..... 1667	John Woolmer, jun. ... 1677
William Lyndon, .... 1668	Symon Cale, ..... 1678
Benjamin Jones, ..... 1669	Thomas Wootten, (he died in his mayoralty, and Thomas Horne served out the year,) ..... 1679
Thomas Horne, ..... 1670	William Hiccox, ..... 1680
Francis Haddocke, ... 1671	
Lawrence Horwood, .. 1672	

Daniel Mason, .....	1681	Samuel Holtam, .....	1712
George Sowtharn, ....	1682	John Huckell, .....	1713
William Hickes, .....	1683	Thomas Hiccox, (he died	
William Baker, .....	1684	in his mayoralty,	
Foulke Sellar, .....	1685	and Joseph Wool-	
Robert Fawdon, .....	1686	mer served out the	
Henry Tomlins, .....	1687	year,) .....	1714
Edward Elderton, ....	1688	Thomas Badger, .....	1715
John Smith, .....	1689	Joseph Smith, .....	1716
John Taylor, .....	1690	John Halford, .....	1717
John Hunt, .....	1691	Thomas Sowtham, ....	1718
Thomas Hiccox, .....	1692	William Weight, .....	1719
Samuel Case, .....	1693	John Cookes, .....	1720
John Woolmer, jun. ...	1694	John Capp, .....	1721
Samuel Holtam, .....	1695	Daniel Hurdise, .....	1722
William Baker, (he died		Richard Burman, ....	1723
in his mayoralty,		Philip Hatton, .....	1724
and Joseph Wool-		Richard Bartlett, ....	1725
mer served out the		Henry Churchill, ....	1726
year,) .....	1696	John Hunt, .....	1727
Joseph Woolmer, ....	1697	John Huckell, .....	1728
Matthew Colett, .....	1698	William Walford, ....	1729
John Burman, .....	1699	Thomas Badger, .....	1730
Foulke Sellar, .....	1700	John Halford, .....	1731
Robert Fawdon, .....	1701	Richard Newcomb, ..	1732
George Hands, .....	1702	John Cookes, .....	1733
Edward Elderton, ....	1703	Thomas Bott, .....	1734
John Taylor, .....	1704	Thomas Huckell, ....	1735
Thomas Sowtham, ....	1705	William Davis, .....	1736
William Weight, .....	1706	Samuel Walford, ....	1737
Henry Churchill, ....	1707	Richard Goode, .....	1738
John Hunt, .....	1708	Benjamin Haynes, ....	1739
Joshua Smith, .....	1709	John Taylor, .....	1740
William Cale, .....	1710	Henry Turbitt, .....	1741
Thomas Taylor, .....	1711	William Dyde, .....	1742



Robert Hicks, .....	1743	Isaac Gardner, .....	1773
Hugh Burman, .....	1744	Richard Allen, .....	1774
Richard Bartlett, ....	1745	William Evetts, .....	1775
Richard Hitchcocks, ..	1746	Charles Ingram, .....	1776
John Smith, .....	1747	William Bolton, .....	1777
John Halford, .....	1748	William Manison, ....	1778
Samuel Tissell, .....	1749	Thomas Sheldon, ....	1779
Thomas Bott, .....	1750	John Payton, .....	1780
William Miles, .....	1751	William Allen, .....	1781
Harvey Preston, (Sa- muel Jarvis served out the remainder of the year, from Ja- nuary 2, 1753,) ..	1752	Samuel Smith, .....	1782
Nathaniel Cookes, ...	1753	John Preston, .....	1783
Richard Smith, .....	1754	Thomas Ashford, ....	1784
Richard Allen, .....	1755	Samuel Jarvis, .....	1785
Robert Bruce, .....	1756	William Bache, .....	1786
William Bayliss, .....	1757	John Lord, .....	1787
Samuel Price, .....	1758	William Eaves, .....	1788
William Evetts, <i>baker</i> , 1759		Charles Pestell, .....	1789
William Evetts, <i>currier</i> , 1760		Thomas Nott, .....	1790
William Bolton, .....	1761	Charles Ingram, .....	1791
Richard Lord, .....	1762	Thomas Sheldon, ....	1792
John Bayliss, .....	1763	William Tompkins, ..	1793
John Halford, .....	1764	Thomas Taylor, ....	1794
John Hitchcocks, ....	1765	John Payton, .....	1795
William Lees, .....	1766	John Edwards, .....	1796
Samuel Jarvis, .....	1767	Jonathan Izod, .....	1797
John Meacham, .....	1768	Robert Mander, ....	1798
Nathaniel Cookes, ....	1769	Richard Allen, .....	1799
William Eaves, .....	1770	William George Morris, 1800	
Thomas Nott, .....	1771	John Payton, .....	1801
Richard Stevens, .....	1772	John Hitchman, .....	1802
		John Lord, .....	1803
		Charles Pestell, .....	1804
		Thomas Hemings, ....	1805

## WARWICK HOSPITAL.

Stratford-upon-Avon has a joint privilege, with four other towns, viz. Warwick and Kenilworth, in this county, and Wootton-under-Edge and Erlingham, in Gloucestershire, of presenting, in its turn, some decayed housekeeper to be maintained for life in the Hospital at Warwick, founded by Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, in the 28th year of Elizabeth. As often as there becomes a vacancy, a person is fixed upon by the town whose turn it is to present; who, before he is admitted, must exhibit his recommendation from the minister and church-wardens where he last resided: upon this he becomes a member of the Hospital, and receives his gown of blue cloth, with the crest of the Earl of Leicester (a bear and ragged staff) embroidered on the left sleeve, without which he must never go into the town.

## PAROCHIAL ACCOUNT OF STRATFORD.

The parish of Old Stratford is about fifteen miles in circumference, and includes the villages and hamlets of Welcombe, Clopton, Ingon, Bishopton,\* Drayton, Dodwell,

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\* The chapel of ease at Bishopton was served by the incumbents of Stratford-upon-Avon, till the year 1791; but the Reverend Dr. Davenport, our present vicar, having received 800*l.* from the governors and trustees of Queen Anne's bounty, it is now totally distinct from the mother church. This 800*l.* fell to Bishopton by lots drawn in the years 1737, 1766, 1783, and 1791; and, together with 50*l.* (part of 400*l.* which had also fallen to Stratford-upon-Avon,) was, in 1791, laid out by Dr. Davenport in the purchase of thirty-five acres of land in this parish; the incumbent of Bishopton paying to the vicar of Stratford 2*l.* 10*s.* yearly interest for such 50*l.* for ever. The land tax of the glebe land having been purchased for 47*l.* the sum of 2*l.* per cent. per annum is paid for the remaining 303*l.* now due to Stratford by the same governors and trustees to the vicar, who is also the patron of, and has the sole right of nomination and presentation to Bishopton; the Rev. Solomon Davenport, L.L.B. being the first and present incumbent.

Shottery, Luddington, Rhyne-Clifford, Little Wilmeote, and Bridgetown. Bushwood, a small village about nine miles from Stratford, is also reckoned a member of this parish, though within another hundred, and in the precincts of the lordship of Lapworth; for having long before the Norman conquest, been part of the possessions of the Bishops of Worcester, together with Stratford, and not having been given away with Lapworth by the Conqueror, but continuing to that bishoprick, it was consequently held by some of the succeeding bishops as part of the demesne of Stratford, their chief manor in this county. This place was a mere wood, called *Bissopes*, or *Bishops-wood*, since corrupted into *Bushwood*; and it seems that other persons have, by some of the Bishops of Worcester, been invested with this villa; but a claim of right therein being quitted to John de Constantiis, (Episc. Wigorn. 9. Ric. 1.) it ever after continued to that bishopric, as a member of Stratford, until it was passed with that manor, (of which it still continues a member,) by Bishop Heath, in the 3d of Edward the Sixth, to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick. The Duke of Dorset is now Lord Paramount of the place.

### THE AVON.

This fine river was, at a very great expence, made navigable for vessels of about forty tons burthen, from hence to its conflux with the Severn at Tewksbury, by that truly laudable character Mr. Sandys, of Fladbury, in 1637, who obtained an Act of Parliament for that purpose; and, until within these few years, this source of communication was of immense advantage to the town and circumjacent counties, in conveying all sorts of merchandise from Bristol, Gloucester, Tewksbury, Worcester, &c. into the inland part of this kingdom, returning laden with the natural or artificial produce of the country. Stratford had then the appearance of a small sea-port town: at present however,

in consequence of the numerous canals, and the unparalleled improvement of the turnpike roads, the trade by water is now much diminished; and it is to be feared, that the commercial intercourse with the Bristol Channel, through the medium of the Avon, will in a short time utterly cease.

### FAIRS.

There are seven annual fairs held here; several of which having been of late years established, we find but few of the original fairs, out of the many, granted by procuration of the ancient lords of the manor (the bishops of Worcester) now kept up. The first fair is on the third Monday in February,—the second on the Thursday after the 25th of March,—the third on the 14th of May,—the fourth on the last Monday in July,—the fifth on the 25th of September,—the sixth on the second Thursday following,—and the seventh on the second Monday in December. A statute, is also held for the hiring of servants, on the morrow after Old Michaelmas-day.





*Drawn by R. B. Walker*

## THE CHURCH AND COLLEGE.

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THE COLLEGIATE PARISH CHURCH of STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, was formerly a rectory; and, as it extended to the chapelries within the parish, was valued in the year 1291, the 19th of Edward the First, at thirty-five marks:—it continued in the patronage of the bishops of Worcester (in which diocese it stands) until the 10th of Edward the Third, A. D. 1337; at which time it was purchased of Simon Montacute, (then bishop,) by John de Stratford, and presented by him to the chantry he had founded five years before, (when bishop of Winchester,) in the chapel of St. Thomas the Martyr, adjoining the south aisle of the church, which aisle the pious founder had lately reedified at his own expence. For this appropriation to his chapel, he gave unto Bishop Montacute and his successors, as a recompence for the damage they might by such alienation sustain,\* one messuage, one carucate of land, and ten shillings rent in Perseley-grove, near Hampton Lucy, of the yearly value of ten marks.

THIS CHANTRY consisted of five priests, two of whom (the Custos or Warden and the Sub-warden) were perpetual; the other three were elected and removed at the pleasure of the warden. For the maintenance of these priests, John de Stratford settled the manor of Inge, or Ingon,† to

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\* How John de Stratford's title to this property stood, is uncertain; but, by an agreement made at Nottingham, the 24th of September, 1336, Mr. John Suthwaltham; warden of the college, covenanted with Bishop Montacute, and his successors, to pay him the annual pension of ten marks out of the profits of the chapel of St. Thomas, should such messuage, carucate of land, and rent in Perseley-grove, happen to be recovered.

† This manor was purchased of Simon, son of Adam le Crumbe, in the 2d of Edward the Third, by Robert de Stratford, then rector of

their use; and, in the 7th of Edward the Third, he added to their revenues, 69s. yearly rent, issuing out of certain lands in Stratford; and, being shortly after advanced to the Archbishopric of Canterbury, he granted the patronage, in the 10th of Edward the Third, to Bishop Montacute, and his successors for ever, and appropriated the advowson of the church unto it. For the further advantage of his Chantry Priests, and their successors, he obtained several immunities and privileges, as well to themselves as their tenants, by a charter dated at Westminster, the 26th of March, in the 11th of Edward the Third, and confirmed by other succeeding Kings; and, the more to augment their possessions, he gave them ten houses and six tofts in this town, with one messuage and two carucates of land at Ingon before-mentioned. Several other benefactors contributed towards the increase of the chantry finances: viz. Adam de Styvington, of Stratford, who gave four acres of land at Ingon; Nicholas de Dudley; rector of Kingswinford, in Worcestershire, who gave four messuages, seventy-three acres of land, and 15*d.* yearly rent in Dudley, with right of pasture for all manner of cattle, except goats, in the wood called *Pensyned*, near Dudley; and John Noie, and Roger le Dishere, priests, gave also eight houses, three shops, and three tofts, in Stratford.

Stratford Church, for the use of his brother John de Stratford, bishop of Winchester; who, in the 5th of Edw. III. with the permission of Adam de Orlton, bishop of Worcester, settled it upon this his chantry; and to which it continued till the dissolution. Archbishop Stratford also obtained the patronage of the church of Napton, in this county, in the 22d of Edward the Third, intending to annex it to the same chantry, but it appears that death prevented him accomplishing his intentions; and Robert de Stratford, Bishop of Chichester, (brother and heir to the Archbishop,) granted it to William de Sharesull, and others, in the 35th of Edward the Third, A. D. 1361.



In the 26th of Edward the Third, Ralph de Stratford, (who was also of the same family with the archbishop, and himself afterwards Bishop of London,) erected, as an habitation for these priests, a large substantial mansion-house, of square stone, (afterwards called the COLLEGE,) adjoining the west side of the church-yard; “whose good affections to this town, (says Dugdale,) being his birth place, stirred him up to that pious work.” This structure he began in 1353, with ten carpenters, ten masons and their servants, as appears by the King’s letters patent, granted to them, with special protection, till this edifice should be finished.

Henry the Fifth, in the 1st year of his reign, gave to the priests an ample charter, enriched with numerous additional privileges, wherein that of Edward the Third is recited and confirmed; so that, being accommodated with a good mansion, their immunities settled, and revenues much increased, it soon after acquired the appellation of a *CHURCH COLLEGIATE*, for by that title was Richard Praty, the custos or warden, (then termed *Dean of the Collegiate Church*,) presented, in the year 1423, the 1st of Henry the Sixth. Unto this church, Thomas Balshall, D. D. and Warden in Edward the Fourth’s time, rebuilt the present beautiful chancel or choir, at his own expence, and, dying in 1491, was succeeded by Ralph Collingwode, D. D. and Dean of Lichfield; who, (being desirous of completing the work his predecessor, Dr. Balshall began, and at his death had left unfinished,) instituted (by the consent of Sylvester Gygles, then Bishop of Worcester,) four children choristers, nominated and admitted by the Warden, to be daily assisting in the celebration of divine service in the church; and for whose maintenance he conveyed, on the 7th of October, in the 7th of Henry the Eighth, unto Sir Edward Greville, Knt. John Greville, Esq. and others, cer-

tain lands in Stratford, Drayton, and Binton, in this county. It was not long after that the College, thus completed and endowed, was totally suppressed: as a preparative was that fatal survey, in the 26th of Henry the Eighth, which marked the destruction of this and every other monastic institution throughout the kingdom; and by which the revenue of the lands, with the tithes, was certified to amount to 128*l.* 9*s.* 1*d.* per annum. At that time, besides the Warden, (Mr. John Bell,) and the Sub-warden, there was one priest, (who served the cure for the parishioners, and had an annuity of 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*) three chaplains, three clerks, and four choristers: Robert Porter being the steward of their court, had a fee of 20*s.* per annum; and Hugh Reynolds their bailiff, an annuity of 40*s.* At the suppression of the college, in the 37th of Henry the Eighth, by the statute made in that year, another survey was taken, in which the yearly value is certified to be, according to Dugdale, 127*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* but Speed and Godwin say, only 123*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* Anthony Barker, Warden, had a stipend of 68*l.* 5*s.* 5*d.* per annum: out of which was annually paid to the preceding Warden, Dr. Bell, (then Bishop of Worcester,) 22*l.* for a pension. There is, in neither of these surveys any particular valuation of the church, it being included with the other revenues of the college; at the dissolution of which it was established into a vicarage, and remained in the possession of the succeeding bishops of Worcester, as lords of the manor of Stratford, till Nicholas Heath, in the 3d of Edward the Sixth, parted with it to John Dudley, Earl of Warwick, afterwards Duke of Northumberland, upon whose attainder it fell to the crown, and continued in the gift of the succeeding lords of the manor; his Grace the Duke of Dorset being the present patron. The vicarage is valued at 20*l.* in the King's books: but the stipend now paid to the vicar, by the Corporation of Stratford, (to whom are appropriated the great tithes,) is 105*l.* per

annum; exclusive of which he has a good parsonage house, six acres and a half of glebe land,\* the surplice fees from the town, and the ten adjacent hamlets within the parish; which, with several other gifts and emoluments, (being a royal peculiar, and enjoying episcopal jurisdiction two years in three,) amount to a considerable sum.

## PATRONS AND INCUMBENTS OF THE CHURCH AND COLLEGE.

### *Patrons of the Rectory.*

Bishops of Worcester.

### *Rectors.*

Mauritius, *inter annos* 1200  
and 1212.

Nicholas de Wildebroc, --- 1215.

William de Grenefeld, - - - 1294

John de Cadamo, - - - - - 1300

James de Anisio, - - - - - 1310

John Vanne, - - - - - 1313

Henry de Hastings, - - - - - 1316

William de Estaniaco, || - - - 1319

Robert de Stratford, † - - - - 1319

Joha Geraud, ‡ - - - - - 1331

\* This glebe land, which adjoins the road leading from hence to Alcester, was allotted to the vicar (*pro tempore*) of Stratford, on the inclosure of the fields of Old Stratford, in 1774, in lieu of the small tithes of Bishopton.

|| Archdeacon of Lincoln and Rector of Overbury.

† See more of him in the biographical part of this work.

‡ Joh. Geraud, Rr. de [Ipsley, in Com. War. &] Nettleham, Linc, Dioc. permutavit cum W. de Estaniaco puid. Cal. Jan. 1319. & vacante Rectoria de Stratford per Resign. Rob. de Stratford 11. Martii 1333. admissus fuit ad eandem 18. Mar. eodem anno, sed non fuit institutus ante 16. Jun.

*Patrons of the Chantry.**Wardens.\**

John, Bishop of Win-	}	John de Offchurch, -----	1331
chester. -----		John de Suthwaltham, ----	1336
Bishops of Worcester.		John Geraud,    -----	1339
		Hugh de Ferrariis, -----	1354
		William Boys, -----	1368
		William Hulle, † -----	1379
		Thomas at Neude, -----	1384
		Thomas Mile, ‡ -----	1384
		Simon Sloley, § -----	1414

## \* Sub-Wardens of the Chantry.

John Saucer, Vicar of Grafton, -----	1349
John de London, -----	1353
William Okyngton, -----	1361
John Ryfeld, -----	1362
Walter Nicols, -----	1395
William Welcomb, Vicar of Kingsey, in the diocese of Lincoln,	1398
Thomas Edden, Rector of Derset-parva, in the diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, -----	1410
Richard Nerton, -----	1414
Richard Bragge, -----	1425
John Boteler, -----	1426
Walter Baker, -----	1508
Giles Coventry, -----	1514
Edwarde Alcocke, LL.B. -----	1515

|| Joh. Geraud, 11 Jan. resig. eo presertim quod se disposuit Apostol. Pet. & Pauli limina visitare, sed negato per Regem passagio, iterum recepit 5. Feb. eodem anno.

† Will. Hulle, Rr. de Neuchurche in Insula Vetta, permutavit cum Will. Outy, Cust. Cant. de Stratford.

‡ Tho. Mile, de Chepyngnorton, Linc. Dioc. permut. cum Will. Hulle.

§ Simon Sloley, Custos Cap. Th. Martyris.

*Patrons of the Collegiate Church.*

Bishops of Worcester.

*Deans.*

Richard Praty, A. M. . . . .	1423
Henry Sever,* . . . . .	1436
Thomas Balshall, D. D. . . . .	1465
Ralph Collingwode, D. D.	1491
John Bell, D. D. † . . . . .	1518
Anthony Barker, . . . . .	1526

*Patrons of the Vicarage.**Vicars.*

John, Duke of Northumberland, in the year 1549.

King Edw. VI. *codem anno.*

John, Duke of Northumberland, in 1553.

Queen Mary.

Roger Dicos, . . . . . 1553

Queen Elizabeth.

John Brechgirdle, A. M. . . 1560

Henry Heycroft, ‡ . . . . . 1569

Ambrose, Earl of Warwick. . . . . }

Richard Barton, . . . . . 1584

Richard Alchurch.

John Rushton, . . . . . 1589

\* Dns. Episc. assignavit annuam pensionem viginti quatuor librarum ad quatuor anni terminos Solvend. Henrico Sever qui tunc resignavit.

|| He was installed Prebendary of Beekhill, with Knaresburgh in the Church of York, April 6, 1487; Dean of the Collegiate Church of Saint Mary, in Warwick, in 1507; Archdeacon of Coventry, which he resigned, in 1510; elected Dean of Lichfield, January 1, 1512; and died in 1518.

† See more of him also in the biographical part of this work.

‡ Licentia predicandi concessa Henrico Heycroft, vicario de Stratford super Avonam, 8 Jan. 1571.

*Patrons of the Vicarage.**Vicars.*

Edward Greville, Esq. } of Mileote. - - - - }	John Bromhall, - - - - - 1589
	Richard Bifeild, - - - - - 1596
	John Rogers, - - - - - 1610
King James I.	Thomas Wilson, B. D. - - - 1619
King Charles I.	Henry Twitchet, A. M. - - 1640
	Alexander Beane,* - - - - - 1648
King Charles II.	John Ward, A. M. - - - - - 1662
Charles, Earl of Dorset } and Middlesex, - - }	Josiah Simcox, A. B. - - - - 1681
	John Trapp, A. M. - - - - - 1682
	Richard Croft, A. M.    - - - 1684
	John Oveington, A. M. - - - 1701
	John Jackson, A. M. + - - - 1701
	Thomas Willes, - - - - - 1702
	Nicholas Brady, D. D. † - - 1702
	Richard Syngé, A. M. - - - - 1705
Lionel, first Duke of } Dorset. - - - - - }	Walwyn Meese, A. M. § - - 1709
	Edward Deane, A. M. ** - - 1729
	Edward Kenwrick, A. M. - 1736
Charles, Duke of Dorset.	Stephen Nason, A. M.*    - - 1763
John Frederick, Duke } of Dorset. - - - - }	James Davenport, D. D. - - †† 1787

\* He is said to have been put in by the Cromwell party.

|| Rector of Barcheston.

† Rector of Weston-upon-Avon, in Gloucestershire.

‡ See the biographical account of him in a subsequent page.

§ Rector of Oxhill, in this county, where he was buried.

\*\* Rector of Binton, in this county.

†† He was also a Justice of the Peace for this county, many years.

The exact time of the erection of our church is not recorded; so that we can only judge of its antiquity by the architecture of the fabric; which, being built at different periods, is composed of a union of the Saxon and Norman Gothic; a style frequently used soon after the Conquest. Leland, the great antiquarian, in his Itinerary, (compiled in the reign of Henry the Eighth,) conjectures, that the present church was erected upon the scite of the ancient monastery, given in the time of Saint Egwin, in augmentation of Evesham, and that “the Church, as *it is supposed*, was renewed in building by John de Stratford, Archbishop of Canterbury; in the beginning of the raigue of K. E. 3.” Camden in his Britannia, unlike his predecessor, *explicitly affirms*; (though he quotes no authority,) that it *was* erected by that Archbishop; but the learned Dugdale says, that the south aisle only was built by him, and that it is “little less than the Conqueror’s time,” as he guesses, “by the fabric of the tower steeple.” From this circumstance, and an examination of the building itself, it appears, there is no part of the original church, previous to the time of the Conqueror, now extant. The charnel-house, (lately taken down,) from its being of the Saxon Gothic architecture, might have been part of the ancient conventual church, and erected about the time of Edward the Confessor. The tower and nave seem to lay claim to as early a period as the eleventh or twelfth century.

The approach to this ancient fabric, (which is situated on the margin of the Avon, at the southern extremity of the town,) is under a long vista, or avenue of arched trees; whose sombre shade, added to that of the surrounding plantation, and the natural respect which the sanctity of the place commands, is well calculated to create a proper sedateness, previous to entering so magnificent an edifice. It is universally acknowledged to be in a very romantic si-

tuation: most other religious structures are barely ornamented by a few straggling trees, or incumbered with adjacent buildings; but this our Collegiate Church,

“ Whose sacred foot, for many a distant day,  
“ Has press'd the verge of Avon's wat'ry way,”

in the midst of its spacious cemetery, and embosomed in its encircling lofty elms, presents to the view a pile at once venerable and grand. A recollection that it covers the ashes of our admired Bard, contributes, in some degree, to the reverence this sacred mausoleum inspires; and, by the enthusiastic native in particular, some extraordinary adoration, even with a religious zeal, may justly be offered to the manes of his immortal townsman:

“ Tale tuum carmen nobis, divine Poeta,  
“ Quale sopor fessis in gramine; quale per æstum  
“ Dulcis aquæ saliente sitim restringere rivo.  
“ Nam neque me tantum venientis sibilus Austri,  
“ Nec percussa juvant fluctu tam litora, nec quæ  
“ Saxosas inter decurrunt flumina valles.”

The before mentioned avenue is composed of lime trees, planted at equal distances on each side of the walk; and, in 1798, by the direction of our present vicar, the Rev. Dr. Davenport, underwent a very judicious improvement, by entwining the boughs in such a manner, as to form a complete bower. This terminates at the north entrance into the nave; consisting of a handsome porch, buttressed and embattled, evidently of a later date than the adjoining aisle, and probably of the age of the chancel. Above the door is a Gothic window, formerly lighting a small room over the porch; the entrance to which is by a staircase in the north aisle; to what purpose this chamber was appropriated



is unknown; \* the window is now covered with a neat tablet fixed on the outside, commemorating the name of the gentleman, at whose expence the walk was paved. The inscription is as follows:—

“ THIS WALK WAS PAUED AND PIGHT-IN YE.  
 “ YEAR OF OUR LORD GOD 1719, AT THE ONELY  
 “ COST AND CHARGE OF MR. JOHN HUNT, AN AL-  
 “ DERMAN & STANDING JUSTICE FOR THE BO-  
 “ ROUGH OF STRATFORD, & VILLAGE OF OLD  
 “ STRATFORD.”

THE CHURCH, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is built in the form of a cross, and consists (like other collegiate structures,) of a nave, and two aisles, with a transept or cross aisle, chancel or choir, sacristy, and, till lately, a crypt or charnel-house; almost every one of which seems to have been the work of a different age.

THE NAVE is a regular and handsome structure, raised on six hexagonal pillars, terminating in pointed arches: above which, the sides are divided into twelve compartments, forming as many well finished Gothic windows in trisections. The principal, and by far the grandest entrance into the nave, is at the west end, under a Gothic receding arch or door-way; over which are three niches conjoined, evidently designed to contain three statues, and probably of tutelary saints; the spiral canopies, which are much carved and ornamented, shoot into the large and noble west window, which is nearly the width of the nave, and is justly admired, as well for the masterly design, as the beautiful workmanship. Under this window is placed the

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\* It was, probably, the muniment chamber, frequent instances of which occur in collegiate churches, &c. (not to enumerate others) in St. Mary Redcliffe, Bristol, where *Chatterton* discovered the M.S.S. which formed the basis of his well known forgeries.

font; which is a large vase of blue marble, put up in the beginning of the last century. From the centre beam of the roof is suspended a handsome brass chandelier; and upon the globe is engraved, "THE GIFT OF MRS. SARAH WOOLMER, WIFE OF MR. JOSEPH WOOLMER, OF THIS CORPORATION, 1720:" farther eastward stands the pulpit and reading desk, removed in 1792, from one of the pillars on the south side. The nave terminates at the east end, with the west arch of the tower, now filled up with a spacious loft, and a good organ, built by Thomas Swarebrick, about the middle of the last century; the expence being defrayed by a subscription, to which Dr. Hough, then bishop of the diocese, was a liberal benefactor. Under the organ loft were formerly two altars; that on the north side, was dedicated to the Holy Trinity; and the other on the south, to St. Peter and Paul; there was also a third altar, dedicated to St. Andrew, but in what part of the church is undiscovered. The roof of the nave is surmounted by battlements, greatly inferior in elegance and grandeur, to those taken down in 1764, which were much ornamented, and were further enriched by six fine pinnacles on each side.

THE NORTH AISLE, if we may judge by its appearance, is of a very ancient date, probably as early as the reign of Edward the First; the buttresses are irregular, and the windows, four in number, (but originally five, that at the east end having been walled up, for the convenience of erecting one of the Clopton tombs;) differ in their construction, as well as the materials with which they are formed. At the east end was the chapel, dedicated to the Holy Virgin; the altar appears to have had an ascent of three steps, which is all that can be at present discovered; the chapel being wholly taken up by the tombs and monuments of the Clopton family. Here is also a large gallery, erected at the beginning of the 17th century.

THE SOUTH AISLE is a well-built structure, strengthened by the addition of buttresses, terminating in foliated pinnacles; and at the west end is a circular staircase, which, on the outside, has the appearance of an octagon embattled tower. This aisle was rebuilt by John de Stratford, in the beginning of the fourteenth century, during the time he was Bishop of Winchester; and at the east end he founded his chapel, which he dedicated to Thomas a Becket. The ascent to the altar is now remaining; and in the south wall, are three empty niches, spirally canopied, and ornamented with perforated carved work; which, when perfect, must have had an elegant appearance: at present, however, it is very much mutilated; but from what remains, some idea may be formed of its primeval beauty. In this aisle is another gallery built in the year 1754.

THE TRANSEPT is separated from the nave by large folding doors, and was erected, according to Dugdale, by the executors of Sir Hugh Clopton, about the close of the fifteenth century; but the building seems to be of equal antiquity with the tower, which is evidently of a much earlier date. It is very probable, that the donation of 50*l.* in Sir Hugh's will, was expended in the temporary repairs of this transept, and other parts of the church. Over the south window is fixed a stone, on which is carved, "N. T. R. H. 1589," conjectured to be the initials of the church-warden's names, with the year in which the transept underwent considerable repairs, (being a century after Sir Hugh Clopton's death,) when the ancient pointed roof was taken down, and the present platform and parapet raised by the parishioners. The south end of the transept was used as the sacristy, till the year 1773, when a small brick room, ill corresponding with any other part of the church, was built for that purpose on the east side.

THE CHANCEL OR CHOIR, the most perfect, as well as the most beautiful part of the whole fabric, was erected in the fifteenth century, by Thomas Balshall, D. D. who was instituted warden of the college, in the year 1465; for this we have the authority of Leland and Dugdale, the latter of whom has preserved the following inscription, formerly existing in black letter, in one of the windows, "Thomas  
" Balshall, Doctor of Divinity, re-edified this quier, and dyed  
" Anno 1491." \* There are five large uniform windows, on each side of the chancel, beautifully finished, and ori-

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\* If does not appear who was the founder of the old chancel, taken down by Dr. Balshall; but it was very probably coeval with the crypt or charnel-house adjoining, (which we have before conjectured to have been erected about the period of Edward the Confessor,) and other circumstances corroborate this opinion, for several inlaid or mosaic tiles, (with which some parts, if not the whole of our church was originally paved,) now remain on the ascent to the altar, bearing the following arms: *a cross palewise between five martlets*; which was certainly the arms of Edward the Confessor; on others are, *a sword in pale*; *two keys in saltire*; the arms of the see of Exeter; and *ten Tor-teauxes, 4, 3, 2, and 1*, which are those of the see of Worcester. Leofric was the first bishop who was placed in the episcopal chair of Exeter, A. D. 1049, in the fourth year of the reign of Edward the Confessor, to whom he was chancellor and treasurer, and in whose time the see of Worcester was filled by Wolstan, who was a zealous churchman, and supported his dignity with such exalted reputation, that after his decease he was canonized by the Papal Court. If the old monastic church existed from the time of Ethelred, to Edward the Confessor, it must have been nearly 400 years old; and considering as well the slight manner in which the Saxons erected their primitive religious structures, as that the above three personages were cotemporaries, and eminently distinguished alike for the sanctity and purity of their lives; the circumstance of their arms being depicted in this edifice, which at that time was part of the Worcester episcopal revenue, renders it probable that Wolstan built *at least that part* which was taken down by Dr. Balshall, and that the Confessor, and Leofric, (amongst many others, whose arms are now too much mutilated to be distinguished,) were great benefactors towards its erection,

ginally adorned with painted glass,\* the subjects taken from holy writ, which must have had an extremely solemn effect; time and accident, however, had so mutilated and damaged this glass, that, in the year 1790, at the alteration of the roof, (which was formerly of oak, profusely ornamented with curious figures,) the remains of it were taken out, and that which was preserved, is now confusedly put together in the centre of the east window. At this end are two niches exquisitely finished with a variety of ornaments, in the style of the fifteenth century, generally called the Florid Gothic. There are also three other niches conjoined, in the south wall, opposite the altar, which are adorned in the same manner as the former, numerous specimens of which may be seen in our collegiate, and other churches, and were as many *consessus* or seats, generally supposed to have been for the use of the deacon and assisting priests. On each side is a range of stalls, originally belonging to the ancient choir, and remarkable for the manner in which the lower part of each seat is carved; being wrought into a great variety of grotesque designs, some of them capable of a religious or moral explanation. The exterior walls are strongly buttressed, and some of the ornaments on the frieze correspond with the figures carved on the stalls within. The choir is divided from the transept by a wooden skreen; and, on the north side, are the remains of a Gothic door-way (now walled up) that formerly led into the Charnel-house.

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\* We are informed by Stow, that Sir Hugh Clopton glazed this chancel; and, in Dugdale's time, Sir Hugh's arms, with another coat, (*viz. a fesse vair, between three leopards' faces*, supposed to be the original arms of the borough, as both shields are carved on the outside of the Chapel of the Guild,) were emblazoned in these windows, and preserved in the antiquities of Warwickshire.

THE CRYPT OR CHARNEL-HOUSE, though not standing at this time, ought not to be passed over in silence. It was a plain building, thirty feet long and fifteen wide, nearly the height of the chancel; and had every appearance of being the most ancient part of the whole church. In this charnel-house was contained a vast collection of human bones: how long they had been deposited there, is not easily to be determined; but it is evident, from the immense quantity contained in the vault, it could have been used for no other purpose for many ages. It is supposed the custom was discontinued at the Reformation, as no addition to them had been made in the memory of the oldest inhabitant of the town, living in the last century. This vault was built in the unornamented Saxon Gothic style; the pillars, a little above the surface of the earth, were each divided into three ribs, intersecting each other, and closed up with unhewn stone. Above was a room, supposed to be the bed-chamber appointed for the use of the four choristers; the ascent to which was by a flight of stone steps, and the general appearance of the building, afforded some reason to believe, that it was part of the church in being at the time of Edward the Confessor. In consequence of the dilapidated state of this building, a faculty, at the request of the church-wardens, was granted by the Bishop of Worcester, to raze it to the ground; accordingly, the bones were carefully covered over, and the charnel-house taken down, in the year 1800.

THE TOWER, which has a very antique appearance, is built in the early Norman Gothic style, upon four pointed arches, supported by massy clustered pillars, and contains six musical bells. There was, originally, on this tower, a timber steeple, covered with lead, and measuring in height about forty-two feet; which, besides wanting frequent repairs, seemed of too mean and diminutive a size for so noble

an edifice. The parishioners, therefore, in the year 1763, obtained a faculty from the Bishop of Worcester, to take down their decayed spire, and erect a new one of Warwick hewn stone; which was accordingly raised in an octagonal form, at the expence of the inhabitants of this town and parish, in the following year, by an architect from Warwick.

#### DIMENSIONS OF THE CHURCH.

	Feet in length, breadth, height.		
The nave, .....	103	28	50
The side aisles, each, .....	103	20	25
The transept, .....	94	28	30
The chancel, .....	66	28	40
Total length, from east to west,	197		
Area of the tower, .....	28	28	80
Tower, with the spire, .....	163		

#### MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS, \* &c. IN THE CHURCH.

In the chapel, dedicated to the blessed Virgin, at the east end of the north aisle, and under a Gothic arch, is raised an altar tomb about four feet and a half from the pavement, constructed of carved free-stone, with numerous panels, originally filled with brazen shields of arms; but which have been long since torn away. Upon the top lies a large marble slab, without either effigy or inscription, which has caused different surmises; many being of opinion that it was erected by Sir HUGH CLOPTON, *Knt. temp. H. VII.* to the memory of his father and mother, John and Agnes Clopton; while others think, (*and it is presumed, with more certainty,*) that it is an honorary sarcophagus, or cenotaph for Sir

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\* In copying the monumental inscriptions, the obsolete spelling, abbreviations, and character have been closely adhered to; it being proper to preserve, as nearly as possible, *fac-similes* of the originals.

Hugh himself, not only from the circumstance of his own arms, with those of the city of London, (where he was Lord Mayor in 1492,) and the company of wool-staplers, (of which he was a member,) being carved, and yet existing on the arch above it, but because Sir Hugh, in his will, dated the 8th of September, 1496, desired, if he died at Stratford, or in Warwickshire, to be buried in this chapel, between the altar, and that of the Holy Trinity adjoining it; which is the very place whereon this monument now stands.

Against the north wall is another tomb, on which are two recumbent figures in white marble; namely, WILLIAM CLOPTON, Esq. who is represented in armour, his head reclining upon his helmet, his sword and gauntlets lying by his side, with a *conchant* lion at his feet; and his consort ANNE, the daughter of Sir George Griffeth; a family originally of Welch extraction, but settled in Warwickshire as early as the reign of Edward the Third. The armorial bearings upon and over this monument, are—*Paly of four, or and azure, a lion rampant, counterchanged, for Clopton,—impaling, Gules, on a fesse dancette argent, between six lions rampant or, three martlets sable, for Griffeth. Crest, an eagle, with wings expanded and inverted, standing upon a tun, or:—Motto, VINCIT QUI PATITVR.* The following inscription, now somewhat defaced, was cut on the verge of the slab on which the effigies are placed:—  
 “Here lyeth the bodies of Willm. Clopton, Esquier, and Anne his  
 “ wyfe, daughter of Sr. George Griffeth, Knight, wch. Wm.  
 “ decessed the xvijth of April, 1592; the said Anne decessed the  
 “ xvijth of September, 1596.”

Above this tomb are several small figures of the children of William Clopton, and Anne his Wife; with this inscription over them:—Elizabeth C. Lodowicke C. Joyce C. (with the arms of Carew and Clopton,) Margaret C. Wylm C.



Annæ C. & Willelm C. under which is—“ THE RIGHT HONOR-  
 “ ABLE DAME JOYCE, COVNTESSE OF TOTNES, THEIR ELDEST  
 “ DAUGHTER, CAUSED THIS THEIR MONUMENT TO BE RE-  
 “ PARED & BEAUTIFIED ANNO 1630.” And on a small  
 tablet is “ SR. JOHN CLOPTON, Knight, their Great Grand-  
 “ son, caused this again, & ye. rest of these Monuments to  
 “ be repaired & beautified, Ano. Dni. 1714.”

