inde mihi et heredibus meis vel meis assignatis forinsecum servicium tantum quantum pertinet ad dimidiam carucatam terre ejusdem feodi in eadem villa, unde duodecim carucate terre faciunt feodum unius militis. Ego vero Robertus de Nevile et heredes mei prefata mdimidiam carucatam terre cum toftis et croftis et omnibus pertinentiis libertatibus et aysiamentis suis dicto Roberto et heredibus suis vel suis assignatis et eorum heredibus pro predicto servicio ab omnibus serviciis exactionibus secularibus sectis curie et demandis contra omnes homines warantizabimus adquietabimus et deffendemus in perpetuum. Ut autem hec mea concessio donatio et hujus carte confirmatio rata et inconcussa permaneat huic scripto sigillum meum apposui. Hiis testibus, Dominis Radulfo filio Ranulfi, Hugone de Bollebek, Willielmo de Notingham justiciariis tunc itinerantibus de foresta, Dominis Gilberto de Briddeshale, Johanne de Oketon, Willielmo de Bozhale, Johanne de Keygate, Ambrosio de Chamera, Thoma de Clervaus militibus, Thoma de Edbristone, Willielmo Malecake, et aliis.

Seal, in white wax, now loose : round, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inc. diam. bearing a shield of arms suspended by a strap, charged with a saltire ; legend SIGIL[LVM R]OBERTI DE NOVILLA. The name took the form of *de Novilla,* or *de Nova villa* in early Latin documents, as may be seen in Surtees' History of Durham and Raine's North Durham, in which works will also be seen engravings of several seals of the family.

DE FREMINGHAM, ISLEY, AND PIMPE.

THESE families, which possessed various extensive estates, were formerly of much importance in West Kent. A great part of their landed property came ultimately by attainder to the Crown, and, being granted away from it again in a divided form, though still in considerable portions, that is as separate manors, often comes under the eye of the topographer in these parts. Of the three families, the original possessors, it is difficult at the present day to procure any authentic lineage or correct account, arising from the following causes: The family of De Fremingham failed of male issue as far back as Edward the Third; while of the two others, Isley and Pimpe, who inherited their estate,

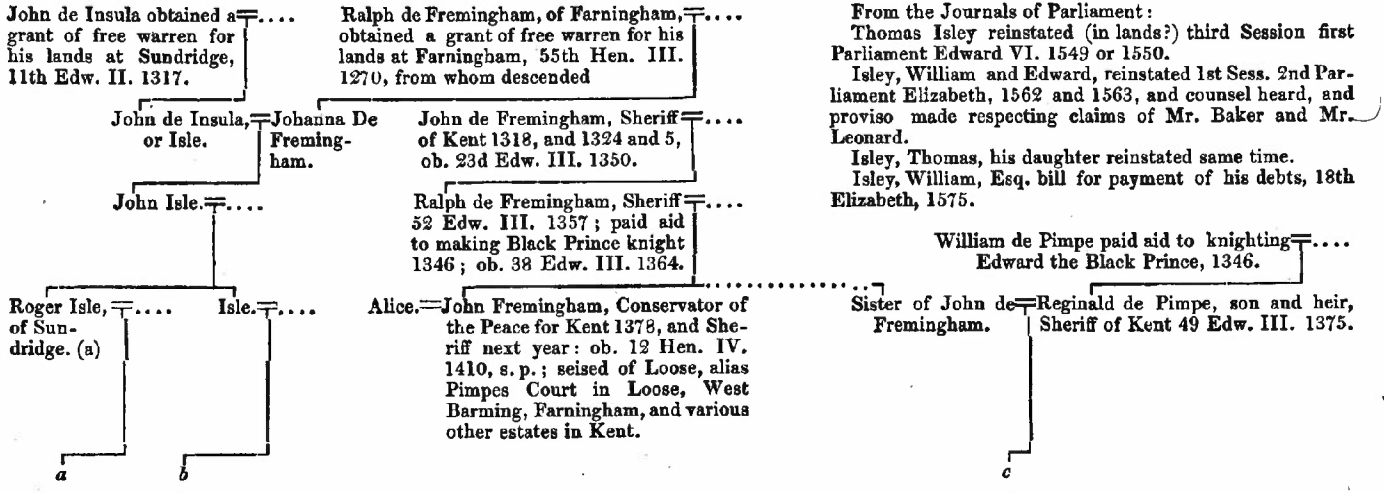
the one became attainted for treason in Queen Mary's reign, and, though some small parts of their property were re-granted, yet they soon fell into decay and disappeared: the other had ended in two heiresses, as early as Henry the Eighth, married into the families of Rainsford and Scot. They thus had gone off the stage before the time of the Heraldic Visitations; whence their lineages cannot be met with in the usual depositories.

