EARLY CHARTERS RELATING TO THE MANOR OF KIRKBY-UNDER-KNOLL, IN THE NORTH RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

THE Saxon name of "Cyrc-by-under-Cnoll," (the church-town under the hill,) which this place has retained in its original purity, accurately points out its situation in the midst of a hilly, yet fertile and picturesque district, which lies under the western edge of the Hambleton moors, overlooking the town of Thirsk, and a vast extent of the great central vale of York. This is one of the many interesting portions of the county which have been hitherto undescribed; and it presents a rich field of investigation to the topographer and the antiquary. The original charters, of which the following are transcripts, are in the possession of Charles Heneage Elsley, esquire, Recorder of York, the present owner of the mansion and estate of Kirkby-under-Knoll. They disclose some facts, not previously published, relating to the early history of the manor, showing how it was acquired by the ancient family of Constable of Holderness, by whom it was held for at least three centuries.

Sciant oñes has litteras visuri vł audituri p̃sentes ꝑ futuri qđ Hugo de Magneby[a] dimisit ꝫ concessit Gũnore[b] dñe de Kyrkeby s̃b Cnol ad festũ sc̃i Marci Ewangeliste p̃ximũ post mortẽ regis Joh̃is[c] unũ croppũ de ꝑra dc̃i Hug̃ in ꝑritorio de Kirkeby s̃b Cnol q̃m dc̃a Gũnora ꝫ hoïes sui seminaverẽnt in illo anno scilicet croppũ suũ de ridĩg[d] Ric̃ cl̃ri ꝫ croppũ suũ de riding Wiłłi le Stokere ꝫ de riding Gilb̃rti ꝫ de Riding Arnaldi ꝫ

[a] The name of Hugo de Magneby is among the witnesses to charters of the time of Henry III. (Drake's Eborac. 605, 621.) Maunby is a town on the banks of the Swale, a few miles from Thirsk.

[b] The Lady Gunnora was, very probably, the last of the Saxon race of proprietors. The name, written Gunneaure, occurs three or four times in Domesday Book among the possessors of lands in Yorkshire. "Gunre" had a manor in Hawkswell, near Richmond, in Yorkshire. (Domesd. B. p. 311 b.)

[c] The 25th of April 1199.

[d] Riding or Ridding is a name used in some of the hilly parts of Yorkshire for a cleared tract of upland cultivated as meadow or pasture. Certain fields in Kirby-Knowle (as the name is now spelt,) are still called Riddings.

de Riding Eadwardi ⁊ de ridīg Riċ fit Eadwardi· p̄dċe Gūnore vt cui assignavit tenēdū ⁊ haƀndū solutū ⁊ quietū de p̄dċo Huğ ⁊ ħedibꝫ suis. Cū aut p̄dċa Gūnora ⁊ hoīeꝫ sui croppū suū ĩmmodo illiꝰ añi de p̄dċa p̄ra acceperint: eadem p̄ra revertetur p̄dċo Huğ ⁊ ħedibꝫ suis soluta ⁊ quieta de p̄noīata Gūnora ⁊ ħedibꝫ suis in p̄petuū.[e] Et ut ħ cōvenc̄ō stabilis ⁊ rata ⁊ īcōcussa p̄maneat eam uꝑqꝫ illoꝫ sigilli sui appōne corroboravit. Hiis testibꝫ Symone capellano de Kirkebỳ sup Wisc. Johañe capellano de Kirkebỳ sub Cnol. Stephano de Blabỳ. Roƀto de Kerebỳ. Wiłło de Magnebỳ. Ranulpho de Magnebỳ. Johañe de Kerebỳ. Thoma Forestario. Roƀ de Thorneberg. ⁊ aliis multis.

Seal of white wax, destroyed.

Om̃ibus hanc cartam cyrog̃phatam visuř vt audituř Matiłł que fuit ux̄ dñi Roƀti de Tilliol milit̄[f] Salt̄m e᷑nam in dño Noverit᷑ me dedisse concessisse ⁊ hac p̄senti carta cyrog̃phata confirmasse dño Roƀto le Conestable de Holdernes ⁊ dñe Avicie ux̄i eiᵍ totā p̄partē meam manen̄ de Kirkeby under Knoll cū om̃ibꝫ ⁊ singłis p̄tiñ suis ħedita᷑ me contingenť et etiam unū mesuagiū unā bovat̄ quadraginta ⁊ sex ac̄ ⁊ dīmiđ unā rod ⁊ decem

[e] It is remarkable that so small an interest in land, as the crops of a single year, should have been conveyed by a written grant.