Against the east wall of this chapel is a magnificent monument erected to the memory of GEORGE CAREW, EARL OF TOTNESS, and BARON OF CLOPTON, and JOICE his COUNTESS, (eldest daughter of the before named William Clopton, Esq.) whose effigies in alabaster, coloured to resemble life, lie under a large ornamented arch, supported by Corinthian columns, and adorned as well with numerous figures of angels and cherubims, as with various arms, warlike accoutrements, and insignia, carved in *bass relief*; being emblematical of his office as Master of the Ordnance. The noble Earl is represented in armour; over which is his mantle of estate, a coronet on his head, and a lion *couchant* at his feet. On a large escutcheon, above the arch, are the following arms:—1. *Or, three lions passant in pale sable, armed and langued gules.*—2. *Per pale, gules and ermine, a saltire counterchanged.*—3. *Argent, three eagles displayed gules.*—4. *Quarterly, argent and gules.*—5. *Argent, three adders proper.*—6. *Gules, a dexter arm in a maunch, grasping a fleur-de-lis, or.*—7. *Vair, a chief checque, or and gules.*—8. *Gules, two bendlets ingrailed or.*—9. *Sable, six mullets, three, two, and one, argent.*—10. *Chevrony of seven, argent and sable.*—11. *Bendy of seven, argent and sable.*—12. *Azure, a bend or, over all, a file gules.*—13. *Gules, four fusils in fesse ermine.*—14. *Gules, three bezants; a file argent.*—15. *Gules, three arches argent.*—16. *Argent, a fesse between three boars passant sable.*—Crest, a lion

*sable*.—Supporters, *two antelopes gules, attired or*. Motto, TIVVS SVB VMBRA LEONIS.

On other parts of this monument are the arms of Clopton, and Griffith, as given before, and the following;—1. *Gules, a bend argent, charged with three trefoils slipped, vert*.—2. *Six bars, argent and vert, three torteauxes in chief, a file for distinction*.

The inscriptions on the monument, (the first of which is for Sir THOMAS STAFFORD, an intimate friend of the Earl and Countess of Totness, and who desired to be interred near them,) are as follow:—

\* THOMAS STAFFORDVS, STRENVVS MILITVM DVCTOR, IN HIBERNIA, ET MERITO SVO, EQVES AVRA-TVS; SERINISSIMIS MAGNÆ BRITANIÆ REGIBVS JACOBO ET CAROLO, EORVMQ. CONJVGIBVS, ANNÆ ET HENRIETTE-MARIE, OB FIDELEM PRÆSTITAM OPERAM INTER DOMESTICOS CHARVS; QVIA CVM ILLVSTRI COMITE EJVSQ. CONJVGÈ DIV FAMILIARITER VIXIT, HIC PARITER REQVIESCERE VOLVIT, DONEC CHRISTI REDEMPTORIS, VOCE AD ÆTERNAM GLORIAM INDVENDAM, VNA CVM TRIVMPHATI BEATORVM CELIS RESVSCITABITVR SVPERSTITIB'.---VALEDIXIT ANO, AB EXHIBITO IN CARNE MESSIA SUPRA MILLESSIMV'. ....SEXCENTESS. POSTQVAM OMNIBVS NOTIS GRATIS, ANNOS VIXISSET.....

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\* “ Fil. illegit. Com. Totness: Test. Hugone Clopton, milite.” M.S.S. Greene.

Dugdale and Camden, *sub ann.* 1578 and 1584, mention one *Sir Edward Stafford*, sent twice at least, Ambassador to France; a person, as Dugdale calls him, “ of great honor and parts.” He married Lady Lettice, daughter of Sir Francis Knollys, Knt. of the Garter, and treasurer of the household to Queen Elizabeth; which Lady Lettice’s first husband was Walter, Earl of Essex; her second, Robert Dudley, the great Earl of Leicester; and her third, this Sir Edward Stafford.

## D. O. M.

ET MEMORIÆ SACRVM.

QVI IN SPEM IMORTALITATIS, MORTALES  
 HIC DEPOSUIT EXUVIAS, GEORGIUS CAREW;  
 ANTIQVISSIMA, NOBILISSIMAQ. ORTVS PRO-  
 SAPLE, EADEM SCILICET MASCVLA STIRPE  
 QVA ILLUSTRISSIMÆ GIRALDINORVM IN HI-  
 BERNIA, ET WINDESORIENSIVM IN ANGLIA,  
 FAMILLE, A CAREW CASTRO IN AGRO FEM-  
 BROCHIIENSI, COGNOMEN SORTITVS EST. AB  
 INEVNTE ÆTATE BELLICIS STVDIIS INVTRI-  
 TVS, ORDINES IN HIBERNIA ADIVC JUVENSIS,  
 CONTRA REBELLEM DESMONIE COMITEM PRI-  
 MVM DVXIT. POSTEA ELIZABETHÆ FELICIS-  
 SIMÆ MEMORIÆ REGINÆ, IN EODEM REGNO,  
 COXSILIARIVS, ET TORMENTORVM BELLICO-  
 RVM PREFECTVS FVIT; QVO ETIAM MVNERE,  
 IN VARIIS EXPEDITIONIBVS, IN ILLA PRÆSER-  
 TIM LONGE CELEBERIMA, QVA GADES HISPAN-  
 IÆ EXPVGNATE SVNT, ANNO M.D,XCVI,  
 FELICITER PERFVNCTVS EST. DEMVM, CVM  
 HIBERNIA VNIVERSA DOMESTICÆ REBELLI-  
 ONIS ET HISPANICÆ INVASIONIS INCENDIO  
 FLAGRARET, MOMONIE PREFECTVS, PER IN-  
 TEGRVM TRIENNIVM CONTRA HOSTES, TAM  
 INTERNOS QVAM EXTERNOS, MVLTA FORTI-  
 TER FIDELITERQVE GESSIT. TANDEM IN AN-  
 GLIAM REVOCATVS A JACOBQ MAGNÆ BRI-  
 TANNIÆ REGE, AD BARONIS DE CLOPTON,  
 DIGNITATEM EVECTVS, ANNÆ REGINÆ PRO-  
 CAMERARIVS ET THESAVRARIVS, TORMEN-

TORVM BELLICORVM PER TOTAM ANGLIAM PRÆFECTVS, GARNSELE INSVLE GVBERNATOR CONSTITVTVS, ET IN SECRETIORIS CONSILII SENATVM COOPTATVS EST. JACOBO DEINDE AD CÆLESTEM PATRIAM EVOCATO; CAROLO FILIO VSQ. ADEO CHARVS FVIT, VT INTER ALIA NON VVLGARIA BENEVOLI, AFFECTVS INDICIA, AB EO COMITIS DE TOTNESS, HONORE SOLENNI INVESTITVRA EXORNATVS FVERIT. TANTVS VIR, NATALIVM SPLENDORE ILLVSTRIS, BELLI ET PACIS ARTIBVS ORNATISSIMVS, MAGNOS HONORES PROPRIA VIRTUTE CONSECVTVS, CVM AD PLENAM ET ADVLTAM SENECTVTEM PERVENISSET, PIE, PLACIDEQ. ANIMAM DEO CREATORI REDDIDIT, LONDINI, IN ÆDIBVS SABAVDIE; ANNO DOMINICÆ INCARNATIONIS, JVXTA ANGLICANAM COMPUTATIONEM, M,DC,XXIX, DIE MARTII xvij. VIXIT ANNOS LXXIII, MENSES FERE DECEM.

JOISIA CLOPTON, CVJVS EFFIGIES, HIC CERNITVR, EX ANTIQVA CLOPTONORVM FAMILIA, FILIA PRIMOGENITA ET ILÆRES, EX SEMISSE, GVLIELMI CLOPTON DE CLOPTON ARMIGERI; CONJVX MÆSTISSIMA VIRI CHARISSIMI, ET OPTIME MERITI (CUM QUO VIXIT ANNOS XLIX) MEMORIÆ PARITER AC SVÆ, IN SPEM FÆLICISSIMÆ RESVRRECTIONIS MONUMENTV. HOC, PRO SVPREMO MVNERE, NON SINE LACHRIMIS, CONSECRAVIT. ILLA VIXIT ANNOS 78, ET 14<sup>o</sup> DIE FEBRUAR. OBIIT, ANO. DNI. INCARNAT. M,DC,36.

On a small monument, fixed to the same wall, on which is represented a woman kneeling at a desk;—Arms, —*On a lozenge, argent, three greyhounds courant, between seme of crosses pattee fitché, sable.*

HEERE LYETH INTERRED YE. BODY OF MRIS. AMY SMITH, WHO (BEING ABOUT YE. AGE OF 60 YEARES, AND A MAIDE,) DEPARTED THIS LIFE AT NONSVCH IN SVRREY, THE 13th. DAY OF SEP. A? DNI. 1626. SHE ATTENDED VPON THE RIGHT HOBLE. JOYCE, LADIE CAREW, COVNTESSE OF TOTNES AS HER WAITING GENTLEWOMAN, YE. SPACE OF 40 YEARS TOGETHER: BEING VERY DESIROVS IN HER LIFE TYME, THAT AFTER HER DEATH SHE MIGHT BE LAIDE IN THIS CHVRCH OF STRATFORD, WHERE HER LADY YE. SAYD COVNTESSE ALSO HERSELFE INTENDED TO BE BVRIED; AND ACCORDINGLIE TO FVL-FILL HER REQUEST, & FOR HER SO LONG TREW & FAITHFVL SERVICE, YE. SAIDE RIGHT HOBLE. COVNTESSE, AS AN EVIDENT TOAKEN OF HER AFFECTION TOWARDS HER, NOT ONELY CAUSED HER BODY TO BE BROUGHT FROM NONSVCH HEITHER, & HERE HONORABLY BVRYED, BVT ALSO DID CAUSE THIS MONVMENT AND SVPERSCRIPTION TO BE ERECTED, IN A GRATEFULL MEMORIE OF HER, WHOM SHE HAD FOVN SO GOOD A SERVANT.

In the arch between this chapel and the nave, is a small tablet with the arms of Clopton, impaling,—*first and sixth,*

*azure, a chevron between three lites heads, crested, or.—2 Sable, three bells argent, a canton ermine.—3. Sable, three trout fishes, proper.—4. Argent, a bend azure, a mullet in sinister chief, an amulet in base.—5. Gules, a fesse between six lillies, argent.*

To the memorie of Thomas Clopton, of Clopton in ye. County of Warr: Esq. and Eglentine his wife, one of ye. Daughters of John Keyte of Ebrington, in the county of Gloucester, Esq. the saide Thomas departed this Life the 22d. Day of Avgvst A. Dni. 1643; the saide Eglentine departed this Life the 22d. Day of November A. Dni. 1642. They left Issue, two sonnes, John and Thomas Clopton.

Against the east wall is a monument, with the following arms and inscription:—Quarterly; *first and fourth; argent, on a cross, gules, five leopards' faces, or; second and third, argent, a chevron, potent at the point and ringed, between three crescents, sable, for Walker: impaling, azure, a cross of lozenges, ermine, for Reeve. Motto,—LOYAUTE MOX HONNEUR.*

## M. S.

EDWARDI WALKER, equ. aurati, ex antiqua ejusdem nominis stirpe (de Casterne in Agro Staff.) oriundi; Qui per omnes Curie Heraldicæ, gradus ascendens, in principalem Regem Armoru. Anglicoru. titulo GARTER, merito (tandem) euectus est; serviente nuper civili incendio a Secretis Belli Regi CAROLO primo:—CAROLO deinde II, ab interioribus Consiliis, Clericus fideliter inserviit: Uxorem AGNETEM JOH. REEVE de BOOKERN, S. Th. D. in com. Surr. filiam, (juxta hec tumulatam) duxit; e qua filiam unicam suscepit, BARBARAM, quam JOHANNI CLOPTON equ. aurato nuptui dedit; obiit xx? Febr: Ao. Dni. M.DC.LXXVI, ætatis LXV?

On another, against the north wall, are the arms of Clopton; viz. Quarterly,—*First and fourth per pale, or and gules, a cross pattee fitché, counterchanged; second and third, paly of four, or and azure, a lion rampant, counterchanged*: and, on an escutcheon of pretence, the arms of Walker, with this inscription:—

## M. S.

DNI. JOHANNIS CLOPTON de CLOPTON equitis aurati; e familia suis virtutibus inelyta; quæ tum in aliis Angliæ comitatibus inclaruit, tum Cloptonenses, Ædis in vicina villa per annos plusquam quingentos incoluit, oriundi: qui progenitorum feliciter æmulus, non sibi sed aliis vixit, nec ullum unquam munus molestum licet et sumptuosum, quo de Ecclesia, Patria, aut Amicis, bene mereri potuit, detraxit. Uxorem duxit, Barbaram D. EDWARDI WALKER, equitis aurati, Garterii Regis Armorum filiam unicam et heredem; religione in Deum, pietate in parentes, obsequio in maritum, studio in liberos, benevolentia in omnes, vere eximiam, vere Christianam; ex ea progeniuit sex filios, EDWARDUM, JOHANNEM, HUGONEM, JOHANNEM, GULIELMUM, et CAROLUM; filiasq. quatuor, Agnetem Barbaram, ELIZABETHAM, et JOCOSAM; quorum superstites reliquit, EDWARDUM, HUGONEM, GULIELMUM, Agnetem et Barbaram.

Animam Deo { Illa Dec. 10 } A.D. { 1692 } Æt. suæ { 47  
reddidit { Ille Apr. 18 } { 1719 } { 80

Memoriam optimorum parentum, in posteriorum imitationem, hoc monumento, quod suis sumptibus crexit, consecrari curavit, HUGO CLOPTON, de Medio Templo LONDINI, Armr.

On a neat white marble monument, fixed to the eastern pillar of the nave, are the following arms and inscription. Arms: Clopton; impaling, quarterly.—1. *Ermine, a fesse*

*gules, charged with three bezants.—2. Azure, nine cross croslets between three roses, argent.—3. Argent, a lion rampant, gules, collared or.—4. Argent, a fesse vair, or and gules, between three water bougets, sable, for Milward.*

## H. S. I.

ELIZABETHA, HUGONIS CLOPTON, Armig. Conjux dilectissima THOMÆ MILWARD, de STANTON-WARD, in Agro DERBIENSI, Armigri. Annæque Uxor, filia et hæres superstes; preclaro genere oriunda, majorum dignitatem, tam corporis venustate, quam animæ virtutibus, ornavit et auxit. Obiit 2. die Julii, Anno Domini 1721. Ætatis 42.

Against the north wall is a large marble monument, thus inscribed:—

NATHANIEL MASON, of the Borough of STRATFORD-UPON-AVON, GENT. caused this Monument to be erected in ye. Year of our Lord, 1719, to the Memoryes of Mr. JOHN BARTLET, late of Old STRATFORD, and ANNE his only Daughter & heir, (late Wife of the said Mr. MASON;) who with ten of the Children of ye. said Mr. MASON by the said ANNE, lye interred under an Altar Tomb in this Church yard, on ye. north side of this wall, near this place.—Mr. JOHN BARTLET dyed the 26th JANUARY, 1718, aged 72 Years.—Mrs. ANNE MASON dyed the 11th of December, 1717, aged 39 Years.—JOHN MASON dyed the 27th of June, 1711, aged 12 Years, 2 Months, and odd days.—NATHANIEL MASON, Junr. dyed the 9th of June, 1718, aged 17 Years, and 10 Months.—DANIEL MASON dyed the 27th of February, 1706, aged about 11 Months.—ANNE MASON dyed the 13th of February, 1707, aged about 9 Months.—Daniel the 2nd dyed the 2nd of March, 1711, aged 2 Years, and 7 Months.—MARY MASON dyed the 17th of December, 1711, aged 12 Months, and odd days.—JOHN the 2nd dyed the 17th of March, 1711, aged 2 Months, and



odd Days.—ANNA MARIA MASON dyed the 4th of July, 1713, aged 15 days.—JAMES MASON dyed the 1st of May, 1715, aged about 5 Months.—JOHN the 3rd dyed the 23rd of December, 1718, aged 12 Months, and odd Days.

## RESURGEMUS.

There was, formerly, (according to Dugdale,) in the body of the church, a monument “in fair Marble, with a Portraiture, a brasse thereon, and this Inscription.—  
 “Anno milleno C. quater lx. quatriplato unicus eximitur annus  
 “Magistræ obit Agnes, et nonas Junij, gylde fuit illa magistra annis  
 “undenis, quia mansio fit modo celis.”

Also on a brass plate (now gone) on the floor in the south aisle:—

“HERE VNDER LYETH BVRIED THE BODY OF FRAVNCIS SMITH,  
 “THE ELDER, MERCER, WHO WAS BORNE & BRED IN THIS TOWNE,  
 “& BORE THE CHEIF OFFICE OF THE SAME THREE SEVERAL TYMES,  
 “HE DYED THE XVII. DAY OF APRILL, 1625, BEING 66 YEARS OF  
 “AGE.”

“IF HONESTY BE HONOVR, LET HIM HAVE

“ALL HONOVR, THAT LYES BVRIED IN THIS GRAVE.

“HERE BORN, HERE BRED, A CONSTANT FRIEND

“OF GOD & GOODNESS TO HIS END.”

At the east end of the nave:—Arms; *Gules, a chevron between three escallop shells argent.* Crest, *a dexter arm grasping a sword, point upwards, enveloped with a serpent, proper.*

To the Memory of Mr. JOSEPH WOOLMER, twice Mayor, & for ten Years Senr. Alderman of ye. Borough of Stratford; while conversant in Trade, his behaviour was with industry and integrity; as a Magistrate, he was a vigilant promoter of peace and regularity; as a christian, fervent and constant in his devotions, public and private;

pious towards God; generous & obliging to relations; affable and courteous to his neighbours; charitable & friendly to ye. necessitous & distressed; with such dispositions throughout a temperate life, and without more bodily infirmities than are naturally attendant on old age; he opened to himself, through the merits of his Redeemer, a pleasing prospect of eternal bliss: He died, September the 3d, 1747, in the 89th year of his Age, and was buried near this place.

Against the east wall of the south aisle, is a handsome marble monument, on which are—Arms; *Ermine, a fesse gules between three hinds heads erased, azure*; impaling, *quarterly per fesse indented, argent and sable, in the dexter chief and sinister base quarters, a bugle horn stringed, sable.* Crest, *a hind's head erased, azure*,—and this inscription:—

### P. M. S.

Beneath lye interred the Bodies of Sir REGINALD FORSTER, Baronet, and Dame MARY his wife, daughter of EDWARD NASH, of EAST GREENWICH, in the county of KENT, Esq. who had three children; REGINALD and MARY died young, and JANE. the wife of FRANKLYN MILLER, Esq. who was only child of Sir NICHOLAS MILLER, of HYDE HALL, in the parish of SANDON, in HERTFORDSHIRE, by Dame MARY his wife; which JANE MILLER died February the 12th, 1731, ætat. near sixty-two years. She was a very carefull and frugal wife, a tender and indulgent mother, extensive in her charity, which reached to all the widows, the fatherless, and the distressed: she led a life of vertue, and went about in doing good; lived desired and dyed much lamented by all that knew her: to the pious memory of whom, and her ancestors, this monument was erected by JANE, (her only daughter,) the wife of WILLIAM NORCLIFFE, of the Inner Temple, Esquire.

On another large monument, fixed to the south wall of the same aisle:—Arms; Azure, in fesse point a ducal coronet or, between three sea-pies heads erased, argent.—Crest, a sea-horse ducally gorged, supporting an anchor proper.

Beneath this MONUMENT lie the bodies of three sons and a daughter of Mr. HUGH BURMAN, of this Borough, and Hester his wife, viz. HESTER BURMAN, died September the 27th, 1751, aged 23. WILLIAM BURMAN, who died April the 21st, 1755, aged 25. HURDIS BURMAN, who died March the 8th, 1756, aged 20. And Mr. STEVEN BURMAN, ye. eldest son, sugar refiner, and citizen of LONDON, who died January the 8th, 1757, aged 34. Here also lieth MARY HURDIS, a niece of the above mentioned Mr. HUGH BURMAN, and Hester his wife, daughter of Mr. WILLIAM HURDIS, and Lucy his wife, late of this Borough; she died March the 16th, 1756, aged 24; also MARY, another daughter of the said Mr. HUGH BURMAN, and Hester his wife; she died July the 10th, 1758, aged 33; also Mr. HUGH BURMAN, their father; he died July the 23d, 1761, aged 64; and Mrs. HESTER BURMAN, widow of the said Mr. Hugh Burman, died March the 30th, 1766, aged 69.

On another, against the same wall;—In a vault near this place lie the remains of WILLIAM ALLEN, late of this Borough, who died May 5th, 1785, aged 37. Also three of his children, Elizabeth, Rebecca, and James, who died young.

On another, fixed to the same wall;—IN A VAULT BENEATH, lie interred the remains of SAMUEL JARVIS, of this Borough; he died August the 5th, 1778, aged 61. Also MARY his wife; she died January the 3d, 1781, aged 59. Also SAMUEL their son, who departed this life, June the 21th, 1793, aged 50.

Against the eastern pillar:—Arms. *Argent, a pale fusilly sable*, and, on an escutcheon of pretence, the arms of Burman, as before:—

Near this place, in the family vault, lie the remains of Lucy Daniel, wife of the Rev. W. Daniel, of Stretton-upon-Dunsmore, in this county, and daughter of Hugh and Hester Burman, of Shottery, in this parish; she was born October the 28th, 1732, and died July the 31st, 1787.

On the contrary side of the same pillar are the arms of Woolmer:—In memory of Mr. THOMAS WOOLMER, Attorney at Law, Town Clerk of this Borough for 50 years; a person, honest, diligent, and well skill'd in business; generous in his way of living, courteous in his conversation; (who spoke no evil of other people, nor gave others cause to speak evil of him;) a trusty friend, a kind relation, an usefull neighbr. and commendable in all parts of life. He died December the 25th, 1732, aged 77 years. He left issue only one daughter CATHARINE, married to WM. MARLEACE, Esq. Councellr. at Law; the said CATHARINE, possessor of all her father's virtues, died Dec. the 8th, 1760, aged 60 years.

#### INSCRIPTIONS ON THE FLOOR, IN THE NAVE AND AISLES.

Mary, the wife of John Burman, died 4th Dec. 1711, aged 63. Elizabeth their daughter, (late wife of John Magenis,) died 30th Nov. 1711, aged 21. Thomasen, the wife of William Burman, senior, of Shottery, died 23d July, 1674. William Burman, senior, of Shottery, died 6th Oct. 1717, aged 83 years and 10 months. Hester, daughter of Hugh Burman, died 25th Sept. 1751, aged 27. William Burman, gent. died 1st July 1742, aged 41. Stephen Burman, Gent. died 11th Febr'y. 1758, aged 62. Lucy,

wife of John Burman, daughter of Hugh Walford, of Langley, Gent. died 28th Sept. 1719, aged 59. John Burman, sen. of this borough, died 4th May, 1710, aged 67. Richard Burman died 30th August, 1732, aged 46. Elizabeth, wife of Richard Burman, died 8th of October, 1751.

Richard Hathaway, of Shottery, died 15th April, 1692. Robert Hathaway died 4th March, 1728, aged 64. Edmund Hathaway died 14th June, 1729, aged 57. Jane his wife died 12th Dec. 1729, aged 64. John Hathaway died 11th Oct. 1731, aged 39. Abigail, wife of John Hathaway, jun. of Luddington, died 5th of May, 1735, aged 29. Mary her daughter died 13th July, 1735, aged 10 weeks. Robert Hathaway, son of Robert and Sarah Hathaway, died the 1st of March, 1723, aged 21. Ursula, wife of John Hathaway, died the 23rd of Janry. 1731, aged 50. John Hathaway, sen. died the 5th of Sept. 1753, aged 73. John Hathaway, of Luddington, died the 23rd of June, 1775, aged 67. S. H. 1756. S. H. 1785.

Gyles Roberts died the 30th of April, 1704, aged 80.

Anne, wife of George Crosse, died the 22nd of Janry. 1770, aged 55.

Priscilla Cooper, buried the 2nd of October, 1728.

Daniel Hurdis, Alderman, died the 21st of April, 1729, aged 67. Mary his wife died the 7th of Sept. 1727, aged 75.

Thomas Careless died the 8th of March, 1744, aged 78. Diana his wife died the 5th of April, 1757, aged 70. Thomas their son died the 16th of Febry, 1761, aged 46.

Edward Eccles, late of Adlington, Cheshire, died the 2nd of April, 1703.

Timothy Troy, Gent. died the 19th of Oct. 1733, aged 68.

John Woolmer the elder, the first Mayor of Stratford, and who twice afterwards served that office, died in 1710, aged 85. John Woolmer, jun. died the 30th of Nov. 1706:

John Bromley died the 18th of March, 1717, aged 70. Thomas and John Lord, sons of Richard and Susan Lord, died young. Ann, wife of John Bromley, died in December, 1728, aged 49.

Mr. William Evetts, Alderman, died the 12th of June, 1768, aged 77. Sarah his wife. Date gone.

Margaret, wife of Francis Midford, Gent. only daughter of James Manwaring, of Kermincham, in Cheshire, Esq. died the 30th of Nov. 1761, in the 42nd year of her age. Mrs. Sarah Wood, wife of Adam Wood, Esq. of London, died the 4th of Oct. 1795, aged 61. Francis Wood, son of Lieut. Col. Wood, died the 30th of March, 1715, aged 10 weeks.

Francis Cox, Gent. died the 21st of Janry. 1760, aged 69. Sarah his wife died the 18th of March, 1768, aged 71.

Arms,—*Within a lozenge, on a canton, a ducal coronet.*

Mrs. Jane Lucas, daughter of the Honorable Col. Lucas, by his wife Esther, daughter of Sir Ralph Delaval, Knt. died the 1th of Sept. 1741, aged 35.

Samuel Tissel died the 15th of Nov. 1754, aged 61. Sarah his wife died the 10th of Dec. 1752, aged 57.

Arms,—*Between a chevronel, three stags heads caboshed.*

Captain Griffith White, son of Roger White, Esq. of Healand, in the County of Pembroke, died the 9th of Oct. 1726, aged 66.

Edward Cooke died the 22nd of March, 1733, aged 28.

George Pitt, Gent. died the 29th of May, 1775, aged 50.

Mary, wife of Henry Turbitt died the 22nd of Sept. 1723, aged 59. Henry Turbitt died the 6th of May, 1740, aged 75. Elizabeth, wife of Henry Turbitt, Mercer, daughter of John and Ursula Hathaway, of Luddington, died the 17th of July, 1752, aged 46. Ann their daughter died the 29th of April, 1749, aged 17. Henry their son died the 28th of Jan. 1738, aged 1 month. Henry Tur-

bitt died the 25th of March, 1756, aged 53. Alice, wife of Henry Turbitt of Luddington, died the 14th of July, 1780, aged 32. Elizabeth their daughter died an infant. Henry Turbitt died the 28th of Dec. 1780, aged 40.

Thomas Vicars died the 16th of Dec. 1756, aged 48.

Ann, wife of Nicholas Jarret, died the 12th of August, 1789, aged 75.

Thomas Brigham, Gent. died the 26th of Nov. 1778, aged 74.

Mr. John Magenis, Ironmonger, died the 14th of Dec. 1719, aged 32. Ann his wife, daughter of H. Walford of Langley, died the 5th of Aug. 1730, aged 54.

Mrs. Bridget Jarvis died the 17th of Dec. 1739, aged 51. Mr. Samuel Jarvis, Mercer, died the 5th of Aug. 1778, aged 61. Mary his daughter died the 30th of Jan. 1754, aged 7 months. Mary his widow died the 3rd of Jan. 1781, aged 59.

Mary, wife of Richard Bartlett, died the 4th of Sept. 1728, aged 30. Richard Bartlett, twice Mayor, and standing Justice, died the 7th of Oct. 1750, aged 67.

Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Thomas Bott, died the 27th of Sept. 1733, aged 39.

George Corfield died the 9th of July, 1735, aged 38.

John Lenton died the 5th of March, 1738, aged 67. Ann his wife died the 1st of Sept. 1741, aged 59.

Ann, daughter of Samuel Price of Stratford, and wife of John Ferrers of Chadwick, died the 17th of Feb. 1747, aged 29.

Mr. Wm. Hurdis, son of Mr. Daniel and Mary Hurdis of this corporation, died the 8th of July, 1732, aged 37.

Avis, wife of William Dyde, died the 5th of Aug. 1757, aged 59.

John Brittain of Rine Clifford, Gent. died the 4th of Nov. 1723, aged 38.

Joyce, wife of Samuel Mallory, died the 7th of June, 1754, aged 35. Mary his wife died the 4th of Dec. 1755, aged 36.

Samuel Tome died the 3d of July, 1746, aged 52. Elizabeth his wife died the 15th of June, 1761, aged 68.

Mrs. Bridget Herne died the 26th of May, 1773.

Ann Elford died the 13th of May, 1750.

Mary Rogers died the 9th of April, 1761, aged 30. Ann Rogers her daughter died the 27th of June, 1766, aged 24.

#### MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS IN THE TRANSEPT.

Within an arch, in the west wall at the south end of the transept, is a very curious inscription, much obliterated, over a raised tomb, rudely carved. The first sentence is an Hebrew text from Job; the next is Greek, signifying that this monument covers the corporeal part of the deceased, and that his spirit is ascended to happier regions. Then follows:—

HIC NVTRITVS ERAT, NATVS, NVNC HIC JACET HILLVS,  
HICQVE MAGISTRATVS FAMA TER MVNERE FVNCTVS;  
CVMQVE BONOS ANNOS VIXISSET SEPTVAGINTA,  
AD TERRAM CORPV8, SED MENS MIGRAVIT AD ASTRA.

HEARE BORNE, HEARE LIVED, HEARE DIED, AND BV-  
RIED HEARE,  
LIETH RICHARDE HIL, THRISE BAILIF OF THIS BOR-  
ROW;  
TOO MATRONES OF GOOD FAME, HE MARRIED IN  
GODES FEARE,  
AND NOW RELEAST IN JOI, HE REASTS FROM WORLD-  
LIE SORROW.

HEARE LIETH INTOMBD THE CORPS OF RICHARDE  
HILL,  
A WOOLLEN DRAPER BEEING IN HIS TIME;



WHOSE VIRTVES LIVE, WHOSE FAME DOOTH FLORISH  
 . STIL,  
 THOUGH HEE DESOLVED BE TO DVST AND SLIME.  
 A MIRROR HE, AND PATERNE MAI BE MADE,  
 FOR SVCH AS SHALL SVCKCEAD HIM IN THAT TRADE;  
 HE DID NOT VSE TO SWEARE, TO GLOSE, EATHER  
 FAIGNE,  
 HIS BROTHER TO DEFRAVDE IN BARGANINGE;  
 HEE WOOLD NOT STRIVE TO GET EXCESSIVE GAINE  
 IN ANI CLOATH OR OTHER KINDE OF THINGE:  
 HIS SERVANT, S. I. THIS TRVETH CAN TESTIFIE,  
 A WITNESS THAT BEHELD IT WITH MI EIE.

There is no date upon this tomb; but by the register it appears that Mr. Richard Hill, Alderman, was buried on the 17th of December, 1593.

On a monument against the same wall;—arms: *Azure, a base embattled argent, charged with a fleur-de-lis gules; on the middle battlement, a dove with wings expanded of the second.*—Crest, *a talbot, in the mouth a buck's horn; proper.*

### H. S. I.

Daniel Mason, de hoc Burgo, Generosus, (ex stirpe ejusdem nominis in agro Wigorniensi, oriundus) et Francisca uxor ejus, ex qua complures suscepit natos, quorum Thomam et Nathanielem, tantum superstites reliquit: in memoriam optimorum parentum, Thomas Mason eorum nepos et filius Nathanielis natu maximus, hoc marmor pie posuit; ille obiit septimo die Junii, 1689, ætatis 50; illa autem septimo die Augusti, 1723, ætât. 81. Omne capæ movet urna nomen.

On another near it are the arms of Mason, impaling; *Or, a chevron per pale, azure & gules, charged with three roses of the first, for Rowney.*

## H. S. E.

NATHANIEL MASON, Generosus, Dei cultor, hominum amator, fidei datæ observantissimus, in negotiis agendis, solers acuratus, sine fuce probus; his matrimonio contraxit, nunquam violavit, uxoribus placens amicus, liberis monitor fidelis, servis exactor minime severus; valens hilariter vixit, non improvide; morbo affectus, æquo animo tulit, et Christo fidens, impavidus obiit, 12<sup>o</sup> Februarii, 1734, ætat. 63.

On another with the same arms:—

## H. S. I.

Juxta reliquias charissimi conjugis, ELIZABETHA MASON, Arthuri Rowney, de Darlingscote, Gensi. filia et hæres; Plorate (quotquot estis!) orbo viduæ, et languenti indigentiam turbæ, patronam leniter misericordem; plorate juvenes privigni! novercam indulgentissimæ matris æmulam; plorate christiani fideles! simpliciter probam, eximie piam; inopina morte correpta, obiit 20<sup>o</sup> die Februar. A. D. 1738, ætat. 50; Hujusce scilicet vitæ commercio celeriter evasit, felicius in æternum victura. T: M: P.

On another with the arms of Mason:

Subtus jacet, in expectatione diei supremi, THOMAS MASON, de Interiori Templo, Londini, Armiger; Barrasterius ad Legem, et unus Justiciariorum ad pacem, pro hoc comitatu, Nathanielis Mason, Generosi, et Annæ uxoris ejus filius; obiit Cœlebs, die 1<sup>o</sup> Februarii, Anno Domi. 1748<sup>o</sup> ætatis suæ 47<sup>o</sup> qualis erat, dies postremus indicabit.

On another:—

This is erected to the memory of Mr. Wm. Hiccox, eldest son of Mr. Tho. Hiccox, who was twice Mayor of this burrough, & a standing justice twenty years; the said Mr. Wm. Hiccox, was a capitall burgess of this burrough, but died a single man the 25th of August, in the 39th year of his age; and in the year of our LORD, 1707;

his body, with the rest of the family that are deceased, lie interred near this place. Also near to this place, lieth the body of Mr. THOMAS HICCOX, 2d. son of Mr. THO. HICCOX, aforesd. who was mayor of this burrough, & died in his mayoralty, the 15th day of June, 1715, ætatis suæ 43, who caused this monument to be erected.

On another:—

Non ita procul, jacent exuvia GULIELMI HICCOX, nuper de Burgo Stratfordiensi, Generosi, qui animo sanior quam corpore, omnibus facilis, jucundus, et utilis vixit; nulli non flebilis occidit, 16. die cal. Julii, A. D. 1732, ætatis 33.

On another against the same wall.—Arms, *Quarterly, first and fourth vert, a garb or; second and third or.*—Crest, *upon a mural coronet argent, a sun in splendour.*

To the memory of Edward Hiccox, Gent. who died March 23d, 1774, aged 66. He was pious, charitable, & of the strictest integrity.

On the opposite wall:—

Arms, *Argent, a fesse sable, charged with a martlet, or, three mullets in chief of the second.*—Crest, *a dexter hand gules, holding an ostrich feather sable.*

To the memory of Mr. Samuel Walford, late mayor of this borough, son of Mr. Thomas Walford, of Binton, and Rebecca his wife; who, after many years employed in trade, retired to prepare for eternity, and died the 24th day of February, 1746, aged 51.

Reader, repent, for thou shalt likewise dye;  
And, soon or late, must go to your account  
With all your imperfections on your head.\*

John Walford,  
Gen. posuit.

---

\* "No reck'ning made! but sent to my account  
"With all my imperfections on my head!"

On another:—

Arms, *Azure, a bend between six leopards' faces, or, impaling, argent, a fesse charged with three acorns or, between three sexfoils slipped vert.*

To the memory of WILLIAM HUNT, Esqr. who died the 20th of Sepr. 1783, aged 52. Also of CATHARINE, his daughter, who died an infant, in the year 1766. Also of SAMUEL OLIVER HUNT, his youngest son, who died Janry. 3rd, 1801, aged 30.

On another:—

Near to this place, lieth the body of Mary, ye. daughter of Richard Tyler, Gent. & Ursula his wife, who departed this life, Septbr. ye. 12th, Anno Dom. 1716, Etat. suæ 25. Also near this place lieth the body of Frances, ye. daughter of Richard Tyler, Gent. & Ursula his wife, who departed this life July the 6th, Anno Dom. 1717, Etat. suæ 25.

On another, against the south wall:—

In memory of EDWD. GIBBS, Esqr. late of Old Stratford; he died 30th Jan. 1788, aged 72. As a County Magistrate, he was eminently distinguish'd: in urbanity and sweetness of disposition, he had no superior; benevolence seem'd to have plac'd her Seat in him:—as he liv'd, so died without an Enemy. His Daughters AGNES and FRANCES WALFORD, have erected this monument, as well to record the Virtues of, as their Affection for one of the best of Fathers and of men. AGNES GIBBS his Widow, the last surviving Issue of Sr. WILLIAM KEYT, Bart. formerly of this place, by the Honble. ANNE, Daughter of Wm. 4th Visct. Tracy; she died 19th Apr. 1795, Aged 79.

Against the north wall of the transept, is a large free-stone monument with the stone-masons' arms:—

On the North side of this Wall, lye the bodyes of THOMAS HARBERT, Carver, and ELIZABETH his Wife; she died June the 3d, 1736, aged 76. He died June the 6th, 1738, aged near 80.

On another against the east wall, at the north end:—

In memory of Mr. JOHN AUSTIN, of this Borough, Stone Carver, an honest Man, a sincere Friend, & a good Artist, died August ye. 25th, 1752, aged 40, who is interred in a vault near this place.

On another against the same wall:—

TO YE. MEMORY OF ANNE, YE. WIFE OF THO. WOOLMER, AN ATTORNEY OF THIS BURROUGH, WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE, OCTOBER YE. 3RD, 1704.

Mirroure of curtesie adieu!

'Till ye. last trump, thy Life renew;

Belov'd of all;—of all bewail'd;—

O that our teares might thee have bail'd.

WITH HER ALSO NEAR THIS PLACE LYES INTERR'D, THE BODYES OF ELIZABETH, THEODOSIA, AND MARY, THREE OF HER DAUGHTERS.

On another:—

NEAR VNTO THIS PLACE, LIETH THE BODY OF ELIZABETH YE. WIFE OF JOSEPH WOOLMER, WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE YE. 30TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, ANO. DOM. 1690. ALSO NEARE THIS PLACE, LIETH THE BODY OF STEPHEN, YE. SON OF JOSEPH WOOLMER, WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE, THE 18TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, ANO. DOM. 1689.

On the opposite wall upon separate monuments:—

In Memory of THOMAS TAYLOR, who was once Bailiff, and once Mayor, and many years a standing Justice of

this Borough; who died in 1679, aged 76. Also ANN his Wife died 1676.

