

13. *Of, etc. suth th' (thonne) on Langan (Lang) Ham :* 'From the Highway south then to Long Enclosure.'

This enclosure was probably at the angle which the Pitminster by. makes  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. N. of Corfe village.

14. *Of tham Hamme thanon binnan Euisce (binan Efisc) on Gregan (Gregean) Stan :* 'From the Enclosure then inside (on the near side of) the Overhanging Edge of a Wood to the Grey Stone.'

This stone is mentioned in the Taunton charter. Its position is there clearly defined as standing W. of the hill which stands about 1 fur. S. of Corfe village.

15. *Of, etc. on Lind Oran (Horan) :* 'From the Stone to Limetree Bank.'

*Lind Ora* was almost certainly the slope of Old Combe (OM1).

16. *Of, etc. on thone Ealdan (Healdan) Hagan on Wealdenes Weg :* 'From Limetree Bank to the Old Game Enclosure to the Way of the Forest Dean.'<sup>1</sup>

This *haga* is mentioned in the Ruishton charter, B.475, K.1051. The way is also mentioned in the Taunton charter, B.476, K.1052. The *haga* was at Feltham (OM1); and the way was probably on the line of the road which passes by Feltham.

17. *Of, etc. upp an (vpan) Dune on Hringwoldes Beorh (Beorg) :* 'From the Way up to the Hill to the Barrow of the Circular Wood.'

This barrow or hill is mentioned in the Ruishton (B.475, K.1051) and the Taunton (B.476, K.1052) charters. The hill is Adcombe Hill (OM1); and the barrow, if that is the meaning of the *beorh* of this landmark, stood on the S. by. of Pitminster on the S. slope of the hill.

18. *Of, etc. west andlang Dune on Withisled (Withigsled) to Henna Thorne :* 'From the Barrow westward along the Hill to Willow Slade to Birds' Thortree.'

It is fairly certain that the *Withigslaed* is the valley at Widcombe Moor (OM1), for this valley is called *Withigcumb* in the

<sup>1</sup> For the name of this way and on the name *Hringwold* in the next landmark see note on p. 24.

Taunton charter above quoted. The *Henna Thorn* seems to have stood at the southernmost angle of Pitminster about 350 yds. WSW. of Widcombe House (OM1).

19. *Thanon west on tha Ealdan Dic*: 'Then west to the Old Dyke.'

This dyke must have run along the modern line of road on the S. by. of Pitminster W. of the *Henna Thorn*.

20. *Thonne sume hwile andlang thaere Dice*: 'Then for some distance along the Dyke.'

21. *And thanon north ofer Widan Cumbe (Cumb)*: 'And then north over Wide Combe.'

This carries the by. along that N. bend of the S. by. of Pitminster on which stands Strawbridge Farm (OM1).

22. *Th' east (eft) on Fearres Cumbes Heafð (Heafod)*:

The orientation is merely approximate. It is noticeable that the orientation of this Taunton group of charters is not so good as that of the charters generally. For the combe see landmark 1.

#### *Local Names in Pitminster.*

Pitminster. *Pipynghminstre*, *Pipingminstre*, B.729, K.1117. 10th cent.

*Pipigmynstre*, *Pippingmynstre*, B.770, K.1140. 10th cent. 'Church of the Pippings (family of Pippa).'

The building of churches by individuals was not uncommon. This practice was not by any means always due to piety, but to the fact that certain profits in the shape of dues, etc., accrued to the builder.

Widcombe: *Withigcumb*, B.476, K.1052. 9th cent. (?) *Wid(an) Cumb*, B.729, K.1117 and B.770, K.1140. 10th cent. Either 'Wide Combe' or 'Willow Combe'.

Black Brook: *Blaam Broc*, *Blac(an) Broc*, B.475, K.1052. 10th cent.: *Blac(an) Broc*, B.62. 7th cent. (?) 'Black Brook.'

Blagdon: *Bledone*, DB. 1086. Probably AS. *Blaec-dun*, 'Black Hill'.

Field Names

From Eastbrook (OM1) :

Cutlip :  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. ENE. In its neighbourhood are Cotlake Hill (OM1), Cutliff Farm in Taunton Without, and Cotlake Cottages. I suspect that all these names are connected originally with one another.

From Kibbear (OM1) :

Lisdon :  $4\frac{3}{4}$  fur. ENE. by E. Paradise : 2 fur. ESE. Vinister :  $2\frac{3}{4}$  fur. SE. Ball's Ham :  $2\frac{1}{4}$  fur. S. by W. 'Enclosure'. Clammer Meadow : 3 fur. W. by S.

From Fosgrove Farm :

Furze Grove : immed. SE. Chargrass :  $2\frac{1}{2}$  fur. S.

From the house at Poundisford Park (OM1) :

Lower Stockham :  $5\frac{1}{4}$  fur. SSE. Chilcotts Orchard :  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. Posham :  $2\frac{3}{4}$  fur. S. Houndfall :  $2\frac{3}{4}$  fur. NW. Brickdale Park :  $3\frac{3}{4}$  fur. NW. by N.

From the crossroads at Staplehay (OM1) :

Spearey Meadow :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. SE. 'Spearbed' is a common field name on the Test in Hampshire. It appears to mean rushbed, —probably a bed of bulrushes. This meadow is beside a brook. Whitehorn Meadow :  $3\frac{1}{4}$  fur. WNW. 'Horn' is a very common element in field names. It may possibly be from AS. *hyrne*, a corner or nook. Spy Park : 100 yds. SE. Blagdon Hill :  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. WSW. close to Sweethay (OM1), AS. *Blaec-dun*, 'Black Hill'.

From the bridge at Fulwood (OM1) :

Bedsway :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. W. by N. Noke Meadow :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. SSW. ME. *at ten ac*, 'at the Oaktree'.<sup>1</sup> Washbear :  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. SW. 'Wash' may refer to a sheepwashing place or perhaps to a watermeadow. The field is beside a stream. 'Bear' may be from *baere*, an oak or beech wood affording swine pasture. It is near Noke Meadow.

From the road meeting at Sellick's Green (OM1) :

Hookey Plot :  $1\frac{3}{4}$  fur. WNW.

<sup>1</sup> The house by Noke meadow is called OM6 Troake. Is this *act thaere ac*, the AS. form of the ME. origin of Noke ?

From the road meeting at Howleigh (OM1) :

Cleansland :  $1\frac{1}{2}$  fur. NW. by N. Tutsham Hays :  $1\frac{1}{4}$  fur. N. by E. Hodley Meadow :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. NE. by N. Catty Cake :  $1\frac{1}{2}$  fur. E. Burhill :  $3\frac{1}{4}$  fur. ENE.

From the road meeting at Lowton (OM1) :

Loughton : field immed. SE. Kitsmoor Orchard :  $1\frac{1}{4}$  fur. E. by S. Elvery :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S. by E.