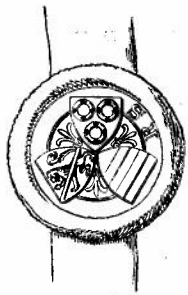
[f] Matilda or Maud, widow of Sir Robert de Tilliol, knight, was one of the daughters and coheirs of Roger de Lasceles, Lord of Kirkby-under-Knoll, who in the 7th year of Edward I. alleged that under a grant from King Henry III. he claimed free warren in his manors of Eskrik, Kirkby-knoll, and Scruton, "and as for his manor of Kirkby-knoll he said that he held that of Galfridus de Upsale." (Gale, Reg. p. 92.) Roger de Lasceles had summons to parliament amongst the peers of the realm in the 22nd year of Edward I. and in the two following years, but not afterwards. (Dugd. Bar. i. 6.) It is probable that he died towards the close of the 13th century. Sir William de Hilton, a younger son of Robert de Hilton, Lord of Hilton in the county of Durham, was the first husband of Matilda de Lasceles, and on their marriage in the 16th Edward I. (1288), he had from his father a grant of Swine and Winestead in Holderness. He died in the 19th Edward I. leaving a son, Sir Robert de Hilton, knight, of Swine. (Surtees's Durham, ii. 28.) Matilda de Lasceles was married to Sir Robert de Tilliol, of Hayton, in Cumberland, knight, about the 21st year of Edward I. and by him, who died 14th Edward II. she had a son, Sir Peter de Tilliol, who died 23rd Edward III.

[g] Avicia, the wife of Sir Robert le Conestable, was another daughter and coheir of Roger de Lasceles. Sir Robert le Conestable succeeded his father Sir Simon le Conestable of Halsham in Holderness in the 22nd year of Edward I. and died in the 10th of Edward III. (Inquis. post mort. 10 Edw. III. No. 57.)

ꝑticaī ꝛre et quatuor solid ⁊ octo denaī obol ⁊ quadr̄ ⁊ unā libr̄ pipis reddit᷒ cū ꝑtiñ in Eskrik Salva michi h̄ed meis ⁊ assignaī quarta ꝑte dom̄ij ville de Eskrik ⁊ advocac̄ois eccꝉe ejusd̄m ville Illud videꝉz mesuagiū quod Wiłłus Forster tenet ad volūtatē illā bovaī ꝛre quā Henr̄ Pechard quond̄ tenuit triginta ⁊ unā acr̄ unā rod ⁊ decem ꝑticaī ꝛre jacenī in Rykehalehagꝗ decem acr̄ ꝛre in Prest riddingꝗ duas acr̄ ꝛre ⁊ dimid in Robriddingꝗ ⁊ tres acr̄ ꝛre in Martinriddingꝗ duos solid octo denaī obol ⁊ quadr̄ ꝑcipiend annuatī inꝑꝑm de Matiłł de Eskrik ⁊ h̄ed suis ꝑ uno mesuagio ⁊ tribꝫ bovaī ꝛre cū ꝑtiñ duos solid ⁊ unā libr̄ pipis ꝑcipiend annuatī inꝑꝑm de Emma de Sebys ⁊ h̄ed suis ꝑ uno mesuag̃ ⁊ duabꝫ bovaī ꝛre cū ꝑtiñ in escambiū ꝑ tota ꝑparte p̄dc̄oꝝ dñi Robti le Conestable ⁊ dñe Avicie ux̄ ej᷒ de mañio de Ellerton sup Derwent cū om̄ibꝫ ⁊ singłis ꝑtiñ suis iꝑam dñam Aviciā h̄editaī contingenī. H'nd ⁊ tenend totā p̄dc̄am ꝑpartē p̄dc̄i mañij de Kirkeby cū om̄ibꝫ ⁊ singłis ꝑtinenī suis et p̄dc̄a mesuag̃ bovaī quadraginta ⁊ sex acr̄ ⁊ dimid una rod ⁊ ꝑticaī ꝛre quatuor solid octo denaī obol ⁊ quadr̄ ⁊ libr̄ pipris cū ꝑtiñ salva michi h̄ed meis ⁊ assign̄ quarta ꝑte dom̄ii ville de Eskrik ⁊ advocac̄ois eccꝉe eusd̄ ville in escambiū sicut p̄dic̄ est p̄dc̄is dño Robto ⁊ dñe Avicie ⁊ h̄ed iꝑius dñe Avicie ac eius assignaī de capitalibꝫ dñis feodi illi᷒ ꝑ ꝛvicia inde debita ⁊ consueta in ꝑp̄tuū.