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In Memory of Mr. Thomas Taylor, an Alderman of this Burrough, who died May the 19th, 1731, aged 63 years. Also Ann Taylor his Wife, who died August the 1st, 1729, aged 63. Likewise to the Memory of Hugh Taylor, Grandson of ye. above Thos. and Ann Taylor, and son of Mr. Hugh Taylor of Warwick, who died June the 29th, 1750, aged 7 months. Also Hugh Taylor, (late an Alderman of the Borough of Warwick,) who died June the 2nd, 1788, aged 86 years. Also Alice his Wife, who was buried July 25th, 1773, aged 55, and three of their Children,—John, who was buried April 23d, 1772, aged 15; Catherine, who died May 5th, 1784, aged 25; and Thomas, (late of this Borough,) who died July 21st, 1791, aged 41.

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To the Memory of THOS. HALFORD, who departed this Life August the 23d, 1796, aged 56 years. Also of ELIZ. NEWCOMB; she died Jany. 31st, 1797, aged 90.

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On others fixed to the north wall:—

Beneath lieth ye. bodys of John Lacey and Hannah his wife. Also Hannah their daughter, wife of Michael Evetts; she departed this life September the 18th, 1752, aged 62.

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Near this place lieth the body of Mary, the daughter of George & Eliz. Story, who departed this life the 13th of Novembr. Anno Dom. 1716, etat. suæ 3°. Also lieth the body of Eliz. ye. daughter of Geo. and Eliz. Story, who departed this life the 18th of Novembr. Anno Dom. 1716, etat. suæ 1°.

## INSCRIPTIONS ON THE FLOOR.

Mr. Thomas Hiccox died the 15th of June, 1715, aged 43. Elizabeth his wife, (daughter of Mr. Wm. Baker, who was twice Mayor, and died in his mayoralty the 5th of Sept. 1694,) died the 27th of July, 1699, aged 27.

Arms,—*On a fesse, between two lions passant gardant, three crescents. Crest, A demy lion, holding in his right paw a crescent.*—Richard Tyler, Gent. died the 20th of Oct. 1719, aged 58. Ursula his wife died the 24th of March, 1743, aged 75. Ann their daughter died the 22d of February, 1749, aged 61. Samuel Tyler, of Shottery, Gent. died the 14th of May, 1693, aged 69. Ann his wife died the 13th of March, 1694. Sarah, wife of Samuel Tyler, Esq. died the 14th of May, 1756, aged 67. Samuel Tyler their youngest son died the 28th of May, 1668. Samuel Tyler, Esq. died the 6th of June, 1763, aged 70. Katharine his sister died the 17th of March, 1762, aged 66. Dorothy, another sister, died the 8th of August, 1778. Mrs. Decima Nason (sister of Samuel Tyler, Esq.) died the 4th of October, 1781.

Thomas Challoner, Gent. died the 18th of July, 1697, aged 32. William Challonier his brother died the 13th of May, 1719, aged 49.

Sarah, wife of Thomas Peyton, Mercer, died the 4th of July, 1714, aged 23. Sarah their daughter died the 14th of April, 1717, aged 5. Thomas Peyton died February the 3d, —, aged 51.

William Smith, Ironmonger, died the 21st of May, 1716, aged 29. Sarah, wife of Joseph Smith, died the 25th of April, 1718, aged 58. Martha, wife of Abel Peyton, Ironmonger, died the 1st of December, 1730, aged 35. Also seven children:—Joseph died the 14th of April, 1722, aged 3 years; Abel died the 13th of November, 1722, aged 6 weeks; Sarah died the 26th of April, 1725, aged 5 years; Elizabeth died the 23d of July, 1725, aged 13 months; John

died the 6th of February, 1725, aged 3 months; Edward died the 19th of October, 1726, aged 5 years; and William died February the 17th, 1727, aged 8 months. Joseph Smith, Ironmonger, died the 18th of October, 1736, aged 81.

Nicholas Vangable, Gent. died the 11th of April, 1774, aged 37.

Mrs. Rebecca Willes died Feb. the 22nd 1752, aged 64.

William Hunt, Draper, died the 1st of June, 1696, aged 67. William Hunt his grandson died the 19th of Oct. 1696, aged 4. Mary, wife of William Hunt, died the 27th of Aug. 1681. Thomas Smith, son of Joseph Smith, Ironmonger, (grandson of the said Mary Hunt,) died the 26th of Aug. 1708. Mr. William Hunt, Mercer, died the 18th of Aug. 1700, aged 38. Mrs. Sarah Hunt his wife died the 20th of Nov. 1705.

Mr. Richard Goode, Alderman, died the 31st of March, 1741, aged 60. Mary his widow died the 27th of April, 1755, aged 68. Mr. Salisbury Goode died the 28th of Jan. 1767, aged 46. Mary his wife died the 7th of June, 1803, aged 81.

Mary, widow of Henry Harbidge, died the 2nd of Nov. 1679.

Mr. Robert Fadwom died the 25th of March, 1737, aged 89.

Mr. Oliver Fleetwood died the 7th of July, 1713, aged 56. Susannah his wife died the 2nd of March, 1737, aged 68.

Mr. John Cookes, twice Mayor, died the 5th of May, 1737, aged 60. Hannah his wife died the 9th of Oct. 1760, aged 89.

Hannah, wife of Thomas Lilly, died the 4th of Feb. 1748, aged 26.

Ann, wife of Mr. Benjamin Haynes, died the 9th of July, 1765, aged 62. Mr. Benjamin Haynes died the 25th of April, 1768, aged 72.



Mr. Edward Elderton, twice Mayor, died the 13th of Sept. 1712, aged 74. Susannah his wife died the 30th of Oct. 1717, aged 68. Mr. Robert Elderton died the 25th of Nov. 1732, aged 45.

Alice, wife of Stephen Adkins, died Dec. the 29th, 1659.

Mr. Foulk Sellar, twice mayor, and standing Justice, died the 5th of March, 1719, aged 77. Elizabeth his daughter died the 4th of Sept. 1687. Ann, another daughter, died the 12th of Oct. 1687.

Mr. Robert Davis died March the 11th, 1706, aged 60.

Catherine Willes died the 28th of Oct. 1755, aged 66.

Mrs. Sarah Allen died the 5th of July, 1767, aged 74.

Ann, wife of Mr. Samuel West, died the 11th of Jan. 1718, aged 44. John West, Gent. died the 1st of Nov. 1759, aged 54. Mr. Samuel West, Alderman, died the 31st of Oct. 1719, aged 48.

Anne Hornby died the 5th of Jan. 1732, aged 63.

Elizabeth, daughter of John Charles Richardson, died the 21st of April, 1636.

Mr. Thomas Ashwin, of Bradforton, died the 20th of Oct. 1710, aged 21.

Ann Palmer, of Radway, died the 12th of Oct. 1727, aged 78.

Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Birch, died the 11th of Feb. 1738, aged 11. Elizabeth Birch, Widow, died the 3rd of Dec. 1750, aged 56.

E. Walford, 1756.

Mrs. Frances Bott died March the 21st, 1777, aged 60.

Mr. John Halford, twice Mayor, died the 2nd of Nov. 1733, aged 54. Bridget, wife of John Halford, died the 7th of Jan. 1743, aged 33. John their son died the 14th of July, 1748, aged 9 years and 3 months. Frances the 2nd wife died the 21st of Nov. 1756, aged 82. Mr. Henry Halford died the 16th of June, 1740, aged 36. Mr. John Halford died the 20th of Feb. 1770, aged 64. Mary,

daughter of Mr. Henry Tomlins, and wife of John Halford, died the 5th of May, 1710, aged 37. Mary, daughter of the above John and Mary Halford, and wife of Richard Hitchcocks, died the 16th of June, 1731, aged 25.

Mr. Thomas Newcomb died the 18th of June, 1746, aged 37. Mr. Thomas Newcomb, Alderman, died 2d of August, —, aged 58. Elizabeth his wife died the 4th of August, 1741, aged 38. Martha, the second wife of Mr. Richard Newcomb, died 2d Jan. 1741, aged 70.

Richard Hitchcocks, once Mayor, died 4th June, 1758, aged 54. John Hitchcocks, once Mayor, died 27th May, 1772, aged 38. Thomas Turner died 14th of Jan. 1787, aged 47.

Mary, wife of Joshua Smith, died 31st Dec. 1718, aged 65. Ann his wife, died in 1687.

Mr. Samuel Watson, died 23d of June, 1739, aged 28.

Ann, daughter of Thomas Green, died 23d Jan. 1652. Sarah, wife of Thomas Green, died 20th of April, 1655. Thomas Green died 10th of March, 1699, aged 75. Elizabeth Wake his daughter died 25th of June, 1720, aged 62. Mr. Anthony Wake died 18th Nov. 1768, aged 71. Elizabeth Wake, 1759. Susannah Wake, 1767.

Mr. Stephen Nason died August the 19th, 1728, aged 60.

Sarah, daughter of Mr. William Townsend, of Tiddington, died 14th of March, 1670. Mary Townsend, of Tiddington, died Dec. 19th, 1669. Rebecka, sister of Sarah Townsend, and wife of Mr. Thomas Hiccox, died 20th of Jan. 1702, aged 64. Rebecka, daughter of the above, died 20th of August, 1728. Edward Hiccox died 23d of March, 1774. Thomas Hiccox, twice Mayor, and standing Justice 20 years, died the 14th of March, 1705, aged 71.

Richard Hunt died 12th of Sept. 1682, aged 76. Abigail his wife died 27th of June, 1703. Joseph their eldest son died 14th of June, 1720, aged 75. Elizabeth,

daughter of Joseph Hunt, and wife of John Letherland, died 2d of Nov. 1715, aged 42. Martha, daughter of Joseph Hunt, died 15th of May, 1683, aged 5 years. Ann, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Hunt, died 30th of May, 1700, aged 17. Richard, son of Mr. John Hunt, was buried 30th of March, 1681. Also seven other children, Joseph, Stephen, Elizabeth, and Elizabeth, William, Martha, and Mary, of Mr. John Hunt. John Hunt, aged 21. Abigail Hunt, aged 31.

Thomas Horne died 27th of Sept. 1685, aged 64. Susannah his wife died 27th of Oct. 1679, aged 46. Samuel their son died 25th of Dec. 1709, aged 36. Alice, wife of John Smith, Mercer, died 26th of August, 1737, aged 31. Ann, wife of Mr. William Beauchamp, died 22d of June, 1724, aged 47. Elizabeth their daughter died 15th of July, 1737, aged 25. Mr. William Beauchamp, Mercer, died 13th of Jan. 1715, aged 29. Theodosia his daughter died 12th of April, 1713, aged 1.

Ann, daughter of Joseph and Mary Hathaway, died 25th of Dec. 1751, aged 16. Joseph Hathaway died 5th of June, 1737, aged 28. Beauchamp, son of Joseph and Mary Hathaway, died 20th of June, 1737, aged 4.

#### MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS IN THE CHANCEL.

The most ancient of these, remaining in this part of our venerable structure, stands under the north wall; being an altar tomb, about three feet and a half in height, and seven feet and a half long, formed of alabaster, representing some of the most remarkable passages in the New Testament; and though the figures are now much defaced, it is well deserving the attention of the curious. Upon the top lies a marble slab, originally embellished with a figure in brass, and an inscription; and it was erected to the memory of Dean Balshall, Warden of the College, and

founder of this Choir, who died in 1491; the initials of his name, viz. t.b. with the letters ihu, still remain on many parts of the tomb.

At the east end is the monument of JOHN COMBE, Esq. upon whom a celebrated satyriacal epitaph, ascribed to the pen of his acquaintance SHAKSPEARE, is said to have been written during Mr. Combe's life. His effigy, habited in a long gown, with a book in his hand, lies at full length under an ornamented arch, supported by Corinthian columns, and adorned with cherubims, &c.

Arms;—*Ermine, three lions passant in pale gules;—*  
Crest, *A dexter hand and arm embowed, in armour, garnished or; wreathed about the arm argent and or; holding in the hand a broken tilting spear of the last.*

HERE LYETH INTERRED YE. BODY OF JOHN COMBE, ESQR; WHO, DEPARTING THIS LIFE YE. 10TH DAY OF JULY, Ao. Dni. 1614, BEQVEATHED BY HIS LAST WILL & TESTAMENT, TO PIOUS & CHARITABLE VSES, THESE SVMES IN SVING, ANVALLY TO BE PAIED FOR EVER; VIZ. XXs. FOR TWO SERMONS TO BE PREACHED IN THIS CHVRCH; SIX POWNDES, XIII<sup>s</sup>. & 4 PENCE, TO BVY TEN GOVNDES, FOR TEN POORE PEOPLE, WTH. IN YE. BOROUGH OF STRATFORDE; & ONE HYNDRED POWNDES, TO BE LENT VNTO 15 POORE TRADESMEN OF YE. SAME BORROUGH, FROM 3 YEARES TO 3 YEARES, CHANGINGE THE PTIES. EVERY THIRDE YEARE, AT YE. RATE OF FIFTIE SHILLINGES P. ANVM. YE. WICH INCREASE HE APOYNTED TO BE DESTRIByTED TOWARDES THE RELEIFE OF YE. ALMES-PEOPLE THEIRE,





IUDICIO PULCHERRIMO SOCRATEM ARTE MARONEM  
 TERRA TEGIT, POPULVS SACRATVS OLYMPIVS HABET.  
 STAY PASSENGER, WHY GOEST THOU BY SO EARLY  
 READ IF THOU CANST WITH ENGLISH DRESS HER PLATE  
 WITHIN THIS MONUMENT SHAKESPEARE WITH THOUKE  
 QUICKENED BY THE WHISE NAME DOVS OLEN T. THOMES  
 FAR MORE THEF COPY, SEH ALL Y. HE HATH WRITT  
 LEAVES LIVING ART, BYE FACE TO SEKVE HIS WITT.  
 1564. JAN. 23. DIED. 1616. APR. 23. AET. 52.

Drawn by E. B. Water

Engraved by E. G. Kneller

Shakspeare's Monument.

MORE, HE GAVE TO THE POORE OF STRAT-  
FORD TWENTY LI.

VIRTUS POST FVNERA VIVIT.

The next monument, that claims our attention, is against the north wall, (being elevated about five feet from the floor,) erected above the tomb which enshrines the dust of our incomparable poet, WILLIAM SHAKSPEARE,

“ Whose excellent genius  
“ Opened to him the whole art of man,  
“ All the mines of Fancy,  
“ All the stores of Nature,  
“ And gave him power, beyond all other writers,  
“ To move! astonish! and delight mankind!”

Our immortal bard is represented in the attitude of inspiration, with a cushion before him, a pen in his right hand, and his left rested upon a scroll. This bust is fixed under an arch, between two Corinthian columns of black marble, with gilded bases and capitals, supporting the entablature; above which, and surmounted by a death's head, are carved his arms; and on each side is a small figure in a sitting posture, one holding in his left hand a spade, and the other, whose eyes are closed, with an inverted torch in his left hand, the right resting upon a scull, as symbols of mortality. This bust was originally coloured to resemble life, conformably to the taste of the times in which the monument was erected;\* the eyes being of a light hazel, and

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\* Sir Henry Wootton, in his *Elements of Architecture*, calls the fashion of colouring statues an *English barbarism*: but Sir William Hamilton, in the M. S. accounts which accompanied several valuable drawings of the discoveries made at Pompeii, and presented by him to the Antiquarian Society, proved that it was usual to colour statues among the ancients. In the chapel of Isis, in the place already mentioned, the image of that goddess had been painted, as her robe was of a purple hue; and Junius, on the painting of the ancients, observed from

the hair and beard auburn. The dress consisted of a scarlet doublet, over which was a loose black gown without sleeves: the upper part of the cushion before him was of a crimson colour, and the lower part green, with gilt tassels; &c. SHAKSPEARE, however, stood in need of no such memorial as this; his own works have rendered him immortal, "to the last syllable of recorded time."

"Exegit monumentum ære perennius,

"Regaliq̄ue situ Pyramidum altius;

"Quod non imber edax, non aquilo impotens,

"Possit diruere, aut innumerabilis

"Amorum series, et fuga temporum."

A *doubt*, perhaps not unworthy of notice, arose about sixty years ago, whether *this original* monumental bust of SHAKSPEARE, had any resemblance of the bard; but this *doubt* did not take date before the public regard shewn to his memory, by erecting for him the elegant cenotaph in Westminster Abbey. The statue in that magnificent monument is in a noble attitude, and excites an awful admiration in the beholder; the face is venerable and majestic, and well expresses that intenceness of serious thought, that depth of contemplation, which the poet, undoubtedly, sometimes had. The face on the Stratford monument bears very little, if any resemblance to that at Westminster. The air of it is indeed somewhat *thoughtful*, but then it seems to arise from a *cheerfulness of thought*, which, it must be allowed, SHAKSPEARE, at proper times, was no stranger to. However this may be, as the faces on the two monuments are unlike each other, the admirers of *that at Westminster*

Pausanias and Herodotus, that sometimes the statues of the ancients were coloured after the manner of pictures. There are numerous instances, both before and after SHAKSPEARE'S time, (not to mention those in *Stratford Church*,) of the monumental portraits of the great being painted in their proper colours.



only, averred, that the country figure differed as much from the likeness of the man, as it did from the face in the Abbey; and so far endeavoured to depreciate its merit. This is a derogation by no means to be allowed of; and for the following reasons:—SHAKSPEARE died before he had completed the age of 53; the unanimous tradition of this neighbourhood is, that by the uncommon bounty of the Earl of Southampton, he was enabled to purchase houses and land at Stratford; where; after retiring from the public stage, he lived cheerfully among his friends some time before he died. If these circumstances are considered aright, that SHAKSPEARE'S disposition was *cheerful*, and that he died before he could be said to be an *old man*, the Stratford figure is no improper representation of him. Some observers discover a strong similitude of this bust, to the earliest print of our poet, prefixed to the folio edition of his works, printed in 1623, which Ben Johnson, (who not only personally knew, but was familiarly acquainted with SHAKSPEARE,) in his verses under it, plainly asserted to have been a great likeness; and Ben was of too austere a disposition to pay unnecessary compliments to the artist.\* The exact time of the erection of this monument is now unknown; but it was probably done by his executor, Dr. John Hall, or relations, at a time when his features were perfectly fresh in every one's memory, or perhaps with the assistance of an original picture, if any such one ever existed. It is evident however from some verses made by Leonard Digges, a cotemporary of our poet's, that it was erected before the year 1623. In the year 1748, this monument was carefully repaired, and the original colours of the bust, &c. as much as possible

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\* The original article, from which the above is extracted, was written by the Reverend Joseph Greene, and inserted by him in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1759.

preserved, (by Mr. John Hall, a limner of Stratford,) by the receipts arising from the performance of the play of Othello, at the old Town-hall, on Tuesday, the 9th day of September, 1746; and generously given by Mr. John Ward, (grand-father of the present Mrs. Siddons,) manager of a company of comedians then performing in the town;\* and

\* To give every encouragement to the performance for so laudable a purpose, the following elegant lines were composed by the Reverend Joseph Greene, and spoken in an admirable manner by Mr. Ward, which much contributed to the evening's entertainment:—

To rouse the languid breast by strokes of art,  
 When listless indolence had numb'd the heart;  
 In Virtue's cause her drooping sons t'engage,  
 And with just satire lash a vicious age;  
 For this first attic theatres were rear'd,  
 When Guilt's great foe in Sophocles appear'd;  
 For this the Roman bards their scenes display'd,  
 And Vice in its own vicious garb array'd;  
 Taught men afflicted Innocence to prize,  
 And wrested tears from even tyrant's eyes.  
 But, to great Nature to hold up the glass,  
 To shew from her herself what is and was,—  
 To reason deeply as the Fates decree,  
 Whether 'tis best “*to be, or not to be,*”—  
 This, *cond'rous* SHAKSPEARE, was reserv'd for THEE!  
 Thou, in thy skill extensive, hast reveal'd,  
 What from the wisest mortals seem'd conceal'd;  
 The human breast from ev'ry wile to trace,  
 And pluck the vizard from the treach'rous face;  
 Make the vile wretch disclaim his dark designs,  
 And own conviction from thy nervous lines;  
 Reform the temper, surly, rough, and rude,  
 And force the half-unwilling to be good;  
 In martial breasts new vigour to excite,  
 And urge the ling'ring warrior still to fight.  
 Or, if a state pacific be his view,  
 Inform'd by thee, just paths he dares pursue,  
 And serves his Maker, and his neighbour too.

in 1793, the bust and figures above it, together with the effigies of Mr. Combe, were painted white, at the request of Mr. Malone, to suit the present taste.

The armorial bearings appropriate to the family of SHAKSPEARE, are,—*Or, on a bend sable, a tilting spear of the first, point upwards, headed argent.*—Crest, *A falcon displayed argent, supporting a spear in pale or.*

### INSCRIPTIONS.

JVDICIO PYLIVM, GENIO SOCRATEM, ARTE MARONEM,  
TERRA TEGIT, POPVLVS MÆRET, OLYMPVS HABET.

STAY PASSENGER, WHY GOEST THOV BY SO FAST,  
READ, IF THOV CANST, WHOM ENVIOVS DEATH HATH PLAST,  
WITHIN THIS MONYMENT, SHAKSPEARE, WITH WHOME  
QVICK NATVRE DIDE; WHOSE NAME DOTTH DECK YS. TOMBE  
FAR MORE THEN COST; SIEH ALL YT. HE HATH WRITT,  
LEAVES LIVING ART, BVT PAGE TO SERVE HIS WITT.

OBIIT ANO. DOI. 1616. ÆTATIS 53. DIE 23. AP.

Ask by what magic are these wonders wrought?  
Know, 'tis by matchless words from matchless thought.  
A ray celestial kindled in the soul,  
While sentiments unerring fill'd the whole.  
Hence his expressions with just ardour glow'd,  
While Nature all her stores on him bestow'd.  
Hail, happy STRATFORD!—envi'd be thy fame!  
What city boasts than thee a greater name?  
“ Here his first infant lays sweet SHAKSPEARE sung;  
“ Here the last accents faulter'd on his tongue!”  
His honors yet, with future time shall grow,  
Like Avon's streams, enlarging as they flow;  
Be these thy trophies, Bard, these might alone,  
Demand thy features on the mimic stone:  
But numberless perfections still unfold,  
In ev'ry breast thy praises are enroll'd;  
A richer shrine than if of molten gold!

Below the monument is the following curious inscription, (*said* to have been written by himself,) upon the stone covering his grave:—

GOOD FRENDE FOR JESVS SAKE FORBEARE,  
TO DIGG THE DVST ENCLOSED HEARE;  
BLISE BE YE. MAN YT. SPARES THES STONES,  
AND CVRST BE HE YT. MOVES MY BONES.

If any judgment may be formed from the imprecation contained in the last line of this epitaph, and from several passages in our poet's plays, particularly in *Hamlet*, and *Romeo and Juliet*, there is little doubt but SHAKSPEARE held the custom of removing the bones of the dead from the grave to the charnel-house, in great horror. Of this practice he might perhaps have had ocular demonstration; and, in viewing such a melancholy scene of human mortality, SHAKSPEARE might naturally have suggested an apprehension, that his relics would probably be added to the immense pile of human bones deposited in that gloomy receptacle. Through a lapse of nearly 200 years, have *his* ashes remained undisturbed; and it is hoped no sacrilegious hand will ever be found to violate the sacred repository.

Between his grave and the north wall, lies Mrs. SHAKSPEARE, for whom there is this inscription, engraved on a brass plate fixed to the stone:—

HEERE LYETH INTERRED THE BODYE OF ANNE, WIFE OF  
MR. WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, WHO DEPTED. THIS LIFE THE 6TH.  
DAY OF AVGVST, 1623, BEING OF THE AGE OF 67 YEARES.

Vbera, tu mater, tu lac vitamq. dedisti,

Væ mihi; pro tanto munere Saxa dabo!

Quam mallet, amoueat lapidem, bonus Angel' ore'

Exeat ut Christi Corpus, imago tua

Sed nil vota valent, venias cito Christe resurget,

Clausa licet tumulo mater, et astra petet,

On another flat stone:—Arms,—*Three talbots' heads erased; impaling SHAKSPEARE.*

HEERE LYETH YE. BODY OF JOHN HALL, GENT. HEE MARR: SVSANNA, YE. DAUGHTER & COHEIRE OF WILL. SHAKESPEARE, GENT. HEE DECEASED NOVER. 25. AO. 1635, AGED 60.

Hallius hic situs est medica celeberrimus arte,  
 Expectans regni gaudia læta Dei;  
 Dignus erat meritis qui Nestora vinceret annis,  
 In terris omnes, sed rapit æqua dies;  
 Ne tumulo, quid desit adest fidissima conjux,  
 Et vitæ comitem nunc quoq. mortis habet.

On others:—

Arms,—*Per pale, baron and femme: baron; quarterly, first and fourth, on a chevron between three ravens' heads erased, a pellet, between four cross crozlets. Second and third, a buck's head cabossed, surmounted by a cross patee, in the mouth an arrow. Femme, Hall;—quartering SHAKSPEARE.*

HEERE RESTETH YE. BODY OF THOMAS NASHE, ESQ. HE MAR. ELIZABETH, THE DAUG. & HEIRE OF JOHN HALL, GENT. HE DIED APRILL 4. A. 1647, AGED 53.

Fata manent omnes, hunc non virtute carentem  
 Vt neque divitiis, abstulit atra dies;—  
 Abstulit; at referet lux vltima; siste viator,  
 Si peritura paras, per male parta peris.

Arms,—*On a lozenge,—Hall; impaling, SHAKSPEARE.*

HEERE LYETH YE. BODY OF SVSANNA, WIFE TO JOHN HALL, GENT. YE. DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, GENT. SHE DECEASED YE. 11TH OF JVLY, AO. 1649, AGED 66.

Witty above her sexe, but that's not all,  
 Wise to Saivation was good Mistris Hall,  
 Something of Shakespere was in that, but this  
 Wholy of him with whom she's now in blisse,

Then, passenger, ha'st ne're a teare,  
 To weepe with her that wept with all?  
 That wept, yet set herselfe to chere  
 Them up with comforts cordiall.  
 Her Love shall live, her mercy spread,  
 When thou hast ne're a teare to shed.

These English verses (preserved by Dugdale) were many years since purposely obliterated, to make room for another inscription, carved *on the same stone*, for Richard Watts, of Ryhon Clifford; a person of no relation to the SHAKSPEARE family.

Against the north wall is a handsome monument, with two busts in white marble; one of Richard Combe, Esq. the other of Judith Combe, his intended wife.

Arms,—*First and sixth*, Combe as before. 2. *Azure*, three cross crozlets argent. 3. *Gules*, a chief wavy argent. 4. *Argent*, a chevron between three trefoils slipped sable. 5. *Argent*, a fesse between three lozenges gules.

HERE LYETH THE BODY OF JVDITH COMBE,  
 (DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM COMBE, OF OLD  
 STRATFORD, IN ye. COVNTY OF WARWICK,  
 ESQ.) WHO WAS TO HAVE BIN MARRIED VNTO  
 RICHARD COMBE, OF HEMSTED, IN ye. COVNTY  
 OF HARTFORD, ESQ. HAD NOT DEATH PRE-  
 VENTED IT, BY DEPRIVINGE HER OF LIFE, TO  
 ye. EXTREAME GRIEFE & SORROW OF BOTH  
 THEIRE FRIENDS; BVT MORE ESPECIALLY OF  
 ye. SAID RICHARD COMBE; WHO, IN TESTI-  
 MONY OF HIS VNFAINED LOVE, HATH EREC-  
 TED THIS MONVMENT FOR PERPETVATING  
 HER PIOVS MEMORY. 'SHE TOOKE HER LAST

LEAVE OF THIS LIFE, THE 17<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 1649, IN ye. ARMES OF HIM, WHO MOST INTIRELY LOVED, & WAS BELOVED OF HER, EVEN TO ye. YERY DEATH.

On the flat stone beneath, are the following lines:—

Interr'd beneath this marble, lyes at rest,  
 Vntimely pluckt from her beloued's brest;  
 Desires *nil ultra*, nature's quintessence,  
 In whom, perfections in their excellence,  
 Their stations kept:—her life unspotted was;  
 Her soule vnstained, unto heauen did pas.  
 Could birth or beauty, loue or to be lov'd,  
 Of powers diuine, this sad decree have mov'd;  
 Might many thousand sighs, large streams of tears,  
 Brought fourth with prayers, haue added to her yeares;  
 Epithalamions might have joy'd our eares.

Against the opposite wall is another monument, with the arms of Combe:—

NEAR VNTO THIS PLACE, LYE INTERRED  
 Ye. BODIES OF WILL. COMBE, OF OVLD STRAT-  
 FORD, ESQ. WHO DIED Ye. 30<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JANV-  
 ARY, AN<sup>o</sup> 1666, AND OF KATHERINE HIS WIFE,  
 DAUGHTER OF EDWARD BOUGHTON, OF LAW-  
 FORD, IN THIS COVNTY OF WARWICK, ESQ.  
 BY WHOME HE HAD ONE SONNE, AND NINE  
 DAUGHTERS, OF WHICH, TWO ONLY HAD IS-  
 SVE, VIZ. MARY, WHO MARRIED Wth. THOMAS  
 WAGSTAF,\* OF TACHBROOK, IN THIS COVNTY,

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\* After whose death, she married John Rous, Esq. second son of Sir John Rous, of Rouslench, in Worcestershire, Knight; she died at Utkinton, in Cheshire, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1686.

ESQ. AND KATHERINE, WHO MARRYED WITH SR. THOMAS STEPHENS, OF SODBVRY, IN Ye. COVNTY OF GLOVC. KT. THE SONNE AND ALL Ye. OTHER DAUGHTERS DECEASED VN-MARRYED; WHIREFOF, FIVE LYE HERE ALSOE INTERRED; Wth. ONE DAUGHTER OF SR. THOMAS STEPHENS, BVRYED IN THE SAME GRAVE WITH HER GRANDMOTHER.

On another against the same wall:—Arms,—*Sable, three swords in pale barwise argent, hilts and pomels or; impaling, azure, a chevron between three rams' heads erased argent, attired or.*

ELIZABETHA RAWLINS, filia & coheres THOMÆ BENDISH de STOWE-MARKETT, in Com. SUFFOLCIÆ ARM. ex ELIZA DUDLEY, filia EDW. DUDLEY, de CLAPTON in Com. North-  
ton. Arm.—

Laudes hic nullas vides, lector,  
quia minores sunt omnes;  
magnam scilt. famam lædunt,  
violantq. verborum pigmenta;  
pietatem, famam, candorem, indolem,  
præclaros animi coporisq. dotes;  
suavissimosq. mores, nulla  
rhetorum æquabit oratio,  
obduci maluit velum mæstissimus  
conjux, quam sugillari tantam  
virtutem impari penicillo.

Terrenas hasce reliquias deposuit circa annu. ætatis tricesimum, ad cælu. evecta Sponso fruitur sempiterno Dno. Jesu, ingens sui in terris relinquens desideriu. Memoræ lectissimæ conjugis dilectissimæq. qualecunq. hoc charissimæ amoris pignus sacravit lugens Maritus

THO. RAWLINS, ARM:



Below it, on a flat stone, with the arms of Rawlins:—

HIC SITA EST ELIZABETHA RAWLINS.

Stay youth; whose lighter thoughts contentments seeke,  
 With fading trifles of a well mixt cheeke;  
 And let those looks, who, whilst alive, would try  
 To inflame thy bosome, now dissolue thine eye;—  
 Stay, grauer age, whose serious brests doe prize  
 The faire and younge, beneath the good and wise;  
 Lament her early fate, whose actions shew'd  
 All vertues earth e'er had, or heaven bestow'd;—  
 Stay lovely maids, and let youer eys dispence  
 One teare for beawty, youth, and innocence;—  
 Stay sober matrons, and let pittie finde,  
 A sigh for th' chaste, the constant, and the kinde;  
 But we'll no more loade her lamented herse,  
 Which now expects a trumpet, not a verse;  
 Whose sound will find her shape so exact before,  
 'Twill others change, but only her's restore.

Against the east wall is a very elegant and beautifully finished monument, by the celebrated *Rysbrack*, adorned with an admirable bust of the late James Kendall, Esq. a profile of Mrs. Kendall, on a medallion; and two well executed figures; one of which rests upon the medallion, and the other holds an entwined serpent. Arms, *Argent, a chevron between three dolphins naiant sable*, for Kendall, impaling; *Sable, a chevron or, between three lions' heads erased argent, langued gules*, for Weston.

Near this place, lies interr'd the body of JAMES KENDALL, Esqr. of STRATFORD-upon-AVON, WARWICKSHIRE; who departed this life, October the 19th, 1751, aged 51. He was son of JAMES KENDALL, Esqr. one of the gentlemen of the bedchamber to KING JAMES the second, colonel in the guards, and member in several parliaments; but, rather than vote for the repeal of the penal laws and test,

resigned his place and commission: after the revolution, KING WILLIAM (in regard to his merit) appointed him Governor of BARBADOES; in which post, & every part of life, he preserved such honor & integrity, that he was beloved & respected by all degrees of men. He dyed in the year 1708, and was buried in WESTMINSTER ABBY,\* leaving this, his only son JAMES, inheritor of his virtues & fortune; who married JANE, the 5th daughter of JOHN WESTON, Esqr. late of OCKHAM, in the county of SURRY, (who caused this monument to be erected to his memory:) by her, he had two sons, & one daughter, JAMES & HARRIOT, both died infants; and JAMES JOHN, who died at PARIS, in the year 1750, & the 22d of his age, is buried at West HORSELY, in SURRY. The said JANE KENDALL departed this life, August the 31st, 1769, aged 72.

On separate monuments against the south wall:—

Arms,—*Walford*, as given before.

Prope hoc marmor quod mortale habuit, reliquit Maria,  
Gulielmi Walford, Gen. Uxor dilectissima Timothei Clare,  
de Civitate Vigorniensis, Gen. filia: cui pietas et fides, pudor  
et charitas, corporis decor et animi, dotes frustra chu!  
non ita creditam possit viduus lugens; lugent etiam omnes,  
vicini sed necesse est pati. Cito nimis conjunxit in Cælo  
quam in terra Deus. Gulielmum Walford, Mercatorem,

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\* A monument is there erected to his memory, upon which this inscription occurs:—"Near this place lieth the body of JAMES KENDALL, Esq. He was first chosen a Member of Parliament in the year 1681, & served in most of the succeeding Parliaments. He was five years Governor of *Barbadoes*; and, soon after his return to *England*, was appointed, by his Majesty, King WILLIAM, one of the Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Admiral. Some years before his death he retired from all public business, excepting only his service in Parliament. He died at *Caschalton*, in *Surry*, July 10. 1708, in the 61st year of his age."

Burgi Stratfordiensis, nuper Majorem, erga Uxorem, cognatos vicinos, et omnes homines, bene merentem, et dignum laude virum, Obiit 28<sup>o</sup> die Augusti 1746. Ætat. 55<sup>o</sup>.  
G: W: P.

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Arms,—*Azure, on a fesse or, between three lions' heads erased argent, langued gules; three escalops of the field:—Impaling; Argent, a chevron sable, charged with a fleur-de-lis of the first.—Crest, An eagle rising, argent.*

Near this place lie the remains of JOHN MEACHAM, son of JOHN & DINAH MEACHAM; he died June 1st. 1784, aged 19 years: a young man sincerely lamented; who was cut off in the bloom of youth, when he gave the most flattering hopes of being a source of happiness to his friends, & an ornament to society, by a distinguished sweetness of character, & diligent attention to his studies; the gentleness of his manners, & the purity & benevolence of his heart, modest, sober, exemplary; faithful in his attachment to his friends, tenderly affectionate & dutiful to his parents, serious and manly in his duty to God. To whose beloved memory, together with that of CHARLES MEACHAM, another very dear, dutiful, & promising son, who died in London, October 19th, 1780, aged 14 years, and was buried at St. Martin's in the fields, this monument is erected by their truly afflicted parents.

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In a vault, near the south-east corner of this chancel, are deposited the remains of WILLIAM EAVES, and MARY his wife; she died March 24th, 1792, aged 74 years. He died April 5th, 1796, aged 72 years.

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TO THE MEMORY OF PETER JUDD, of Stratford-upon-Avon, late captain in his Majesty's 34th regt. of foot; who died at St. Pierre, in the island of Martinico, on the 12th day of June, 1795, aged 27 years. His death was

occasioned by a wound he received at the head of a detachment of his own regiment, in the island of St. Lucia, in the West Indies. He died truly deplored by his afflicted family; beloved and lamented by his brother officers, and fellow soldiers; esteemed and regretted by all who knew him. This monument was erected by his afflicted sister, CATHERINE JUDD, as a feeble testimony of her affection; and in commemoration of his virtues; A. D. 1796,

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Arms,—*Argent, a chevron between three otters' heads crased gules; for Fullerton: impaling,—Or, two lions passant gardant, between three cross crosetts fitchee sable; for Garth.—Crest, On a wreath, a camel's head crased, proper.*  
Motto,—LUX IN TENEBRIS.

SACRED TO THE MEMORY of the Revd. JOHN FULLERTON, (nephew and heir of Mrs. JANE KENDAL,) who, both in private life, and in the exercise of his sacred ministry, faithfully discharged the several duties of a true christian, and a zealous clergyman. He departed this life on the 25th of May, 1800, aged 69.

#### INSCRIPTIONS ON THE FLOOR.

William Combe, Esq. of Old Stratford, died the 30th of Jan. 1666, aged 80. Katherine his wife died the 21st of June, 1662, aged 55. Major John Combe, Esq. of Old Stratford, died the 12th of Sept. 1709, aged 58. Frances his wife died the 28th of Nov. 1713, aged 42. Arms,—Combe, as before; impaling; *Two bars, over all, a bend countercomponed.*

Edmund Rawlins, Esq. only son of Thomas Rawlins, Serjeant at Law, died the 24th of June, 1681, aged 21. Edmund Rawlins died the 21st of Feb. 1696. Mrs. Jane Rawlins died the 31st of Oct. 1718, aged 43. Mrs. Ann Gelsthorp, (niece of Mrs. Jane Rawlins,) died the 23d of

April, 1788, aged 78. Thomas Rawlins, Serjeant at Law, died the 16th of Sept. 1699, aged 77. Samuel Rawlins, Gent. died the 20th of Oct. 1699, aged 75. Alice his wife died the 2d of Nov. 1699, aged 65. William Rawlins, once Rector of Cornwell, in Oxfordshire, died the 3d of May, 1705, aged 40.

Francis Watts, Gent. of Rychan-Clifford, died the 2d Sept. 1691, aged 63. Arms,—*On a chevron between three lions' heads erased, five mullets; impaling; On a cross, within a border engrailed, five pellets.*—Ann, wife of Francis Watts, died the 29th of March, 1704, aged 67. Arms,—*On a lozenge, a lion passant, between three crosses patee fitché.*—Richard Watts, of Ryhon-Clifford, Gent. died the 23d of May, 1707, aged 46.