From the road meeting in Blagdon (OM1) :

Shelves :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. N. by W. Clift Hay :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. SW. 'Fenced Ground on a Steep Slope.' Higher Charlock :  $2\frac{3}{4}$  fur. S. Raxy Piece :  $2\frac{1}{2}$  fur. S. by E. Possibly 'rixy', rushy. Toot-hill Meadow :  $3\frac{1}{4}$  fur. SE. 'Hill where watch is kept.'

From the church at Pitminster (OM1) :

Madger :  $1\frac{1}{4}$  fur. SW. Little and Great Deyland :  $2\frac{1}{2}$  fur. SE.

From the road meeting at Chelmsine (OM1) :

Chimsey : immed. NE. Hartley Copse : 1 fur. SW. Brook-hams :  $1\frac{3}{4}$  fur. E. by N. Northley and Southley :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S.

SECOND SERIES

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WELLINGTON, WEST BUCKLAND, BISHOP'S LYDEARD

Wellington is in the W. of the county.

West Buckland is immed. E. of Wellington.

Bishop's Lydeard is 5 m. WNW. of Taunton.

*Charter.*

B.610, K.1083 is a charter whereby King Eadweard grants to Asser, Bishop of Sherborne, certain lands at Wellington, Buckland, and Bishop's Lydeard in exchange for the monastery at *Plymentun* in Devon. Date not actually specified; but must be 975-978.

Wellington, 6 hides : Buckland, 5 hides : Lydeard, 12 hides.

Both Kemble and Birch identify the grant with Wellington, West Buckland, and Bishop's Lydeard.

*Surveys.*

The grant is accompanied by two surveys, the first being of the lands of Wellington and West Buckland; and the second of Lydeard.

Both surveys are of the Saxon age, and may be either originals or copies of originals of the date of the grant.

*First Survey.*

(Wellington and West Buckland)

1. *Aerest uppan Dune aet Achangran* : 'First up the Hill at the hanging Wood of Oaktrees.'

The hill is Leigh Hill (OM1) at the SE. corner of Buckland parish. At this corner stood the *Achangra*, which is the *Ac Bearu* of the Pitminster charter B.729, K.1117.

2. *Of, etc. adune on Sandford Landgemaere* : 'From the Hanging Wood of Oaktrees down to the Bounds of Sandford.'

This carries the survey all along the S. by. of the parishes of

Wellington and Buckland to the SW. angle of the Wellington by., where it meets the by. of Sampford Arundel 7 fur. S. by W. of Wrangway (OM1). This S. by. of the two parishes is the great ridgeway of the Blackdown Hills.

3. *Thonne adune an tha Ealdan Dic*: 'Then down to the Old Dyke.'

This dyke ran from the SW. corner of Wellington parish N. for some distance along the S. part of the W. by. of that parish.

4. *Thanon oth Sandford*: 'Then as far as the Sandy Ford.'

This ford can only have been where a road crosses a stream about  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. SW. of Wrangway on the W. by. of Wellington. Presumably this was the ford which gave its name to Sampford Arundel.

5. *Thonne andlang thaes Ealdan Weges oth Cytelwyll*: 'Then along the Old Track as far as Kettle Spring.'

*Cytel* is a not infrequent attribute of springs in Saxon topography. It refers probably to their bubbling up from the ground. The name of this spring is preserved in that of Chitterwell (OM1) on the W. by. of Wellington parish. The Old Track is represented at the present day by a footpath running up the W. by. from near Wrangway (OM1), and later by the road from Beam Bridge (OM1) to Chitterwell (OM1).

6. *Of, etc. andland streames oth Tan*: 'From Kettle Spring along stream as far as the river Tone.'

The stream flowing from Chitterwell (OM1) forms the NW. by. of Wellington parish as far as the Tone.

7. *Adune andlang Tan Streames oth Bradanford*: 'Down along the stream of the Tone as far as Broad Ford.'

The Tone forms the N. by. of both parishes. The Broad Ford has its name preserved in that of the village of Bradford which is close to the NE. angle of the Buckland parish by. Here was the ford.

8. *Thanon andlang streames oth Herpothford*: 'Then along stream as far as the Ford of the Highway.'

The stream is the lower part of Hayward's Water which forms the N. part of the E. by. of Buckland. The ford was at Hawkaller (OM1) where the road from Wellington to Taunton crosses the stream.

9. *Thanon on Theod Herpoth oth tha Estas* : 'Then to the People's Highway as far as the . . . .'<sup>1</sup>

The *Theod Herpoth* is the Wellington-Taunton road. The E. by. of Buckland follows it for about 3 fur.

10. *Thanon on Land Gemere oth Stanford* : 'Then along the Balk of a Ploughland as far as Stone Ford.'

*Stanford* is Middle Stolford (OM1), where a road crosses the large brook which forms a large part of the E. by. of Buckland. The balk passed along the straight piece of the by. which runs due W. from Middle Stolford.

11. *Thanon upp on Fiduc andlang Landgemaeres* : 'Then up to Fiduc (stream) along the Balk of the Ploughland.'

*Fiduc* is the name of the lower part of the great brook which forms a large part of the E. by. of Buckland. In the great Taunton charter B.475, K.1051, there is a reference to a *Fidus* (read *Fiduc*) *Scaga*, 'Fiduc Shaw or Copse' at Middle Stolford. This stream name is one of that curious group of *-ec*, *-ic*, *-uc* stream names of which I have noted various examples in relation to the charters of other counties, especially Worcestershire.

The *Landgemaere* is probably the same as that of landmark 10. The surveyor has apparently, with the desire to be precise, somewhat duplicated his landmarks at this point in the survey. Or it may be the case that he wishes to describe the by. as going up the *Fiduc*, and that there may have been in former days some slight departure from the course of that stream. Now-a-days the by. does not leave it at any point.

12. *Swa upp on Maer Broc oth Byrnan Hris* : 'So up to Boundary Brook as far as (? the Branching of the Bourne).'

The *Maer Broc* is the upper part of the *Fiduc*. If, which is very doubtful, the translation of the latter part of the landmark be correct, the branching of the brook would be where a large brook enters the *Fiduc* about  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. NW. of Budleigh (OM1).

13. *Thanon on Theod Herpoth* : 'Then to the People's Highway.'

<sup>1</sup> I have not as yet come across this word in the several hundreds of charters which I have examined. Toller in his supplement to the Anglo-Saxon *Lexicon* quotes this passage, but does not attempt to suggest any meaning for the word.

This is the great ridgeway of the Blackdown Hills which the by. meets a short  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. SSW. of Quants (OM1).

14. *Swa eft on Achangran* : 'So once more to the Oak-hanger.' (See landmark 1.)

*The Survey of Bishop's Lydeard.*

1. *Aerest on Linlege* : 'First to the Lea where Flax grows.'

This was at the SE. angle of the parish, just SE. of Wick Farm (OM1).

2. *Of, etc. uppon strem to Costanforda* (read *Cottanforda*) : 'From the Lea where Flax grows up stream to the Ford of the Cottage.'

A stream forms the S. by. of the parish. This ford was probably where a road crosses the stream about  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. SE. of the Asylum (OM1).

3. *Of, etc. upon strem to Gosforda* : 'From the Ford of the Cottage up stream to Goose Ford.'