Et Ego p̄dc̄a Matiłł ⁊ h̄ed mei totā p̄dc̄am ꝑpartē p̄dc̄i mañij de Kirkeby cū om̄ibꝫ ⁊ singłis ꝑtiñ suis et p̄dc̄a mesuag̃ bovaī quadraginta ⁊ sex acr̄ dimid unā rod ⁊ decem ꝑticaī ꝛre quatuor solid octo denaī obol ⁊ quadr̄ ⁊ unā libr̄ pipis cū ꝑtiñ salva michi h̄ds meis ⁊ assignaī quarta ꝑte dom̄ij ville de Eskrik ⁊ advocac̄ois eccꝉie ejusd̄ ville in escambiū sicut p̄dc̄m est p̄dc̄is dño Robto ⁊ dñe Avicie ⁊ h̄ed iꝑius dñe Avicie ac suis assignaī cont‟ om̄es hoīes Warantizabim᷒ inꝑꝑm̄. In cuj᷒ rei testīoniū uni ꝑti huj᷒ carte cyrog‟phaī penes p̄dc̄os dñm Robtum ⁊ doñam Aviciā residenī sigillū meū apposui. Et p̄dc̄i dñs Robtus ⁊ dña Avicia alt̄i ꝑti penes me residenī sigilla sua apposuerunt.

Hiis testibꝫ dñis Wiłło de Tweng. Joh̄e de Sutton. Wiłło de la Twyer. Thom̄ de Pykering milit̄. Walło de Faucūberg. Roḡo de la Kaye de Aghton. Joh̄e de Gunneby ⁊ aliis. Daī ap̄d Halshm̄ in Holdernes die Lune in festo sc̄i Georgij m‟tirꝗ Anno gr̄e millesīo trecentesīo vicesīo quarto.



An impression on red wax of the seal of Matilda de Lasceles is appended to the charter. It contains, within a circle, three heater-shaped shields, their base points meeting in the centre. The uppermost shield bears her paternal coat of Lasceles, Argent, three chaplets gules. That on the dexter side bears a lion rampant debruised with a bend, for Tilliol; and that on the sinister side, Argent, two bars azure, for Hilton. The Hiltons of Swine assumed the coat armour of De Lasceles their maternal ancestor, as appears from several monuments in the church of that place. (See Thompson's Hist. of Swine, p. 102, and Poulson's Holderness, ii. 198.)

Hec indent̃a testat̃ quod Dña Elizabeth̃ de Burgo que fuit uxor Dñi Rogeri Damary [h] concessit ⁊ confirmavit Dño Robto Le Conestable de Holdernesse militi ⁊ Dñe Avicie uxori ejus

[h] Elizabeth de Burgo, widow of Sir Roger Damory, was the celebrated Lady Elizabeth de Clare, the foundress of the college of Clare Hall in the university of Cambridge, the granddaughter of King Edward I. and Eleanor of Castile. "It is observable," says Dugdale, "that this great lady styled herself in all those grants which she made in her widowhood Elizabeth de Burgh Lady of Clare, retaining the surname of her first husband, (a custom still continued by great ladies,) and yet calling herself Domina de Clare, not willing that her paternal name should be forgot." (Dugd. Bar. i. 474.) In the 10th year of Edward II. she was married to Sir Roger Damary or D'Amorie, her third and last husband, who upon that event had from the King grants of the manor of Sandall in Yorkshire, and other manors in the counties of Oxford and Surrey. (Rot. Pat. 10 Edw. II. p. 2.) In the year after his marriage he was made governor of Knaresburgh Castle; and had summons to parliament amongst the Barons, from the 11th to the 14th of Edward II, but having taken part in the insurrection against Edward's favourites the Despensers, which was headed by the Earl of Lancaster, he was detained by sickness from proceeding northwards when the insurgents were advancing towards Yorkshire, and died soon after at Tutbury castle, and was buried in the priory church of Ware in Hertfordshire. On the 8th of December, 15th Edw. II. a writ was issued for the arrest of Roger Damory and others (Rot. Pat. 15 Edw. II. p. 1. Collectanea, vi. 346); and upon his death "command was given to seize all his lands, as an enemy and rebel, and to make livery of them to Elizabeth de Burgh his widow." (Dugd. Bar. i. 100.) "Which Elizabeth (Dugdale proceeds to state) thus surviving him obtained, in the 11th of Edward III. a grant for life of two parts of the manor of Ikeletsall and of the manor of Clopton in the county of Suffolk, with remainder to John Lord Bardolf and Elizabeth his wife, her daughter by Sir Roger Damory." It may be reasonably inferred that at the same time she obtained a similar grant of one fourth part of the manor of Kirkby-under-Knoll. She died on the 4th of November, 34th Edw. III. A copy of her will is in Nichols's Collection of Royal Wills, p. 22.