Ann, wife of Samuel Paston, Apothecary, of this borough, died the 13th of October, 1705.

Thomas Cooke, son of William Cooke, Gent. late Alderman of the borough of Warwick; was born in Warwick, lived many years citizen of London, and died in this place, the 6th of June, 1718, aged 57.

Ann, wife of the Rev. Divine Mr. Thomas Wilson, once Pastor of this church, was interred the 27th of Oct. 1642.

John Trapp, A.M. Vicar of this church, died the 5th of July, 1684, aged 48.

Edward Dean, A.M. Vicar of this church, and Rector of Binton, in this county, died the 14th of Dec. 1735, aged 60.

Mrs. Bradley, relict of Mr. Bradley, of Great Ness, in the county of Salop, and daughter of Eusebe Dormer, Esq. of Great Appleby, in the county of Derby, died the 16th of August, 1735.

Mrs. Mary Woolmer, (only daughter of Mr. Benjamin Woolmer, and Elizabeth his wife,) of London, died the 12th of August, 1728, aged 33. Mr. Benjamin Woolmer, Citizen and Fishmonger of London, died the 25th of Sept. 1744, aged 85. Sarah, wife of Joseph Woolmer, Gent. died the 30th of Nov. 1732, aged 75.

John Ward, A. M. born at Spratton, in Northamptonshire, and Vicar of this church for 19 years, died the 4th of Sept. 1681, aged 52.

Josiah Simcox, Vicar of this church, died the 27th of Dec. 1681.

Sir Henry Spencer, late of this borough, Bart. Chirurgeon, died the 6th of April, 1626, aged 43. Mr. Joseph Fisher, Gent. died the 3d of Dec. 1769, aged 85. Amey Fisher, his wife, [relict of Sir Henry Spencer,] died the 19th of Oct. 1777, aged 94.

Mrs. Ann Winshurst died the 31st of Oct. 1706, aged 74.

William Smith, of Old Stratford, Gent. died the 13th of July, 1708. Mrs. Ann Smith died the 30th of October, 1729, aged 62.

Mrs. Jane Westrop, widow, daughter of Sir Hugh Brawn, of Alscot, in the county of Gloucester, Kut. died the 28th of November, 1675, aged 79.

Margaret, only daughter of John Webb, Esq. of Sherborne, in this county, and wife of the Rev. James Davenport, D. D. Vicar of this church, died the 25th of June, 1796, aged 36.

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AN ACCOUNT OF  
BENEFACTIONS TO THIS TOWN AND PARISH,  
AS INSCRIBED UPON THE FRONT OF THE OLD GALLERY  
IN THE NORTH AISLE.

THOMAS OAKEN, Gent.\* gave 40*l.* to be let out to eight poor tradesmen of this borough, from three years to three years, at 8*d.* in the pound, changing the parties every third year; the increase thereof to be given as followeth, viz. 3*s.* 4*d.* for a sermon to be preached every first Wednesday

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\* See an account of this Thomas Oaken, in Sir William Dugdale's Warwickshire, p. 349 and 350.

in September; and 10*s.* to the mayor and aldermen, to be drank the same day; the remainder to be given to the poor in bread, three days before Christmas.

ROBERT PARROTT, Gent. once an alderman of this borough, gave 40*l.* to be let out to poor tradesmen of the said borough, at the rate of 4*d.* in the pound; and the yearly increase thereof he disposed of as followeth, viz. 3*s.* 4*d.* for a sermon to be preached on Friday in Whitsun-week, yearly, and 10*s.* for a collation for the members of this corporation, the same day.

JOHN TURNER, Gent. gave 40*s.* yearly, to be given in bread to the poor, with Mr. Oaken's.

JOHN COMBE, Esq. gave to pious and charitable uses, 20*s.* for two sermons to be preached in this church; and 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* to buy ten gowns for ten poor people in this borough; and 100*l.* to be let out to fifteen poor tradesmen of the said borough, from three years to three years, at the rate of 50*s.* per annum, changing the parties every third year; which increase he appointed to be distributed towards the relief of the alms-people, in this borough.

WILLIAM MOUNTFORD, Gent. gave to the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of this borough, 20*l.* for ever, to be let out at 16*d.* in the pound; the interest thereof, he disposed of as followeth, viz. 6*s.* 8*d.* for a sermon to be preached yearly, on the 15th day of April; and the remainder to be distributed yearly to the poor in bread on the same day.

ANN LLOYD, widow, gave to this parish, 11*l.* to be let out by the church-wardens, at the yearly increase of 16*s.* which she ordered to be disposed of as followeth, viz. 6*s.* for a sermon to be preached yearly in the church the Sunday before St. Thomas, and the remainder towards the repairs of this church, the chapel, and mill-bridge.

LAWRANCE PALMER gave 10*l.* to be let out to poor tradesmen of this borough, at 12*d.* in the pound; the increase to be given to the poor in bread, with Mr. Oaken's.

HAMLET SMITH, Gent. of this borough, gave 5*l.* to be let out to poor tradesmen, at 16*d.* in the pound, annual interest; which increase, being 6*s.* 8*d.* he ordered one half for a sermon to be preached, yearly, on Friday in Easter week, and the other to be given to the poor in bread, with Mr. Oaken's.

THOMAS BARBER gave 5*l.* to be let out to poor tradesmen of this borough, at 12*d.* in the pound, interest; and the increase to be yearly bestowed on the poor in bread, with Mr. Oaken's.

NICHOLAS INGRAM gave 10*l.* to be let out to poor tradesmen of this borough, at 12*d.* in the pound; the increase to be yearly bestowed on the poor in bread, with Mr. Oaken's.

WILLIAM TYLER, Gent. citizen of London, gave 200*l.* to buy land of inheritance, the increase thereof to be given to twelve poor people inhabiting in the borough, as shall not inhabit in the alms-houses; one part of it to be given on the 24th day of June, and the other on the 21st of December, yearly, for ever.

WILLIAM TYLER, Gent. gave 50*l.* to be lent forth to poor tradesmen: the interest thereof to be bestowed upon the poor, according to the direction of the mayor and chief aldermen.

Mr. TYLER gave 100*l.* to be lent out at 3*l.* per annum; the increase thereof he ordered to be disposed of as followeth:—15*s.* for a sermon to be preached on St. Thomas' day; 5*s.* to the clerk and sexton; and 40*s.* to the mayor and aldermen, to be spent in a dinner on St. Thomas' day, for ever.

JOHN SADLER & RICHARD QUYNEY, Gentlemen, and citizens of London, gave 150*l.* to be lent out; the increase to be given to the poor of the borough for ever.

RICHARD CHANDLER, Gent. and citizen of London, gave 100*l.* to the borough of Stratford to buy land; the increase thereof to be disposed of, viz. 20*s.* to the minister to preach



a sermon concerning the excellency of Baptism, in the chapel, on the 20th of March, yearly, unless it shall fall on a Sunday, then on the next day following: 10s. for the clerk and sexton; 30s. to be distributed to the poor of the borough, yearly, by the church-wardens of the same; and 10s. yearly, for their pains; and the overplus to be laid out in cloathing for poor children of the borough.

RICHARD SMITH, Grocer, and Citizen of London, gave the rent of two houses, in the Henley-street, in Stratford; and tied the same to be given thus; 12*d.* per week to the poor of the borough, and 6*d.* per week to the poor of Old Stratford, in bread; and 10s. to the minister to preach a sermon on the day the mayor is elected; and 12*d.* to the clerk, yearly, for ever.

*Largienti pauperibus nulla indigentia.*

HENRY SMITH, Gent. of Old Stratford, gave 12*d.* per week, to be raised out of the rent of six tenements, in the Chapel-lane, to buy bread to be given to twelve poor people of this parish, on every Lord's Day for ever.

*Ne avertas faciem tuam ab ullo pauperi, et a te minime avertetur facies Dei.*

MR. JOHN BARTLETT, late of the parish of Old Stratford, deceased, by his will, gave to the church-wardens and overseers of the poor of the said parish for the time being; 5*l.* to be paid yearly, on every Easter Monday, during the term of forty years; to be applied to the placing out one poor boy, yearly, (a native of the said parish,) apprentice to some tradesman, living out of the said parish; the boy to be chosen and appointed by the church-wardens and overseers of the said parish, for the time being, with the consent of his grandson, MR. THOMAS MASON, his executors or administrators, who is, by the said will, directed to pay the same. The first payment did commence on Easter Monday, in the year of our Lord, 1723.

## OF THE COLLEGE, SINCE ITS DISSOLUTION.

It now remains to say something of the COLLEGE, *since its dissolution* by Henry the Eighth, in 1546; after which, the scite of it was granted, in the 4th of Edward the Sixth, to John, Earl of Warwick, afterwards Duke of Northumberland, and his heirs: upon his attainder (1st Mary) it was annexed to the crown lands; and, in 1575, Queen Elizabeth granted it to Richard Coningsby, Esq. upon lease for twenty-one years; at the expiration of which period, it was sold to John Combe, Esq. who afterwards made it his principal place of residence, and died there without issue, the 10th of July, 1614; when it came to his nephew, William Combe, Esq. who also resided there; during which time he twice served the office of Sheriff for this county, viz. in 1608, and 1616; and dying without male issue, January the 30th, 1666, the College afterwards became the property of his nephew, William Combe, Esq. whose only daughter and heiress, Martha, married Edward Clopton, Esq. eldest son of Sir John Clopton, Knt. by Barbara, the sole child and heiress of Sir Edward Walker, Knight, Garter King at Arms, Secretary at War to Charles the First, and Clerk of the Privy Council to Charles the Second; who, after the death of Sir Edward, on the 20th of February, 1676, by her means became heir to the estates of his father-in-law. From Edward Clopton, Esq. the College, about the year 1700, came to his nephew, (by Agnes his eldest sister,) Sir William Keyte, Baronet, of Ebrington, in Gloucestershire; who conveyed it, on the 3d of November, 1734, to Thomas Charles Keyte, Esq. his eldest son, by Anne, daughter of William, fourth Viscount Tracy, of Rathcoule, in Ireland; by whom it was sold, in December, 1740, to James Kendall, Esq. (son of James Kendall, Esq. M.P. Colonel in the Guards, and one of the gentlemen of the bedchamber to





James the Second,) who, by will dated the 28th of November, 1750, gave the College, with all other his estates, to Jane his wife, the fifth daughter of John Weston, Esq. of Ockham, in Surry. Under Mrs. Kendall's will, made in the year 1766, the college came (after her death, which took place on the 31st of August, 1769) to her nephew, the Rev. John Fullerton, Rector of All Canons, in Wilts, who sold it in 1796, to Edmund Battersbee, Esq. of Stratford, by whom it was entirely taken down in 1799; and, the following year, the furniture of the house, together with a large collection of family portraits, hunting pieces, and other paintings, having been sold by auction, on the 13th, 14th, and 15th of June, 1797. The building itself, which was surrounded by extensive gardens and pleasure grounds, was capacious, handsome, and strong; being wholly constructed of hewn free-stone: the east entrance was under a large door-way, (embellished with the arms of Keyte,) into a spacious hall, extending the whole length of the front, and vaulted to the roof; the concave ceiling was elegantly adorned with stucco work; and at each angle, was a rude representation of the emblematical symbols of the four Evangelists; the north wing was occupied by apartments, originally destined for the warden and officiating priests, and since converted into a modern dining room, drawing room, and library; in the opposite wing was the kitchen, with its offices, stables, coach-houses, &c. &c.

## THE GUILD AND CHAPEL OF THE HOLY CROSS.

THIS FRATERNITY, which was partly religious, and partly civil, had existence as early as the reign of Edward the First, being used, as Dugdale says, “by mutual agreement of friends and neighbours, who had particular licences granted to them, for conferring lands or rents, to defray their public charges; as, by the statute of Mortmain, such gifts would otherwise have been forfeited.” In the year 1296, Robert de Stratford, and the brethren and sisters of this fraternity, obtained permission of Godfrey Giffard, Bishop of Worcester, to found an hospital, and erect a chapel for their use; which was accordingly done under Robert de Stratford’s direction. Bishop Giffard appointed Robert de Stratford their first master, giving them the rule of St. Austin, with a proper habit; and this was afterwards called *The Hospital of the Holy Cross, in Stratford*. For the support of this institution, several inhabitants of Stratford, in the 5th of Edward the Third, obtained leave to grant, to the use of this guild, sundry small-rents arising from certain houses here; and, in the 7th of Richard the Second, Richard Fille (then resident in this town) gave to the foundation, eight messuages, one toft, and half a yard land, lying in Stratford, Clifford, and Shottery, *without licence*, on which account they were forfeited to the crown: but their popularity having by this time considerably increased, Henry the Fourth, by letters patent, dated at Westminster, the 8th of June, in his 4th year, gave permission to Thomas Aldebury, Clerk, Nicholas Sauser, jun. and Thomas Compton, sen. not only to continue to themselves, and the brethren and sisters of the guild, the twenty messuages, three shops, 4s. and 4d. rent, half a yard land, and the moiety of two burgages, in Stratford-upon-Avon, Bridgetown, and Rhyne-Clifford, (which Edward the Third,

by letters patent, dated the 12th of November, in his 5th year, had confirmed unto them,) but, at their discretion, to make and begin a new fraternity of themselves and other of their friends, to the honour of the Holy Cross, and St. John the Baptist, and to provide two priests to celebrate divine service within their chapel. They were also empowered annually to chuse eight aldermen out of their society, who should have the power of electing a master, and two proctors, to superintend and manage their lands and revenues; to whom and their successors, the brethren might assign the same for ever. This patent was confirmed at Westminster, the 15th of June, in the 7th of Henry the Sixth.\*

In this state it appears to have continued, till the general survey was taken in the 26th of Henry the Eighth, A. D. 1535; at which period, it was found that there were four priests belonging to the Guild, each of whom had an annual stipend of 5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* and a certain clerk, who was schoolmaster here, at 10*l.* per ann. By the survey made in the 37th of Henry the Eighth, their lands and tenements, with the tithes of Wilmeote, (which, together with the rectory or chapel of Little Wilmeote, were given to Thomas Clopton, their master, by Henry L'isle, of Moxhull, in this county, Esq. and

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\* Some disputes, in process of time, having arisen between the Master of the Guild and the Warden of the Collegiate Church, Bishop Pulton, as the mediator, ordained, that the Fraternity of the Holy Cross should pay all their tithes and oblations to the Collegiate Church; that they should bury no dead, nor administer any sacraments, except giving the blessed bread and wine to the sick; that, at the four great feasts in the year, the Master of the Hospital, together with the chaplain and brethren, should personally come to the Collegiate Church, and there attend divine service; the chaplains of the Guild officiating in their surplices, with the chaplains of the Church; that they should there make all their offerings: and, in token of their subjection to the Collegiate Church, they should yearly pay thereto 4*s.* at the feast of the dedication. This ordination bears date the 27th of September, 1430.

Elizabeth his wife, *temp.* Edward the Fourth,) were valued at upwards of 50*l.* per ann. There was at that time a mansion-house for the four priests,\* having five chambers, one garden, and a dove-house belonging to it; and ——— Datum was master of the grammar school, with an annuity of 10*l.* John Combes, steward, having a fee of 20*s.* per annum; a cook, servitor to the priests, who had 10*s.* per annum; a clerk, serving in the chapel, who had 4*s.* per annum; and a bailiff, or collector of the rents, 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* per annum. By the same survey it also appeared, that the whole society, with their tenants, &c. met once a year to settle the officers accounts; there being, according to the ancient custom, 2*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* allowed for defraying the charge of the feast: that the yearly allowance for wine and wax, spent in the chapel, was 40*s.*; to the four priests, (exclusive of their annual stipend of 5*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*) for several diriges there sung, was paid 6*s.* 8*d.* and to four people belonging to the guild, somewhat reduced in their circumstances, 2*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* yearly, amongst them. It further appeared, that *Henry 4th* was accounted the founder of the guild; and that one of the priests, (teacher of the grammar school,) celebrated divine service in the chapel, for the convenience of infirm people, who could not attend at the church, which was at a considerable distance from some parts of the town.

This ancient fraternity being dissolved, its possessions appear to have remained in the crown, till the 28th of June, in the 7th of Edward the Sixth, A. D. 1553; at which time they were valued at 46*l.* 3*s.* 2½*d.* and, together with the chapel, guild-hall, and alms-houses, (as well as the great tithes, valued at 34*l.* per annum, formerly belonging to the College,) were granted to the members of the corporation, who

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\* This mansion was probably situated on the scite of the Vicar's house, on the south side of the chapel,



were enjoined, by charter, to apply the rents and profits to certain charitable and other uses, elsewhere noticed.

That liberal benefactor to this town, SIR HUGH CLOPTON, Knt. (who then resided here,) took down the chapel, (except the chancel, which, from the material difference in the masonry, colour of the stone, architecture of the windows, &c. evidently appears of much greater antiquity, being probably part of the original fabric,) and rebuilt it in a beautiful manner, at his sole expence, in the latter end of the reign of Henry the Seventh. It is dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and is a well built and handsome structure; the architecture of the windows being in imitation of those in the chancel, or choir of the Collegiate Church.

Against the east wall of the nave, (but lately removed from the south wall,) is erected a monument to the memory of the builder of this fabric; on which are the arms of the city of London, with those of Sir Hugh, and the following inscription:—

This monumental table was erected Ao. DNI: 1708, at ye. request of this corporation, (by SR. JOHN CLOPTON, of Clopton, Knt. their Recorder,) in memory of SR. HUGH CLOPTON, Knt. (a younger branch of yt. ancient family,) whose pious works were so many & great, they ought to be had in everlasting remembrance, especialy by this town & parish, to which he was a particular benefactor; where he gave 100*l.* to poor housekeepers, & 100 marks to 20 poor maidens, of good name & fame, to be paid at their marriages. He built ye. stone bridge over Avon, wth. ye. causey at ye. west end; farther manifesting his piety to God, & love to this place of his nativity, as ye. Centurion in ye. Gospel did to ye. Jewish Nation & Religion, by building them a Synagogue; for at his sole charge, this beautiful Chappel, of ye. Holy Trinity, was rebuilt, *temp.* H. VII. & ye. Cross Ile of ye. parish Church. He

gave 50*l.* to ye. repairing of bridges & highways, within 10 miles of this town. He also made a causey, 3 miles from AYLESBURY towards London, & one mile on this side; & gave an Exhibition to 3 poor scholars in OXFORD, & 3 in CAMBRIDGE; to each scholar 3*l.* per annu. for 5 years. He was likewise a great benefactor to ye. City of LONDON, of which he was an Alderman, & LORD MAYOR Ao. 1492: He gave 100*l.* to poor Householders; & 100 marks to 20 poor Maidens, of that City, to be paid at their marriages; 20*l.* to ye. Prisoners in ye. 4 chief prisons; 28*l.* to 5 hospitals; 10*l.* to ye. Chamber of LONDON; 10*l.* to ye. common box of ye. Mercers; and 40*s.* to ye. Parson of ye. parish, where he lived, for offerings & tithes forgotten; and besides legacies to a great number of religious houses, to divers of his relations & friends, to ye. executors & overseers of his will, to all his god-children & servants, he ordered, that if certain of his legatees (who were his near relations) should die before they came to lawful age, or were married, their legacies, (amounting to more than 300*l.*) together with a 2d part of ye. residue of his goods & chattels, after debts, funeral expences & legacies paid, should be disposed of in repairing decay'd churches, in relieving poor householders, in WARWICKSHIRE especially in helping poor prisoners, in amending bridges & highways, in maintaining poor children at school, in portions to poor; if honest maidens, or other good works & alms deeds. This charitable Gent. died a Bachelor. 15. Sept. 1496, & was buried in SAINT MARGARET'S Church, Lothbury, LONDON, having well observ'd ST. PAUL'S charge to them that are rich in this World; "That they do good, that they be rich in good Works, ready to distribute; willing to communicate; laying up in store for themselves, a good Foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal Life." 1. Tim. vi. 17, 18, 19.

"Go, and do thou likewise." Luke x. 37.

Upon the floor, near the pulpit, is the following:—

In memory of ARABELLA FLOYER, daughter of Richd. Dighton, Esqr. (of Clifford,) who died 16th day of Decbr. 1787, aged 78.

In the north-east corner of the chancel, is a flat stone, with this inscription:—

M. S.

Ricardi Croft, A. M. apud Stratfordienses Eceliæ. annos circiter septendecim Vicarii; omniib. memorandi quem clementia tandem Dei a viris nempe de mundo, ac vita. Malis convertiss. feliciter avocavit. Die 9<sup>a</sup> Apr. An. Dni. MDCCI<sup>o</sup> Æt. suæ LI<sup>o</sup>. Ex amicoru. sumptib.

The walls were formerly ornamented with curious paintings, which were discovered during the reparation of the chapel, in 1804; and upon carefully scraping off the whitewash and paint with which they were covered, many parts were found to be nearly in a perfect state. The most ancient were those in the chancel,\* which were probably coeval with that part of the chapel, before conjectured to have been erected by Robert de Stratford, in, or soon after the year 1296: many parts of them, particularly the *crosses* had been evidently mutilated with some sharp instru-

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\* Paintings somewhat similar to, and probably of the same age with those lately discovered in the *Chancel of this Chapel*, are in many places to be seen in the *Transept of the Collegiate Church*, particularly under the gallery leading to the organ loft; and the following inscription in black letter, yet remains upon the north wall:—

De—quod est veru. quicquid cognomine veri  
 Explorare queas Deus est qui cuncta gubernat  
 Propterea falsu. violato ponere vero  
 Quisquis vel jurare usq. temerarius ausit  
 Funditus amisso lemures sextatur olympo

ment by the ill-directed zeal of our early reformers; the ravages of time had also contributed to injure them so much, that the plaister upon which they were painted, was of necessity taken down before the reparations could be compleated; so that those which were in the chancel, with a small exception, are now destroyed; the rest in the nave being painted on the stone itself, yet remain, though again coloured over.\* It is presumed, that a description of those which were most perfect will not be unacceptable, particularly to antiquarian readers.

Against the west wall of the nave, upon the south side of the arch, was painted the martyrdom of Thomas a Becket, whilst kneeling at the altar of St. Benedict, in Canterbury Cathedral: below this, was represented the figure of an angel, (probably St. Michael,) supporting a long scroll, upon which were written the following rude verses:—

Erth oute of erth ys wondrously wrought  
 Erth hath gotyn upon erth a dygnytz of nought  
 Erth upon erth hath sett all hys thowht  
 How erth upon erth may be hys brotought

Erth upon erth wold be a kyng  
 But how then erth gottyn erth he thynks nothyng  
 When erth byddys erth his rentys whom bring  
 Then schall erth upon erth have hard ptyng

\* Leland in his Itinerary says, “about the body of this chapele, was curiously paynted the Daunce of Deathe, commonly called the Daunce of Powles, because the same was sometyme there paynted abowte the Cloysters on the north-west syd of Powles Churche, pulled downe by the Duke of Somarset, tempore E. 6.” If such paintings of the Dance of Death now exist in the body of our chapel, they are probably upon the north and south walls; greater part of the pews, &c. under the large windows, not being disturbed in the late reparation.

Erth upon erth wyus castellys and towrys  
 Then seth erth unto erth thys ys all olwrys  
 When erth upon erth hath bylde his bolwrys  
 Then schall erth for erth suffur many hard scholwrys

Erth goth upon erth as man upon motold  
 Lyke as erth upon erth nevez goo schold  
 Erth goth upon erth as glesteryng gold  
 And yet schall erth unto erth rather then he wold

Why that erth loveth erth wondur me thyneke  
 Or why that erth wold for erth other swett or stynke  
 When erth upon erth ys broght wth. yn the brynke  
 Then schall erth upon erth have a fotoll stynke

Lo erth upon erth consedur thow may  
 How erth cometh to erth nakyd all way  
 Why schall erth upon erth goo stowte or gay  
 Seth erth out of erth schall palse yn pour aray

I counsill erth upon erth ys wondrously wroght  
 The wyl yt. erth ys upon erth to torn hys thowht  
 And pray to God upon erth yt. all erth wroght  
 That all crystyn sotollys to ye. blys may be broght

Beneath were two men holding another scroll over a  
 body wrapt in a winding sheet, and covered with some  
 emblems of mortality with, these lines:—

Who soo hym be thought  
 Inwardly and ofte  
 How harde hyt ys to flett  
 From bede to peyt  
 From peyt to peyne  
 That neu schall seys setteyt  
 He wolde not do no syn  
 All ye, world to wyn

On the opposite side of the arch was represented the combat between St. George and the Dragon; his spear was broken in the neck of the monster, after which he appears to have encountered him with his sword. Behind stood the princess for whom he is fabled to have fought, and in the distance appeared a castle, river, ships, &c.

Under this was an allegorical painting, corresponding with that beneath the martyrdom of Becket. A figure of a man, singularly habited, was represented standing on a pedestal, holding in one hand a cup, the contents not easily to be ascertained, and with his left, opening a box, containing money, presented by a grotesque figure with wings, (probably intended to represent an evil spirit,) who was endeavouring to pull him down by a chain fastened round his middle; while a similar figure with an enormous mallet was attempting to break the pedestal: on each side, was an angel bearing a scroll, with an inscription in Latin; and various other scrolls similarly inscribed, were attached to the evil spirits. Above appeared the Almighty surrounded by angels. The inscriptions, much mutilated, were as follow:—

Quant. est tibi tempus ut penitentiam — et non vis penitere  
 a fornicatione ideo abaderis ut pecus — Ego, — et ego vivere  
 faciam percutiam, et sanabo — manu — omnem  
 terram — aquam vinum meum. et — emabo, dunt  
 amabile — sodom. meum. mei de subur. banis genio.  
 Ab emabo dies — ne — et — at. Cetera tolle tibi certum pignus  
 perditionis —.

In each of the niches, between the eight large windows on the north and south sides of the nave, was painted a whole length figure of a saint; and over the great arch leading into the chancel, was a representation of the Day of Judgment; our Saviour, seated above, surrounded by

angels: on his right hand, at the entrance into a castle or tower, stood St. Peter with the keys, surrounded by numbers that pressed for admittance; amongst whom might be seen, numerous crowned, as well as mitred heads; the only ones that wore any distinguishing badges. The left side was curiously descriptive of the punishment of the wicked.

The paintings on the chancel walls (as before observed) were more ancient than those in the nave, and apparently executed at or near the time this part of the chapel was built. On the north side were eight compartments, viz. four between the two windows, and two on each side of them; they were square, uniform in size and style: a scroll at the bottom of each, originally contained an inscription in Latin or English, illustrating the subject; but generally either illegible or very imperfect. The first upper compartment on this side represented a battle; the principal figure on a white horse, and another on a brown one, were with their spears bearing down their antagonists; while two others on foot were fighting with swords; all were armed; the victorious party bore the cross on their breasts, and their adversaries, a lion rampant, gules: the standard bearer of each displayed the arms of his respective party; but instead of a lion rampant, as on their armour, the routed forces had on their standard, a lion passant gardant, sable. In an upper corner of the picture, was a crowned figure with an angel, and betwixt them a cross: the inscription destroyed. The compartment beneath represented two men, completely armed and wearing crowns; fighting upon a bridge; at a little distance, and separated from the combatants by a barrier, were numerous other armed men: on the breast of one of the combatants (who was plunging a weapon, resembling the ancient bill, into his adversary's bosom,) was a red cross, and *Heracles Rex* upon the lower part of his armour: the inscription on the

scroll was perfect at the commencement, and read thus, *Heracles a crystyn prynter falughte wyth y<sup>e</sup>. soue of Coldroy whyche was a gret zany of y<sup>e</sup>. fith of Chryst.*

Between the two windows were four compartments, two above, and two below; the subject of the first upper one was the interview of the Queen of Sheba with Solomon, who was represented with his crown, sceptre, and regal robes: on the border of the latter were the words *Rex Salomon*. The Queen of Sheba, richly arrayed, was seemingly in conversation with him; several attendants around; and beyond them appeared a gate with a portcullis, and part of a town; the inscription on the scroll began *Regina saba fama*—the remainder, except the word *persolutor*, was illegible. The other compartment was connected with the subject of the two below, and next to be described: the scroll was perfect, and read thus,—*Wyf was proved evidently by myrakel which was the very crose that oure savioure suffered y<sup>e</sup> rath In resyuge a made from deth to lyf.* The Empress Helena was represented bearing the cross in her arms, and touching with it the body of a female, lying in a coffin; an attendant carried the two other crosses, (in size more like crutches,) one on each shoulder: men, dogs, trees, and beasts, filled up the landscape. The pair of paintings beneath, represented other parts of the same history, and in point of *time* precede the last described picture. The first evidently seemed intended to express the setting out of Helena for Jerusalem, in search of the Holy Cross, after the miraculous victory obtained by her son Constantine: the inscription was entirely obliterated, and the centre of the picture destroyed, where Helena may be supposed to have been drawn, seated on a white horse; her crown only and part of the horse remained: there were four attendants on horseback, and before them went two men, blowing singularly shaped trumpets, to one of which was suspended a red banner inscribed *ihs*: behind



them was seen a church, and other public buildings, (part of a town,) and on the top of an embattled tower stood two persons of distinction, viewing the cavalcade. The adjoining compartment, represented Helena attended, among others, by a person of consequence, denoted by a hawk upon his fist; she was addressing a man in a supplicatory posture, who seemed just liberated from a prison, at the door of which stood the keeper, with a key in his hand: this corresponds with the account in the ancient breviaries of the Romish Church, wherein Helena is said, on her arrival at Jerusalem, to have called before her, Judas, the grandson of Zaccheus, and commanded him to shew her the wood of the cross, which he evading or refusing was cast into a place of confinement, without food, for seven days; at the end of which period, he promised, on being released, to produce the cross. In the back ground of the same picture, (by a licence very usual with the designers of those days,) was represented the finding of the three crosses; two men working with pickaxes had discovered the two lesser crosses, and Helena was depicted assisting with much devotion to bear that of our Saviour. Part of the inscription only remained, viz. *Here seyntz Helyn examynth the b————*

The lower compartment beyond the next window was one of those intentionally mutilated; (as before mentioned;) the inscription likewise was illegible; but from what remained of the painting, it was obviously a continuation of the subject last treated upon: the newly discovered cross, apparently supported by three persons, one of whom wore a crown, stood in front of an altar and crucifix, before which a bishop was censuring; Helena knelt beside the altar, as did a male figure, wearing a crown: angels, playing on musical instruments, appeared in a corner of the picture. Above this was represented the martyrdom of some christian king; who, with hands elevated, and clad in a white robe,

was meekly submitting himself to the sword of his executioner, a man in armour, and crowned: over the martyr's head, and beneath a kind of gothic canopy, was depicted a yellow cross, and sun, upon a red ground: view of a castle in the distance. This compartment, as well as the last, was considerably mutilated, and the inscription also wanting.

On the south side of the chancel, and opposite the last described paintings, were two *oblong* ones, parrallel with each other; (those on the north side being *square*;) the most easterly one represented a person on horseback, in royal robes, crowned, and bearing a sceptre in his right hand; the number of his attendants, who were on foot, could not be accurately traced, as the centre of the piece, where the cross seemingly was supported by one or more of them, had been intentionally destroyed, and doubtless at the reformation. The inscription, on the part of the scroll remaining, was perfect, and read thus:—

As the nobul kynge cometh —————

ye. crosse so grate preb —————

Above was an angel, flying towards them. The companion to this painting was much more mutilated, the bottom part and centre of the piece being entirely destroyed; yet enough remained to furnish a conjecture, that this and the last were intended to represent the removal of the cross from Mount Calvary to Jerusalem. In front of the gate of entrance to a city, (of which several buildings appeared, and on the wall of which was inscribed S. Jerusalem,) was seen the transverse part of the cross, (the lower part being entirely obliterated,) and it appeared to have been carried by the king described in the last painting, who probably was bareheaded, as a crown was held by one of his attendants: a female personage of distinction, and others, were represented kneeling; and part of a white banner, bearing ihs surmounted with a crown, was introduced at an upper corner of the picture.

Whatever subjects had been delineated betwixt the two windows on this side, were so completely destroyed, previous to removing the coats of whitewash in 1804, that scarce a trace remained.

Over the vicar's door, was painted a red, and a greyish coloured dragon; and on each side had been an oblong compartment, corresponding with those last described: that nearest the window (tolerably well preserved) represented a bishop *in pontificalibus* kneeling before a crucifix; a youth held his crosier, and there was one spectator: of the inscription, a single word only remained, ending the first line; viz. *perpendit*. Above was an angel, supporting a red shield; on which was depicted a chalice, containing the Host. Of the corresponding painting, only the lower subdivision remained perfect; this represented, on a red ground, the heart, hands, and feet of our Saviour, pierced with the nails and spear, and bleeding: beneath was this inscription,—*Sint in memoria vulnerum quinq. Dei.*

It should be recollected, that the title of this fraternity was “The Guild of the Holy Cross;” which will account both for the choice of subjects in the chancel, and for the peculiar violence offered to those paintings where the cross was a prominent object.

In the front of the porch is a niche, (which might originally have contained some statue,) surmounted by a cross. Beneath are two compartments: in each of these is the figure of an angel, supporting two shields; on which are carved the arms of the City of London, and the Merchants of the Woolstaple; with those of Sir Hugh, and another shield, viz. *a fesse vair between three leopards' faces*, generally supposed to be the original arms of the borough. The dimensions of the chapel (in the tower of which are

two bells and a clock, the latter being the gift of Sir John Clopton, Knt.) are as follow:—

	Feet in length, breadth, height.		
The tower, .....	20	20	58
The nave, .....	54	33	40
The chancel, .....	30	24	24
Total length, from east to west, -	104		

### THE GUILD HALL,

Which adjoins the chapel on the south side, was built under the direction of Robert de Stratford, as before noticed, (who obtained permission for that purpose, from Godfrey Gifford, bishop of Worcester, in 1296,) and appropriated to the use of the fraternity of the Holy Cross, though the frequent external alterations and repairs it has undergone, have given it a more modern appearance. The large room below, together with the smaller one, is now used by the corporation, on council, and other particular days; and here their records, manuscripts, &c. are deposited. Over the hall is

### THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL;

Free for all boys who are natives of the borough, which was founded in the reign of Henry the Sixth, by the Rev. ——— Jolepe, M. A. (a native of this town, and member of the before-mentioned guild,) and a revenue given by him to that fraternity, for the perpetual support of this his seminary. At the general dissolution of chantries, religious houses, &c. this guild shared the common fate; and all its revenues were seized by the crown, remaining in the same till the reign of Edward the Sixth. This good prince may be considered as the second founder of the school; for, about a fortnight before his death, he granted an ample charter of incorporation, with many privileges, to the principal inhabitants of the borough, and on certain conditions specified

in the charter, (such as amongst other the support of this grammar school,) he restored to them the houses and lands that had been taken by his father from the ancient guild.

By virtue of this charter, the master of the free grammar school, receives from the corporation of Stratford, an annual stipend of 20*l.* and is provided with a dwelling house so long as he continues in that office. The Duke of Dorset, as Lord of the Manor, has the sole right of appointing the master to this school; which is now under the direction of the Reverend John Whitmore, LL.B. Adjoining the guild hall are the

### ALMS HOUSES;

In which (before the dissolution of the guild) twenty-four poor people were maintained by that fraternity. Upon the incorporation of the town in 1553, these alms houses were appointed to be continued and maintained in the same manner as the school. There are now twelve poor men, and an equal number of women supported therein, by a weekly allowance of 2*s.* 6*d.* each: several other perquisites, cloathing, &c. are annually given to them, and each has a separate room to reside in. This building, though much modernized, is probably of equal antiquity with the guild hall; being, what are called, half timbered houses, and exhibiting at this time a very decent appearance.

### THE TOWN HALL,

First erected in 1633, was a lofty edifice, built on semicircular arches, supported by round columns, with a cupola on the top, under which was suspended the market bell; there being a common goal at the south, and a pillory at the north end. Above was a large handsome room; which, being occasionally used as a magazine for arms and ammunition, was, in the year 1642, very materially injured

by the accidental explosion of a barrel of gunpowder, and the adjoining house (now the Shakspeare Inn) much damaged. The walls of the hall-chamber were afterwards strengthened with large iron bars extending across the room; in which state it remained till the year 1767, when the greatest part of it was taken down; and, in the following year, the *present* TOWN HALL, a fine structure in the Tuscan Order, was built; and dedicated to the memory of Shakspeare, by David Garrick, Esq. at the Jubilee, in 1769. Against the west front are the arms of the corporation, viz. *a chevron, between three leopards' faces*; and in a niche at the north end is placed an excellent statue of Shakspeare, which, at the conclusion of the Jubilee, was presented to the corporation by Garrick, as a lasting memorial of his veneration for the matchless original. The bard is represented in a graceful attitude, (as on his monument in Westminster Abbey,) resting upon some volumes, placed on a pedestal, ornamented with three busts, viz. Henry the Fifth, Richard the Third, and Queen Elizabeth. Upon a scroll, to which he points, are the following lines, judiciously selected from his own *Midsummer Night's Dream*:—

“ The poet's eye, in a fine frenzy rolling,  
 “ Doth glance from heaven to earth, from earth to heaven; .  
 “ And, as imagination bodies forth  
 “ The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen  
 “ Turns them to shapes; and gives to airy nothing  
 “ A local habitation, and a name.”

Upon the pedestal beneath, are these words from *Hamlet*:—

“ \_\_\_\_\_ take him for all in all,  
 “ We shall not look upon his like again.”

Below is the following inscription:—

The corporation and inhabitants of Stratford, assisted by the munificent contributions of the nobility and gentle-

men of the neighbourhood, rebuilt this edifice, in the year 1768. The statue of Shakspeare, and his picture within, were given by David Garrick, Esq.

The great room, which is 60 feet long and 30 wide, is adorned with several very large and elegant paintings: at the north end is an admirable one by Wilson, wherein our inimitable poet is represented in the attitude of inspiration, and sitting in an antique chair; upon the ground lie several books and M.S.S. among the former are distinguished North's Plutarch's Lives, Holingshed's Chronicles, Cynthia's Novels, &c. being some of the authors which Shakspeare consulted; and in the window are the armorial bearings of his family. At the south end is a whole length painting, by Gainsborough, of David Garrick, Esq. reclining against a pedestal; upon which is represented a bust of his favourite author. These paintings were presented to the corporation by Garrick, in 1769. There is also another superb painting of the late John Frederic, Duke of Dorset, presented by his Duchess to this corporation. Behind the great room, are two smaller ones; and below are the kitchens, &c. with two cells, or places of confinement.