This ford was probably where a road crosses the stream about  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S. of Stallenge Cottages (OM1).

4. *Of, etc. uppon strem to Stanforda* : 'From Goose Ford up stream to Stone Ford.'

It is evident that this ford was at Wick Bridge (OM6) on the W. by. about  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. S. by E. of Lower Stoford, which preserves the name of the old ford.

5. *Of, etc. on Fasingafeld* : 'From Stone Ford to the Open Land of the Fasings.'

6. *Of, etc. on Pytt Apuldre* : 'From the Open Land of the Fasings to the Appletree at the Pit.'

7. *Of, etc. on Aest* (read *Aesc*) : 'From the Appletree at the Pit to Ash.'

The W. by. of the parish impinges on the village of Ash Priors, which is probably the *Aesc* of this landmark. *Fasingafeld* of 5 and the Appletree of 6 must have been on this W. by. between *Stanforda* and Ash Priors village.

8. *Of, etc. adun Cousled to Readancliffe* : 'From Ash down (Cowslade ?) to the Steep Red Slope.'

At Ash village the W. by. turns E. The Cow Slade is the

valley in which the lake in Sandhill Park lies (OM1), and the *clif* or steep slope is the hillside to the S. of the lake.

9. *Of, etc. to Ruwanbeorge*: 'From Red Cliff to Rough Barrow.'

Site of barrow uncertain; but it was probably at one of the angles of the marked projection of the W. by. about  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of Ash Priors.

10. *Of, etc. to Ludanwyll*: 'From Rough Barrow to Luda's Spring.'

This was probably at the bend in the boundary in the bottom of the valley  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. SW. of Pixford Farm (OM1).

It is possible that *Ludan* stands for *Hlud(an)*, 'loud'. *Hlud* is found elsewhere in the charters as an attribute of a spring or stream.

11. *Of, etc. to Fricanfenne*: 'From Loud Spring to Frica's Fen.'

This was probably in the stream valley a long furlong WSW. of Watts House (OM1).

12. *Of, etc. uppon streme to Gattibricge*: 'From Frica's Fen up stream to (Gate?) Bridge.'

The by. passes up the brook which forms the W. by. of the parish to the N. of Watts House (OM1). The bridge was probably at the angle of the parish by. due W. of East Combe (OM1).

13. *Of, etc. to Wibbanwille*: 'From (Gate?) Bridge to Beetle Spring.'

This spring was probably that which was at the head of the small stream which runs from Higher Barn (OM6) down to East Combe (OM1).

14. *Uppon an Slaed to Holan Wege*: 'Up a Slade to Hollow Way.'

The Slade is the small valley which runs up NE. from Higher Barn (OM6). The Hollow Way was on the line of the road from Kingston to Crowcombe, which crosses the NW. by. about  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. NE. of Higher Barn (OM6).

15. *Of, etc. uppon Slaed to Baeganbeorge*: 'From the Hollow Way up the slade to Baega's Barrow.'

The name of the barrow survives in that of East Bagborough (OM1). The barrow was possibly on the by. immed. W. of that hamlet.

16. *Of, etc. to Wynestane* : ' From Bacga's Barrow to Wyn's Stone.'<sup>1</sup>

The stone stood probably at the bend in the by. by Tilbury Farm (OM1).

17. *Of tham Stane to Ruwanbeorge* : ' From the Stone to Rough Barrow (or Hill).'

This was either Lydeard Hill (OM1) or, more probably, a barrow on it at the NW. angle of the parish.

18. *Of tham Beorge to Cwichehamme* : ' From the Barrow to (Cwichelm's ?) Enclosure.'<sup>2</sup>

The enclosure was probably on the N. by. near Luxborough Farm (OM1).

19. *Of tham Hamme to Collelade* :<sup>3</sup> ' From the Enclosure to the Slade (valley) of the Cole.'

20. *Of Collislade adune on strem to Horspadesforda* : ' From the Slade of the Cole down stream to the Ford of the Horse Path.'

The Slade and stream mentioned are the small valley and stream on the N. by. of the parish about 1 fur. SE. of Luxborough Farm (OM1). The Ford of the Horsepath was where a road crosses this stream at Lower Aisholt (OM1), at the NE. angle of the parish.

21. *Of tham Forda uppon straem to Oxenagete* : ' From the Ford up stream to the Gate of the Oxen.'

This carries the survey up the stream which forms the N. part of E. by. of the parish.

<sup>1</sup> *Wyn* is probably a shortened form of one of the various names of which it is the first element.

<sup>2</sup> I have assumed that the copyist of the charter has made a mistake here, and written *Cwiche* for *Cwichelme*s.

<sup>3</sup> I have taken the form *Collislade* of 20 as being the more nearly correct. I think that there cannot be much doubt that *Colle* or *Colli* is an example of a stream name found elsewhere in England.

The river Cole which flows through NE. Worcestershire, E. of Birmingham, and through Warwickshire, is called *Colle* in B.455, K.250, and in B.1282, K.570.

A *Colesburna* in Withington, Gloucestershire, is mentioned in B.299.

Extant stream-names containing probably the same element are Colborne in Christchurch, Hants : Colebatch in Bishop's Castle, Shropshire : the river Cole near Swindon and Coleshill, Wiltshire and Berkshire.

The gate was probably where the E. by. leaves the stream and a road crosses the by. close to Kenley Bottom (OM1).

22. *Of tham Gete to Mollege* : 'From the Gate to the Lea of the Moot (Assembly).'

This lea is mentioned in the great Taunton charter B.475, K.1051. It was probably at the angle of the E. by. on Merridge Hill (OM1).

23. *Of, etc. on Fideroces Torre* : 'From the Lea of the Moot to Fideroc's Rock.'

This rock was probably on the by. on the NW. side of Cothelstone Hill.<sup>1</sup>

24. *Of, etc. to Frecanthorne* : 'From Fideroc's Rock to Freca's Thorntree.'<sup>2</sup>

By dead reckoning this tree stood on the E. by. on the W. slope of Cothelstone Hill (OM1).

25. *Of, etc. on Snoccanmere* : 'From Freca's Thorntree to Snocca's<sup>3</sup> Pond.'

This pond was possibly on the site of the fishpond on the S. edge of Cothelstone Park (OM1).

26. *Of, etc. on Stangedelfe* : 'From Snocca's Pond to the Stonedigging.'

This was probably at the re-entering angle of the E. by. about 7 fur. almost due E. of East Combe (OM1). About  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. from this angle the name Stonage Barton implies the existence of stone in the neighbourhood, and probably the quarrying of it.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> It might possibly be identified by investigation on the spot.

<sup>2</sup> It is very noticeable in the charters that thorn-trees as landmarks have in the vast majority of cases a personal name attached to them. This is not commonly the case with other species of trees. Possibly the thorn, as being peculiarly long-lived, was taken as a landmark of the holdings of individuals; and the names attached to thorn-trees in the charters may be those of the holder of the ground of which it marked the boundary.

<sup>3</sup> It is possible that *snocca* is for *snoca*, a word supposed to mean a 'nook'.