quartam ꝑtem manerii de Kyrkebi under Knolle cū oñib3 ꝑtiñ suis H'end ⁊ tenend ꝑdc̃am quartam ꝑtem manerij ꝑdc̃i cum oñib3 ꝑtiñ suis ꝑdc̃is Dño Robto ⁊ Dñe Avicie ⁊ eoꝝ ħedib3 ac assignatis de ꝑdc̃a Dña Elizabeth̃ in tota vita iꝑius Dñe Elizabeth̃ libeꝛ quiete ⁊ integꝛ bene ⁊ in pace. Reddendo inde annuatim ꝑdc̃e Dñe Elizabeth̃ in tota vita sua Quinquaginta tres solid̃ ⁊ quatuor denaꝝ argenti ad duos anni ꝓminos videlt ad fᵗū sc̃i Martini ⁊ Pentecosᵗ equis porᵗ et dño Galfrido de Upsale[i] ⁊ ħedib3 ac assignatis suis ꝑ ꝑdc̃a Dña Elizabeth̃ sex solid̃ ⁊ octo denaꝛ argenti ad ꝓminos ꝑdc̃os equis portionib3 et facciend ꝑꝑdc̃a dña Elizabeth̃ oñia alia s̃vicia ⁊ onera que dc̃e quarte ꝑti incumbunt exceptis virid̃ cera exactionib3 ⁊ demand quas Dñs de Wake ⁊ Dñs de Moubray[k] exigunt de ꝑdc̃a quarta ꝑte de quib3 oñib3 ꝑdc̃a dña Elizabeth̃ ꝑdc̃m Dñm Robtum ⁊ Dñam Aviciam ⁊ eoꝝ ħedes ac assignatos ad ꝓmñm vite dc̃e dñe Elizabeth̃ exonerabit. Et ꝑdc̃a Dña Elizabeth̃ vult ⁊ concedit quod ꝑdc̃i dñs Robtus ⁊ dña Avicia ⁊ eoꝝ ħed̃es ac assignati in tota vita ꝑdc̃e dñe Elizabeth̃ ꝑcipiant ⁊ ħeant totum ꝑfic̃ qd ꝓvenere poꝓit aliquo modo in bosco sicco ⁊ subbosco de boscis manerii ꝑdc̃i sine destr"c̃oe ⁊ vasto fac̃ ⁊ querc̃ virid̃ ꝑsᵗnend in ꝑdc̃a quarta ꝑte. Et ꝑdc̃us Dñs Robtus ⁊ dña Avicia uxº ejus concedunt ꝑ se ⁊ hed̃ ac assign ejus quod iꝑi sustentabnt oñes domos ꝑdc̃e quarte ꝑtis in adeo bono statu quo fueꝛ die confectionis hujº indent"e competenᵗ toto ꝓmino ꝑdc̃o Et si contingat eos in soluᵗ ꝑdc̃i reddit° ꝓminis statutis deficere in ꝑte vel in toto ijdem Dñs Robtus ⁊ Dña Avicia concedunt ꝑ se et ħed̃ ac assign suis quod beñ liceat ꝑdc̃e dñe Elizabeth̃ in ꝑdc̃a quarta ꝑte intrare ⁊ illam retinere absq3 calumpnia ꝑdc̃oꝝ dñi Robti ⁊ Dñe Avic̃ uxis ejus ⁊ in aliis trib3 ꝑtib3 ⁊ ubiq; in toto

[i] In a petition to Parliament in the 19th Edward II. it is alleged by Geffrey de Uppesall (first Lord Scrope of Upsall) that Roger Damory lately held the third part of the ville of Kirkby Knoll, in the county of York, of the said Geffrey, under the yearly rent of the third part of two marks, which third part had been withheld from the said Geffrey since the forfeiture of the said Roger. (Rot. Parl. i. 434.) By the present grant the rent payable to Geffrey de Upsale is duly reserved. Upsall is contiguous to Kirkby Knoll. Some remains of the baronial castle still exist.