### THE MARKET HOUSE.

It is unknown by whom, or at what time this market house (or, as it is generally called, *the cross*) was built; but it was certainly subsequent to the reformation; and is probably as ancient as the time of Elizabeth. It is situated at the top of High-street, and tolerably well adapted to the use for which it was intended. In the centre are the remains (viz. the base with part of the shaft) of an ancient cross, which undoubtedly stood there long before the erection of the present market house. There was formerly at the north end of Rother Market, and opposite Wood-street,

another stone cross; some parts of which were, in the memory of the inhabitants, remaining two or three feet *above ground*, and the foundation of it may still be perceived.

THE  
GREAT STONE BRIDGE AND CAUSEWAY,

Crosses the Avon from east to west, at the northern extremity of the town; being confessedly the noblest edifice of its kind upon this beautiful and extensive river: it is 376 yards in length, about 16 feet wide; walled on both sides, and consists of fourteen principal arches, with five small ones under the causeway at the west end. On the third pier from the east end, is a stone pillar, decorated with the arms of the city of London, and the Clopton family; under which is the following inscription:—

Sr. HUGH CLOPTON, Knight, Lord Mayor of London, built this bridge, at his own proper expence, in the reign of King Henry ye. Seventh.

During the Civil Wars, part of this bridge “*by command from the Parliament, in pursuant directions from Col. Bridges, was broken downe, for securing the county, and preventinge the incursions of the enemyes,*” as appears by two orders made at the Sessions in 1651, for its reparation at the charge of the county, *for that time only*; the corporation being bound, by their charter, to defray such expences: the care of this work was given to William Combe, Esq. one of the Justices of the peace. There is no particular mention as to what part of the bridge was demolished, and afterwards re-edified in 1652; but upon a close inspection, it appears to have been the second arch from the east end. Previous to the erection of this bridge, there was one of timber only, and no causeway; on which account the passage was very dangerous on the overflowing of the river.

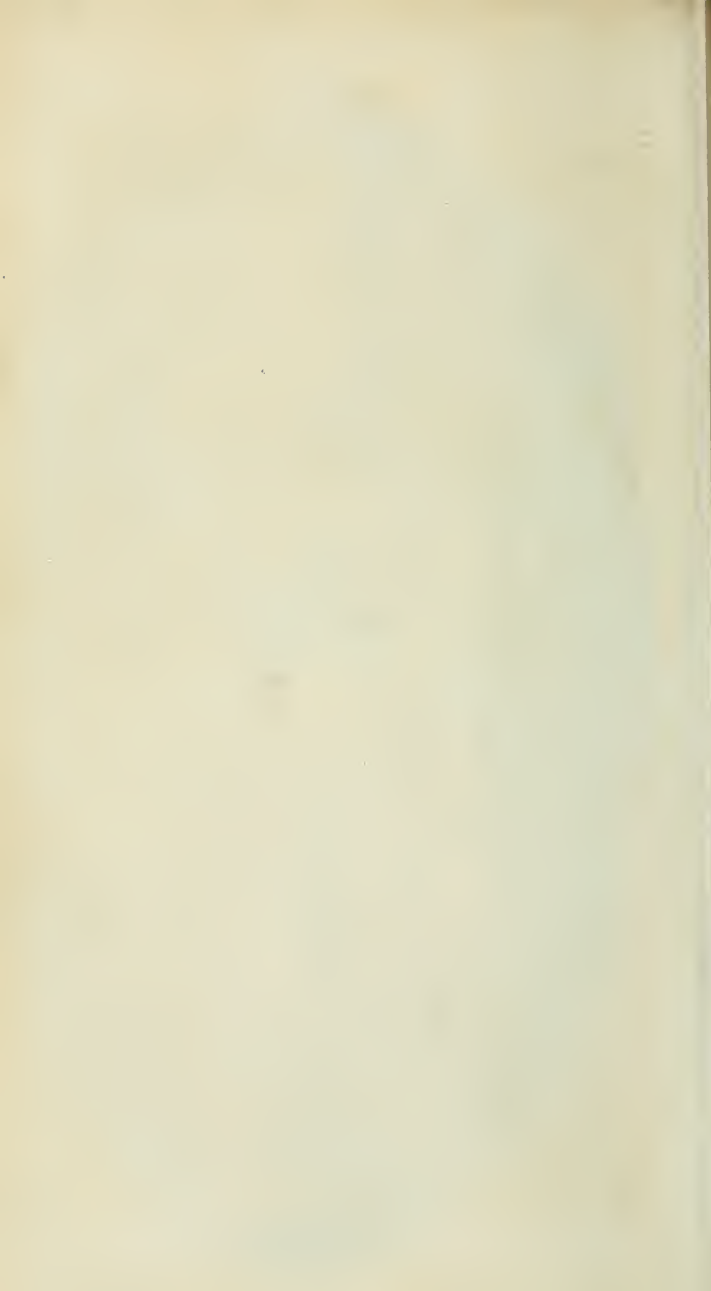


The Old Bridge?



MADE IN  
NEW YORK

Engraved by E. Jackson, Boston



There is another bridge, for foot passengers, (built in 1590, as appears by a stone at the east end,) which stands over a shallow ford below the mills; it consists of a wooden frame, forty-eight yards long, elevated upon eight stone piers, and railed on each side. In 1595, the corporation covenanted, by deed under their common seal, with Sir George Carew, Knt. of Clopton, (afterwards Earl Totness,) Sir Edward Greville, Knt. of Milcote, Sir Baptist Hickes, Bart. of Campden, Hercules Rainsford, Esq. of Clifford, and others, (at whose expence this Bridge was erected,) to keep it in perpetual repair.

## BIOGRAPHICAL ACCOUNT

OF

EMINENT PERSONS,

BORN AT, OR WHO HAVE RESIDED IN STRATFORD-UPON-  
AVON.

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 JOHN DE STRATFORD,  
 ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.
 

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THIS great man was born at Stratford-upon-Avon, being the son of Robert de Stratford and Isabel his wife; persons, it may be presumed, of sufficient fortune and much respectability, from their giving their two sons, John and Robert, a liberal education. The date of their birth and age is not very certain: but, as John, the eldest, died in the year 1348, in Edward the Third's reign, and as he was fifteen years Archbishop of Canterbury, and ten years Bishop of Winchester, if we assign the term of fifty years before his episcopal consecration, his age will then be 75, and the time of his nativity about the year 1273, viz. near the beginning of the reign of Edward the First.

The course of his studies at Merton College, Oxford, lay, for a long time, in the canon and civil law; of which he commenced Doctor, and in which, by all accounts, he was eminently skilled. His first preferment was to the Archdeaconry of Lincoln: when, being famous for his learning, and good government of that jurisdiction, Walter Reynolds, Archbishop of Canterbury, made him his principal Official, and Dean of the Arches; and King Edward the Second, solely in regard of his merit, shortly after that, appointed him his Secretary, and a Member of the Privy

Council. It was generally the custom, in those days, for the Popes to assume the privilege of conferring English Bishoprics, and other high spiritual preferments, on whom they thought proper; and John de Stratford happening to be Ambassador at Rome, at the time of the death of Reginald de Asser, Bishop of Winchester, the Pope, at the request of Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury, bestowed the Bishopric of Winchester on John de Stratford, then present with him. This was done without the King's privity, whose intention it was to have preferred to that see, Robert Baldock, his Chancellor: and, being enraged that the Pope should give, and Stratford, his subject, should dare to accept the Bishopric without his knowledge, he, for a time, countenanced and encouraged Baldock, who laid many schemes to prevent the other's obtaining it; which, notwithstanding all his efforts, proving ineffectual, he was then as industriously troublesome to him, when invested, to make him weary of it.\*

John de Stratford was consecrated on the Sunday, then called "*multæ tribulationes justorum;*" (June 26, 1323;) which he considered as a prognostication, that, in the whole course of his life, he should find nothing but continual troubles; and the event was undoubtedly suitable to the prediction: never, I think, (says the venerable Bishop Godwin,) any Archbishop, either before or after him, giving so little cause and doing his endeavours to please, was more incumbered with undeserved and frequent crosses. He had no sooner entered upon his diocese, than the King (who was wholly ruled by the crafty Baldock) caused all his effects to be seized, and his livings to be sequestered to his use; and summoned him, by an unusual kind of writ, to appear at a certain time and place, to answer for his conduct;

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\* See Rymer's *Fœdera*. Tom. 4, p. 30.

(which was generally allowed to be irreproachable;) and when, upon just apprehension of danger, he was constrained to abscond, proclamation was made, that no man should dare to harbour him, or even afford him the common necessaries of life. Having suffered many afflictions the space of a year, he entreated his old friend, Archbishop Reynolds,\* to be an intercessor to the King in his behalf; who making it appear what a dishonourable action it was, for a monarch to persecute a true subject so malignantly, both for another's fault, and for a third man's pleasure too; he was soon won to receive the distressed Bishop into his good graces; and to lay all the blame of that injurious treatment upon Baldock the Chancellor. Being thus restored, he grew daily more and more into the King's favour; and having now an interval, or short respite from his usual fatigues, as well as the means of being serviceable to others, he took into consideration the state of his native place, STRATFORD; where, for the good of the inhabitants, he founded his chantry, and continued his kind offices and benefactions to them, in many other respects elsewhere treated of. 'Tis recorded of this bishop as one instance, among many, of his steadiness and loyalty, that towards the close of the reign of Edward the Second, and when all his former adherents had forsaken that unfortunate monarch, (among whom was even Walter, the Archbishop, who had more than ordinary obligations to the King, for his many favors,) Stratford would never be allured to the contrary part by any means; but served his royal master, both diligently and faithfully to the last hour: for this the Queen and Roger Mortimer, who were then in power, attempted to take

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\* It is probable, that Walter Reynolds' acquaintance with John de Stratford might first commence when the former was Bishop of Worcester, in 1308; five years after which he became Archbishop of Canterbury.

away his life; but apprized of their design, he secreted himself from their malice, and was necessitated for a long time to continue his concealment. The Queen, however, and her son, (afterwards Edward the Third,) well knowing they had nothing to lay to the charge of this Bishop, but that he was true and loyal to his Prince, were content, not only to receive him into their favour, but to appoint him Lord of the Treasury, in the twentieth and last year of Edward the Second.

Upon the accession of Edward the Third to the throne, he became one of the greatest favourites of that renowned monarch; who, in the early part of his reign, made him Lord Chancellor of England;\* and, upon the death of Si-

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\* He was appointed Lord Chancellor of England, four several times; the first time on the 28th of November, 1329, the 4th of Edward the Third. Being sent Ambassador to France about the public affairs, he did not (like Cardinal Wolsey, Chancellor in the days of Henry the Eighth) presumptuously carry the great seal with him out of the kingdom; but delivered it to his brother Robert, with the title of Keeper. He resumed it soon after, being installed Lord Chancellor at York the 6th of April, 1335; and again delivered it to his brother, to be kept in his absence. On the 6th of June, 1336, he was a third time made Chancellor, but was succeeded by his brother Robert the 23d of October, 1338. The last time he received the great seal, was on the 28th of April, 1341, in the 16th of Edward the Third. He twice served the office of Lord Treasurer; viz. upon the removing of William Walwain; when he was, in the 12th of Edward the Second, 1319, admitted into the office of Treasurer, until the King should otherwise determine. Stratford found in the treasury, only the small sum of 29*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.* which might be the cause of displacing Walwain, who had wasted the public money. After holding this office one year, he was succeeded by Walter Stapleton, Bishop of Exeter; and, in the last year of Edward the Second, he was appointed successor to William Melton, Archbishop of York, in that honourable situation. In Philipot's catalogue of the Chancellors, Lord Keepers of the great seal, and Lord Treasurers of England, &c. it appears, that John de Stratford, on the 14th of November, in the 20th of Edward the Second, went into the exchequer, with a patent or open writ, under the seal of Edward, the King's eldest

mon Mepham, Archbishop of Canterbury, soon after, the King wrote earnestly to the Pope, to prefer Dr. Stratford to the see of Canterbury, to which the monks there, (though they usually claimed to themselves a right of nomination to that dignity, yet,) having lost much of their power, made a virtue of necessity, by electing him likewise; and he was therefore, on the first of December, 1333, consecrated Archbishop of Canterbury; a station which rendered him for life, the second person in the kingdom. About this period, Edward the Third began to lay claim to the crown of France, in opposition to Philip de Valois; and crossing the seas with a great army to justify his pretensions, committed the government of the realm at home, to the new Archbishop; who, besides other general promises of faithfulness and diligence, in the charge delivered to him, assured the King he should want no money to defray the expence of this expedition: the people also in general shewed themselves so willing to contribute, according to their abilities and situations

son, (afterwards Edward the Third,) to witness his election and creation to the place of Treasurer; a copy of which, as it shews to what power the young Prince arrived, previous to the deposition of his father, is deserving a place here.

“ EDWARDUS Rex Angliæ, et Dominus Hiberniæ, Baronibus et  
 “ Camerariis suis de Scaccario suo salutem. Quum pro eo quod venerabilis Pater *W.* [*William Melton*] Archiepiscopus Eborum, nuper  
 “ Thesaurarius Scaccarii prædicti, circa diversa negotia in partibus  
 “ borealibus est occupatus, quo minus intendere possit ad ea quæ ad  
 “ officium illud in dicto Scaccario pertinet exercenda. Constituerimus venerabilem patrem *Johannem*, Wintoniensem Episcopum, tenentem locum Thesaurarii Scaccarii prædicti, quousque de officio  
 “ illo aliter duximus ordiandum. Percipiendo in eodem officio, (dum  
 “ illud sic tenuerit,) feodum consuetum pro ut in literis nostris patentibus Episcopo præfato iude confectis plenius continetur. Vobis  
 “ mandamus quod ipsum Episcopum ad officium admittatis, et ei in his  
 “ quæ ad officium prædictum pertinent intendatis in forma prædicta.

“ Teste EDUARDO filio nostro primogenito, Custode Regni nostri,  
 “ apud Hereford, sexto die Novembris, anno regni nostri vicesimo.”



in life, that the new vicegerent observed, the King might command of them even what he pleased; nor was he wholly mistaken in the conjecture, for no sooner had the King landed in France than immense sums were collected with the general approbation, and transmitted to Edward upon the continent. This money, (which was thought by the contributors, sufficient to support that war for two or three years,) the King being young and easily to be mistaken or imposed upon, was spent in less than one year. The Archbishop, surprized at this, advised the King, by letters, to remove from him such as had the disposal of his treasure, because that, without embezzlement and treachery, it was impossible so much wealth could be so soon consumed. The King, on the other hand, put the Archbishop in mind of his promise, and called upon him continually for more money: he then, well knowing how difficult it would be, to collect any reasonable sum so soon after the late liberal contribution, attempted to prevail on the King to accept the reasonable conditions, which he heard the French King had offered him, and to come home. The King either was, or seemed to be, exceedingly angry with this motion; yet knowing there was no alternative but to return, his money being expended, and his credit with the usurers stretched to the utmost; he told his soldiers on the one side, that the Archbishop had betrayed him to the French King, who no doubt had bribed him to detain their pay; and on the other hand, made his creditors believe that the Archbishop had taken upon him the discharge of all his debts, having at length gathered money sufficient for that purpose.

Thus the discontent of these people being either allayed, or cast upon the Archbishop; it was devised, for the further countenance of this scheme, that the King should return to England, suddenly, and imprison him; together with his brother, Robert de Stratford, Bishop of Chiches-

ter, then Lord Chancellor, and Robert Northborough, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, the Lord Treasurer. Pursuant to these measures, the King came to London secretly by night, arrested the two Bishops and sent them to the tower; but the Archbishop, by mere chance, had gone from Lambeth the day before, and having some timely intimation afterwards of what was meant, he withdrew to Canterbury, and there remained upon his guard. To this place a message was brought him from the King, by Sir Nicholas Cantilupe, accompanied by John Farringdon, a Notary Public; requiring him to make immediate payment of an immense sum pretended to have been borrowed of foreign merchants, on his (the Archbishop's) credit; or else that he should cross the seas, and surrender to these merchants his body, till the debt was satisfied; which the King had undertaken he should, being encouraged so much by his own promise. Soon after there came messengers from the Duke of Brabant, desiring to speak with the Archbishop, but upon his refusal to confer with them, they cited him, by writings, to make payment of certain great sums, which they pretended he owed to the duke for money the King of England had received; and this citation they, with many ceremonies, publicly fixed upon the high cross at Canterbury.

The Archbishop perceiving what a tempest was gathering round him, (being both charged with a debt of many thousand pounds more than he could ever satisfy, and with treason too, that might at length, not only take away his life, but make him odious to latest posterity,) wrote many letters to the King, wherein he clearly purged himself of whatever was objected; and prayed him not to command his repairing to his presence, till such time as a parliament should be assembled; wherein, if he should be charged with any crime, he vowed to offer himself to the hand of justice. Understanding that the King had written numerous invectives

tives against him, to Ralph de Stratford, Bishop of London, the Convent of Canterbury and others, intended for public perusal; he thought it requisite, for preserving his credit and character, to make his apology in the pulpit; which he did upon this apocryphal text, that speaks of the greatness of the prophet Eli, “*Non pertinuit principem, et potentia*” “*nemo vicit illum.*” (Eccle. xlviii. 13.) strenuously maintaining, and clearly proving his innocence.

Some time after this epistolary altercation,\* a parliament was summoned; whereto, upon safe conduct being granted him, our Archbishop came; but the Steward and Chamberlain forbade him, in the King's name, to enter the house before he had answered to certain crimes, objected against him in the Court of Exchequer. He accordingly went there, and receiving a copy of the articles, promised to make answer to each of them in their order. The next day, coming for entrance, it was again denied him, by Sir William Attewood, Captain of the King's Guard; and a great number of people flocking round him in the mean time, he told them after what manner he had been summoned to the parliament, of which he was, next the King, a principal member; and that, being now come, he was kept out by violence: “but (said he, taking the cross into his own hand,) I will not stir from hence, till either I am suffered to resume my seat in the house, or hear some cause alleged, why I should not.” Upon this, some of

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\* Numerous letters passed and repassed, upon this extraordinary occasion; the particulars of which (as they describe the several notions of church power held in those days) are well worth the perusal of the curious: but, as they would swell the account of this great man's life too much, in proportion to other matters, the reader is referred to Barnes' life of Edward the Third, (lib. 1, cap. 18,) where they are given entire, with the authorities.

the standers by, reviled and told him that he was a traitor, had deceived the King, and betrayed the realm: to whom he thus answered:—"the curse of Almighty God, and of his blessed mother, and mine also, be upon the heads of those who informed the King so; amen! amen!" In this hurry some noblemen happening to come out, he requested them to intercede with the King in his behalf, and for the right of his church of Canterbury: by their means he was admitted into the house; and being charged with several heinous crimes, he offered to clear himself of them. Twelve noblemen were chosen to examine this matter; four prelates, viz. Ralph de Stratford, Bishop of London; Ralph, Bishop of Bath and Wells; John, Bishop of Exeter; and Thomas, Bishop of Hereford: four Earls, viz. Richard, Earl of Arundel; William, Earl of Salisbury; William, Earl of Huntingdon; and Robert, Earl of Suffolk: and four Barons, viz. Henry, Lord Percy; Thomas, Lord Wake; Ralph, Lord Basset; and Ralph, Lord Nevill. All this was but to make the Archbishop odious with the common people: a fault was committed, and the King, willing the blame of it should rest any where, rather than on himself, by his agents and secret foes to the Archbishop, (Adam Orleton, Bishop of Winchester, Lord Darcy, and Dr. William Kiltlesby, keeper of the Privy Seal,) occasioned him this great trouble and vexation, to blear the eyes of the people. The affair however never came to a hearing before the above committee; for on the 19th of April, 1341, the King came into Saint Edward's (commonly called the painted) chamber; before whom, the Archbishop, requiring his gracious pardon, publicly humbled himself; and upon the whole parliament's general suit and entreaty, was readmitted into the King's favour; who further declared himself perfectly satisfied of his innocence, and ever after held him more dear than before.

Thus ended our metropolitan's troubles; and it was both then and since thought, that the King had no mind to destroy so able a minister, but only to humble and break his high prelatial consequence and authority, which for a while seemed to cope with the regal power: and though some historians accuse Stratford of acting inimical to the interests of his sovereign, yet there is little doubt but he was perfectly innocent, and ill deserving the unjust persecutions of his enemies; for in a few days after his humiliation (the 28th of April, 1341) at the feet of his royal master, he was a fourth time appointed Lord Chancellor, and entrusted with the administration of public affairs.

He survived this for seven years with much peace and quietness; and having held the archiepiscopal see about fifteen years, he fell sick,\* and died (of the plague, as is conjectured by some) at his manor of Magfield, in the year 1348. He was (in Barns' words) a man of great learning, ||

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\* It is remarkable concerning Simon de Islip, Archbishop of Canterbury, that when Archbishop Stratford lay upon his death-bed, he foretold that Islip would be promoted to that see, which happened within two years after Stratford's death, though two others (John Uford, or Offord, and Thomas Bradwardine) were appointed before him.

|| What an opinion Archbishop Stratford had of men of great learning and piety, may be gathered from his friendship to, and promotion of Dr. Bradwardine, whose character Godwin, in his *Treatise de Præsulibus Angliæ*, thus mentions,—“ that he was a good mathematician, “ a great philosopher, and so excellent a divine that he was commonly “ stiled *Doctor profundus*; which title, that he well deserved, is sufficiently testified by many of his works, not yet perished; but above “ all, he was greatly to be commended for his sincerity of life and “ conversation.” Archbishop Stratford, in regard of these virtues, invited him to court, about 1343, and recommended him unto Edward the Third for his Confessor. Bradwardine was cotemporary with Wickliffe, in Merton College, Oxford, as appears from Lewis' life of that celebrated Reformer; where we find also that, by our Archbishop's recommendation, he was made Canon of Lichfield, and Chancellor of

judgment, loyalty,\* and charity. || Bishop Godwin declares, that he was a very gentle, and merciful man; rather too remiss, than any way rigorous to offenders. Among other proofs of his humane, and compassionate temper, the following will give an idea of his benevolence. He constantly, thrice every day, distributed alms to thirteen poor people: in the morning a penny to each; at 9 o'clock bread, meat, and broth; and at noon, every one a loaf and another penny. In his will he bequeathed all his effects to his servants and domestics: he gave to his church of Canterbury, a very sumptuous cope and mitre; and certain books, composed by himself, and yet preserved in the archives of Lambeth: he assigned also to the monks of Canterbury, a pension of 5*l.* out of the parsonages of Boughton, and Preston, appropriated to the abbey of Feversham: and, to name no more, he founded the COLLEGE at Stratford-upon-Avon, where he was born, and endowed the same so largely, that at the suppression of religious houses, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, it was valued at 123*l.* 11*s.* 9*d.* He was buried in Canterbury cathedral, on the south side of the high altar, by the steps of that of Saint Dunstan, under a beautiful and majestic tomb of alabaster, whereon his statue lies at full

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the Cathedral Church of St. Paul; and, after Stratford's death, his great learning and moral character presented him as a fit person to fill the vacant see.

\* He was (says Speed in his History of England) the first who called the arguments of a *Cardinal* (who spoke in council to favour the French King) *vain and frivolous*; and that King Edward had a right to the crown of France, which it also became him by honourable force to prosecute.

|| Somner, in his Antiquities of Canterbury, has preserved copies of ordinations, by John de Stratford, of the vicarages of St. Mary Northgate, and Holy Cross Westgate in Canterbury, A. D. 1346, and 1347: and a copy of his augmentation of the vicarage of St. Dunstan, in that city, in 1342.

length, in a devout posture, with his crosier, mitre, and other episcopal habiliments; a venerable canopy of the same materials as the tomb being over it, supported by pillars, and adorned with curious and stately arches, and pendant Gothic work.

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ROBERT DE STRATFORD,  
*BISHOP OF CHICHESTER.*

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ROBERT DE STRATFORD,\* the younger brother of John, Archbishop of Canterbury, was also born at Stratford-upon-Avon; but the exact time of his nativity is unknown. In the early part of his life, he was a member of the Guild of the Holy Cross; and, being appointed by Godfrey Gifford, Bishop of Worcester, to be the first master of that society, in 1296 he superintended the erection of a chapel, (part of

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\* It was customary, before and since the reign of Henry the Third, for persons totally to relinquish their paternal name, and assume that of their residence; or to use either, at their own option. One instance of this occurs particularly under the article *Haseler*, in Dugdale's Warwickshire; where it is said, that *Robert de Haselovere*, or *Haseler*, is the same man who is elsewhere called *Robert Lyvet*, and owned the manor of *Haseler*. Of a descendant of this Robert Lyvet, in the 7th of Edward the Third, Robert de Stratford purchased the manor, for 100 marks of silver; and, in the 10th of Edward the Third, (being Archdeacon of Canterbury,) he obtained, for 100*l.* sterling, the advowson of the church, and an absolute possession there, which he re-sold in about ten years after. Robert de Stratford also purchased the village or manor of Shottery, in this parish, upon the Tuesday next after the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle, in the 6th of Edward the Third: this manor he entailed by deed, on Saturday, the feast of All Saints, in the 28th of Edward the Third, (being then Bishop of Chichester,) upon John de Bishopston, and Isabel, the daughter of John Stretch, and their heirs; and, in default of issue, to return to the Bishop and his heirs,

which yet remains,) the guild hall, and alms houses, founded by that very ancient fraternity. He was rector of Overbury, in Worcestershire, and afterwards of Stratford-upon-Avon, for several years; during which time he exerted his influence in the improvement of his native town, and procured letters patent from Edward the Third, enabling the inhabitants to pave the streets. Being a man of an enterprising disposition, and eminent for his learning, it was not to be expected he could confine himself to the narrow limits of his native town; and he accordingly appears to have been promoted to the Archdeaconry of Canterbury, a dignity he enjoyed many years.\* On the 23d of June, 1333, the 6th of Edward the Third, he had the custody of the great seal of England given to him by his brother John, (at that time Lord Chancellor, and who was otherwise engaged in the King's affairs,) with the title of Keeper; but he restored it soon after. The great seal was again delivered to him, in 1335, by his brother to be kept, but he had it not in his possession long; for Richard de Bury, Bishop of Durham, was appointed Chancellor, and had the great seal on the 28th of September following. On the 24th of March, 1336, he succeeded his brother in the exalted station of Lord Chancellor of England; and, upon the death of John de Langton, he was promoted to the vacant see of Chichester, being confirmed bishop by the King's letters patent, dated the 23d of October, and consecrated the 30th of November, 1337. In consequence of this his latter promo-

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\* Somner, in his *Antiquities of Canterbury*, mentions having "seene a plea of Archdeacon Stratford's, consisting of many articles, and containing, in the first place, an enumeration or particular of all the rights and priviledges of his Archdeaconry; after which follows a suggestion of certaine grievances offered to him, and it, by the then Commissary of Canterbury, put up against him to his brother, the Archbishop; with what successe I know not, for I cannot finde the issue."



tion, he desired to be removed from the office of Chancellor; which request being granted to him, he accordingly surrendered the seal to his sovereign, and was succeeded by Richard Bentworth, Bishop of London, in July, 1338.

He soon after became involved, with the Archbishop, in his dispute with King Edward; and, with Robert Northborough, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, was committed to the Tower, upon suspicion of detaining the supplies that were granted to the King, to assist him in carrying on the war against the King of France. Edward threatened to send them into Flanders, there to lie as pledges for money which the King owed; but, upon the Bishop of Chichester's remonstrance to the King, that he would be in danger of incurring the penalty of Pope Clement's canon, *De non incarcerandis Episcopis*, he relented, and set them free, though deprived of their offices.

About this time he was elected Chancellor of the university of Oxford, and soon after, by his prudent conduct in that situation, he pacified the violent feud among the students (then supposed to be 30,000 in number) which had so much disturbed that university; and being divided into factions, distinguished by the names of the northern and southern scholars, their disputes were carried to such an height, that the former retired to Stamford, in Lincolnshire, where they established schools, and appointed professors, in opposition to Oxford. They were however recalled by the King's proclamation, directed to the High Sheriff of Lincolnshire, under penalty of forfeiture of their books, and incurring the King's displeasure; and Chancellor Stratford then appointed, that one proctor should be elected from the northern, and the other from the southern students, which prevented their future commotions. This probably was the occasion of Edward the Third's sending the Chan-

cellor (at his request) a writ, to continue in force three years; by which he allowed him to arrest persons excommunicated, after the manner that had been practised and used on the signification, and denunciation of bishops.

It appears that he still continued in the King's favour; for, in the year 1310, he again received the great seal as Lord Chancellor of England, though he held it a very inconsiderable time; for he delivered it up on the feast of Saint Andrew, (the 30th of November,) in the same year; and Sir Robert Burgchier, Knight, was soon after appointed to succeed him. The remainder of his life seems to have been spent in retirement, and the duties of his episcopal function: he died at a very advanced age, at Aldingburne, April the 9th, 1362; having sat Bishop of Chichester twenty-five years.

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RALPH DE STRATFORD,  
*BISHOP OF LONDON.*

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RALPH DE STRATFORD (nephew\* to the before mentioned prelates) was also a native of Stratford-upon-Avon, but his father's name is unknown; yet if a conjecture might be allowed, it is not improbable that Henry Stratford, (who, in Barnes' Edward the Third, is mentioned as being a clergyman, and clerk of the chancery in that reign; and, in the year 1310, was, through the King's displeasure, committed to prison, as were also several noblemen in different places,) was the father to Ralph, and brother to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and Bishop of Chichester: but at this

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\* Mag. Brit. Antiq. & Nov. vol. 3, p. 205.

period it is impossible, with any degree of certainty, to determine. There was also a Nicholas de Stratford, who was member for this county, at the parliaments held in the 6th of Edward the Third, at York; and in the 7th, 10th, and 11th of the same reign, at Westminster: it may be presumed that this Nicholas de Stratford, as well as a Thomas de Stratford, Archdeacon of Gloucester, in Edward the Third's time, were of the above named family.

Ralph was first a Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral, London; but, upon the death of Richard Bentworth, Bishop of London, was promoted to that see: being consecrated at Canterbury, the 12th of March, 1339, in the 14th of Edward the Third. He also seems to have had in view the welfare of this his native town; for in 1353, he obtained the King's letters patent, enabling him to erect a mansion house (afterwards called the COLLEGE) on the west side of our church yard, for the residence of the chantry priests, belonging to the chapel of St. Thomas, founded by John de Stratford, Archbishop of Canterbury, and in a preceding page taken notice of. We find but little recorded of this prelate's life, though he appears to have been much interested in the affair between his uncle, the Archbishop, and Edward the Third; in consequence of which, many letters passed betwixt the King and the Bishop of London, relative to that extraordinary dispute. During the great pestilence in 1348, he purchased a piece of ground, called *no man's land*, near Smithfield, and consecrated it as a place of burial for those who died of the contagion; the church-yards not being large enough, several fields were selected for that purpose, and in Charter-house church-yard, near Smithfield, more than two hundred bodies were, according to Stow, daily interred. Ralph de Stratford died at Stupenheath, in 1353, having filled the episcopal chair of London fourteen years.

His arms (and which, it is presumed, wore those of his family) were,—*Sable, a fesse wavy or, between three trestles, argent.\**

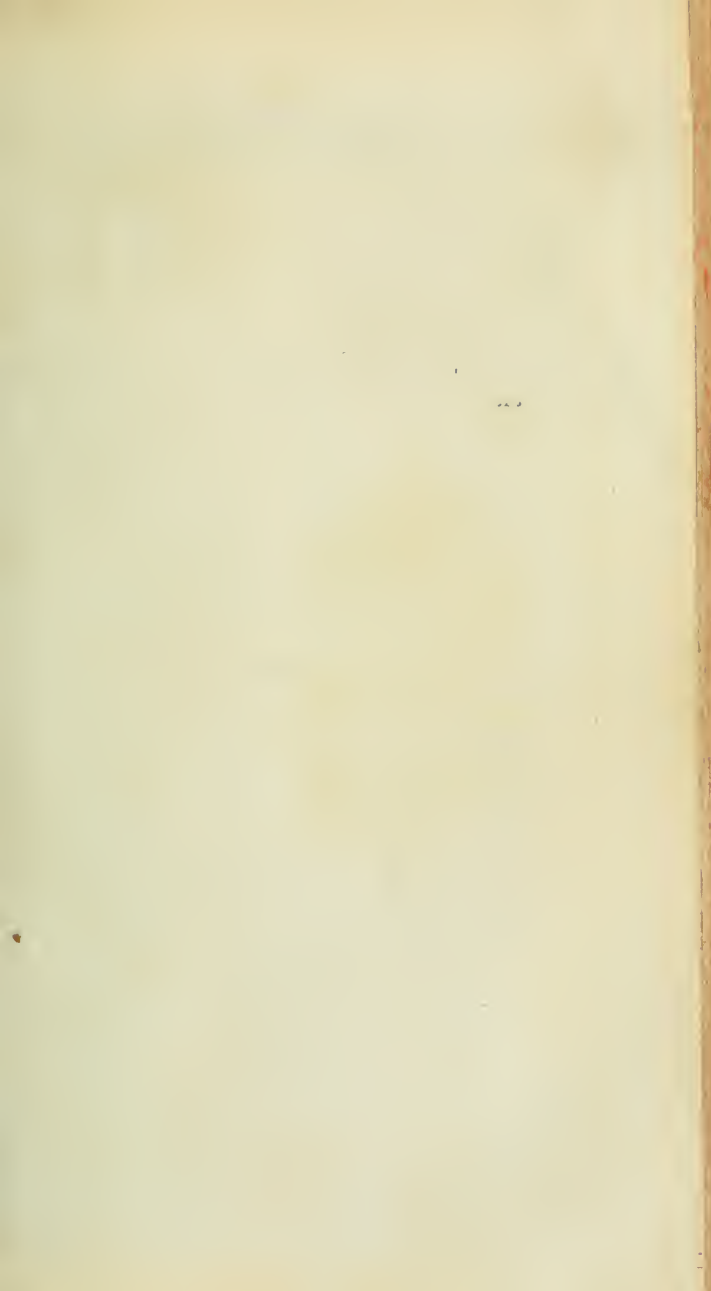
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JOHN BELL,  
*BISHOP OF WORCESTER,*

Born in that county, was educated in Baliol College, Oxford, and passed some time at Cambridge; to both of which universities he was a benefactor, particularly to the former, endowing it for the maintenance of two scholars, born in the diocese of Worcester. He was Rector of Weston Sub-edge, (where the Bell's family continued, till within these few years,) Archdeacon of Gloucester, Prebend of Lincoln and Lichfield, and Vicar General of the Bishop of Worcester. In 1518 he succeeded Ralph Collingwode, as Warden of our College, and, consequently, Dean of the Collegiate Church of Stratford; in which he continued about eight years, resigning in 1526, when Anthony Barker was appointed in his place. He appears to have been a favourite of Henry the Eighth's, who made him his Envoy to foreign princes, and one of his council: and, as a reward for his great services, in defence of his divorce from Queen Catherine, he gave him the bishopric of Worcester; in which he was confirmed on the 11th of August, 1539. He did not long enjoy this dignity; as he resigned it on the 17th of November, 1543, and retired to a private life at Clerkenwell, where he died on the 11th of August, 1556, and was interred in St. James' church there.

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\* Wharton de Episcop. Lond. p. 130.





Drawn by R.P. Adler

## WILLIAM SHAKSPEARE.

Our immortal Bard was the eldest son of Mr. JOHN SHAKSPEARE, a very respectable man, and who is mentioned in the register and public writings relating to this town, as "a gentleman of good figure and fashion:" he was a considerable dealer in wool, and served the office of High Bailiff, and Justice of the Peace in Stratford, A. D. 1569; but his name (on account of his non-attendance at the hall, on council and other particular days, on the corporation business) was erased from the list of the members, and another substituted in his place. He also enjoyed some hereditary estates in Warwickshire, where his ancestors "by some descents continued in good reputation and credit," given them as a reward for their faithful services to Henry the Seventh. Mr. John Shakspeare married the daughter and heir of Robert Arden, (of that ancient and honourable family, then settled at Wellingcote, in this county,) and resided at a house (at this time divided into two separate dwellings, and possessed by the Hart's family, who are the seventh descendants, in a direct line, from JONE, the sister of our illustrious townsman) now standing in Henley-street; and here his eldest son WILLIAM, the pride of nature and paragon of poets, was born on the 23d of April, 1564; and was baptized on the 26th of the same month. His father had so large a family, (ten children in all,) that though our Bard was his eldest son, he could give him no better occupation than his own employment. He had bred him, it is true, for some time at the free grammar school at Stratford, where it is probable he acquired what Latin he was master of: but the narrowness of his circumstances, and the want of his son's assistance at home, forced his father to withdraw him from school; and thus prevented his further proficiency in literature. Upon leaving school, he seems to have con-

formed to the way of living, which his father proposed to him; and in order to settle in the world, by the time he had attained his 19th year, he thought fit to marry Anne Hathaway, daughter of a substantial yeoman, then living at the village of Shottery, in this parish, about a mile distant from Stratford: this lady was eight years older than himself, and with her he passed some years of his life in domestic obscurity, till an extravagance that he was guilty of, forced him out of this county, and from the way of living he had taken up; and though it seemed at first a blemish upon his good manners, and a misfortune to him, yet it afterwards happily proved the occasion of exerting the greatest genius that ever appeared in dramatic poetry. He had, by a misfortune common enough to young men, fallen into ill company; and amongst them, some, that made a frequent practice of deer stealing, engaged him more than once in robbing a park belonging to Sir Thomas Lucy, of Charlecote, near Stratford. For this he was prosecuted by that gentleman, as he thought, somewhat too severely; and in order to revenge this ill usage, he made a ballad upon him so very bitter, that it enraged the prosecutor to such a degree, that he was obliged to leave his business and family in Warwickshire for some time, and shelter himself in London.

It was at this time, and upon this accident, that he is said to have made his first acquaintance in the playhouse. He was received into the company, at first, in a very mean rank; but his admirable wit, and the natural turn of it to the stage, soon distinguished him, if not as an extraordinary actor, yet as an excellent writer; and the people of his age, who began to grow wonderfully fond of diversions of this kind, could not but be highly pleased to see a genius arise amongst them, of so pleasurable, so rich a vein, and so plentifully capable of furnishing their favourite entertainment.



Besides the advantages of his wit, he was in himself a good-natured man, of great sweetness in his manners, and a most agreeable companion; so that it is no wonder, if, with these good qualities, he made himself acquainted with the best company of those times. Queen Elizabeth, who was an excellent judge of merit, had several of his plays acted before her, and without doubt gave him many marks of her favour: but what grace soever she conferred upon him, it was not to her only he owed the fortune which the reputation of his wit made; he had the honour to meet with many great and uncommon marks of favour and friendship from the Earl of Southampton. It was to that noble Lord he dedicated his poems of Venus and Adonis, and his Rape of Lucrece. One singular instance of the munificence of this patron of Shakspeare is, that he gave him, at one time, a thousand pounds, to enable him to compleat a purchase which he heard he had a mind to.