<sup>4</sup> Names ending in -age are very common in local and field-names throughout England. The termination seems to imply 'connected with' or 'abounding in'. It is probably derived from the Latin -agium. From Berks., Hants and Wilts. field-names I have collected : Burgage, Huntage, Buttage, Cowage, Copenage, Granage, Harmage, Leggage, Lillage, Graphage, Marlage, Harrage, Rockage, Steterage, Stubbage, Lapnage, Warrage, Whippage, Worldage, Vernage, Yerrage. From Essex field-names : Hickerage, Impage, Hammage, Harrage, Pepperage, Turnage, Stonage, Shrubbage, Spinnage, Stammage, Herbage, Twillage.

27. *On Hreod Alras* : 'To the Reed Alders.'

These were possibly at the head of the brook on the E. by. about 5 fur. NE. of East Lydeard (OM1).

28. *Of, etc. on Tideford* : 'From the Reed Alders to 'Time'' Ford.'<sup>1</sup>

The ford was possibly at the point where on the E. by. a road crosses a brook at Middlebrooks (OM6) about 5 fur. WNW. of Fennington (OM1).

29. *Of tham Forda adune on strem to Cunecanforde* : 'From the Ford down stream to the Ford of Cunec.'

I am inclined to think that *Cunes* is the old name of the stream which forms part of the E. by. of the parish near Lower Portman Farm (OM1), and that the ford was close to that farm.

30. *Of, etc. on Cincgesget* : 'From Cunec Ford to King's Gate.'

This gate was probably where a road crosses the E. by. a short  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. of Fitzroy (OM1).

31. *Of, etc. on Suran Apuldran* : 'From King's Gate to the Sour Appletree.'

This must have been on the E. by. somewhere N. of where the railway crosses it

32. *Of, etc. oth hit cymth eft on Linlege* : 'From the Sour Appletree till it comes once more to Flax Lea.' (See landmark 1.)

Various old names on the Bishop's Lydeard and West Buckland boundaries will be found in the great Taunton charter published in vol. lxxiii of this journal.

#### MILVERTON

Milverton is about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  m. W. of Taunton.

#### Charter.

B.1116 is a charter recording the grant of 1 hide in *aet Monowyrthige* by King Eadgar to the thegn Aelfric in A.D. 963.

<sup>1</sup> Perhaps a ford which was only usable at certain seasons.

Birch merely says the grant is in Somerset.<sup>1</sup> Kemble does not attempt any identification. The survey shows it to be Manworthy in Milverton parish.

*Survey.*

The extant copy of the survey is either an original, or a copy of an original, of, at earliest, the very latest years of the Saxon age.

B.1117 gives another and incomplete copy of the same survey. It appears from some of the forms of words to be of slightly later date than the B.1116 survey. But it is either an abbreviation of the B.1116 survey, or drawn from the same original source.

Only those landmarks of B.1117 which are variants of those of B.1116 will be given (in brackets) in the following text.

1. *Aerust an (on) Monawurthiges Ford (Forde)*: 'First to the Ford of the Detached Enclosure of . . . (Manworthy).'<sup>2</sup>

Like most of the grants of smaller area than the modern parishes, this grant presents difficulties of topography due to the fact that the bounds are but partly represented by existing boundaries. But, generally speaking, the grant represents the narrow western projection of the parish of Milverton.

The survey has been made against the clock, a practice rare with Saxon surveyors.

The ford mentioned was probably close to the present Manworthy, where a road crosses Hillfarrance Brook (OM1).

2. *Of tham Forda up on strem (stream) an (on) Aescumb (Aescumb)*: 'From the Ford up stream to Ash Combe.'

The survey goes NE. from Manworthy (OM1) along Hillfarrance Brook (OM1). The Ash Combe is the valley of the upper part of that brook.

3 *Of, etc an Riht Gemaere (Rightgemaere) an (on) Penda-cumb*: 'From Ash Combe to the Straight Balk (Boundary) to Penda's Combe.'

<sup>1</sup> In a detailed note he puts it either near Hinton St. George near Crewkerne, or near Hinton Blewitt, NE. of Wells.

<sup>2</sup> *Mona* is possibly a personal name; for the vast majority of the attributes of *weorth* and *weorthig* in the charters are personal.

The name of the combe survives in that of Pyncombe Farm (OM6) on the N. by. of the parish. That N. by. between the farm and Hillfarrance Brook runs almost due E. and W., and in a fairly straight line. This is the *Rihtgemaere* of the landmark.

4. *Up an (on) Pendacumb (Pendancumb) to there (thaere) Wille* : 'Up Penda's Combe to the Spring.'

This spring was probably where the farm now stands.

5. *Of, etc. on Riht Gemaere (Gemaerum) inan (an) thene (thaere) Thyrlan Aest (Aesc)* : 'From the Spring to the Straight Balk (Boundary) to the Pierced (Hollow ?) Ashtree.'

This tree must have stood on the N. by. not far W. of Pyncombe Farm. The N. by. of the parish is generally speaking straight to the W. of the farm.

6. *Of tham Aeste (than Aesce) in on (innon) Beocceles Put* : 'From the Ashtree to Beoccel's Pit.'

The pit was probably near Walridge Farm.

7. *Of tham Pytte on Riht Gemaere (Ryht Gemaero) to tham (than) Faegræn Wille (Wylle)* : 'From the Pit to the Straight Balk (Boundary) to the Fair Spring.'

This is no doubt the spring marked (OM6) a short 3 fur. W. of Walridge Farm.

8. *Of tham (than) Wyl'e on dune an stream to Codweeala Forda* : 'From the Spring down stream to . . . ? . . . Ford.'

This is the ford on the Tone close to Spears (OM6).

9. *Of tham (than) Forda andune strema (stream) on Smalabroc* : 'From the Ford down stream to Narrow Brook.'

This is probably the small brook which flows from the E. into the Tone along  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. SW. of Hurstone Farm. It may possibly be another little brook about 100 yds. further S.

10. *Andland (andlang) Smalabroces to Lihtenes Forda (Forde)* : 'Along Narrow Brook to Lihten's Ford.'

The details of the course of the old boundary in this and the succeeding landmarks are somewhat obscure. It might be expected to follow the course of the present S. by. of Milverton parish ; but that assumption would, as will be seen, present certain difficulties. Perhaps the clue may lie in the note at the end of the survey which mentions certain appanages of the grant, evidently outside the bounds given in the survey, but probably either wholly or partly within the boundary of the present parish of Milverton.

Kemble does not identify the site of the grant ; and Birch does not print the charter.

*Survey.*

The survey is at least a copy of a survey of the date of the grant.

1. *Of tham Ealdan Hornforda suth on thone Herpeth :* ' From the Old . . . ? Ford south to the Highway.'<sup>1</sup>

This ford was certainly a ford over Galmington Stream (OM6) at the extreme E. end of the parish near what is called Tangier on the W. edge of the town of Taunton. The *Herepath* was on the line of the road, marked as an ' Old Road ' in OM6, which forms for 5 fur. part of the S. by. of the parish due S. of the village.