The following sketch is drawn up as some slight guide to the Kentish topographer; and, though it is not impossible it may be capable of corrections in places, as it certainly is of being enlarged throughout, yet it may not be without its use in serving as a basis for a more elaborate pedigree of these families for those who may be inclined to the task. As it was made with a view to illustrate some properties near Maidstone, they are more particularly mentioned in the various descents than their other very extensive estates.

A very curious document exists in the possession of a gentleman residing near the above town relating to a part of the original Fremingham property—the book of Sir Henry Isley's estates in that quarter. It consists of the details and receipts of some eight or ten manors, of which several very extensive, then belonged to that unfortunate individual. Some curious particulars of the extent of their juridical powers, their claims, privileges, and various sources of revenue are intermixed; and there is much family descent which can be collected from the volume. A complete copy has been made in 163 quarto pages, also in private hands in the same neighbourhood.

Of the names of the families there is some variation in the orthography, especially of the two first. De Fremingham is also written De Farningham, or De Fernyngham. Isley occurs as Insula, Isle, or Isili; and of this last name opinions a little vary at the present day as to its pronunciation. Some have it Eyley, others again Issley, which seems favoured by one of the above ancient forms, Isili. Pimpe may sometimes, though rarely, be met with, written with a *b*, Pimbe; whilst the ancient manorial estate in Kent, near Maidstone, from which the family evidently derived its name, having possessed it several hundred years, in its most ancient form was Pinpa, in which it occurs in Domesday. The modern orthography of the names has been retained in the pedigrees, except in some of the early descents of the Isley line.

SKETCH to shew the Connection of the Families of DE FREMINGHAM, alias DE FERNYNGHAM, ISLEY, and PIMPE, illustrating the Descent of their Lands and Estates in Farningham, Sundridge, Nettlested, Barming, East Farleigh, Loose, and other Places in Kent.



From the Journals of Parliament:

Thomas Isley reinstated (in lands?) third Session first Parliament Edward VI. 1549 or 1550.

Isley, William and Edward, reinstated 1st Sess. 2nd Parliament Elizabeth, 1562 and 1563, and counsel heard, and proviso made respecting claims of Mr. Baker and Mr. Leonard.

Isley, Thomas, his daughter reinstated same time.

Isley, William, Esq. bill for payment of his debts, 18th Elizabeth, 1575.

(a) According to Philipot in his Villare Cantianum, Roger Isle married Anne, sister of John de Fremingham,—doubtful.

a

William Isley, esq. Sheriff of Kent, 25 Hen. VI. 1446.

b

John Isley, heir to his cousin William Isley, and to John de Fremingham, married Annis, daughter of Nicholas Morley, of Sussex.

John Isley, Sheriff of Kent, 14th Edw. IV. 1474; ob. 1484; buried at Sundridge.

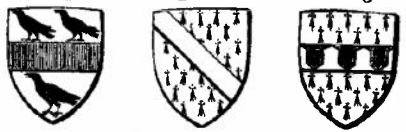
Thomas Isley, esq. obiit seised of Farningham 11 Hen. VIII. 1520.