What particular habitude or friendship he contracted with private men, has never been handed down to us; more than that every one, who had a true taste for merit, had generally a just value and esteem for him. His exceeding candour and good-nature must certainly have inclined all the gentler part of the world to love him; as the power of his wit obliged men, of the most delicate knowledge, and polite learning, to admire him.

His acquaintance with Ben Jonson began with a remarkable piece of humanity and good-nature. Jonson, who was at that time altogether unknown to the world, had offered one of his dramatic works to the players, in order to have it acted; and the persons into whose hands it was put, after having turned it carelessly and superciliously over, were just upon the point of returning it to him, with an ill-natured answer, that it would be of no ser-

vice to their company; when Shakspeare luckily cast his eye upon it, and found something so striking in it, as to engage him first to read it through, and afterwards to recommend Jonson and his writings to the public. Jonson was certainly a very good scholar, and in that had the advantage of Shakspeare; though at the same time it must be allowed, that what nature gave the latter, was more than a balance for what books had given the former; and the opinion of a great man, upon this occasion, was very just and proper. In a conversation between Sir John Suckling, Sir William D'Avenant, Endymion Porter, Mr. Hales, of Eaton, and Ben Jonson; Sir John Suckling, who was a professed admirer of Shakspeare, had undertaken his defence against Jonson with some warmth; Mr. Hales, who had sat still for some time, said—"that if Mr. Shakspeare had not read the ancients, he had likewise not stolen any thing from them; and that, if he would produce any one topic finely treated by any one of them, he would undertake to shew something upon the same subject, at least as well written by Shakspeare."

The latter part of his life was spent, as all men of good sense will wish their's may be, in ease, retirement, and the conversation of his friends. He had the good fortune to gather an estate equal to his wants, and in that to his wish; and is said to have spent some years before his death at his native Stratford: his pleasurable wit and good-nature engaged him in the acquaintance, and entitled him to the friendship of the gentlemen of the neighbourhood. He died on his birth day, the 23d of April, 1616, in the 53d year of his age, at New Place, in Stratford; and was buried on the 25th of the same month, on the north side of the chancel of our Collegiate Church, where a monument is erected to his memory.

Mrs. Shakspeare survived her husband nearly eight years; she died on the 6th of August, 1623, and was buried between his grave and the north wall of the chancel, on the 8th of that month, as appears in the register, from which many of the following extracts were taken. By her he had two daughters and one son. Susannah, the eldest, was baptized at Stratford, May the 26th, 1583, and was married on the 5th of June, 1607, to Dr. John Hall, a physician of good reputation, and great practice in the first families of this county,\* who died November the 25th, 1635, aged 60; and was buried in Stratford chancel, the following day, near his father-in-law. Mrs. Hall died on the 11th of July, 1649, and was buried by her husband on the 16th of the same month. By her he had one child, Elizabeth, who was afterwards twice married. Our Poet's other children were twins, named Hamnet and Judith, who were baptized on the 2d of February, 1584-5. Hamnet lived only to accomplish his twelfth year, being buried here the 11th of August, 1596; but there is no monument or inscription for him. Judith was married, on the 10th of February, 1615-6, to Mr. Thomas Quiney, a gentleman of good family in this neighbourhood: she was buried the 9th of February, 1661-2. They had three children; Shakspeare Quiney, baptized the 23d of November, 1616, and buried May the 8th, 1617,—Richard Quiney was baptized the 9th of February, 1617-8, but died in his 21st year, and was buried the 26th of February, 1638-9,—and Thomas Quiney, the third son, baptized the 29th of August, 1619, and buried the 28th of Ja-

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\* Dr. Hall was author of a work entitled "Select observations on English bodies: or, cures both empericall and historicall, performed upon very eminent persons in desperate diseases," which was translated from the original M.S. in Latin, purchased of his widow, and published by "James Cooke, practitioner in physick and chirurgery:" printed at London, in 1657.

nuary, 1638-9. The last descendant of our Poet was his grand-child, the before mentioned Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hall. She was baptized the 21st of February, 1607-8; and was married on the 22d of April, 1626, to Thomas Nashe, Esq. (son of Anthony Nashe, Esq. of Welcombe,) who was baptized on the 20th of June, 1593. He died on the 4th of April, 1647, and was buried near his father-in-law, Dr. Hall, on the following day. Mrs. Nashe was married, on the 5th of June, 1649, at Billesley, near Stratford, to her second husband, John Barnard, Esq. (afterwards Sir John Barnard, Knight,) of Abington, near Northampton, who had also been previously married; and buried his first wife, (the daughter of Sir Clement Edmonds, of Preston, in Northamptonshire,) in the year 1642. He was descended from a very ancient family; was born in 1605; created a Knight by King Charles the Second, on the 25th of November, 1661; and died at Abington, where he was buried, the 5th of March, 1673-4. On his tomb, in the chancel of Abington Church, is the following inscription:—

*Hic jacent exuviæ generosissimi viri Johannis Bernard, militis; patre, avo, abavo, tritavo, aliisque progenitoribus per ducentos et amplius annos hujus oppidi de Abington dominis, insignis: qui fato cessit undeseptuagesimo ætatis suæ anno, quinto nonas Martii, annoquæ a partu B. Virginis M,DC,LXXIII.*

He survived his wife several years; who was buried at Abington, the 17th of February, 1669-70: but no memorial is there erected for her. As she died without issue, with her the family of our Poet became extinct.





NEW PLACE,  
THE RESIDENCE OF SHAKSPEARE.

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We are informed by Dugdale, in his History of Warwickshire, that New Place was originally erected by Sir Hugh Clopton, Knt. *temp.* Henry the Seventh. It was, says that antiquarian, "a fair house, built of brick and timber;" and was probably the best in the town, being called *the Great House* in Sir Hugh's will, in which it was devised to his great nephew, William Clopton, Esq. who died in 1521. In the year 1563, *the Great House* was sold out of the Clopton family to William Bott; who, before the year 1570, sold it to William Underhill, Esq. From the Underhill family it was purchased, in 1597, by Shakspeare; who, having repaired and modeled it to his own mind, changed the name to *New Place*, which appellation it retained till its demolition. Shakspeare, by his will, dated the 25th of March, 1616, gave New Place, and the lands in this parish, (which he had purchased of William and John Combe,\* in 1602,) to his daughter, Mrs. Hall, for her life, and then to her daughter Elizabeth, || afterwards Lady Barnard. On

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\* See copies of several deeds relating to Shakspeare's property, in the appendix.

•|| During the Civil Wars, Henrietta Maria, Queen to Charles the First, kept her court at this house; which she preferred to the College, then in the possession of the Combe family, who did not so strongly favour the King's party. The Queen marched from Newark, the 16th of June, 1643, and entered Stratford triumphantly, about the 22d of the same month, at the head of 3000 foot, and 1500 horse, with 150 waggons, and a train of artillery: here she was met by Prince Rupert, accompanied by a large body of troops. After sojourning at New Place about three weeks, the Queen went, on the 13th of July, to the plain of Kineton, under Edge-hill, to meet the King; and proceeded from thence with him to Oxford.

the 20th of October, 1652, (about three years after her second marriage,) New Place, with the lands in Stratford field, (formerly part of Shakspeare's possessions,) was settled to certain uses; reserving a power in Mrs. Barnard to dispose of them, in case of failure of issue. Mrs. Barnard soon after, viz. on the 18th of April, 1653, directed her trustees, Mr. Henry Smith, and Job Dighton, Esq. to sell this property; and dying without issue on the 17th of February, 1669-70, New Place, with the four yard land and a half, (or 107 acres,) was sold on the 18th of May, 1675, by the surviving trustee, Henry Smith, and her kinsman and executor, Edward Bagley, to Sir Edward Walker, Knt. whose only child, Barbara, married Sir John Clopton, Knt. of Clopton, in this parish; who, by her means, became heir to Sir Edward's estates. Sir John Clopton, by deed, gave New Place to his younger son, Sir Hugh Clopton, Knt. Barrister at Law, a Justice of the Peace for this county, one of the Heralds at Arms, and Recorder of this borough many years. He resided in New Place the latter part of his life, and died there in December, 1751, in the 80th year of his age. By this worthy gentleman, New Place was not (as hath been erroneously stated) pulled down, but thoroughly repaired and beautified, and a modern front built to it. In 1753, it was sold by his son-in-law and executor, Henry Talbot, Esq. brother to the late Lord Chancellor Talbot, to the Reverend Francis Gastrell, Vicar of Frodsham, in Cheshire; who, if we may judge by his actions, felt no sort of pride or pleasure in this charming retirement, no consciousness of his being possessed of the sacred ground which the Muses had consecrated to the memory of their favourite Poet. The celebrated Mulberry-tree, planted by Shakspeare's hand, became first an object of his dislike, because it subjected him to answer the frequent importunities of travellers, whose zeal might prompt them to visit it. In an evil hour, the sacrilegious priest



ordered the tree, then remarkably large and at its full growth, to be cut down; which was no sooner done than it was cleft to pieces for fire-wood: this took place in 1756, to the great regret and vexation not only of the inhabitants, but of every admirer of our Bard. The greater part of it was soon after purchased by Mr. Thomas Sharp, of Stratford; who, well knowing what value the world had set upon it, turned it much to his advantage, by converting every fragment into small boxes, goblets, toothpick-cases, tobacco-stoppers, and numerous other articles.\* Nor did

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\* Mr. Sharp, being informed that hints were thrown out of his having expended all the *original* tree, in the fabrication of his curiosities, and had purchased other mulberry-wood, to furnish him with a sufficiency of toys, called in the Mayor, and one of the standing Justices of the Peace for the borough, and ordered a friend to draw up an affidavit; wishing to convince the world to the contrary of such insinuations, and enable them to set a proper value upon the relics of the celebrated tree. The affidavit, of which the following is an exact copy, was voluntarily made upon his death-bed, a few days before his dissolution:—

This is to certify, That I, Thos. Sharp, of the borough of Stratford-upon-Avon, in the county of Warwick, clock & watch-maker, was born in the Chapel-street, & baptiz'd Feby. 5th, 1724; that I was personally acquainted with Sir Hugh Clopton, Knight, Barrister at Law, & one of the Heralds at Arms; who was son of Sir John Clopton, Knight, that purchased a certain messuage or house near the Chapel, in Stratford, called the New Place, of the executors of Lady Elizabeth Barnard, and grand-daughter of Shakespear; and that I have often heard the said Sir Hugh Clopton solemnly declare, that the Mulberry-tree, which grew in his garden, was planted by Shakespear, and he took pride in shewing it to, and entertaining persons of distinction, whose curiosity excited them to visit the spot, known to be the last residence of the immortal Bard: and, after the decease of the said Sir Hugh, in 1753 the premises were sold to the Reverend *Jno.* [Francis] *Gastrel*; who in 1756 cut down the said Mulberry-tree, and cleft it as fire-wood; when the greatest part of it was purchased by me, the said Thos. Sharp; who, out of a sincere veneration for the memory of its celebrated planter, employed one John Luckman to convey it to my own premises; where I have worked it into many curious toys and usefull articles from the same. And I do hereby declare, & take my solemn oath, upon the four Evangelists, in the presence of Almighty God, that I never had worked, sold, or substituted

New Place long escape the destructive hand of Mr. Gastrell; who, being compelled to pay the monthly assessments for the maintenance of the poor, (some of which he thought to escape, because he resided part of the year in Lichfield, though his servants continued in the house at Stratford during his absence,) in the heat of his anger declared *that* house should never be assessed again: and to give his imprecation due effect, the demolition of New Place soon followed; for in 1759 he razed the building to the ground, disposed of the materials, and left Stratford amidst the rage and curses of its inhabitants. Thus was the town deprived of one of its chief ornaments and most valued relics, by a man who, had he been possessed of true sense, and a veneration for the memory of our Bard, would have rather preserved whatever particularly concerned its great and immortal owner, than ignorantly have trodden the ground, which had been cultivated by the greatest genius in the world, without feeling those emotions which naturally arise in the breast of the generous enthusiast.

The scite of New Place was afterwards added to the garden adjoining it; which in 1775 was sold by Mrs. Jane Gastrell, (the widow and devisee of Francis Gastrell,) to William Hunt, Esq. late of this town; from whose eldest son, (the Rev. John Hunt, Rector of Welford, in Gloucestershire,) and trustee of his will, it was purchased, in 1790, by Charles Henry Hunt, Esq. and it is now the property of Messrs. Battersbee & Morris, Bankers, of Stratford.

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any other wood, than what came from, & was part of the said tree, as or for Mulberry-wood. Signed, and a true affidavit made by me,

THOS. SHARP.

Taken and sworn at and in the borough  
of Stratford-upon-Avon, this 14th day  
of October, 1799; before us,

RICHD. ALLEN, Mayor.

THOS. NOTT.

## APPENDIX

## TO THE LIFE OF SHAKSPEARE.

Copies of several documents relating to Shakspeare, and his family, *never before printed*; which, with the Probate of Lady Barnard's Will, are now in my possession. The first (unfortunately not executed, though a seal is appended to it) I have thought proper, it being an authentic deed of the time, to preserve; as with the subsequent ones it shews the extent and value of some parts of Shakspeare's property.

THIS INDENTURE, made the firste daie of Maye, in the flowre and ffortieth yeare of the raigine of our sove-  
raigne Ladie Elizabeth, by the grace of God, of England, Ffrancee, and Ireland, Queene, Defendresse of the faithe; &c. Betweene William Combe, of Warrwicke, in the countie of Warrwick, Esquier, and John Combe, of Olde Stretford, in the countie aforesaid, Gentleman, on the one partie; and William Shakespere, of Stretford-uppon-Avon, in the countie aforesaide, Gentleman, on thother partie; Witnesseth, that the saide William Combe, and John Combe, for, and in consideracon. of the somme of three hundred and twentie poundes, of currant Englishe money, to them in hande, at and before thensealinge and deliverie of theis presentes, well and trulie satisfied, contented, and paide; wherof and wherwith they acknowledge themselves fullye satisfied, contented, and paide; and therof, and of everie parte and parcell therof, doe clearlie exonerate, acquite, and discharge the saide William Shakspere, his heires, executors, administrators, and assignes for ever, by theis presentes, have aliened, bargayned, solde, geven, graunted, and confirmed; and by theis presentes, doe fullie, clearlie, and absolutelie alien, bargayne, sell, give, graunte, and confirme unto the saide

William Shakespere, all and singuler those errable landes, wth. thappurtennces. conteynge by estimacon. ffowre yarde lande of errable lande, scytuate, lyinge or beinge within the parrishe, feilds, or towne of Olde Stretford aforesaid, in the saide countie of Warrwick; conteynge by estimacon. one hundred and seaven acres, be they more or lesse; and also all the comon of pasture for sheepe, horse, kyne, or other cattle, in the feildes of Olde Stretforde aforesaid, to the saide ffowre yarde lande belonginge, or in any wise apperteyninge. And also all hades, leys, tyinges, profites, advantages, and commodities whatsoever, with their, and everie of their appurtennces. to the saide bargayned premisses belonginge, or apperteyninge; or hertofore reputed, taken, knowne, or occupied as parte, parcell, or member of the same: and the revercon. and the revercons. of all and singuler the same bargayned premisses, and of everie parte and parcell therof; nowe or late in the severall tenures or occupacons, of Thomas Hiccox, and Lewes Hiccox, or of either of them; or of their assignes, or any of them: together also with all charters, deedes, writinges, escriptes, and mynumentes whatsoever touchinge, or concerninge the same premisses onlye; or onlye any parte or parcell therof: and also the true copies of all other deedes, evidences, charters, writinges, escriptes, and mynumentes which doe touche and concerne the saide premisses, before bargayned and solde, or any parte or parcell therof; which the saide William Combe, or John Combe nowe have in their custodie, or herafter may have; or which they may lawfully gett, or come by, without suite in lawe. **TO HAVE AND TO HOLDE** the saide ffowre yarde of errable lande, conteynge by estimacon. one hundred and seaven acres, be it more or lesse; and all and singuler other the premisses, before by theis presentes aliened and solde; or menconed. or entended to be aliened and solde, and everie parte and parcell therof; and all deedes, charters, writinges, escriptes,

and mynumentes, before by theis presentes bargayned and solde, unto the saide William Shakespere, his heires and assignes for ever: to the onlye proper use and behoofe of the saide William Shakespere, his heires and assignes, for ever. And the saide William Combe, and John Combe, for them, their heires, executors, and administrators, doe covenant, promise, and graunte to, and with the saide William Shakespere, his heires, executors, and assignes by theis presentes; that they, the saide William and John Combe, are seized, or one of them is seized of a good, sure, perfect, and absolute estate, in fee simple, of the same premisses, before by theis presentes bargayned and solde, or ment, or menconed. to be bargayned and solde, without any further condicon. or lymyttacon. of use, or estate, uses, or estates: and that he, the saide John Combe, his heires and assignes, shall and will, from tyme to tyme, and at all tymes herafter, well and sufficiently save, and keepe harmles, and indemnified, as well the saide flowre yardes of errable lande, conteyninge one hundred and seaven acres, and all other the premisses, with their appurtennces. before bargayned and solde, or menconed. or entended to be bargayned and solde, and every parte and parcell therof; as also the saide William Shakespere, and his heires and assignes, and everie of them, of and from all former bargaynes, sales, leases, joyntures, dowers, wills, statutes, recognizances, writings obligatory, ffynes, feoffamentes, entayles, judgments, execucons. charges, titles, forfeitures, and encombrances whatsoever, at any tyme before thensealinge herof, had, made, knowledg-ed, done, or suffred by the saide John Combe, or by the saide William Combe, or either of them; or by any other person or persons whatsoever, any thinge lawfully clayminge or havinge, from, by, or under them, or either of them; (the rentes and services herafter to be due, in respect of the premisses before menconed. or entended to be bargayned and solde, to the cheife lorde or lordes of the fee or fees

only excepted and foreprized.) And the saide William Combe, and John Combe, for them, their heires, executors, administrators, and assignes, doe covenant, promise, and graunte to, and with the saide William Shakespere, his heires and assignes, by theis presentes; that they, the saide William and John Combe, or one of them, hath rightfull power, and lawfull auctoritie for any acte or actes done by them, the saide William and John Combe, or by the sufferance or procurement of them, the saide William and John Combe, to geve, graunte, bargayne, sell, convey, and assure the saide fflowre yardes of errable lande, conteyninge one hundred and seaven acres, and all other the premisses, before by theis presentes bargayned and solde, or mente or menconed. to be bargayned and solde, and everie parte and parcell therof, to the saide William Shakespere, his heires and assignes; in suche maner and forme, as in and by theis presentes is lymytted, expressed, and declared. And that they, the saide William and John Combe, and their heires, and also all and everie other person, and persons, and their heires, nowe, or hereafter havinge, or clayninge any lawfull estate, righte, title, or interest, of, in, or to the saide errable lande, and all other the premisses, before by theis presentes bargayned and solde, with their and everie of their appurtenances. (other then the cheife lorde or lordes of the fee or fees of the premisses, for their rentes, and services onlie,) at all times hereafter, duringe the space of fflyve yeares, next ensewinge the date herof, shall doe, cause, knowledge, and suffer to be done and knowledged, all and everie suche further lawfull and reasonable acte and actes, thinge and thinges, devise and devises, assurances and conveyances whatsoever; for the further, more better, and perfect assurance, suretye, sure makinge, and conveyinge of all the saide premisses, before bargayned and solde, or menconed. to be bargayned and solde with their appurtenances. and everie parte and parcell therof, to the saide

William Shakespere, his heires and assignes for ever, accordinge to the true entent and meaninge of theis presentes; as by the saide William Shakespere, his heires or assignes, or his or their learned counsell in the lawe, shal be reasonable devized, or advized, and required: be yt by fyne or fynes, with proclamacon. recoverie with voucher or vouchers over, deede or deedes enrolled, enrollment of theis presentes, feoffament, releaze, confirmacon. or otherwise; with warrantie against the saide William Combe, and John Combe, their heires and assignes, and all other persons clayminge by, from, or under them, or any of them, or without warrantie, at the costes and charges in the lawe of the saide William Shakespere, his heires, executors, administrators, or assignes: so as for the makinge of any suche estate, or assurance, the saide William and John Combe be not compell'd to travaile above sixe myles. And the saide William Combe, and John Combe, for them, their heires, executors, administrators, and assignes, doe covenant promise, and graunte to, and with the saide William Shakespere, his heires, executors, administrators, and assignes, by theis presentes; that the saide William Shakespere, his heires and assignes, shall or may, from tyme to tyme, from henceforth for ever, peaceably and quietlie have, holde, occupie, possesse, and enjoye the saide fflowre yardes of errable lande, and all other the bargayned premisses, with their appurtennces. and everie parte and parcell therof, without any manner of lett, trouble, or eviccon. of them, the saide William Combe, and John Combe, their heires, or assignes; and without the lawfull lett, trouble or eviccon. of any other person or persons whatsoever, lawfully havinge, or clayminge any thinge in, of, or out of the saide premisses, or any parte therof, by, from, or under them, the saide William Combe, and John Combe, or either of them; or the heires or assignes of them, or either of them, or their, or any of their estate, title, or interest. IN WYTNES

WHEREOF, the parties to theis presentes have enterchangeably set to their handes and seales, the daie and yeare firste above written. 1602.

[L.S.]

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The two following are transcripts of writs, issued out of our Court of Record, for a small debt due to Shakspeare.

STRATFORD BURGUS.—Precept. est Svien. ad clavam ibni. qd. capiant seu &c. *Johem. Addenbrooke*, si &c. et eum salvo &c. ita qd. heant. corpus ejus coram Ballivo Burgi pd. ad 20. cur. de recordo, ibni. tenend. ad satisfaciend. *Willo. Shackspeare*, Gen. ten. de sex libr. debit quos pdcus. Willus. in ead. Cur. versus eum recupavit qm. de viginti et quatuor solid. qui ei adjudicat fuer. & dampnis et custag. suis, quos sustinuit occacone. detenconis. debi. pd. et heant. ibi tunc hoc pcept. Teste *Ffrancisci Smyth*, Jun. Gen. Ball. ibni. 15<sup>o</sup> die Marcii, annis regui Dni. nri. Jacobi, Dei grac. Regis Anglie, Ffranc. et Hibnie. sexto, et Scotie 42<sup>o</sup>

*Greenc.*

[Indorsed.] Infrajurat. *Johes.* non est invent. infra libtat. hujus Burgi.—*Ffr. Boyce*, Servien.

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STRATFORD BURGUS.—Precept. est Svien. ad clavam ibni. qd. cum quidam *Willus. Shackspeare*, Gen. nup. in cur. Dni. Jacobi, nunc Regis Anglie, burgi pd. ibni. tent. virtute leag. patent. in Dni. Edri. nup. Regis Anglie sexti, levavit quandam quer. suam, versus quondam *Johem. Addenbrooke*, de plito. debi. cumq. eciam quidam *Thomas Horneby*, de burgo pd. in ead. quer. devenit pleg. et manucaptor pd. *Johes.* scilt. qd. si pd. *Johes.* in quer. ill. ltimo. modo convinceretur, qd. idem *Johes.* satisfaceret pfat. *Willo. Shackspeare*, Im. debni. in quer. ill. p. pfat. *Willm.* versus pd. *Johem.* in cur. pd. recupand. qm. mis. et custag. que eid. *Willo.* in



quer. ill. p. eand. cur. adjudicat, forent versus eund. Johem. vel idem se redderet prisone dci. Dni. Regis Jacobi nunc burg. pd. ad satisfaciend. eid. Willo. ead. debni. mis. et custag. Et ultius. qd. si idem Johes. non satisfaceret eid. Willo. debni. et mis. et custag. nec se redderet pd. prisone dci. Dni. Regis nunc ad satisfaciend. eid. Willo. in forma pd. qd. tunc ipe. idem Thomas Horneby debni. sic recupand. et mis. et custag. sic adjudicat eid. Willo. satisfacere vellet: cumq. eciam in quer. ill. taliter pcess. fuit, in ead. cur. qd. pd. Willus. in loquela ill. p. judicm. ejusd. cur. recupabat versus pdict. Johem. Im. sex libr. de bebo. qm. viginti et quatuor solid. decrement. mis. et custag. ipsius Willi. in sect. querela ill. appoit. Sup. quo, pcept. fuit svien. ad clavam ibni. qd. capit seu &c. pd. Johem. fiet, et eum salvo &c. ita qd. heant. corpus ejus coram Ball. burgi pd. ad 20. cur. de recordo, ibni. tenend. ad satisfaciend. pd. Willo. de debo. pd. sic recupat, qm. de viginti et quatuor solid. p. pd. dampnis et custag. adjudicat: unde *Ffranc. Boyce*, tunc et nunc svien. ad clavam, ad diem retorn. inde mand. qd. pd. Johes. non est invent. in balliva sua; unde idem Willus. ad pd. cur. dci. Dni. Regis, supplicaverit sibi, et remedio congruo, vsus. pd. manucaptorem, in hac pte. pvideri; sup. qd. pcept. est svien. ad clavam ibni, qd. p. pbos. et legles. hoies. de burgo pd. scir. fac. seu, &c. pfat. Thomam, qd. sit coram ball. burg. pd. ad 20. cur. de recordo, in burgo pd. tenend. ostensd. si quid et se heat. vel dicere sciat; quare pd. Willus. executenem. suam vsus. eund. Thomam, de debo. et mis. et custag. ill. here. non debeat juxta vim, formam, et effectum manucapconis. pd. si sibi viderit expediri, et ulterius factur. et receptur. qd. pd. cur. dci. Dni. Regis cons. in ea pte: et heant. ib. tunc hoc pcept. Teste *Ffranc. Smyth*, Jun. Gen. ball. ibni. septimo die Junii, annis regni Dni. nri. Jacobi, Dei Gra. Regis Anglie, Ffranc. et Hibnie. septimo; et Scotie, 42?

*Greene.*

[Indorsed.] Virtute istius pcept. mihi direct. p. *Johem. Hemynges, & Gilbtm. Chadwell*, ppos. & legles. hoies. burgi infrascript. scire feci, infrajurat. Thomam Hornebye put. intius. mihi pceptir.—Ffranciscus Boyce, Servien.

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THIS INDENTURE, made the twentyeth day of October, in the yeare of our Lord, according to the accompt in England, one thowsand, six hundred, fifty two; Betweene John Barnard, of Stratford-upon-Avon, in the county of Warwick, Esquier, and Elizabeth his wife, on thone parte; Henry Smyth, of Stratford-upon-Avon aforesaid, Gent. and William Ffetherston, of the same towne and county, Yeoman, on thother parte; Witnesseth, that it is covennted, concluded, and agreed by and betweene all the said partyes, and it is their true intent and meaneing, that the said John Barnard, and Elizabeth his wife, shall and will acknowledge and levy, in due forme of lawe, one fine or fines, *sur conu- zance de droit come ceo, que ils ount de lour done*, before the Justices of the Court of Comon Plees at Westm. at or before thend of Hillary terme next ensueing, unto the said Henry Smyth and William Ffetherstone, and the heires of one of them, wth. proclamacons. according to the statute; of all that capitall messuage or tenemt. with thappurtennces. scituate and being in Stratford-upon-Avon aforesaid, in the said county of Warwick, comonly called or knowne by the name of the New Place, now in the tenure of the said John Barnard: and all that fower yard land and a halfe of arrable, meadow, and pasture, with the appurtennces. lying and being in the townes, hamletts, villages, feilds, and grounds of Stratford-upon-Avon, Old Stratford, Bishopton, and Welcombe, in the said county of Warwick; heretofore the inheritance of William Shakespeare, Gent. grandfather of the said Elizabeth, wife of the said John

Barnard; by the name of one messuage, one garden, one orchard, one hundred and seaven acres of land, twenty acres of pasture, and comon of pasture for all manner of cattle, with thappurtennees. in Stratford-upon-Avon, Old Stratford, Bishopton, and Welcombe; or by such other name or names, quantitie and number of acres, or other certeintie, as shal be devised. Which fine, soe to be had and levyed, and the full force and execucon. thereof, and the conusees in the said fine, and their heires, shal be had, taken, and construed to be, and enure, to the only uses, intents, and purposes herein expressed, and declared; that is to say, to the use of the said John Barnard and Elizabeth his wife, for and dureing their naturall lives, and the life of the longest liver of them; and to the heires of the body of the said Elizabeth, lawfully begotten, or to be begotten; and for defaulte of such issue, to the use of such person or persons, and for such estate and estates, as the said Elizabeth, by any writeing, either purporteing her last will, or otherwise, sealed and subscribed in the presence of two or more credible witnesses, shall lymitt and appoint: and from and after such nominacon. or appointmt. or in defaulte of such nominacon. or appointment, to the use and behoofe of the right heires of the survivor of them, the said John and Elizabeth, for ever. In witnes whereof the partyes above named have, to their present indentures, interchaungeably put their hands and seales, the day and yeare above written.

*Henry Smith.* [L.S.] *Willm. Ffeatherston.* [L.S.]

Sealed and delivered in the prsence. of

*Phillip Scarlett.*

*Edw. Owen.*

\* To all to whom these presents shall come. Whereas, I, Elizabeth Barnard, wife of John Barnard, Esquier, have power to limitt, appoynte, & dispose of all that messuage wth. the appurtenances in Stratford-upon-Avon, wthin. the county of Warwicke, comonly called the New Place; and of all that foure yard land & a halfe, arrable, meadow, & pasture, in Stratford, Welcombe, & Bishopton; wch. weare sometimes the inheritance of William Shackspeare, Gent. my grandfather; by any wrighting, either purporting my last will, or otherwise, sealed & subscribed in the prsence. of credible witnesses, to any pson. or psons. and for any estate or estates, to take effecte in possession, after the death of the said John Barnard, and mee, the said Elizabeth, in case I die without. heires of my bodie: as by one indenture, mad at or aboute the 20th day of Octobr. 1652, and a fine therupon acknowledged, may more fully appeare. Now know yee, that I, the said Elizabeth, accordinge to the said power, doe by this wrighting, sealed and subscribed in the prsence. of credible witnesses, limitt, give, and dispose the said messuage, fower yard land and a halfe, after the decease of the said John Barnard, and mee, the said Elizabeth, without. heires of my bodie, ffor and unto Henry Smith, of Stratford aforesaid, Gent. and Job Dighton, of the Middle Temple, London, Esquier, and their heires. To have and to hold the said messuage, and ffoure yard land and a halfe, unto the said Henry Smith and Job Dighton, their heires and assignes for ever. Neverthelesse upon trust and confidence, that the said Henry Smith and Job

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\* This curious deed is signed and sealed by Lady Barnard; the arms upon which are now remarkably perfect, and correspond exactly with those upon her father, Dr. Hall's grave-stone, in the chancel; viz. *Three talbots' heads erased, for HALL, impaling SHAKSPEARE.* It may be presumed Dr. Hall had this seal engraved upon, or soon after his marriage with Shakspeare's eldest daughter.

Dighton, and the survior. of them, and the heires of the survior. of them, shall bargaine & sell the said messuage, flower yard land & a halfe, to any pson. or psons. for the best value they can gett: and the moneys therby to be raysed shall imploy, dispose, & distribute of, to such pson. or psons. and in such manner, & by such some or somes, as I, the said Elizabeth, shall by any wrighting, or noate under my hand, truly testified, declare & nominate. In witnesse wherof I, the said Elizabeth, have the eaytteneth day of Aprill, 1653, subscribed my name, & sett to my seale.

ELIZA. BARNARD. [L.S.]

Sealed & subscribed in ye. prsence. of

*Rich. Lane.*

*Mary Lane.*

*Phillip Scarlett.*

*Elizabeth E. Writon,*

*hir marke.*

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THIS INDENTURE, made the eighteenth day of May, Anno Dni. one thowsand, six hundred, seaventy five; and in the seaven and twentyeth yeare of the raigne of our Sovereigne Lord, Charles the Second, by the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, Ffrance, & Ireland, King, Defendor of the Faith; &c. betweene Henry Smith, of Old Stratford, in the county of Warr. Gent. and Edward Bagley, Citizen and Pewterer, of London, of the one pt. and Sr. Edward Walker, of Whitehall, in the county of Middlesex, Knt. Garter Principall King at Armes, of the other pt. Whereas, John Barnard, of Stratford-upon-Avon, in the county of Warr. Esqr. (and Elizabeth his wife, grandchilde & heire of William Shakespeare, Gent.) by their indenture, duely executed, bearinge date the twentyeth day of October, in

the yeare of our Lord God, one thowsand, six hundred, fifty two; and made betweene them, the said John Barnard, and Elizabeth, on the one pt. and Henry Smith, pty. to theis presents. and William Ffetherston, of Stratford-upon-Avon aforesaid, Yeoman, on the other pt. and sine ther-upon levyed; did setle & assure all that capitall messuage or tenemt. wth. apptennes. scituate in Stratford-upon-Avon aforesd. coonly. called the New Place; and all that four yrd. land and a halfe, of arrable, meadow, and pasture, wth. apptennes. lying and being in the townes, hamlets, & feilds of Stratford-upon-Avon, Old Stratford, Bishopton, & Welcombe, in the said county of Warr. formrly. ye. inheritance of the said William Shakespeare; to the use of the said John Barnard, and the said Elizabeth, his wife, for and duringe their naall. lives, and the life of the longer of them; and to the heires of the body of the said Elizabeth, lawfully begotten, or to bee begotten; and for default of such issue, to the use of such pson. or psons. and for such estate & estates, as the said Elizabeth, by any writing, pporting. her last will, or otherwise, sealed and subscribed in the prsence. of two or more credible witnesses, should limit and appoynt. And wheras, afterwards shee the said Elizabeth Barnard, by her writeing under her hand and seale, bearinge date the eighteenth day of Aprill, in the yeare of our Lord God, one thowsand, six hundred, fifty three, and duely executed in the prsence. of Richard Lane, Mary Lane, Phillip Scarlet, & Elizabeth Writon, credible witnesses, in psuance. of the said power to her reserved, did therby give & dispose the said messuage, foure yrd. land and a halfe, after the decease of the said John Barnard, and her, the said Elizabeth, without. heires of her body, unto Henry Smith, pty. to theis presents. and Job Dighton, of the Midle Temple, London, Esqr. and their heires; to hold to them, their heires and assignes, for ever; upon trust that they, and the survivor of them, should bargaine

and sell the said messuage, foure yrd. land and a halfe, to any pson. or psons. for the best value they could get; & the moneys therby to bee rayseed should imploy, dispose, & distribute to such pson. or psons. & in such maner, and by such sune or sumes, as the said Elizabeth should, by any writinge or note under her hand truely testified, declare & nominate. And whereas, shee, the said Elizabeth Barnard, afterwards made her last will in writeing, bearing date the nine and twentyeth day of January, in the yeare of our Lord God, one thowsand, six hundred, sixty nine; and therby, (among other things therein conteyned,) accordinge to her power formerly reserved to her, did will, signify, and declare her mind and meaninge to bee, that the said Henry Smith, pty. to theis presents. or his heires, shuld, wth. all convenient speed, after the decease of the said John Barnard, then Sr. John Barnard, her husband, make sale of the inheritance of all that the aforesaid messuage, called the New Place, and of all that the aforesaid foure yard land & a halfe, in Stratford, Welcombe, & Bishopton, in the county of Warr. wth. apptennes. and soone after, shee, the said Elizabeth Barnard, depected. this life. And wheras the said Sr. John Barnard, Knt. is also since dead; and the said Job Dighton, severall yeares since, depected. this life; and hee, the said Henry Smith, pty. to theis presents. him hath survived. Now this indenture witnesseth, that the said Henry Smith, in psuance. of the said power to him given, and by and wth. the consent & good likeing of the said Edward Bagley, signified by his being made pty. to theis presents. and sealinge & executinge therof, and for & in consideracon. of the sune of one thowsand and sixty pounds, of lawfull money of England, to him, the said Henry Smith, by the said Sr. Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principall King at Armes, truely in hand paid; the receipt hereof they, the said Henry Smith & Edward Bagley, do hereby acknowledge; and thereof, & of evry pte. therof,

acquit & discharge the said Sr. Edward Walker, Garter principall King at Armes, his heires, exrs. admrs. & assignes, and evry of them, by theis presents. and for divers other good causes & valuable consideracons. him, the said Henry Smith, hereunto espeacially moveinge, hath graunted, bargained, sold, enfeoffed, & confirmed; and, by theis presents. doth graunt, bargaine, sell, enfeoffe, & confirme unto the said Sr. Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principall King at Armes, his heires & assignes, all that ye. aforesaid capitall messuage or tenemt. wth. apptennes. scituate & being in Stratford-upon-Avon aforesd. coonly. called or knowne by the name of the New Place; scituate, in pt. in a street there called Chappell-street, and in pt. in a lane there called Chappell-lane; & all gardens, orchards, backsides, courts, yrds. outlets, backsides, barnes, stables, outhowes, buildings, walls, mounds, & fences to the same belonging, or in any wise of right appteyning. or therwthall. formrly. coonly. used or enjoyed, or reputed as pcell. or member therof, or belonging therunto: and all that foure yrd. land & a halfe, of arrable, meadow, and pasture, wth. apptennes. scituate, lyinge, & beinge in the townes, hamlets, villages, feilds; and precincts. of Stratford-upon-Avon aforesaid, Old Stratford, Bishopton, & Welcombe, in the said county of Warr. or in some or one of them: and all lands, tenemts. meadowes, feedings, pastures, coons. coon. of pasture, wayes, passages, wast grounds, hades, meeres, furrowes, woods, undrwoods. trees, pfts. comodityes, emolumts. & hereditamts. wtsoever. with their & evry of their apptennes. to the said prmisses. or any pt. of them belonging, or in anywise of right appteyning. and the revrcon. & revrcons. remayndr. & remayndrs. rents, & services of the said prmisses. and all thestate, right, title, interest, use, trust, clayme, and demaund wtsoever. of him, the said Henry Smith, of, in, to, or out of the same: and all deeds, charters, evidences, writings, records, escripts, and minumts. only touch-



inge the prmisses. together wth. true coppies of all other writeings & evidences, that wth. the said prmisses. concerne other lands and tenemts. **TO HAVE AND TO HOULD** the said capitall messuage, barnes, stables, out-houses, foure yrd. land and a halfe, and all other the above graunted or menconed. or intended to bee graunted prmisses. wth. their and every of their apptennes. unto the said Sr. Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principall King at Armes, his heires and assignes, for ever: to the only use and behoofe of him, the said Sr. Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principall King at Armes, his heires and assignes, for ever. And the said Henry Smith, for him and his heires, the said capitall messuage, foure yrd. land and a halfe, and other the above graunted or menconed. or intended to bee graunted prmisses. wth. apptennes. unto the said Sr. Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principall King at Armes, his heires and assignes, to the uses aforesaid, against him, the said Henry Smith, his heires & assignes, shall and will warrant, and for ever defend, by theis prsents. And the said Henry Smith, for himselfe, his heires, exrs. and admrs. and for every of them, doth covent. and graunt to and with the said Sr. Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principall King at Armes, his heires and assignes, and to and with every of them, by theis prsents. in manner followinge, that is to say; that hee, the said Henry Smith, his heires or assignes, hath not made, donne, or suffered, nor shall nor will hereafter make, doe, or suffer any act, matter, or thinge, whereby the said messuage, lands, & prmisses. or any part thereof, or thestate hereby graunted, are, may, or shall bee any wise incumbred, chardged, impeached, or avoyded, in any sort wtsoever. either in law or equity: and that the said prmisses. shall aud may peaceably and quietly bee heid and enjoyed, accordinge to thestate thereof hereby graunted; without. the lawfull let, trouble, disturbance, or eviccon. of him, the said Henry Smith, his heires or assignes, or any

other pson. or psons. lawfully clayming any thing in the prmisses. by, from, or under him, or them, or any of them. And further, that hee, the said Henry Smith, his heires and assignes, shall and will, at all times hereafter, within the space of seaven yeares, at the costs and chardges in the law of the said Sr. Edward Walker, Garter principall King at Armes, his heires or assignes, make, doe, and execute, or cause to be made, donne, and executed all and every further and other lawfull and reasonable act, thinge, devise, and assurance in the law, of ye. prmisses. unto the said Sr. Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principall King at Armes, his heires or assignes; so as such further assurance conteyne no further or other warrantie then as aforesaid; and so as hee or they bee not hereby compelled to travayle from his or their then dwellinge, for the doeing or executinge thereof: all which said assurance or assurances, and more espeacially one fine *sur conusans de droit come cco, &c. q'il ad de lour done*, to bee levyed of the prmisses. by the said Henry Smith, and Edward Bagley, before the end of Michas. terme next, unto the said Sr. Edward Walker, his heires or assignes, shall, and is hereby declared to bee and enure to the only use of the said Sr. Edward Walker, Garter principall King at Armes, his heires and assignes, for ever; and to or for none other use, intent, or ppose. wtsoever. And the said Edward Bagley, for himselfe, his heires, exers. admrs. and assignes, and for every of them, doth, by these presents. covent. and graunt to and with the said Sr. Edward Walker, Garter principall King at Armes, his heires and assignes, in manuer followinge; that is to say, that hee, the said Henry Smith, now hath, and at the execucon. of theis presents. shall have full power, good right, and lawfull authority to graunt and assure the said messuage, lands, and prmisses. in manner and forme as aforesaid: and that the said messuage, lands, and prmisses. now are, and soe shall for ever hereafter continue, and be free

and cleere, and freely and cleerly acquitted, exonerated, and discharged, or otherwise well and sufficiently saved harmlesse, and kept indemnified unto the said Sr. Edward Walker, his heires and assignes, of and from all and all manner of former and other gifts, graunts, bargaines, sales, leases, estates, rents, arrerages of all manner of rents, statutes, recognizances, judgements, execucons. willes, entayles, legacyes, limitacon. of use or uses, and of and from all other titles, troubles, chardges, demaunds, and incumbrances whatsoever, had, made, comitted, donne, or suffred by the said Henry Smith, Edward Bagley, the said Sr. John Barnard, and Dame Elizabeth Barnard, Thomas Nash her former husband, Susan Hall her mother, or any or either of them, their or either of their heires, exers. admrs. or assignes, or any other pson. or persons whatsoever, any thing in the prmisses. lawfully havinge or clayminge, or which shall or may hereafter lawfully clayme or have, by, from, or under them, or any or either of them. And that hee, the said Edward Bagley, Margaret his wife, Henry Smith, and their heires, and the heires or assignes of the said Sr. John Barnard, dame Elizabeth his wife, Thomas Nash, and Susan Hall, shall and will, at all times hereafter, within the space of seaven yeares next, at and upon the resonable request, and at the costs and chardges in the law of the said Sr. Edward Walker, Garter principall King at Armes, his heires or assignes, make, doe, acknowledge, execute, and suffer, or cause to bee made, donne, acknowledged, executed, and suffred, all and every such further and reasonable act and acts, thinge, device, and devises, assurance and assurances in the law whatsoever, for the further, better, and more pfect. assuringe, and sure makeinge, setling, and conveyinge of the said messuage, foure yard land and a halfe, and all other the above graunted, or intended to bee graunted premisses, and of every part thereof, with the appurtenances, unto the said Sr. Edward Walker, Garter principall

King at Armes, his heires and assignes, for ever: bee it or they, by fine or fines, recovery, or recoveryes, with single or more voucher or vouchers over, feoffment, deed or deeds, enrolled or not enrolled, the enrolement of their presents, or by any other wayes or meanes whatsoever; as by the said Sr. Edward Walker, Garter principall King at Armes, his heires and assignes, or by any of them, shall bee reasonably devised, or advised, and required: soe as such pty. or partyes to make such further assurance, bee not hereby compelled or compellable to travayle above the space of tenne miles from his or their then abode, for the doeinge, or executeinge thereof; and soe as the same conteyne noe further or other covenant, or warranty of the premisses, then only against him or them, and their heires: all which said assurance, or assurances of the premisses, is and shall bee, and are by their presents. declared and agreed, by all the ptyes. hereunto, to bee and enure to the only use and behoofe of the said Sr. Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principall King at Armes, and of his heires and assignes, for ever; and to or for none other use, intent, or purpose whatsoever. In wittnes whereof the said partyes first above named, to their present indentures, interchangeably have put to their hands and seales, the day and yeare first above written.