2. *Of, etc. west on tha Lange Rewe on thone Stan :* ' From the Highway west to the Long (Tall ?) Row of Trees to the Stone.'

The Stone was possibly at the re-entering angle of the parish by. about  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. NW. of Comeytrowe House (OM1) in Trull ; and, if so, the Row of Trees ran along the *Herepath*. But, as such a choice of landmarks would be contrary to the usage of Saxon surveyors, it is more probable that there is a mistake in orientation, and that the surveyor has written ' west ' under the general impression that, as he was taking the S. by. of the grant, he was going W. If so, then the stone must have been at the angle of the by.  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. W. by S. of Comeytrowe House (OM1) and the row of trees have run down the by. from the re-entering angle to that angle.

3. *Of thon Stane west be Wyrtrum on Fiducforda :* ' From the Stone west by the Hillfoot to the Ford on the Fiduc (Stream).'

The survey is a very general one, ignoring many turns in the by. The hillfoot was the bottom of the slope on the S. by. due

<sup>1</sup> *Horn* may possibly refer to some projecting piece of land near the ford. The name ' horn ' is very common in field-names ; and probably its use in them is descended from its use in this survey. But it is not clear what its meaning is as a field-name.

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S. of Rumwell. The identity of the Fiduc is clearly established by the evidence of the Taunton (former series) and the Wellington (this series) charters. It was the stream which meets the by. of this parish at its SW. angle, at Three Bridges (OM6)  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. E. of Lower Stoford (OM1); and there was the ford of this landmark.

4. *Of, etc. adun on thone Stream* : 'From Fiduc Ford down the Stream.'

From Three Bridges the W. by. of the parish runs N., following the Fiduc for a short  $\frac{1}{2}$  m.

5. *Of, etc. on northeward Efslea* : 'From the Stream to the north of Eaves<sup>1</sup> Lea.'

The survey is following the by. to the NW. of Rumwell (OM1). The lea must have lain NW. of that village.

6. *Of, etc. on Hrumwyll* : 'From . . . Lea to Soot Spring.'

The name of the spring survives in that of Rumwell (OM1).

The spring itself may have been at the re-entering angle of the parish on the N. edge of the village.

7. *Of, etc. on Hudecumes Heafod* : 'From Soot Spring to the Head of Huda's Combe.'

This combe was probably the hollow on the W. by. just E. of the hamlet of Hele (OM1).

8. *Of, etc. adun on Ealda Tan* : 'From the Head of Huda's Combe down to the Old Tone.'

It will be noticed on reference to the map that the by. to the NW. of Barr (OM1) does not follow the present course of the Tone, but a ditch to the N. of it, marking what is evidently the line of an old course of the river. The ditch is the *Eald Tan* of this landmark.

9. *Swa anlang streames on Ealda Hornford* :

The by. follows the Tone to landmark 1.

<sup>1</sup> *Efs*—may possibly be from *Efes*, 'eaves' or edge of a wood.

WEST MONKTON and CREECH ST. MICHAEL

West Monkton is 3 m. NE. and Creech 3 m. E. of Taunton.

*Charter.*

B.62 is a charter recording a grant of 23 hides, "in loco juxta silvam famosam que dicitur *Cantucuudu*" (Quantock Wood), by Centwini, king of the Saxons, to Hamegils, abbot of Glastonbury, at the reputed date 682.

*Survey.*

Of the date of this survey or of an original from which it is drawn it can only be said that, as the descriptive matter is in Latin, it is a Saxon survey of an early type. Such Saxon names as occur in it are spelt in such forms that, if it is a forgery, it is one of not later than the ninth century in all probability.

The Latin portion of the survey will be given in translation.

The survey begins with what is apparently a general statement of the bounds of the 23 hides, which are described as 'having on the south the river called *Tan* (Tone); and on the north including<sup>1</sup> no small part of the aforesaid wood'. Then there begins what is apparently a detailed survey of the boundary.

1. 'As far as the valley *Helsdena* (Hel . . . 's Valley).'
2. 'Then by a brook to the ford which is called *Wealaford* (Ford of the Welsh or Celts).'
3. 'And so along the course of that brook to the channel of the *Tan* (Tone).'
4. 'They (i.e. the 23 hides) have on the west the spring called *Ealduwille* (Old Spring).'
5. 'After that another spring called *Acuville* (Spring of the Oaktrees).'
6. 'From that spring to the place called *Haegsta<sup>7</sup>descumb* (Hegstald's Combe).'

<sup>1</sup> The Latin words which I have translated by 'included' are 'ad se trahens'. I am not sure that the translation is correct.

7. 'And by the way called *Hrycuueg* (Ridge Way).'

8. 'From this way to the stream called *Segbroc* (Sedge Brook).'

9. 'From this brook the land lies westwards towards the channel of the aforesaid *Tan* (Tone).'

10. 'To the place called *Horspol* (Horse Pool).'

(Note added.) 'And 3 hides south of the River *Tan* (Tone) at the island near the hill called in the British language *Cructan* (Barrow of the Tone) but with us *Crycbeorh* (Cryc Barrow). And this part of the land is surrounded by very clearly marked boundaries, for it has on the south *Blacanbroc* (Black Brook) and on the north the *Tan* (Tone).'

As far as the general extent of the grant is concerned, there is no doubt that it includes the whole of West Monkton, and also the west part of Creech St. Michael N. of the Tone. But in detail the survey presents certain difficulties.

It will be well to take that part of it which can be satisfactorily determined.

The landmarks given in the note at the end of the survey with regard to the 3 hides S. of the Tone present no difficulty. The *Blacan Broc* is the Black Brook (OM1) which forms the S. by. of that part of West Monkton which lies S. of the Tone. The Tone is given as the N. by. of this part of the grant. That presents no difficulty. The name *Crycbeorh* survives in that of Creechbarrow Hill. *Cryc* is the Celtic *cruc*, meaning a 'barrow'; so the name Creechbarrow is redundant.

The survey of the part of the grant N. of the Tone contains certain landmarks which can be determined by cross reference to the Taunton charter; but it presents certain difficulties which do not admit of any sure solution.

*Haegstaldes Cumb* of 6 is the *Hegstaldes Cumb* of the great Taunton charter, and is the modern Hestercombe (OM1) on the W. by. of West Monkton.

The *Hrycuueg* of 7 is the ridgeway which comes from the WNW and passes S. of Wort Wood. It continues as a ridgeway in an ESE. direction to Adsborough (OM1) on a line marked by modern roads, and then, maintaining its ridgeway character, follows the line of modern roads in a southerly direction as far as North End where, so far as modern roads are concerned, it gives out.

This ridgeway does not impinge on the West Monkton by. at the present day ; but there is no question but that it is the ridgeway referred to in the survey. One of two things must be the case : either that the old by. of West Monkton was about 3 fur. N. of the W. end of the present N. by., which may possibly have been the case on this high, and in former days probably wooded, ridge ; or, the piece of road by Oggsole Farm (OM1), which for about a furlong forms part of the present N. by., and is a branch of the ridgeway, though not a ridgeway itself, may have been loosely called ridgeway by the surveyors.