[k] According to the ordinary accounts of the early tenure of the manor of Kirkby under Knoll, it "was held by Roger de Lasceles of Hugh de Upsal, who held it of the heirs of Baldwin Wake, and they of Roger de Mowbray, and he of the King in capite by two shillings rent." See Lawton's "Collectio rerum ecclesiasticarum de Diœcesi Eboracensi," p. 448.

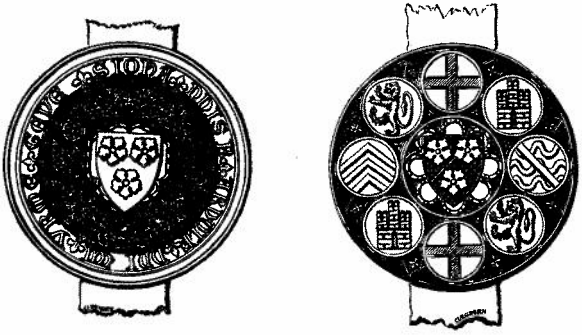
manerio p̃dčo distr̃ p reddit̃ non soluto ꝑminis statut̃ ⁊ distr̃ retinere ⁊ abduc̃e donec sibi satisfc̃m fuer̃ de dčo reddit̃ unacū dampnis. Et p̃dča Dña Elizabeth̃ in tota vita sua p̃dčam quartā ptem p̃dči manerii cū oñib3 ptinentiis suis oñib3 mod̃ sicut p̃dčm est p̃dčis dño Robto ⁊ dñe Avič ⁊ eoꝝ hered̃ ac assignatis contr̃ oñes hoïes warantizabit atqietabit ⁊ defendet. In cujꝰ rei testimoniū p̃dči dña Elizabeth̃ dñs Robtꝰ le Conestable ⁊ Avič ux̃ ejus sigilla sua alꝑnatim apposuerunt. Dat̃ ap̃d Clare die dñica px̃ post f'm sči Petri quod dicit̃ advincla. Anno regni Regis Edwardi ꝓtij a conquestu ꝓtio.

To this charter is attached a beautiful impression, in red wax, of the well known seal used by the Lady Elizabeth de Clare after her marriage to Sir Roger Damory. It is engraved in Montagu's Guide to the Study of Heraldry, p. 37.

Ceste endenꝑe tesmoigne q̃e monꝛ Johñ Bardolf sigñ de Wyrmegeye ⁊ dame Elizabeth sa compaigne ount done ⁊ graunte ⁊ p ceste leur chartre conferme a dame Avice qe feu la femme monꝛ Robt Conestable de Halshm la quarte ptie du Manoir de Kyrkeby under Knolle ove les appurtenaunces en le comite Deverwyk en ppetueles eschaunges pr̃ treys mies deux boves ⁊ diz acres de terre ⁊ demye ⁊ la quarte ptie dun molyn a vent ⁊ la quarte ptie dun molyn erweret ove les appurtenaunces en Escrik en meisme la Comite A avoir ⁊ tenir l'avauntdit quarte ptie du manoir ove les appurtenaunces en ppetueles eschaunges a lavauntdite dame Avice ⁊ a ses heirs des chiefs sigñages du fee p les s̈vices duwes ⁊ acustumes Et les avauntditz monꝛ Johñ ⁊ dame Elizabeth ⁊ les heirs monꝛ Johñ lavauntdite quarte ptie du manoir avauntdit ove les appurtenaunces come suisestdit̃ countre tote gent̃ garrauntirent ⁊ defendrount a touz jours. En tesmoignaunce de quele chose a ceste chartre les avauntditez monꝛ Johñ ⁊ dame Elizabeth ount mys loure seals per y ceux tesmoignes monꝛ Rauf de Hastynge. Monꝛ Rauf de Lasceles. Johñ de Lasceles le piere ⁊ Johñ de Lasceles le fitz. Johñ le Sawere de Thoraldthorp et altres. Done a Kyrkeby-under-knolle le Lundy en la feste seint Nicholas lan du regne le Roy Edward le tierz puis le conquest treszime.