*Henry Smith.* [L.S.]      *Edward Bagley.* [L.S.]

Sealed & delivred by the within named Henry Smith, in the prsence. of

*John Clopton.*      *Richard Smithe.*  
*Tho. Rawlins.*      *James Badger.*  
*Wm. Gibson.*

Sealed and delivred by the within named Edward Bagley, in the prsence. of

*Charles Lec.*      *Wm. Gibson.*  
*Tho. Rawlins.*      *James Badger.*

Memorand. that peaceable possession, livry, and seizin of the within. graunted messuage, lands, & prmises. was made, given, and delivred by the within named Henry Smith, unto the within named Sr. Edward Walker, Knt. Garter principall King at Armes, & his heires, accordinge to to the purport & contents of the within written indenture, in the presence of

*John Clopton.*

*Charles Lee.*

*Theo. Rawlins.*

*Joseph J. P. Phillips,*

*James Badger.*

*his marke.*

*Wm. Gibson.*

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## GEORGE CAREW,

*EARL OF TOTNESS, AND BARON OF CLOPTON.*

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This illustrious nobleman was descended from a family of very great antiquity in the western parts of England; deriving its sirname from Carew Castle, in Pembrokeshire. His grandfather, Sir George Carew, Knight, was made Captain of the Tower of Ruysbanke, at Calais, in the 31st of Henry the Eighth; which command Sir John Pecche, and Sir Nicholas Carew, Knt. formerly had. From this Sir George, descended another of that baptismal name; who, being brought up to the church, was first promoted to the Archdeaconry of Totness, in Devonshire: he was next Dean of Bristol, and Chief Chanter in Salisbury Cathedral; afterwards Dean of King's Chapel, and Dean of Christ-church, in Oxford; and lastly Dean of Exeter and Windsor.

This eminent divine married Anne, daughter of Sir Nicholas Harvey, Knight; and by her had a son, GEORGE,

born in 1555, whom it was his father's intention to have bred to that profession, of which he was himself so great an ornament. At the age of 14 years, he became a Fellow Commoner, in University college, Oxford; which he shortly after exchanged for a soldier's life; and entered into Queen Elizabeth's army, where he had soon an opportunity of signaling himself in various military employments. He was married on the 31st of May, 1580, at Stratford, to Joyce, the eldest daughter and coheiress of William Clopton, Esq. of Clopton, in this parish, about a mile distant from Stratford; a family very ancient and honourable; who derived their name from that manor and mansion-house, of which they have been in uninterrupted possession upwards of 500 years; being granted by Peter de Montford, to John de Clopton, so early as the reign of Henry the Third. In 1596, he had a command under the Earl of Essex, in the celebrated and successful voyage to Cadiz; when that city, together with a large fleet of ships, was totally destroyed: the victors returning home laden with riches, plundered from the island and the Spanish galleons in the harbour. Soon after his return, he was sent by Elizabeth (who had conferred the honour of Knighthood upon him) to Ireland, with a powerful force, to counteract the attempts of the rebels and Spaniards to reduce that kingdom. In the 43d of Elizabeth he was made President of Munster, (in which situation he remained three years;) and, joining his forces with the Earl of Thomond, he took several castles and strong holds in those parts; viz. Logher, Crome, Glane, Carigcoile, Conrag, Rushmore, and Cahire; and brought the titular Earl of Desmond (the most powerful and active rebel there) to his trial. He was also a Privy Counsellor, and Master of the Ordnance to the Queen in that realm: an historical account of all the memorable events which happened in that kingdom, during the three years he continued there, intituled *Hibernia Pacata*, was written by him,

and published by his secretary and natural son, Sir Thomas Stafford, Knt. in 1633, to which is prefixed his portrait. He also made a large collection of valuable chronological observations, with numerous exact maps, relating to several parts of that realm; some of which were deposited in the public library at Oxford, but most of them purchased of his executors, by Sir Robert Shirley, Bart. of Stanton-Harold, in Leicestershire.

James the First, immediately after his accession to the English throne, appointed him Governor of the island of Guernsey, and Castle of Cornet; and, by letters patent dated the 4th of June, in the 3d of James the First, that monarch advanced him to the degree and dignity of a Baron, by the title of Lord Carew, of Clopton, his then residence. After this advancement, he was made Master of the Ordnance for life: in the 14th of James the First, he was sworn a Member of the Privy Council; and was also appointed Vice Chamberlain and Treasurer to Anne, Queen to James the First. Upon the accession of Charles the First, he was, by that sovereign, (who highly esteemed him on account of his great reputation and meritorious exploits,) on the 5th of February, in the 1st year of his reign, created Earl of Totness, a dignity he lived to enjoy only four years; for he died, without issue, on the 27th of March, 1629, in the Savoy buildings, London, aged 73 years and nearly 10 months. Thus died this great and venerable hero, who "bore his blushing honors thick upon him," whose whole life was devoted to the service of his country, and whose real worth and abilities may be better estimated by the numerous trusts committed to his hands, than by any eulogy which can be now bestowed upon him.

His remains were brought from London, with the funeral pomp suitable to his high station; and interred in the

family vault of the Cloptons, at the east end of the north aisle of Stratford Church; where a magnificent monument is erected to his memory, and that of his Countess, who survived him about seven years, and died at Twickenham, in Middlesex, on the 14th of February, 1636, being also buried in the same vault.

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### NICHOLAS BRADY, D. D.

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Was the son of Major Nicholas Brady, an officer in the King's army, in the rebellion of 1641; being lineally descended from Hugh Brady, the first protestant bishop of Meath. He was born at Bandon, in the County of Cork, on the 28th of October, 1659, and educated in that county, till he was twelve years of age; when he was removed to Westminster school, where he was chosen king's scholar, and from thence elected student of Christ Church, Oxford. After continuing there about four years he went to Dublin, where his father resided; in which university he immediately commenced B. A. and the following year M. A. When he was of due standing, his diploma for the degree of Dr. in Divinity was, on account of his uncommon merit, presented to him from that university while he was in England, and brought over by Dr. Pratt, then senior travelling fellow, afterwards Provost of that college. His first preferment in the church was to a Prebend, in the Cathedral of Saint Barry's, in the city of Cork; and to the parish of Kinaglarchy, in the county of Cork; to which he was collated by Bishop Wettenhall, being his domestic chaplain. He was a zealous promoter of the revolution, and an eminent sufferer for it. In 1690, when the troubles broke out in Ireland, by his interest with King James' General Macarty, he thrice prevented the burning of Bandon-town,



after three several orders given by that king to destroy it. The same year, having been deputed by the people of Bandon, he went over to England, to petition the parliament for a redress of some grievances they had suffered while King James was in Ireland. During his stay there, and to the time of his death, he was in the highest esteem among all ranks of persons in that kingdom, for his firm attachment to the true interest of his country. Having quitted his preferments in Ireland, he settled in London, where he became celebrated for his abilities in the pulpit; and upon that account, was elected minister of Saint Catharine-Cree-Church, and lecturer of Saint Michael's, Wood-street.

He afterwards became minister of Richmond, in Surry; and, upon the death of the Rev. Thomas Willes, he was presented by Charles, Earl of Dorset and Middlesex, to the vicarage of Stratford-upon-Avon, to which he was instituted on the 10th of November, 1702. He held this living but a few years, resigning it (for what reason is unknown) in 1705; the Rev. Richard Synge being instituted vicar, on the 16th of October, in that year.

Dr. Brady was at length rector of Clapham, in Surry, which last, together with Richmond, he held to the time of his death. He was also chaplain to the Duke of Ormond's troop of horse-guards, as he was to their Majesties, King William and Queen Mary, and afterwards to Queen Anne. He died on the 20th of May, 1726, in the 67th year of his age; leaving behind him the character of a person of a most obliging, sweet, affable temper, a polite gentleman, an excellent preacher, and a good poet; of which he gave proofs in many pieces. But what Dr. Brady will be most celebrated for, is a translation, in conjunction with Nahum Tate, Esq. (King William's Poet Laureat,) of the psalms of David; which, by royal authority, granted in 1696, at

Kensington, (the usual place of King William's residence,) as well as recommendations from Hugh, Bishop of London, were permitted to be used in all churches, &c. throughout the kingdom; and they are now much sung, in preference to the obsolete phraseology and verse of Sternhold and Hopkins, composed about the time of Edward the Sixth.

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### FRANCIS AINGE.

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We now to come to notice a man but little heard of in his native town, yet whose name, on account of his longevity, ought not totally to be consigned to oblivion; Francis Ainge, (the son of John and Eleanor Ainge,) who was born at Stratford-upon-Avon, and baptized, as appears by the register of the town, on the 28th of August, 1629. In his youth, he left his native country, and embarked on board a ship, for North America, where he continued the remainder of his life, taking up his abode in Somerset county, Maryland. A gentleman of that province, about the year 1759, having occasion to ride in the neighbourhood where this man lived, had the curiosity to call upon him; and, in a letter to a friend and correspondent at Boston, in New England, dated August the 19th, 1764, he gave the following account of him, as he had it from the man himself:—"That he was born at Stratford-upon-Avon, in Warwickshire, England; that his father's name was John, a cutler by trade, and his mother's name Eleanor; that he could remember King Charles the First being beheaded, as he was then a pretty big boy; that he came to this country in a ship from Parkgate, called the Great Bengall, and served his time with one Nicholas Demar, a Rappahannock." At that

time, he was not less than 130 years of age; had scarce a wrinkle in his face; had thick black hair, with a very few grey ones interspersed: his wife, who was then about 80, had a son by him, not more than 27 years of age. This wonderful man died on the 13th of April, 1767, at the uncommon age of 137 years and 8 months, wanting 15 days.

## THE JUBILEE.

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When Mr. Garrick first proposed to institute a Jubilee, in honour of our immortal Shakspeare, the public immediately formed very high expectations of the entertainment they were to receive, from a man, so well qualified to give pleasure, and one who breathed the very soul of that Bard, whose statue he meant to raise. The design was certainly noble in itself, whatever might be the motives; and in spite of all the ridicule and opposition, which envy or malice exerted, it was carried into execution, the performance was received with universal approbation, and it was allowed, by gentlemen of the first rank in the literary world, that no occasion of festivity ever was, or ever could be more justifiable, than that of paying honors to the memory of so great an ornament to his country, as the inimitable Shakspeare. Our celebrated English Roscius, whose elegance and refined taste, were justly allowed to have been superior to any of his predecessors, seemed to have pledged himself to exhibit to the world, (like Prospero in the Tempest,) before he retired from busy life, a specimen of his art; and to make it indeed a *chef d'œuvre* which should equal the spectacula at any of the Carnivals, either of Rome or Venice. Our Bard himself being also securely established upon the throne of Genius, and universally celebrated as the Poet of Nature, it might well create surprize, if the place of his nativity should be lost in the tide of popularity; and in fact, it would be wonderful, if Stratford was not frequently mentioned with honor, while the Swan of Avon so constantly strung the lyre of even every *pretender* to poesy. Such being the case,

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the inhabitants of this distinguished town looked upon themselves peculiarly bound to honor the memory of a man, by whom they had acquired a considerable reputation; and being sensible that no small share of the Poet's fame was due to the labours of Mr. Garrick, they determined to shew the utmost respect in their power to that gentleman.

In the year 1768, the Town Hall was rebuilt by the corporation of Stratford; who having caused a box\* to be made out of Shakspeare's celebrated mulberry tree, (then about twelve years cut down,) inclosed the freedom of the borough, and presented it to Mr. Garrick; at the same time requesting of him a bust, statue, or picture of his admired Shakspeare, to place in their new hall, and assuring him they should be no less pleased, if he would oblige them with his own picture, to be placed near his favourite author's, in perpetual remembrance of both. A copy of Mr. Garrick's freedom of this borough, as presented to him from the corporation by George Keat, Esq. with his answer, follows:—

BOROUGH OF STRATFORD-UPON-AVON. At a common council, held this 11th day of October, 1768,

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\* The ornaments on this box, of very exquisite workmanship, were, on the front, Fame holding the bust of Shakspeare, and the three Graces crowning him with laurel, neatly displayed: on the ends were emblematical figures, representing tragedy and comedy. On the back part, Mr. Garrick in the character of King Lear, in the storm scene; and the top and corners were ornamented with devices of Shakspeare's works, all curiously carved, and highly finished by Mr. Davis, an eminent carver, of Birmingham. At the time of presenting Mr. Garrick with his freedom, a complimentary letter was sent by the corporation to George Keat, Esq. for his trouble in attending Mr. Garrick, and desiring his acceptance of a neat writingstandish, carved from the same mulberry-wood.

*Present.*

Samuel Jarvis, Mayor.

*Aldermen.*

William Lees.	William Bolton.
John Halford.	Richard Lord.
Nathaniel Cookes.	John Bayliss.
Richard Smith.	John Hitchcocks.
Richard Allen.	John Meacham.
William Evetts.	

*Burgesses.*

William Eaves.	Isaac Gardner.
Thomas Nott.	Charles Ingram.
Richard Stevens.	

It was unanimously resolved, that through love and regard to the memory of that incomparable poet, MR. WILLIAM SHAKSPEARE, who was a native and inhabitant of Stratford; and being fully sensible of the extraordinary accomplishments and merits of his most judicious admirer, and representative, DAVID GARRICK, Esq. a Gentleman who has not only raised the dignity, and increased the lustre of the Drama in general, but happily traced out the source of, and thereby added (if possible) to that pleasing command over the passions, which SHAKSPEARE in a most eminent degree, and in numberless instances possessed: induced by these motives, they, the above-named, have elected the said DAVID GARRICK, Esq. an honorary Burgess of Stratford-upon-Avon, and directed that this copy of his freedom of the said borough, should be presented to him in a small neat chest, constructed from a Mulberry-tree, planted by SHAKSPEARE himself. Given under the common seal of the said borough, the day and year above-mentioned.

Mr. Garrick received the honor of his freedom, (which was presented to him in May, 1769,) in the politest manner; and returned the following answer:—



To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgesses of Stratford-upon-Avon.

*London, Southampton-street, May 8th, 1769.*

Gentlemen,

I cannot sufficiently express my acknowledgements for the honour you have done me, in electing me a Burgess of Stratford-upon-Avon; a town that will be ever distinguished, and revered as the birth-place of Shakspeare.

There are many circumstances which have greatly added to the obligation you have conferred upon me. The freedom of your town given to me unanimously, sent me in such an elegant and inestimable box, and delivered to me in so flattering a manner, merits my warmest gratitude. It will be impossible for me ever to forget those who have honoured me so much, as to mention my unworthy name, with that of their immortal townsman.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your most obliged, and

most obedient, humble servant,

*D. GARRICK.*

This judicious and well timed compliment is said to have given rise to the jubilee, which afterwards reflected so much honor on its celebrated founder. In the spring and summer of 1769, great preparations were made in all parts of the town, against the approaching festival. A very large and magnificent octagonal amphitheatre was erected upon the Bankcroft, close to the river Avon; and which, to please the prevailing taste, somewhat resembled Ranelagh Rotunda;\* it was capable of conveniently hold-

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\* Our Amphitheatre was 70 feet diameter within the columns, and 120 feet total diameter; consequently, it wanted but 20 feet, of being as wide as the Rotunda of Ranelagh.

it above one thousand spectators, and surely seldont was seen a more beautiful place. In the amphitheatre, which was supported by a circular colonade of columns, of the Corinthian order, was built a noble orchestra, large enough to contain upwards of one hundred performers. From the centre of the dome was suspended an amazingly large chandelier, consisting of eight hundred lights, which had a beautiful effect; in fine, the gilding of the capitals and bases of the columns, the paintings of the ceiling and cornice, the curious pilasters at the angles, and the side ornaments altogether appeared with such symmetry and elegance, “that  
 “ it would (says a cotemporary writer) make a lover of art  
 “ sigh to think how soon it would be demolished.\* No  
 “ person that could be conveyed into it without viewing the  
 “ outside, could ever conceive it was a building of boards.” No expence or trouble was spared in adorning and rendering commodious, this elegant piece of architecture; which was built by, and displayed the good taste and abilities of Mr. Latimore, who came purposely from London to erect it. Upon the margin of the Avon were ranged thirty cannon, (sixteen of them thirty two pounders,) twelve cohorns, and some mortars, to be fired upon the opening of, and during the jubilee; and an immense quantity of fireworks, and variegated lamps for the illuminations were made under the direction of Mr. Angelo, and sent in two waggones from London, for the amusement of the company. It is almost incredible what multitudes of people flocked from the adjacent counties, to view the great preparations that were making in the town, (particularly in the College,) under the immediate inspection of Mr. Garrick, who was at Stratford for some time; and on his return to town, left his bro-

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\* Immediately after the jubilee, this elegant Amphitheatre was taken down, and the materials sold by auction,

ther, Mr. George Garrick, and Mr. Latimore, to superintend and complete them. Great numbers of the nobility and gentry arrived a week, or ten days before the appointed time to secure their lodgings against the approaching meeting; and Stratford, as well as several towns and villages in the neighbourhood, was completely filled, previous to its commencement, by those, whose zeal prompted them to be present at this high festival. A beautiful ribbon, (afterwards formed into favours,) was purposely made at Coventry, and called the jubilee ribbon, which united and blended all the colours of the rainbow; being at once an emblem of his great and universal genius:—

“ Each change of many colour'd life he drew.”

*Johnson.*

A medal, engraved by Mr. Westwood of Birmingham, similar to that worn by Mr. Garrick, was struck on this occasion, in copper, silver, and gold: these, as well as the ribbon were eagerly bought up. On one side was a good likeness of Shakspeare, with the following words from his own play of Hamlet,—“ WE SHALL NOT LOOK UPON HIS  
“ LIKE AGAIN.” On the reverse,—“ JUBILEE AT STRAT-  
“ FORD IN HONOUR AND TO THE MEMORY OF SHAKES-  
“ PEAR.” SEPTR. 1769. D. G. STEWARD.”

The happy period now arrived, when the first opening of the jubilee was announced by firing the cannon, ranged upon the banks of the Avon, about five o'clock on Wednesday morning, the 6th of September, 1769; and immediately afterwards, the principal ladies were serenaded under their windows, by a number of young men, fantastically dressed, belonging to the theatre, with the following song, accompanied by hautboys, flutes, clarionets, guitars, and other instruments:—

Let beauty with the sun arise,  
 To Shakspeare tribute pay;  
 With heav'nly smiles, and speaking eyes,  
 Give lustre to the day.

Each smile she gives protects his name,  
 What face shall dare to frown?  
 Not envy's self can blast the fame,  
 Which beauty deigns to crown.

Besides the foregoing, they also entertained the company with the Warwickshire ballad, written by Mr. Garrick. The whole town being roused by these performances, the Corporation assembled, about eight o'clock, in one of the principal streets. A public breakfast was held at the Town, or Shakspeare's hall, at nine, to which every purchaser of a guinea ticket for the various entertainments, (the masquerade only excepted, which, being of a peculiar nature, was rated separately at half a guinea,) was admitted upon payment of a shilling, and regaled with tea, coffee, and chocolate. Mr. Garrick, the steward, came to the breakfast-room soon after eight, to see that every thing was properly prepared for the reception of the company, as well as to be himself in readiness to receive them.

Previous to the arrival of the company, the mayor, (John Meacham, Esq.) at the head of the corporation, in their formalities, waited upon Mr. Garrick, at Shakspeare's hall; where William Hunt, Esq. the town clerk, by direction of the corporation, delivered to Mr. Garrick the ensigns of his office, viz. a medal, (on which was carved a bust of the bard, and richly set in gold,) and wand, both made of the famous mulberry tree; at the same time repeating the following words,—“ Sir, You, who have done the  
 “ memory of Shakspeare so much honour, are esteemed the

“fittest person to be appointed the first steward of his jubilee; which we beg your acceptance of: permit me, Sir, in obedience to the commands of this corporation, to deliver to you this medal, and this wand, the sacred pledges of our veneration for our immortal townsman, whereby you are invested with your office.” To this polite mark of attention, Mr. Garrick made a suitable reply, and fastened the present about his neck, wearing it in compliment throughout the jubilee. The completion of this ceremony was immediately announced by ringing of bells, and firing of the cannon.

Soon after this circumstance, the room filled exceedingly; and it was a very pleasing compliment to genius to observe the ribbon favours universally worn, (as had been requested by Mr. Garrick, in a public advertisement,) in honour of our first dramatic writer, by ladies, as well as gentlemen, from the most elevated rank, to persons in the meanest situation: the silver medals, before mentioned, were also worn by vast numbers present, and had a very handsome appearance. No company so various in character, temper, and condition, ever formed, at least in appearance, such an agreeable group of happy and congenial souls: many persons of the highest rank and quality, of both sexes, some of the most celebrated beauties of the age, and men distinguished for their wit, genius, and love of the elegant arts, thought themselves happy to fill the grand chorus of this high festival.\* During the interval of breakfast, a party

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\* Among numerous others of the nobility, ladies, and gentry who graced the jubilee were present the Dukes of Dorset and Manchester, the Earls and Countesses of Hertford, Plymouth, and Northampton; Earls of Carlisle, Shrewsbury, and Denbigh; Lords Beauchamp, Grosvenor, Pigot, Windsor, and Catherlough; Lord, and Lady Archer; Lord, and Lady Spencer; Lord, and Lady Craven; Sir Watkin Wil-

of drums and fifes performed several pieces opposite the hall, and gave much satisfaction.

From the town hall, the company proceeded in regular order, at half past ten, to the church; where the Oratorio of Judith, composed by Dr. Arne, and written by Mr. Bickersstaff, was well performed in a large temporary orchestra, erected under the organ. This piece opened at eleven: the principal vocal performers were Mrs. Baddeley, Mrs. Bartholemon, Miss Weller, (a pupil of Dr. Arne's,) Mr. Vernon, Mr. Champness, Master Brown, &c. first violin by Mr. Richards, and the whole conducted by Dr. Arne. The chorusses were very full; the band excellent, being composed of the whole of Drury Lane orchestra; and at the end of the first act, Mr. Bartholemon played a most enchanting solo, on the violin. When the Oratorio was finished, which had given great satisfaction to a very numerous, and polite audience, Mr. Garrick, at the head of the performers, walked in procession from the church, attended by a large cavalcade of the nobility, and gentry, in their coaches, chaises, &c. to the amphitheatre; Mr. Vernon, and the rest, singing the following chorus, to an accompaniment of proper instruments.

This is a day, a holiday! a holiday!

Drive spleen and rancour far away;

This is a day, a holiday! a holiday!

Drive care and sorrow far away.

Wills Wynne, and Sir Francis Skipwith, Barts. the Honourable Mr. Conway, Sir Robert Ladbroke, the Miss Ladbrokes, Mr. Crew, M. P. for Chester, and his Lady; Mr. Paine, M. P. for Shaftsbury, and his Lady; Admiral Rodney, Mr. and Mrs. Kelly; the Honourable Mr. Fox, Mr. Selwyn, Mr. Ross, from Edinburgh, Mr. Lee, from Bath, Mr. Macklin, Mr. and Mrs. Yates, Mr. Foote, Mr. Boswell, Mr. Colman, and most of the eminent literary characters of the age.

Here Nature nurs'd her darling boy,\*  
 From whom all care and sorrow fly,  
     Whose harp the Muses strung:  
 From heart to heart let joy rebound,  
 Now, now, we tread enchanted ground,  
 Here Shakspeare walk'd and sung!

At three, a grand and sumptuous public ordinary for ladies and gentlemen, (including all the rarities the season could afford,) was given at the amphitheatre, and most numerous attended; Mr. Garrick presiding as steward. The company was occasionally diverted with a variety of new songs, catches, and glees, adapted to the purpose of the jubilee; during which time, the utmost harmony prevailed: and, after taking tea and coffee, the company retired to their respective apartments, to prepare for the assembly. The whole town was illuminated, and displayed a brilliant and lively appearance; drums were beating, and a tumult of perfect satisfaction every where predominated. The assembly at the amphitheatre was numerous attended by the nobility, ladies, and gentry; during which, immense quantities of beautiful fireworks were let off, under the management of Mr. Angelo. The minuets at the ball continued till twelve o'clock; at which time the country dances commenced: and about three all retired. The whole was conducted with the greatest decorum, and gave general satisfaction; and thus ended the first day's entertainment.

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\* Sung at the house where Shakspeare was born.

## THE SECOND DAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

Commenced with firing of cannon early in the morning, bells ringing, and serenading the ladies. A public breakfast was held at the town (or Shakspeare's) hall, in the same manner, and on the same conditions as on the preceding morning. About eleven o'clock the company repaired to the amphitheatre, to hear the Dedication Ode performed; the music of the interspersed airs being composed and conducted by Dr. Arne. In the centre of the orchestra, with his steward's wand of the mulberry-wood in his hand, and the medallion, presented him by the corporation, suspended from his breast, sat Mr. Garrick, dressed in a suit of brown, embroidered with a rich gold lace. Above him, and much overtopping the surrounding company, was raised that elegant statue of Shakspeare, cast purposely for this occasion at Mr. Garrick's expence; who afterwards presented it to the corporation, to be fixed in a niche on the north side of the town-hall, to remain among other monuments to his memory. Dr. Arne, in a dress similar to Mr. Garrick's, stood on the left side of the statue, in order the more conveniently to regulate the band.

And here, says a cotemporary writer, I must express my great satisfaction, at the agreeable manner in which Mr. Garrick *spoke* the Ode, thereby exalting his performance above criticism. When I saw the statue of Shakspeare, the greatest dramatic poet, and the living person of Garrick, the greatest actor that England ever produced; when I considered the occasion, the scene, and the company that was drawn together by the power of *one man*, I was struck with a kind of veneration and enthusiasm; and the same sentiments, I make no doubt, operating in the breasts of others, contributed greatly to the applause the performance met with.



Mr. Garrick, after a short overture from the musicians, opened this day's performance with a very respectful bow to the company; which was returned with a clap of unanimous applause; and at the end of every recited part of the Ode, he sat down, and gave the singers, &c. an opportunity of displaying their respective abilities.

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### THE ODE,

UPON DEDICATING THE TOWN HALL, AND ERECTING A STATUE  
TO SHAKSPEARE.

Written by David Garrick, Esq.

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To what blest genius of the isle,\*  
Shall gratitude her tribute pay,  
Decree the festive day,  
Erect the statue, and devote the pile?

Do not your sympathetic hearts accord,  
To own the "bosom's lord?"  
'Tis he!—'tis he!—that demi-god!  
Who Avon's flow'ry margin trod,  
While sportive Fancy round him flew;  
Where Nature led him by the hand,  
Instructed him in all she knew,  
And gave him absolute command!

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\* Quem virum aut heroa lyra vel acri  
Tibia sumes celebrare, Clio?  
Quem Deum? cujus recinet jocosæ  
Nomen imago?

'Tis he!—'tis he!—

“ The god of our idolatry!”

To him the song, the edifice we raise;  
He merits all our wonder, all our praise!

Yet, ere impatient joy break forth,  
In sounds that lift the soul from earth;  
And to our spell-bound minds impart  
Some faint idea of his magic art;  
Let awful silence still the air!  
From the dark cloud, the hidden light  
                    Bursts tenfold bright!

Prepare! prepare! prepare!  
Now swell at once the choral song,  
Roll the full tide of harmony along;  
Let rapture sweep the trembling strings,  
And Fame, expanding all her wings,  
With all her trumpet-tongues proclaim  
The lov'd, rever'd, immortal name!

SHAKSPEARE! SHAKSPEARE! SHAKSPEARE!

Let th'enchanting sound,  
From Avon's shores rebound;  
Through the air,  
Let it bear

The precious freight the envious nations round!

*CHORUS.*

Swell the choral song,  
Roll the tide of harmony along,  
Let Rapture sweep the strings,  
Fame expand her wings,  
With her trumpet-tongues proclaim  
The lov'd, rever'd, immortal name!  
SHAKSPEARE! SHAKSPEARE! SHAKSPEARE!

## AIR I.

Sweetest bard that ever sung,  
 Nature's glory, Fancy's child;  
 Never sure did witching tongue,  
 Warble forth such wood-notes wild!

Come each Muse, and sister Grace,  
 Loves and Pleasures hither come;  
 Well you know this happy place,  
 Avon's banks were once your home.

Bring the laurel, bring the flow'rs,  
 Songs of triumph to him raise;  
 He united all your pow'rs,  
 All uniting, sing his praise!

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Though Philip's fam'd unconquer'd son,  
 Had ev'ry blood-stain'd laurel won;  
 He sigh'd, that his creative word,  
 (Like him which rules the skies,)  
 Could not bid other nations rise,  
 To glut his yet unsated sword:

But when our Shakspeare's matchless pen,  
 Like Alexander's sword, had done with men,  
 He heav'd no sigh, he made no moan;  
 Not limited to human kind,  
 He fir'd his wonder-teeming mind,  
 Rais'd other worlds, and beings of his own!

## AIR II.

When Nature, smiling, hail'd his birth,  
 To him unbounded pow'r was giv'n;  
 The whirlwind's wing to sweep the sky,  
 "The frenzy-rolling eye,  
 "To glance from heav'n to earth,  
 "From earth to heav'n!"

O, from his muse of fire,  
 Could but one spark be caught,  
 Then might these humble strains aspire,  
 To tell the wonders he has wrought.  
 To tell,—how sitting on his magic throne,  
 Unaided and alone,  
 In dreadful state,  
 The subject passions round him wait;  
 What though unchain'd, and raging there,  
 He checks, inflames, or turns their mad career;  
 With that superior skill,  
 Which winds the fiery steed at will,  
 He gives the awful word—  
 And they, all foaming, trembling, own him for their lord.

With these his slaves he can controul,  
 Or charm the soul;  
 So realiz'd are all his golden dreams,  
 Of terror, pity, love, and grief,  
 Though conscious that the vision only seems,  
 The woe-struck mind finds no relief:  
 Ingratitude would drop the tear,  
 Cold-blooded age take fire,  
 'To see the thankless children of old Lear,  
 Spurn at their king and sire!  
 With *his* our reason too grows wild,  
 What Nature had disjoin'd,  
 The Poet's pow'r combin'd,  
 Madness and Age, Ingratitude and Child!

Ye guilty, lawless tribe,  
 Escap'd from punishment, by art or bribe,  
 At SHAKSPEARE'S bar appear!  
 No bribing, shuffling there—  
 His genius, like a rushing flood,  
 Cannot be withstood,

Out bursts the penitential tear!  
 The look appall'd, the crime reveals,  
 The marble-hearted monster feels,  
 Whose hand is stain'd with blood.

## SEMI-CHORUS.

When Law is weak, and Justice fails,  
 The Poet holds the sword and scales.

## AIR III.

Though crimes from death and torture fly,  
 The swifter Muse  
 Their flight pursues,  
 Guilty mortals more than die!  
 They live indeed, but live to feel  
 The scourge and wheel,  
 "On the torture of the mind they lie;"  
 Should harass'd Nature sink to rest,  
 The Poet wakes the scorpion in the breast,  
 Guilty mortals more than die!



When our magician, more inspir'd,  
 By charms, and spells, and incantations fir'd,  
 Exerts his most tremendous pow'r;  
 The thunder growls, the heavens low'r,  
 And to his darken'd throne repair,  
 The demons of the deep, and spirits of the air!

But soon these horrors pass away,  
 Through storms and night breaks forth the day:  
 He smiles,—they vanish into air!  
 The buskin'd warriors disappear!  
 Mute the trumpets, mute the drums,  
 'The scene is chang'd,—Thalia comes,  
 Leading the nymph Euphrosyne,  
 Goddess of Joy and Liberty!

She and her sisters, hand in hand,  
 Link'd to a num'rous frolic band,  
 With roses and with myrtle crown'd,  
 O'er the green velvet lightly bound,  
 Circling the monarch of th'enchanted land.

## AIR IV.

Wild, frantic with pleasure,  
 They trip it in measure,  
 To bring him their treasure,  
 The treasure of joy!

How gay is the measure,  
 How sweet is the pleasure,  
 How great is the treasure,  
 The treasure of joy!

Like roses fresh blowing,  
 Their dimpled cheeks glowing,  
 His mind is o'erflowing,  
 A treasure of joy!

His rapture perceiving,  
 They smile while they're giving,  
 He smiles at receiving  
 A treasure of joy!



With kindling cheeks, and sparkling eyes,  
 Surrounded thus, the bard in transport dies;  
 The little loves, like bees,  
 Clust'ring and climbing up his knees,  
 His brows with roses bind;  
 While fancy, wit, and humour spread  
 Their wings, and hover round his head,  
 Impregnating his mind:

Which teeming soon, as soon brought forth,  
 Not a tiny spurious birth,  
 But out a mountain came,  
 A mountain of delight!  
 Laughter roar'd out to see the sight,  
 And Falstaff was his name!  
 With sword and shield he, puffing, strides;  
 The joyous revel-rout  
 Receive him with a shout,  
 And modest Nature holds her sides:  
 No single pow'r the deed has done,  
 But great and small,  
 Wit, fancy, humour, whim, and jest,  
 The huge, mishapen heap impress'd;  
 And lo!—Sir John!  
 A compound of 'em all,  
 A comic world in *one*.