The *Segbroc* of 8 is also mentioned in the Taunton charter. It is the large brook which rises near Oggsole Farm (OM1) ; forms the N. by. of West Monkton parish as far as Walford, and then passes through the middle of Creech St. Michael parish from N. to S. to join the Tone at the present day a short  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. S. of Charlton (OM1). But the lower course of it after passing the Bridgwater and Taunton canal may have been modified in the making of that canal. The by. of the grant passed apparently all the way down this brook to the Tone, as does the by. of the great Taunton charter in this part. Therefore the region of Langaller in Creech was at the time of the making of these grants a land-unit separate from the E. part of that parish ; and, as has been said already, the two parts of the parish are cited separately in the Domesday survey.

The language of landmark 9 is not very clear ; but it seems to imply that the by. of the grant passed from the mouth of the *Secgbroc* up the Tone to a pool called *Horspol* (landmark 10) which was presumably in that river. If the course of the river at the present day is the same as it was at the time of the grant, then it must be presumed that that part of Creech which lies S. of the Tone was an appendage of the part of the parish N. of the river which does *not* come within the grant.

As the part of West Monkton S. of the Tone is given in a special part of the survey, which has been already considered, it must be presumed that the *Horspol* of 10 was where the W. by. of West Monkton crossed the Tone. On OM6 a stream or backwater just W. of Bathpool (OM1) is called ' Old River

Tone'; so that this was presumably the course of the Tone at the time of the grant. Therefore it is probable that the Horse Pool of 10 was where the W. by. of West Monkton, going N., leaves that stream a long furlong W. of Bathpool (OM1).

Going back from this last landmark (10) of the N. part of the grant to landmark 1, it seems probable that the *Helsdena* of 1 was the small valley at Aginghill's Farm (OM6) about 3 fur. N. of Bathpool (OM1). Now comes the great difficulty in the survey. It would be natural to identify the *Wealaforð* of 2 with *Walford* which lies E. of West Monkton village. But that is on the E. side of the grant; and the survey at this point is dealing with the W. side of it. Two explanations are possible. The first, which I consider the more probable, is that this landmark 2 has been displaced in copying the survey; and that it came originally either between 7 and 8, or between 8 and 9. The other is that the modern Walford lies on a road which crosses the *Secgbroc* at that place; and that the crossing was called *Wealaforð*, from which Walford derived its name. That road was evidently a 'Welsh' road, i.e. a road used in Saxon times by the Celtic survivors in the region. But it will be noted that that road runs SW. to cross the brook which forms the S. part of the W. by. of West Monkton N. of the Tone at a point about  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. N. of the Aginghill's Farm already mentioned (OM6); and another *Wealaforð* may have been here. But it will be noticed that landmark 3 goes on to describe the by. as running after *Wealaforð*, 'along the course of that brook to the channel of the Tone'; and that is why I prefer the first of the alternative proposed solutions of the difficulty with regard to the site of *Wealaforð*.

The *Eald Wyll* of 4 may have been a spring on the line of Allen's Brook (OM1) on the W. by. of West Monkton; or, as *wyll* is sometimes used in the charters of brooks other than those of large size, it may have been Allen's Brook itself.

The *Ac Wyll* of 5 was on the by. somewhere S. of Hestercombe House (OM1).

# DITCHEAT

Ditcheat is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  m. E. by S. of Glastonbury.

The parish was made up of the tithings of Ditcheat, Street, Wraxall on the Fosse, Alhampton, Sutton, and Lottisham Green.<sup>1</sup>

*Dichesgate*, B.438, K.253, circ. 11th cent. : *Dicesget*, DB. : *Dichesyete*, FA.

FA. 1284 : *Dychesgate*, FA. 1316.

AS. *Dices-geat*, ' Gate at the Dyke '.

Alhampton. *Alentone*, DB. : *Alampton*, FA. 1284, 1303, 1316. *Halampton*, FA.

1428. There can be no doubt that the first element in the name is derived from the name of the river now called Alham. In the Ditcheat charter (see later) it appears in the oblique case as *Alum*. The modern form of the name suggests that the *-um* of the old name is not merely a case termination ; but part of the actual name. In that case the old name of the place was *Alumtun* ' Village or Farm on the Alum ' , and the name had been rationalised in later times into *Al-ham-ton*. Other cases of the rationalisation even in Saxon times of names which conveyed no meaning can be found elsewhere.<sup>2</sup>

Ditcheat was part of the property of Glastonbury Abbey.

## Charter.

B.438, K.253 is a charter whereby Athelwulf, king of the West Saxons grants to Prince Eanulf land at Ditcheat and Lottisham at the reputed date A.D. 842.

The forms of words in the two surveys attached to the charter show them to have been much later than the reputed date of the charter itself. They belong probably to the first half of

<sup>1</sup> Tithings are very important for archæological purposes inasmuch as they nearly always represent sub-manors of the post-Conquest period ; and those go back in most cases to separate land-units of the AS. period.

<sup>2</sup> *Waenrisc* is probably a rationalised form of the original name of the Windrush river in Oxfordshire. What is probably the original form *Wenric* is also found in the charters.

the 13th century (1200–1250). The title of the charter ‘*Carta regis Athelwlfhi de Dicheszate*’. *Dichesyate*, suggests again that the extant copy of the document is a production or a reproduction of the post-Conquest period.

The area of the lands granted at Ditchheat is stated at 25 hides, and at Lottisham 5 hides.

There is also a clause in the grant which, if it really belonged to the Saxon age, would be, to say the least of it, most unusual: “he may have power of doing whatever he likes with this land, whether to keep it, or to exchange it, or even to sell it, or after his death to leave it to any heir he likes.” This confers a freedom of ownership which can hardly be associated with Saxon times.

#### *Survey of Ditchheat.*

1. *Erest on Dicheforde on Alum*: ‘First to Dykeford to the Alum River.’

2. *Endlang Stremes on Mereforthesthorn*: ‘Along stream to the Thorntree at the Boundary Ford’ (reading *ford* for *forth*).

3. *Thanen suth on Wirte* (read *Wyrthe*) *on an Wei*: ‘Then south to an outlying Farm to a Track.’

4. *Endlang Weies on an Stapel on Hennegraue*: ‘Along the Track to a Pole to Birds’ Grove.’

5. *Thanen on Ranesleighe suthward on Londscher Dich*: ‘Then to Raven’s Lea southward to the Dyke of the Boundary of the Ploughlands.’<sup>1</sup>

6. *Endlang Diches to Bru*: ‘Along the Dyke to (the river) Brue.’

7. *Endlang stremes on Alum Gemitho*<sup>2</sup>: ‘Along stream to the Mouth of (the river) Alham.’

<sup>1</sup> That *landscearu* meant a boundary we know. But of the exact nature of such a boundary we are as yet ignorant. *Land*, when it stands by itself in the charters, seems to mean ploughland. While *maere* and *mearc* are used of the ‘balks’ or boundaries of individual ploughlands, *landscearu* was, I am inclined to conjecture, used of a continuous line of balks of ploughlands which adjoined lands belonging to a neighbouring land-unit.