Conue chose soit a tote gentꝫ qe monſ Johñ Bardolf signᵉ de Wyrmegeye[1] ⁊ dame Elizabeth sa compaigne ount ordeigne ⁊ assigne lour chier vallet Johan de Lasceles le fitz a liverer en lour nome a dame Avices q̄ feu la femme monſ Roƀt Conestable de Halshᵃm peisible seisine de la quarte ptie du manoir de Kyrkeby under Knolle ove les appurtenaunces solounc le purport dune chartre la quele la dite dame Avice ad de les avauntditz monſ Johñ ⁊ dame Elizabeth. Eantz ferm ⁊ estable ceo qe le dit Johñ en lour nome ferra endroit de la seisine avauntdite. En tesmoignance de quele chose a cestes ſres patentes les avauntditz monſ Johñ ⁊ dame Elizabeth ount mys lour seals. Done a Wyrmegeye le Lundy en la feste seinte Nicholas lan du regne le Roy Edward le tierz puis le conquest treszime.

The only seal which remains attached to the grant is that of Sir John Bardolf, but the power of attorney retains well preserved impressions of both his seal and that of the lady Elizabeth his wife.



The former is inscribed, "S. Johannis Bardolf D'ni Wyrmegeye," and bears the arms of Bardolf, Azure, three cinquefoils or, on a highly decorated ground of gothic tracery. The seal of the lady Elizabeth is similar in character and style to that of her mother, the lady Elizabeth de Clare, but of more beautiful design and execution. The ground is of elaborate gothic tracery work: a heater-shaped shield of the arms of Bardolf occupies the centre, and is surrounded by eight

[1] Sir John Bardolf, Lord of Wyrmegeye in the county of Norfolk, succeeded his father, William Lord Bardolf, in the 3rd year of Edward III. and in the 10th year of that reign he married Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Sir Roger Damory, "by that great woman Elizabeth de Burgo." (Dugd. Bar. i. 682.) He died in the 45th year of Edward III. (Cal. Inq. post Mort. p. 308.)

circular tablets. Those in chief and base bear the arms of De Burgo. On the dexter side are the well known chevronels of the house of Clare, and opposite, the lady's paternal coat of D'Amory, Barry nebuly of six arg. and gules, a bend azure. (See Collectanea, iv. 64.) The other four tablets display alternately the castle triple-towered, and the lion rampant, denoting her descent from the royal line of Castile and Leon. In the History of Norfolk by Parker and Blomefield (vol. vii. p. 496.) the account of Wyrmegeye contains an allusion to the power of attorney here transcribed, and a description, not quite accurate, of the seals appended to it.

R. D.

SURVEY, TEMP. PHIL. & MAR. OF VARIOUS ESTATES LATE BELONGING TO THE EARL OF DEVON.

(Continued from p. 153.)

WHYTFORD, CO. DEVON.

THE Viewe and Surveye of the Manor of Whytforde in the countie of Devon, made and taken at a Court ther holden, &c.

The prescription of the Manor.

The manor of Whytford is scituate in the south parte of the countie of Devon, one myle from A[xminster], and one myle from C[olyton], two markett townes, wherin are no common feildes, but every manne his londe severall to hymselfe to use and imploye to his moost benefyte and advantage. The soyle of a great parte therof lyinge upon the water of Axe, and is verye good and frutefull for corne, gresse, and meadowe, the maner with his membres well replenysshed with springs of water in every parte, and not unfurnisshed of wood and tymbre for the necessytie of the tenaunts, growing in ther closes and hedgerowes of ther custumarie londes. And the said mannor is dyvyded into four severall hamletts; but they are all one tythinge and one mannor, neyther are they dystincke or severed in londe or occupying as in other lordshipps, but onlie in name and habytations. Ther was sometyme a ferme place, and certeyne demeane londes, wherin as yt shoulde seme the lordes of the manor never inhabyted. And if they dyd, yt was many yeres before the remembraunce of any man lyvinge. And when yt was in demean the tenaunts confesse