## AIR V.

A world where all pleasures abound,  
 So fruitful the earth,  
 So quick to bring forth,  
 And the world too is wicked and round.

As the well-teeming earth,  
 With rivers and show'rs,  
 Will smiling bring forth  
 Her fruits and her flow'rs;  
 So Falstaff will never decline:  
 Still fruitful and gay,  
 He moistens his clay,  
 And his rain and his rivers are wine.  
 Of the world he has all, but its care;  
 No load, but of flesh, will he bear;

He laughs off his pack,  
 Takes a cup of old sack,  
 And away with all sorrow and care.

~~~~~  
 Like the rich rainbow's various dyes,  
 Whose circle sweeps o'er earth and skies,  
     The heav'n-born Muse appears;  
 Now in the brightest colours gay,  
 Now quench'd in show'rs, she fades away,  
     Now blends her smiles and tears.

Sweet swan of Avon! ever may thy stream  
 Of tuneful numbers be the darling theme;  
 Not Thames himself, who in his silver course  
     Triumphant rolls along,  
 Britannia's riches and her force,  
     Shall more harmonious flow in song.

O, had those bards, who charm the list'ning shore  
 Of Cam and Isis, tun'd their classic lays,  
 And from their full and precious store,  
 Vouchsaf'd to fairy-haunted Avon praise!

(Like that kind bounteous hand\*  
 Which lately gave the ravish'd eyes  
     Of Stratford swains  
     A rich command,  
 Of widen'd river, lengthen'd plains,  
     And op'ning skies;)

Nor Greek, nor Roman streams would flow along,  
 More sweetly clear, or more sublimely strong,  
 Nor thus a shepherd's feeble notes reveal,  
 At once the weakest numbers, and the warmest zeal.

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\* This alludes to a great number of trees, growing on the Bank-croft, which the late Duke of Dorset, with the concurrence of Dionysius Bradley, Esq. who had a lease of them, most generously ordered to be cut down, to open the view of the river Avon for the jubilee.



## AIR VI.

Thou soft-flowing Avon, by thy silver stream,  
 Of things more than mortal, sweet Shakspeare would dream;  
 The fairies by moonlight dance round his green bed,  
 For hallow'd the turf is which pillow'd his head.

The love-stricken maiden, the soft-sighing swain,  
 Here rove without danger, and sigh without pain;  
 The sweet bud of beauty no blight shall here dread,  
 For hallow'd the turf is which pillow'd his head.

Here youth shall be fam'd for their love and their truth,  
 And cheerful old age feel the spirit of youth;  
 For the raptures of fancy here poets shall tread,  
 For hallow'd the turf is that pillow'd his head.

Flow on, silver Avon! in song ever flow,  
 Be the swans on thy bosom still whiter than snow,  
 Ever full be thy stream, like his fame may it spread,  
 And the turf ever hallow'd which pillow'd his head.



Though bards with envy-aching eyes,  
 Behold a tow'ring eagle rise,  
     And would his flight retard;  
 Yet each to Shakspeare's genius bows,  
 Each weaves a garland for his brows,  
     To crown th' heaven-distinguish'd bard.  
 Nature had form'd him on her noblest plan,  
 And to the genius join'd the feeling man.

What though with more than mortal art,  
     Like Neptune he directs the storm,  
 Lets loose, like winds, the passions of the heart,  
     To wreck the human form;  
 Though from his mind rush forth the demons to destroy,  
 His heart ne'er knew but love, and gentleness, and joy.

## AIR VII.

More gentle than the southern gale,  
 Which softly fans the blossom'd vale,  
 And gathers on its balmy wing,  
 The fragrant treasures of the Spring,  
 Breathing delight on all it meets,  
 "And giving, as it steals, the sweets."



Look down, blest spirit! from above,  
 With all thy wonted gentleness and love;  
 And as the wonders of thy pen,  
     By heav'n inspir'd,  
     To virtæ fir'd,  
 The charm'd, astonish'd, sons of men!  
 With no reproach, ev'n now, thou view'st thy work,  
     To Nature sacred as to Truth,  
     Where no alluring mischiefs lurk,  
     To taint the mind of youth.  
 Still to thy native spot thy smiles extend,  
 And as thou gav'st it fame, that fame defend.  
 And may no sacrilegious hand  
     Near Avon's banks be found,  
 To dare to parcel out the land,  
     And limit Shakspeare's hallow'd ground.\*  
 For ages free, still be it unconfin'd,  
 As broad, and general, as thy boundless mind.

Can British gratitude delay  
     To him, the glory of this isle,  
     To give the festive day,  
 The song, the statue, and devoted pile?  
 To him, the first of poets, best of men?  
 "We ne'er shall look upon his like again!"

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\* Alluding to a design of inclosing the common fields of Stratford, where part of our poet's property lay.

## DUET.

Shall the hero laurels gain,  
 For ravag'd fields, and thousands slain?  
 And shall his brows no laurels bind,  
 Who charms to virtue human kind?

## CHORUS.

We will his brows with laurel bind,  
 Who charms to virtue human kind:  
     Raise the pile, the statue raise,  
     Sing immortal Shakspeare's praise!  
 The song will cease, the stone decay,  
     But *HIS* name,  
     And undiminish'd fame,  
 Shall never, never pass away.

This elegant Ode met with the most universal approbation and applause: the recitative parts were spoken by Mr. Garrick, who perhaps, in all the characters in which he ever appeared, never exerted more powers, or with greater variety and judgment, or ever caused a greater emotion, or made a stronger impression on the breasts of his auditors; he launched, indeed, almost beyond himself! in fact, though the turbulent applause gave him frequent interruption, yet it was generally allowed, that the Ode, in point of poetical merit, no less than the speaker, as to his elocution and mode of delivery, was justly entitled to universal admiration. That air, '*Thou soft flowing Avon, by thy silver stream,*' gave, in particular, great delight; and afterwards became, and still remains a favourite song of the public. The stanza, beginning, '*Though Philip's fam'd*

*unconquer'd son,* and the following one, have great beauty and were inimitably spoken. Again, the stanzas beginning, '*When our magician more inspir'd,*' and the subsequent air deserved the thunder of applause which was bestowed upon it; and to some, was the most enchanting part of the whole: he was Falstaff himself! The stanzas from '*Sweet swan of Avon, ever may thy stream,*' to the conclusion of the favourite air which followed, need no encomium; they were enthusiastically encored. The company was in raptures, when the speaker (after a pretty air well sung) began '*Look down blest spirit from above,*' and the concluding chorus wanted only the action of crowning the statue to have rendered the whole complete.\* In short, it was allowed by all who had the happiness to be present at the recital of this Ode, that there never was exhibited in England, a performance more pleasing, more grand, or more worthy the memory of Shakspeare; and in which the genius and talents of Garrick, (by whose enchanting powers it was rendered superior to criticism,) was so thoroughly admirable, and gave so perfect a satisfaction.

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\* It was intended to make a theatrical procession to the Amphitheatre, by 170 persons, (chiefly to be represented by performers from the theatres in London,) properly dressed, in all the principal characters to be met with in Shakspeare's plays; with a large and highly ornamented triumphal car, in which two persons, representing Melpomene and Thalia, with the Graces, were to be drawn by six persons habited like satyrs, with attendants carrying emblematical devices and insignia, and accompanied by the whole band of vocal and instrumental music, to perform a serenade at Shakspeare's statue, and crown it with a wreath of laurel. Unfortunately the day (Thursday) proved wet, and it was postponed till Friday: but the rain, which unremittingly fell at that juncture, entirely frustrated the exhibition of the pageant, prevented Mr. Garrick from reciting his Ode a second time, (which he had been requested, and very politely consented to do,) and much injured the beautiful fire-works, contrived and conducted by Mr. Angelo.

In the performance of this Ode, Mr. Garrick distinguished himself equally as a poet, an actor, and a gentleman; he lamented that none of the eminent poets of our universities had undertaken the same subject, who were so infinitely more capable than himself to execute the arduous task; and expressed an apprehension, that his zeal for the honour of Shakspeare, had led him to expose the weakness of his own abilities; but he hoped his motive would apologize for defects. He declared he did not at first foresee the difficulties he had to struggle with; but that having once embarked, he found himself in the situation of Macbeth, and saw it no less dangerous to retreat than go on: he, however, had one consolation, (politely turning to Dr. Arne,) that the first musical genius of this country, did not think his muse unworthy the exercise of his talents; and he was certain the composer's excellence would amply atone for the imperfections of the author.

Mr. Garrick afterwards stood up, and delivered a prose encomium on Shakspeare, in which his enemies (if he had any such) were called upon to urge whatever they could advance in opposition to Shakspeare's character. On this, Mr. King, the celebrated comedian, who appeared among the company in a great coat, desired to be heard. Those who knew him, expected something extremely whimsical; while many who did not, testified the greatest amazement at so unexpected an attack on the first dramatic poet of their country. Mr. King, who stood in a direct line to the orchestra, having thus expressed his intentions of attacking the reputation of Shakspeare, went round, and speedily (taking off his great coat) came into the orchestra, in a suit of blue, ornamented with silver frogs, (the fashionable dress of the day,) to support the justice of his allegations. Several, who thought he was really serious, seemed extremely dissatisfied with him; while numbers, who saw into the in-

tion, were highly diverted, and testified a satisfaction, proportioned to the astonishment expressed by the less-informed part of the auditory. He attacked Shakspeare's character and fame, and censured him pleasantly as a very ill-bred fellow, for domineering over our own passions, and making people laugh and cry as *he* thought proper. This produced much mirth and much dramatic wit, and with Mr. King's admirable acting, was a considerable addition to the entertainment. This droll comedian having satisfactorily executed his share of the task, Mr. Garrick concluded by addressing the ladies in a poetical epilogue, (which he spoke with great spirit and propriety,) complimenting them on the regard they had always shewn to Shakspeare, and exhorting them to support the reputation of a poet, who was so remarkable for upholding the dignity of the female character.\*

○ In the afternoon, at three o'clock, a public dinner was given, and numerous attended; and at five, the company were agreeably entertained with new songs, catches and glees, well adapted to the occasion, and which created the utmost mirth and festivity. In the evening the town was again illuminated very brilliantly: transparencies were invented for the five front windows in Shakspeare's hall, in which some of the poet's most striking characters were exhibited, to amuse the populace during the masquerade. In the centre window was a whole length figure of Shakspeare, with Falstaff and Pistol in the windows on his left hand, and in the two opposite ones were Lear in the execration

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\* During this performance, the benches, in various parts of the amphitheatre, from the prodigious pressure of the company, gave way; and, had it not been for the interposition of Providence, Lord Carlisle, who was much hurt by the fall of a door, must inevitably have been killed: no very serious consequence arose from this accident.

passage, and Caliban drinking from Trinculo's keg. The birth-place of the bard, in Henley-street, was covered over with a curious emblematical transparency: the subject, the sun struggling through the clouds, to enlighten the world; a figurative representation of the fate and fortunes of the much-beloved bard. Signior Angelo was also not forgetful in exhibiting his dexterity with his fire-works, and the whole machinery of pyrotechny, in a most grand and beautiful manner. At night the masquerade commenced, though not till twelve o'clock; the room was extremely crowded, and nearly 1000 persons were computed to have been present.\* Several of the characters were well dressed, and sustained their parts with great propriety; among the most distinguished of which were Lady Pembroke, Mrs. Bouverie, and Mrs. Crewe, habited as witches, who excited general admiration: the astonishing contrast between the deformity of the feigned, and the beauty of the real appearance, was every where observed. Nor did a shepherdess and Dame Quickly, in the Merry Wives of Windsor, (personated by the two Miss Ladbrokes,) pass without the universal applause of the company. Lord Grosvenor was magnificently dressed in an eastern habit; but the greatest part of the nobility, and most of the literary gentlemen, were in dominos. Mrs. Yates personated a *petit-maitre*: Mr. Yates, as a waggoner, gave much satisfaction; as did a gentleman, from Oxford, in Lord Ogleby. Mr. Boswell, the celebrated friend of Paoli, appeared in a corsican habit, with pistols in his belt, and a musket at his back: in gold letters, in the front of his cap, were the words *PAOLI*, and *Viva la Liberta*. A person dressed as a devil was inexpressibly displeasing:

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\* Dresses of the meanest sort were hired at four guineas each; those, however, who could not be accommodated to their minds, or did not chuse to pay such a sum, were admitted with masks only; and there were many present even without masks.

the three witches however charmed the company into good humour, the shepherdess, with Mrs. Quickly, confirmed those agreeable sensations; and about five every body retired.

On Friday, (the 8th of September,) as the weather continued remarkably wet, and consequently prevented the pageant, or representation of Shakspeare's principal characters, part of the company (notwithstanding the horse race) went out of town. The race for the jubilee cup, value fifty guineas, commenced at twelve o'clock, at Shottery race-ground, and afforded much diversion to the lovers of the turf. "The course (says Mr. Garrick, in his public advertisement) upon this beautiful meadow, (allowed to be one of the finest in the kingdom,) has been altered, and made greatly more convenient, both for horses and spectators. Indeed there was very little occasion for art, where nature had been so lavish of her bounties: the stream of the surrounding Avon, the verdant lawns, and the rising hills and woods, form a scene too delicious for description."

The jubilee cup, whereon was engraved Shakspeare's arms, with other proper decorations, was won by a Mr. Pratt.

In the evening there was a full assembly at Shakspeare's hall, attended by many of the nobility, ladies, and gentry. Mrs. Garrick danced a minuet beyond description gracefully, and joined in the country dances, which ceased at four o'clock, and put an end to the jubilee.



## AN ORATION

IN HONOUR OF SHAKSPEARE.

Written and spoken by Mr. Garrick.

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“*The only science of mankind is man.*” This is the aphorism of an author, who has been equally admired as a philosopher and a poet; and if it is allowed, that man is the fittest object of our study; the drama, which exhibits the passions and pursuits of man, stands in the first class of literary composition. Shakspeare is, above all others, allowed to be the poet of nature; and therefore, as an author, he stands highest in the highest class. The beings exhibited by the poet of nature, are *men*: they are not creatures of the imagination, acting from principles by which human actions were never produced, and suffering distress which human beings never suffered; but partakers of the same nature with ourselves, to whose hearts our own sensations are a clue; beings of like passions, impelled by the same hopes and fears, and sacrificing virtue to interest, or interest to virtue, as circumstances concur with disposition, and opinion connects present and immediate good and evil with future, either by necessary consequence, or judicial determination.

But the contemplation of man, as exhibited by the poet upon the stage, is of more advantage than as passing before us in the scenes of life. In the world we see only the actions of mankind, and before we can infer any useful knowledge from them, we must investigate their motives, and often suspend our judgment of the consequences till they appear in a distant event. But in the scenes where men are exhibited by the poet, we see at once their action, and its

secret springs, which being thus connected, as effect and cause, we are afterwards able to refer conduct into passions and principles; we see also upon the stage the final events in which the whole concatenation of motive and action terminates; which enable us to look through life with a kind of prescient sagacity, and discover the effects of human action in their cause.

But Shakspeare does not only teach us what it is most our interest to know; for by the very manner in which he conveys the most important knowledge, he gives us the most rational, refined, and exquisite delight. He has not delineated a chart, but painted a picture:—he shews us the path of life, not by geometrical line, but by perspective, and elevation:—he does not personify human passions, and exhibit them, either separate or combined, as they would appear abstracted from the modes of life; he “*catches the manners living as they rise:*” he paints character, not merely as resulting from different turns of disposition, and degrees of understanding, but from situation and habit. Their passions and principles are indeed general, but they act and speak with the peculiarities of a class, though not of an individual. Shallow and Falstaff differ as much in consequence of circumstances, that made one a justice and one a soldier, as of any radical and native turn of mind; and the originals in nature, from which these portraits were drawn, are as well known now as they were then; the difference which custom has produced in the language and modes of life, is but like different dresses, in which the same air and features will always be distinguished. Justice Shallow is still to be found, though he has changed his coat; he still boasts of midnight frolics, though it is not now the custom of rakes to sleep in the windmill in St. George’s Fields; and of familiarity with the great, though there is no object of puny ambition called John of Gaunt.

We get knowledge from Shakspeare, not with painful labour as we dig gold from the mine, but at leisure, and with delight, as we gain health and vigour from the sports of the field. A picture frequently pleases which represents an object, that in itself is disgusting. Teniers represents a number of Dutch boors, drunk and quarreling in a wretched hovel, and we admire the piece for a kind of relative beauty, as a just imitation of life and nature: with this beauty we are struck in Shakspeare; we know his originals, and contemplate the truth of his copy with delight.

It was happy for Shakspeare, and for us, that in his time there was no example by the imitation of which he might hope to be approved. He painted nature as it appeared to his own eye, and not from a transcript of what was seen in nature by another. The genius looks not *upon* nature, but *through* it; not at the outline only, but the differences, nice and innumerable within it: at all that the variation of tints, and the endless combinations of light and shade can express. As the power of perception is more, more is still perceived in the inexhaustible varieties of life; but to copy only what another has seen, is to render superior perspicacity vain, and neither the painter, nor the poet, can hope to excel, who is content to reflect a reflection, and to seek for nothing in nature, which others have not found.

But there are beauties in Shakspeare not relative; powers that do not imitate, but create. *He was as another nature*: he represents not only actions that were not performed, but beings that do not exist; yet to these beings he assigns not only faculties, but character; he gives them not only peculiar dispositions, but characteristic modes of expressing them: they have character, not merely from the passions and understanding, but from situation and habit; Caliban and Ariel, like Shallow and Falstaff, are not more

strongly distinguished, in consequence of different natures, than of different circumstances and employments.

As there was no poet to seduce Shakspeare into imitation, there was no critic to restrain his extravagance; yet we find the force of his own judgment sufficient to rein his imagination, and reduce to system the new world which he made.

Does any one now enquire whether Shakspeare was learned? do they mean whether he knew how to call the same thing by several names? for learning, with respect to language, teaches no more. Learning, in its best sense, is only nature at the rebound; it is only the discovery of what is; and he who looks upon nature with a penetrating eye, derives learning from the source. Rules of poetry have been deduced from examples, and not examples from rules; as a poet, therefore, Shakspeare did not need books; and in no instance in which he needed them as a philosopher, or historian, does he appear ignorant of what they teach.

His language, like his conceptions, is strongly marked with the characteristic of nature; it is bold, figurative, and significant; his terms rather than his sentences are metaphorical; he calls an endless multitude a sea, by a happy allusion to the perpetual succession of wave to wave; and he immediately expresses opposition, by taking up arms; which, being fit in itself, he was not solicitous to accommodate to his first image: this is the language in which a figurative and rapid conception will always be expressed: this is the language both of the prophet, and the poet, of native eloquence, and divine inspiration.

It has been objected to Shakspeare, that he wrote without any moral purpose, but I boldly reply, that he has

effected a thousand: he has not, indeed, always contrived a series of events, from the whole of which some moral precept may be inferred, but he has conveyed some rule of conduct, some principle of knowledge, not only in almost every speech of his dialogue, but in every incident, character, and event. Thus great was Shakspeare, as he appears in his *works*; but in *himself* he was greater still. The genius in every art, has an idea of perfection which he cannot attain: this idea, beyond what others can conceive, and a perpetual effort to reach it, produce that excellence which distinguishes his works; but Shakspeare appears to have despised his performances when he compared them, not only with his ideas, but his powers; for how else can we account for his taking no care to collect them: when he saw part of them corruptly published by others, he neither amended the faults, nor secured the rest from the same injury. It appears, therefore, “that he judged those works unworthy to be preserved, by restoring and explaining which, the critics of succeeding ages were to contend for fame.”

Thus, without the incentive of future reputation, without any other exertion of his powers than would satisfy an audience wholly unacquainted with the drama, he has excited universal admiration, as the sun becomes glorious by the spontaneous effusions of his rays.

Is there any here whose attention has been fixed, whose imagination filled, and whose passions moved by other scenes, as they have been fixed, filled, and moved by the scenes of Shakspeare? “if there be any, speak! for him have I offended.”

To feel the powers of Shakspeare, is at once pleasure and praise; when we express this sensibility, therefore, by an act of homage to his memory, we erect a monument of

honour to ourselves; to ourselves, indeed, and to posterity, who may be stimulated to excellence by the hope of fame, all that we nominally offer to the manes of Shakspeare, must eventually relate. In these fields where we are pleased with the notion of doing him honour, *he* is mouldering into dust;—

“ Deaf the prais'd ear, and mute the tuneful tongue.”

How awful is the thought!—Let me pause;—if I speak it must be in my own character, and in your's. We are men; and we know that the hour approaches, with silent but irresistible rapidity, when *we* also shall be dust. We are now in health, and at ease; but the hour approaches when we shall be sensible only to sickness and to pain; when we shall perceive the world gradually to fade from our sight, and close our eyes in perpetual darkness.\*

These truths we know to be indubitable and important, yet they are sometimes forgotten; and, stranger still, are sometimes remembered with indifference. Let me, by whom the Poet of Avon has so often touched the heart with imaginary woe, be now forgiven, if, unassisted by his language, or his thought, I have tried the force of reality and truth: if at this moment we not only know, but feel, that where Shakspeare is, we shortly shall be, let us preserve the sacred sensibility, which will never imbitter the enjoyments of life, if it effectually reminds us of its use.

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\* ‘ Nam celeri annorum cursu cito volvitur ætas  
 Omnibus, ut rapido volvitur orbe rota.  
 Exiguum in cinerem contracta jacebimus omnes  
 Corpora, et in nigris ossa soluta rogis.’

## SHAKSPEARE'S GARLAND:

BEING A COLLECTION OF SONGS, BALLADS, ROUNDELAIS,  
CATCHES, GLEES, COMIC SERENATAS, &c.

*performed at the jubilee.*

The music by Dr. Arne, Mr. Bartholemon, Ailwood, and Dibdin.

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 WARWICKSHIRE.

A Song.

*By Mr. Garrick.*

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Ye Warwickshire lads, and ye lasses,  
See what at our jubilee passes;  
Come revel away, rejoice, and be glad,  
For the lad of all lads, was a Warwickshire lad,  
Warwickshire lad,  
All be glad,  
For the lad of all lads, was a Warwickshire lad.

Be proud of the charms of your county,  
Where Nature has lavish'd her bounty,  
Where much she has given, and some to be spar'd,  
For the bard of all bards, was a Warwickshire bard,  
Warwickshire bard,  
Never pair'd,  
For the bard of all bards, was a Warwickshire bard.

Each shire has its different pleasures,  
Each shire has its different treasures;  
But to rare Warwickshire, all must submit,  
For the wit of all wits, was a Warwickshire wit,  
Warwickshire wit,  
How he writ!  
For the wit of all wits, was a Warwickshire wit,

Old Ben, Thomas Otway, John Dryden,  
 And half a score more we take pride in,  
 Of famous Will Congreve, we boast too the skill,  
 But the Will of all Wills, was a Warwickshire Will,  
     Warwick-hire Will,  
     Matchless still,  
 For the Will of all Wills, was a Warwickshire Will.

Our SHAKSPEARE compar'd is to no man,  
 Nor Frenchman, nor Grecian, nor Roman,  
 Their swans are all geese, to the Avon's sweet swan,  
 And the man of all men, was a Warwickshire man,  
     Warwickshire man,  
     Avon's swan,  
 And the man of all men, was a Warwickshire man.

As ven'son is very inviting,  
 To steal it our bard took delight in,  
 To make his friends merry, he never was lag,  
 For the wag of all wags, was a Warwickshire wag,  
     Warwickshire wag,  
     Ever brag,  
 For the wag of all wags, was a Warwickshire wag.

There never was seen such a creature,  
 Of all she was worth, he robb'd Nature;  
 He took all her smiles, and he took all her grief,  
 And the thief of all thieves, was a Warwickshire thief,  
     Warwickshire thief,  
     He's the chief,  
 For the thief of all thieves, was a Warwickshire thief.



## SHAKSPEARE'S MULBERRY-TREE,

(Sung by Mr. Garrick, with a cup in his hand, made of the tree.)

*By Mr. G.*

---

Behold this fair goblet, 'twas carv'd from the tree,  
Which, O my sweet SHAKSPEARE, was planted by thee;  
As a relic I kiss it, and bow at the shrine,  
What comes from thy hand must be ever divine!

All shall yield to the mulberry-tree,  
Bend to thee,  
Blest mulberry,  
Matchless was he  
Who planted thee,  
And thou, like him, immortal be!

Ye trees of the forest, so rampant and high,  
Who spread round their branches, whose heads sweep  
the sky,

Ye curious exotics, whom taste has brought here,  
To root out the natives, at prices so dear,

All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c. &c.

The oak is held royal, is Britain's great boast,  
Preserv'd once our king, and will always our coast,  
But of firs we make ships, we have thousands that fight,  
While one, only one, like our Shakspeare can write.

All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c. &c.

Let Venus delight in her gay myrtle bowers,  
Pomona in fruit-trees, and Flora in flowers,  
The garden of Shakspeare, all fancies will suit,  
With the sweetest of flowers, and fairest of fruit.

All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c. &c.

With learning and knowledge, the well-letter'd birch,  
 Supplies law and physic, and grace for the church ;  
 But the law and the gospel, in Shakspeare we find,  
 And he gives the best physic for body and mind.

All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c. &c.

The fame of the patron gives fame to the tree,  
 From him and his merits, this takes its degree ;  
 Let Phœbus and Bacchus their glories resign,  
 Our tree shall surpass both the laurel and vine.

All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c. &c.

The genius of Shakspeare outshines the bright day,  
 More rapture than wine to the heart can convey,  
 So the tree which he planted, by making his own,  
 Has laurel, and bays, and the vine all in one.

All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c. &c.

Then each take a relic of this hallow'd tree,  
 From folly and fashion a charm let it be ;  
 Fill, fill to the planter, the cup to the brim,  
 To honour the country, do honour to him.

All shall yield to the mulberry-tree, &c. &c.



## ROUNDELAY.

*By Mr. J.*

---

Sisters of the tuneful strain!  
 Attend your parent's jocund train,  
 'Tis fancy calls you, follow me,  
 To celebrate the jubilee.

On Avon's banks, where Shakspeare's bust  
 Points out, and guards his sleeping dust,  
 The sons of scenic mirth decree  
 To celebrate this jubilee.

By Garrick led, the grateful band,  
 Haste to their poet's native land,  
 With rites of sportive revelry,  
 To celebrate his jubilee.

Come daughters then, and with you bring  
 The vocal reed, and sprightly string,  
 Wit, and joke, and repartee,  
 To celebrate our jubilee.

Come, daughters, come, and bring with you  
 Th' aerial sprite, and fairy crew,  
 And the sister-graces three,  
 To celebrate our jubilee.

Hang around the sculptur'd tomb  
 The broider'd vest, the nodding plume,  
 And the mask of comie glee,  
 To celebrate our jubilee.

From Birnam wood, and Bosworth's field,  
 Bring the standard, bring the shield,  
 With drums, and martial symphony,  
 To celebrate our jubilee.

In mournful numbers now relate  
 Poor Desdemona's hapless fate,  
 With frantic deeds of jealousy,  
 To celebrate our jubilee.

Nor be Windsor's wives forgot,  
 With their harmless, merry plot,

'The whit'ning mead, and haunted tree,  
To celebrate our jubilee.

Now in jocund strains recite,  
The revels of the braggart knight,  
Fat knight! and ancient Pistol he!  
To celebrate our jubilee.

But see, in crowds, the gay, the fair,  
To the splendid scene repair,  
A scene as fine, as fine can be,  
To celebrate our jubilee.

Yet Colin bring, and Rosalind,  
Each shepherd true, and damsel kind,  
For well with ours, their sports agree,  
To crown the festive jubilee.



## THE COUNTRY GIRL.

A Comic Sirenata.

By Mr. Garrick.

---

### RECITATIVO.

Prithee tell me, cousin Sue,  
Why they make so much to do,  
Why all this noise and clatter?  
Why all this hurry, all this bustle,  
Law! how they crowd, and bawl, and justle,  
I caunno' guess the matter:  
For whom must all this puther be?  
The Emperor of Garmanee,  
Or great Mogul is coming;  
Such eating, drinking, dancing, singing,  
Such cannon firing, bells a-ringing,  
Such trumpeting and drumming!

## AIR.

All this for a Poet,—O no—  
 Who liv'd Lord knows how long ago?  
     How can you jeer one,  
     How can you fleer one,  
 A Poet!—a Poet!—O no:  
     'Tis not so,  
 Who liv'd Lord knows how long ago.

    It must be some great man,  
     A prince or a state-man,  
 It can't be a Poet,—O no:  
     Your Poet is poor,  
     And nobody sure,  
 Regards a poor Poet, I trow:  
     The rich ones we prize,  
     Send 'em up to the skies,  
 But not a poor Poet,—O no,—  
 Who liv'd Lord knows how long ago.

## RECITATIVO.

Yet now I call to mind,  
 Our larned Doctor boasted,  
 One *Shikspur* did, of all mankind,  
 Receive from heav'n the most-head;  
 That he could wonders do,  
     And did 'em o'er and o'er,  
 Raise sprites, and lay 'em too,  
     The like ne'er seen before.  
 A conjurer was he!  
     Who, with a pen in hond,  
 Had earth, and air, and sea,  
     And all things at commaund.

## AIR.

O'er each heart he was ruler,  
 Made 'em warmer or cooler,  
 Could make 'em to laugh or to cry:  
 What we lock'd in our breasts,  
 Though as close as in chests,  
 Was not hid from the conjurer's eye.  
 Though sins I have none,  
 I am glad he is gone,  
 No maid could live near such a mou.

If he saw ye, he knew ye,  
 Would look through and through ye,  
 Through skin, and your flesh, and your cloaths,  
 Had you vanity, pride,  
 Fifty follies beside,  
 He would see 'em as plain as your nose.  
 Though sins I have none, &c.

Let us sing it, and dance it,  
 Rejoice it, and prance it,  
 That no man has now such an art;  
 What would come of us all,  
 Both the great ones, and small,  
 Should he live to peep now in each heart.  
 Though sins I have none, &c.

~~~~~  
 SWEET WILLY O.

A Song.

By Mr. Garrick.

---

The pride of all Nature was sweet Willy O,  
 The first of all swains,  
 He gladden'd the plains,  
 None ever was like to the sweet Willy O.

He sung it so rarely, did sweet Willy O,  
 He melted each maid,  
 So skilful he play'd,  
 No shepherd e'er pip'd like the sweet Willy O.

All Nature obey'd him, this sweet Willy O,  
 Wherever he came,  
 Whate'er had a name,  
 Whenever he sung, follow'd sweet Willy O.

He would be a soldier,\* this sweet Willy O,  
 When arm'd in the field,  
 With sword and with shield,  
 The laurel was won by the sweet Willy O.

He charm'd 'em when living, the sweet Willy O,  
 And when Willy dy'd,  
 'Twas Nature that sigh'd,  
 To part with her all in her sweet Willy O.



TO THE  
 IMMORTAL MEMORY OF SHAKSPEARE.

---

Immortal be his name,  
 His memory, his fame!  
 Nature and her works we see,  
 Matchless SHAKSPEARE full in thee!  
 Join'd by everlasting ties,  
 Shakspeare but with nature dies.  
 Immortal be his name,  
 His memory, his fame!

---

\* Writer of tragedy.

## THE DRAMATIC RACE.

## A Catch.

*By a lover of the turf.*

Clear, clear the course,—make room—make room I say!  
 Now they are off, and Jonson makes the play.  
 I'll bet the odds—done sir, with you and you;  
 SHAKSPEARE keeps near him,—aud he'll win it too?  
 Here's even money—done for a hundred, done—  
 Now JONSON! now, or never;—he has won.  
 I'll take my oath, that SHAKSPEARE won the prize—  
 Damme! whoever says he lost it, lies.

## A GLEE.

*By Dr. M*—————

Come, nymphs and fawns, where'er ye be,  
 To this your father's jubilee,  
     With a tivy, tivy, tivy-tivie, ti.  
 Come elves, and faries, in a row,  
 And if you ever sung, sing now,  
     With a row-dow, row tidow, dow.  
 Ev'n Caliban, though void of art,  
 With growling base, shall bear a part,  
     With a Ban, Ban, Cacaliban.

## TO MR. GARRICK.

Immortal Shakspeare wrote, as Nature taught,  
 And Garrick acted all that Shakspeare thought;  
 Nature and art their utmost efforts join,  
 In Stratford, Garrick bow'd to Shakspeare's shrine.



## TO THE SAME.

*By Mr. Mickle, of Oxford.*

Author of a poem called the Concubine, &c.

---

Fair was the graceful form Prometheus made,  
 Its front the image of the gods betray'd;  
 All heav'n admir'd it, e'er Minerva stole  
 The fire of Jove, and kindled up the soul.  
 So Shakspeare's page, the flower of poesy,  
 E'er Garrick rose, had charms for ev'ry eye;  
 'Twas Nature's genuine image, wild and grand,  
 The strong-mark'd picture of a master's hand:  
 But when his Garrick, Shakspeare's Pallas, came,  
 The bard's bold painting bursting into flame,  
 Each part new force and vital warmth receiv'd,  
 As touch'd by heav'n, and all the picture liv'd.

~~~~~

 TO MR. GARRICK,

ON HIS FOUNDING A JUBILEE IN HONOUR OF SHAKSPEARE.

---

Garrick, no more of jubilees and stuff,  
 Your *acting* gives your Shakspeare praise enough.  
 Let others urge his fame these vulgar ways,  
 Your's is the most sincere and lasting praise.

~~~~~

 ON THE SAME.
 

---

The Roman actor, but for Tully's praise,  
 Had slept obscure, unknown in future days;  
 So Shakspeare's fire shone dim with common fame,  
 Till our great Roscius fann'd the kindred flame.

TO THE SAME,  
ON SHAKSPEARE'S BIRTH DAY.

“—*Kings for such a name would wish to die.*”  
Milton.

Daughters of harmony, a lay  
Deign to your darling's natal day,  
    Bred on the soil of Warwick;  
Who nature at his service had—  
To his vast merit who can add?  
    To Shakspeare's, who but Garrick?

United we, his worth to praise,  
All strive a pyramid to raise,  
    Which singly he has done;  
As well we might on tip-toe try  
To touch the lofty vaulted sky,  
    Or light the mid-day sun.

Alone in native majesty,  
He stands confess'd, like that fam'd tree  
    Of knowledge, Eden, pluming:  
With florid branches waving high,  
His leaves present apparently  
    Unfading blossoms blooming.

The glances of his mental eye  
Were fleet, (as vivid flashes fly,)  
    Dame Nature round surveying;  
He saw her naked, and he dress'd  
Her grand, though in the simplest vest,  
    His taste supreme displaying.

Thus clad, she gratefully declar'd  
To prompt in after times some bard,  
    A fav'rite next to thee,

Whom tell-tale time should Garrick name,  
 The author he, (reserv'd by Fame,)  
 Of Shakspeare's jubilee.

Untouch'd and sacred be thy shrine,  
 Avonian Willy, bard divine!  
 In studious posture leaning;  
 From ev'ry field of fancy thou  
 Hast reap'd the harvest,—only now  
 Remains to us the gleaning.

Th' alchymic touch, enquiry vain,  
 Fond search of many a curious brain,  
 Was never found, but when——  
 When first our *master's* hand each thought,  
 In highly finish'd models wrought,  
 With his auriferous pen.

His golden lines at once could gain  
 Their sterling price; but since, 'tis plain,  
 The art is with him gone:  
 A truth which each succeeding scribe  
 Can for himself, and all his tribe  
 Swear,—as I may for one.

THE END.

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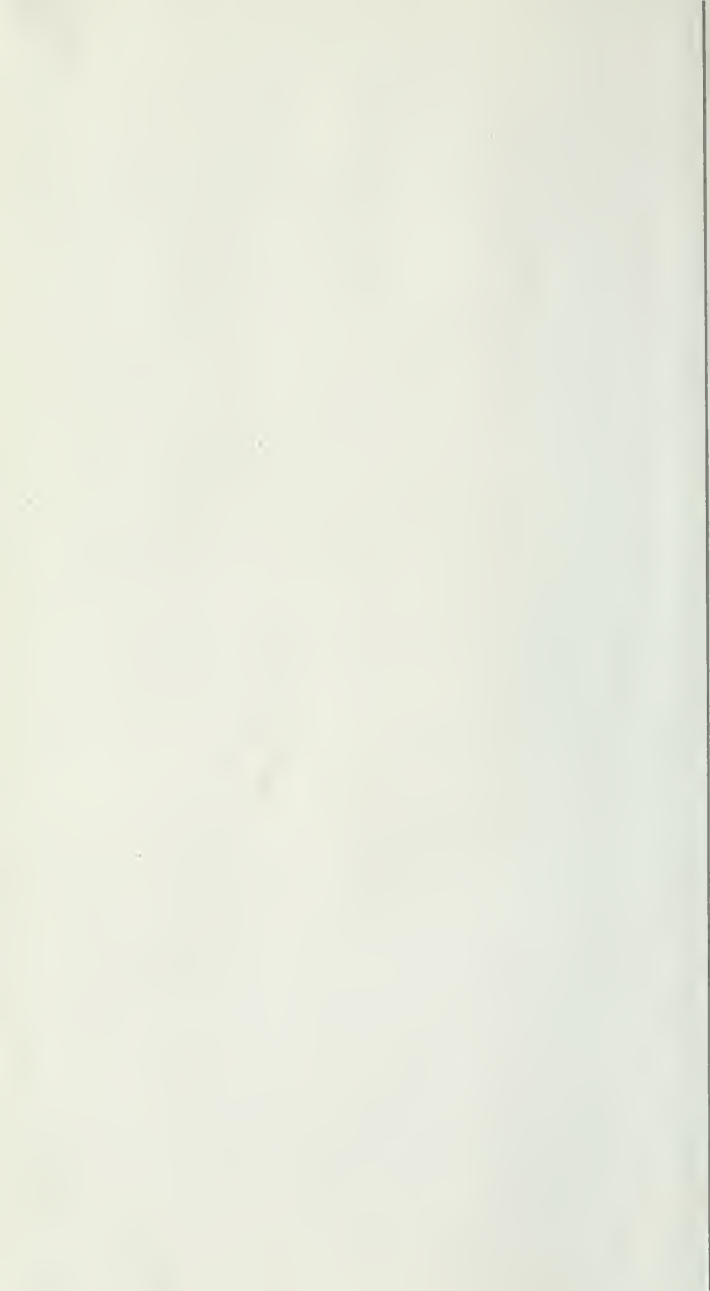
Page 22, line 7 in the note, for 1791 read 1802.

72, line 3, for *upper*, read *lower*; and in the next line, for *lower*, read *upper*.

91, line 9, a *comma* only after 1799, and no *comma* after the following word *and*; and in the next line, a *colon* instead of a *comma* after the word *year*.











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