Sir Henry Isley, seised of the manor of Loose, alias Pimpes Court, Sheriff of Kent, 34th Hen. VIII. 1542, and 5 Edw. VI. 1552, executed at Sevenoaks for being engaged in Sir T. Wyatt's conspiracy 1554.

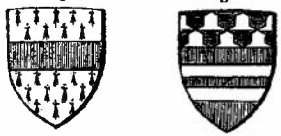
William Isley, esq. restored to some of his estates by Elizabeth. Sheriff for Kent in the 7th of her reign.

Sir Thomas(b) Isley, executed with his brother, A.D. 1554.

1 2 3



4 5



c

John de Pimpe, seised of Loose, otherwise Pimpes Court, Shales Court, Barming and Ledhock; (c) ob., 9th Hen. V. 1418. Heir to John de Fremingham.

Reginald de Pimpe, seised of Barming and Ledhock; ob. 16th Hen. VI. 1437.

Pimpe.

John de Pimpe, seised of Loose, otherwise Pimpes Court, and of Pimpes at East Farleigh, Sheriff for Kent; ob. 2 Hen. VII.

Winifred Pimpe, only dau. and heir, married Sir John Rainsford, who sold Pimpes Court, East Farleigh, to H. Isley.

Reginald de Pimpe, seised of Shales Court, and, inter alia, of a fulling mill (d) in Maidstone, parcel of the manor of Oldborough held of the Archbishop, at the 100th part of a knight's fee; ob. 23 Hen. VIII. 1532.

Anne Pimpe, only dau. and heir, married Sir Reginald Scot, of Scots Hall, Sheriff for Kent 1542.

1. Arms, erroneously attributed to De Fremingham, Argent, a fess gules between three Cornish choughs proper. 2. Arms of Fremingham, as twice in Loose chancel window. See also Streatfeild's Excerpta Cantiana, p. 8. 3. Arms of Isley, ancient coat. See Harleian MSS. No. 4108. 4. Arms of Isley, modern coat. 5. Arms of Pimpe.

(b) Some accounts speak of a Walter Isley brother to Sir Henry, also executed with him; probably a mistake for this Thomas.

From Philipot's Church Notes in the British Museum, from what church in Kent is not mentioned. Harleian MSS. 3917.

"On a fair tomb in the chancel, John Isley, son of John Isley, cousin and heir of William Isley and John Fremmingham, esq. et (*so*) Annis, late his wife, da. of Nich. Morley of Sussex, who died 8th Jan. 1484.

"Thomas Isley and Eliz. Guildeford buried in the chancel 1515.

"Roger Isley bu. in chancel 1429.

"William Isley, legis peritus, bu. in the north chancel, 1453."

"In a window of the same chancel, Isley in pale with Royston, of Royston."

(c) Ledhock so appears written in Philipot's Collections in the British Museum, No. 276, Lansdowne MSS. in his "Abbreviamentum omnium tenurarum;" but the manor of Half Yoke in Maidstone is obviously meant.

(d) King John granted to the Archbishops of Canterbury the power of creating knight's fees: this is a curious instance of the exercise of it; a mill being held at the hundredth part of one.

References in the publications of the Record Commission, illustrating the foregoing Descents of de Fremingham, Isley, and Pimpe.

Charter Roll, page 103, 55th Henry III. 1271, pars unica, no. 12. Radulphus de Fremyngham——Fremyngham mercatura et feria, Fremyngham, Hollingdene, Swanetone, Aynesford, Chumbham, Kinggesdon, Biwindle, Lose libera warrena.

Inquisitiones post Mortem, vol. ii. p. 158, 13th Edw. III. 1339, 2d part, 145. Johannes filius Radulphi de Frenyngham, West Barmelyng manerium duæ partes, Est Farle terræ et redditus ut de manerio de Lose, Saundresshe manerium, Frenyngham et Merdenne diversæ terræ, Middletone manerium. —Kancie.