<sup>2</sup> There are apparently two readings here, *semido* and *gemitho*. Birch rather perversely prefers the former.

8. *Up on Alum on Bolamtre* : 'Up the Alham to Bola's Tree.'<sup>1</sup>

9. *Thanen on the Olde Alum on ane Dich* : 'Then to the Old (river) Alham to a Dyke.'

10. *Endlang Diches on Strete Yate* : 'Along the Dyke to the Gate on the Street (Made Road).'

11. *Endlang Diches thare est to Dichforde* : 'Along the Dyke then east to the Ford of the Dyke.'

The survey shows the grant to have consisted of the modern parish of Ditchheat. Thus the area included is 3,702 acres ; and, as the hidage given, 25, seems to be the actual and not the merely fiscal hidage,<sup>2</sup> the hide in this land unit ran to an average of 148 acres. Ditchheat Hill in the N. of the parish is on the Middle Lias ; the rest of the parish, about 19/20ths of it, is on the Lower Lias.<sup>3</sup>

### *Details of the Survey.*

1. The survey begins at the NE. corner of the parish where the N. by. meets the Alham, practically at the point where the Somerset and Dorset railway crosses that river. There was *Dichford*, the dyke being one which, as shown later in the survey, went along the N. by. of the parish. The track which crossed the ford is still represented by one shown on OM6. which runs along that N. by. The *Alum* is, of course, the Alham river.

<sup>1</sup> *Treow*, 'tree', in the charters is nearly always accompanied by a personal name. I fancy the references are to trees which formed the landmark of land held by the persons mentioned.

<sup>2</sup> Hidage in some form or other goes back to a time before Danegeld, probably to the original settlement of the Anglo-Saxons in England. When Danegeld was imposed the hide was taken as a fiscal unit. In most cases Danegeld was calculated on the pre-existing hidage. But there were cases in which the holders of lands, especially religious houses, got their hidage reduced for purposes of assessment, and then the hidage which appears in the charters is the *fiscal*, not the *actual*, hidage. The great Winchester estate of 100 hides, the bounds of which are given in the charter labelled Chilcomb, was reduced for taxation purposes to 1 hide.

<sup>3</sup> I have mentioned the geological formation because the hidage, and the acreage per hide, on different formations is likely to throw some light on the nature and distribution of the original AS. settlement.

2. The by. now goes down the Alham to a point where the by. leaves that river just E. of the village of Alhampton. There was the *Mereford* (*Maereforda*) at which stood a thorn tree.

5. This is the next landmark which is definitely distinguishable. The name *Ramesleighe* (*Hraemnesleah*) survives in that of Ramsley, a field on the W. slope of East Hill (OM1). It is evident that this NE. corner of the parish was called by that name; and the actual landmark indicated was that NE. corner of the parish about 3 fur. SE. of Waddon Farm in Lamyatt (OM1).

Landmarks 3 and 4 lie therefore between this point and the Alham. In 3 the by. goes S. to a *wyrth*. This refers obviously to the short stretch of by. which runs from *Maereforda* for about 300 yds. in a direction E. of S. to a road which is the *Wei* of the landmark. This road is Holwell Lane (OM6) which the by. follows for nearly 3 fur., as indicated in 4. *Hennegrave* of 4 must have been near where the road to Evercreech crosses the by. *Londscher Dich* ran evidently along the E. by. which abuts on the parish of Bruton.

6 takes the by. S. along this dyke to the river Brue (OM1).

7 takes the survey all along the S. by. to the SW. angle of the parish where the Alham joins the Brue.

8 takes the survey N. up the *Alum* to a point where, due E. of Easton Town (OM1), it is joined by a stream coming from the N. This is the *Olde Alum* of 9.

9 takes the by. up this stream to a dyke. There is no doubt that the dyke is either the 'agger' of the Fosse Way, or a ditch alongside of it.

10 takes the by. along the Fosse Way to where the Roman road leaves the parish at the northernmost point of the latter, about  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. E. of Little Pennard (OM1). Here stood the *Strete Yate*.

In 11 the by. is defined as going east, i.e. as passing along the N. by. of the parish, along a dyke, to where the survey began, at the NE. corner of the parish.

The Lottisham Survey deals with lands in West Bradley, and is taken in connection with that parish.

Local and Field Names.

- Little Bitton :  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. W. by N. of the Rectory (OM1).  
 Goaly Mead :  $\frac{3}{4}$  m. due W. of the same.  
 Ringwell : immed. W. of the grounds of the same.  
 Broad Shord or Shard : about 150 yds. E. of Long Hill Farm (OM1). Shard means 'a piece cut out', usually applied to a gap in a fence cut to permit passage. But may possibly apply to a piece of ground which has been cut off from another piece.  
 Slade :  $1\frac{1}{2}$  fur. S. of same. 'Valley.'  
 Millfords : field  $3\frac{1}{2}$  fur. E. of Highbridge Farm (OM1). May be a later name of the *Mereford* of the charter.  
 Beckway :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. W. by S. of same.  
 The Strap :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. WSW. of same. Here applied to long, narrow field.  
 Halfpence :  $2\frac{3}{4}$  fur. N. by W. of same.  
 Piley :  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. NW. of same. May be *Pyl-leah* with reference to the stream (*Pyl* in West Country Saxon), near which it lies.  
 Lynch Hill :  $5\frac{1}{2}$  fur. ENE. of Kilkenny (OM1). A hill the sides of which have been ploughed into steps or 'lynches'.  
 Sherborne :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. NE. of same. Evidently name of the stream to the S. of which it stands. *Scir-burna*, 'bright stream'.  
 Wraxall (OM1) : A hamlet. This name presents great difficulties. Occurs several times in the county, viz. : parish near Bristol : in West Pennard : in Selwood. There is also a Wraxhill in Yeovil, which may be a corruption of the same name. It occurs also as a parish name in Wilts, where the old forms are *Weroches Halle*, DB. : *Wrakeshall* and *Wrokeshall*, IPM., H. 111 : *Wrokeshal*, TN. : *Wroxhale*, NV. The old forms of the name of the parish near Bristol are : *Werocosale*, DB. : and forms *Wroxhale*, *Wraxale* and *Wrokeshale* in IPM. and FA of the 14th cent. The name also occurs in Dorset  $7\frac{1}{2}$  m. SE. of Beaminster. There is also a Wroxall Farm in Northwood, I.W., which is called *Wroccesheale* in K. 768.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Both Ekblom (PL.N. Wilts.) and Alexander (PL.N. Oxon. in reference to Wroxton) assume a personal name *Wroc*.

There is no doubt that the second element in the name is *health*, a hollow in a hillside. Nor can there be much doubt that the first element is *Wroc*. But the question is as to the meaning of this term or name. It is improbable that it is a personal name otherwise not recorded, because it is improbable that a name of that kind should have got attached to hollows in various parts of the country.