Ditto, page 161, same year, second part, 5. Radulphus de Frenyngham, chivaler, feoffavit Johannem filium Johannis de Frenyngham, Westbarnlyng manerium, Est Farlegh manerium, Lose manerium secta curia, remanent. eidem Radulphus. — Kancie.

Ditto, page 266, 38th Edw. III, 1364, 19. Radulphus de Frenyngham, chivaler. Dertford maner', Sutton maner', West Barmlyng maner' 2 partes, Horton maner' ut de Castro de Dovor, Eynsford maner', Cherton maner', Middelton maner', Lose in Est Farle maner', Maidestan terræ in Est Barmelyng, Rede in Merdene terræ et tenementa.—Kancie.

Ditto, page 292, 41 Edw. III. 1367, second numbers, 53. Robertus de Insula filius et hæres Johannis de Insula, militis, concessit domino regi et bæredibus feoda militum et curias suas subscripta (*deest*). Vide claus. 42 Edw. III. m. 6 dorso. Quædam curia tenta in tenemento magistri et fratrum sancti Thomæ de Acon in Wallebroke.—London.

Arkesdon curia de diversis tenementis et feodis prædicti Roberti.—Essex.

Faringho curia de tenentibus et feodis prædictis.—Northampton.

Feoda subscripta faciunt sectam ad curias prædictas, viz. Fannes juxta Wye, Boctone juxta Sutton Valence, Shelve juxta Lenham, Leybourne, Langley, Buggeleye juxta Maydestan, Bressinge, Cherletone juxta Sutton Valence, Shrambroke

juxta Clyve, Ocham juxta Maydestan, Lillingtone, Eccles juxta Ayllesford, Couling juxta Rochester, Beccles juxta Hengham super Thamis, Hengham super Thamis, Craye Paulyn, West Wikham juxta Croydone, Eltham.—Kancia.

Inquisitiones post Mortem, vol. iv. p. 58. 9th Hen. V. 1421, 35. Johannes Pimpe, armiger. West Barmeling manerium et advocatio ecclesiæ, Est Barmeling maner': ut de Honore de Gloucester, Est Farleghe, Maidestone, Lose, West Farleghe, et Lynton. Messuagia, terræ et redditus etc. Marden Hunton, Bocton Monchensy, et Stapleherst. Messuagia et diversæ terræ etc. ut de maneriis de Eylsford, Renham, Shayles, et Tracyes.

Ditto, p. 184, 16 Henry VI. 1438, no. 51. Reginaldus filius et hæres Johannis Pympe armigeri defuncti.

West Brameling manerium cum advocatione ecclesiæ, Est Brameling manerium, Middleton manerii membrum, Otham manerium et advocatio ecclesiæ, Lose manerium in parochiâ de Est Farleghe, Nettylsted et Pympe maneria extent' ut de leucatu de Tonbrigge, Nettylsted advocatio ecclesiæ, Ealdinge una domus parcella dicti manerii de Pympe, West Malling villa, East Malling, Moote in parochiâ de Brenchesle, Horsemonden et Lamberhurst terræ etc. ibidem ut de castro de Tunbrigge ut de maner' de Lamberhurst, Ealdinge terræ, Brynchesle manerium, terræ de tenurâ gavelkind inter hæredes masculos.—Kancia.

Ditto, p. 199. 18th Henry VI. no. 32. Johannes Pimpe, probatio ætatis.

Ditto, same page and year as the above, 33. Johannes Pympe, armiger. West Barmelyng manerium et advocatio ecclesiæ, Est Barmeling manerium ut de manerio de Middilton, Otham manerium et advocatio ecclesiæ, Rede manerium, Lose manerium ut de manerio de Middilton in Est Farleghe parochiâ, Nettylsted manerium et advocatio ecclesiæ, Pympe manerium extent', Brenchesle parochiâ messuagia et terræ ibidem vocatæ le Mote et le Case messuagia et terræ ibidem, Brenchesle, Horsemonden, Lamberhurst ibidem terræ etc. Ealdinge terræ, etc. ibidem.—Kancia.

B. P