At this moment I am inclined to think that the Sussex dialectic 'wrockled', wrinkled, is derived from this word *wroc*, though the word itself I have not been able to find in lexicons or glossaries. Such a name would at any rate be applicable to a hillside with hollows in it. Nor is the genitive form an insuperable difficulty, in fact *wroc* would be in that case if the *health* was named after a particular *wroc*.

Owley Farm (OM6): On N. by. due N. of Arthur's Bridge (OM1). Probably 'Lea of the Owls'.

Butwell: immed. N. of Ansford Bridge (OM1).

Lavurns Field:  $2\frac{1}{2}$  fur. N. of same.

Portway: field  $3\frac{1}{2}$  fur. N. of same. Evidently name of the road to Evercreech.

Holywell: name of two fields on N. by. 5 fur. N. of same bridge.

Maystone: 5 fur. NNE. of same. Probably *Maegen-stan*, 'great or mighty stone', referring perhaps to some old standing-stone.

Ramsley: 6 fur. NNE. of same bridge. (See charter.)

Wickham Ash: just ESE. of the summit of East Hill. AS. *Wic-ham*, 'House of the Dairy Farm'.

Wyke Marsh: on E. by.  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. SE. of last. AS. *Wic*, 'dairy farm'.

Flipping Shard:  $\frac{3}{4}$  m. N. of Bolter's Bridge. For 'shard' see above.

Hermal Lake Corner:  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. of same. Evidently the name of the stream coming from the NNE.

Hadford:  $3\frac{1}{2}$  fur. NNE. of same bridge.

Crowford:  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. NW. of Sutton (OM1).

Hurl Plots:  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. N. by W. of same.

Easton Trow:  $5\frac{1}{2}$  fur. N. by W. of same. AS. *troh*, 'trough' or 'valley'.

Fussel's Batch : 3 fur. N. by E. of same. ' Ridge.'  
 Broadford : 5 fur. ENE. of same.  
 Whitsled :  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. E. of same. Probably ' White Slade or Valley '.  
 Gosmoor :  $\frac{1}{4}$  m. WSW. of same. ' Goose Marsh.'  
 Puckpits :  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. SE. of Bolter's Bridge. ' Pits of the Sprites or  
 Goblins.'

# BALTONSBOROUGH

Baltonsborough is about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  m. SE. of Glastonbury.

Old Forms : *Balteresberghe*, B.168, K.92 of reputed date A.D. 744 : *Baltonesborghe*, in title of above document, and probably added at later date : *Baltunesbeorge*, DB. : *Baltensbergh*, FA. 1284 : *Baltenebergh*, survey of Glastonbury Twelve Hides, date (?). Probably AS. *Bealdheres Burh*, ' Bealdhere's Camp or Fort '. The ' n ' of the later forms may have arisen from the camp coming to be called after the *tun* of *Bealdhere* instead of after *Bealdhere* himself.

## Charter.

B.168, K.92 is a charter of the reputed date A.D. 744 whereby Hilla grants to Glastonbury land in Baltonsborough. The land is described as 10 hides in *Balteresberghe et Scobbanwirth*, the latter seeming to be, from a mention of it in the Lottisham charter, (see notes on West Bradley,) in the N. part of Baltonsborough parish. It also refers in a somewhat vague way to the same number of hides in *Lottisham et Ledenford*, the latter of which seems to be either E. or W. Lydford to the S. of Baltonsborough.

There follows a statement of the bounds of the grant, one of those statements which are found attached to the oldest charters (or later copies of them), and which date probably from before the Saxons had learnt the art of survey employed in defining the bounds of the grants of later charters. Certain of the forms of terms show that in the present case, though the form of the old statement has been adhered to, the names had been modernised ; in fact the extant copy is certainly post-

Conquest date, probably of the first half of the fourteenth century (1300-1350). The statement merely mentions certain places or natural features as landmarks.

1. *Whateleighe* : 'Wheat Lea.'
2. *Effrezesueht* : meaning ?
3. *Holebroc* : 'Hollow Brook.'
4. *Beaulida* : meaning ?
5. *Nimet* : apparently a stream name.
6. *Tidanleighe* : 'Tida's Lea.'
7. *Bitanpath* : 'Bita's Path.'
8. *Bradeleighe* : 'Broad Lea.' (West Bradley.)
9. *Olan* quam suscepit alveum fluminis *Bru* : *Olan* seems to be a stream name. *Bru* is the river Brue.

A note is added : 'ad levam vero Olitane fluminis *Bru* circa quidem prata evidens fossa declarat limites.' This refers probably to the 'mead' or hay land of the grant. The explanation of it must be attempted in reference to the general statement of bounds. Two considerations have to be borne in mind : (1) that such statements of bounds begin almost invariably at one of the cardinal angles of the bounds of the grant : (2) that in the case of these lands which at the present day impinge on the marshes of mid-Somerset the land below the 50 ft. contour must have been for the most part so waterlogged or even water-covered as not to be reckoned. It was a no-man's-land which only became usable when in subsequent times it was drained and divided up among the various land-units abutting on it. Such parts of modern parishes have to be omitted therefore from AS. surveys.

It is probable that the whole of the W. and NW. part of the modern parish is not included within the bounds of the grant.

*Whateleigh* of 1 is mentioned in the Lottisham (W. Bradley) charter. Unfortunately the survey in that document is as difficult to solve as that attached to the present one. Inasmuch as landmarks 1 and 5 are both mentioned in the Lottisham charter, and as it is almost certain that the landmarks follow the clock, those landmarks from 1 to 5 must have been on the by. between Baltonsborough and West Bradley. I am inclined to think that *Whattleighe* must have been between Northwood Farm (OM1) and Coxbridge (OM1), the most north-

westerly part of the parish which is on firm ground. Landmark 2 I cannot either translate or profess to determine. *Holebroc* of 3 is probably Coxbridge Brook, and *Nimete* of 5, called *Nymede* in the Lottisham charter,<sup>1</sup> is the old name of the stream which joins Coxbridge Brook at Bridge Farm (OM1).

If the previous determination of landmarks is correct, then Tida's Lea must have been on the stretch of by. about 3 fur. SW. of Parbrook (OM1); and Bitas's Path must have been on the line of the modern road running S. from Parbrook (OM1). *Bradeleigh* of 8 is obviously the lea which gave its name to West Bradley. It must have been on the by. somewhere SW. of Lottisham House (OM1). *Olan* of 9 is another difficulty. There is no word resembling it in AS. It is probably the name of the stream which for nearly a mile forms the S. part of the E. by. of the parish, and then cuts across the S. part of the modern parish to join the Brue at Catsham (OM1). The part of the modern parish S. of this stream is not included in this main survey.

Here the survey ends. It would seem that the W. by. was not included because it did not abut on lands which formed part of any other land unit, but on what was at the time an unusable marsh. The note at the end of the survey may be corrupted as to text. I fancy that its meaning is that 'on the left of the Olitane (a branch) of the Brue a clearly marked ditch defines the bounds round the meadow lands'. The intent is evidently to define the mead of the grant. Nor do I think that there can be much doubt that this *Olitane* is the stream called *Olan* in 9.

This mead would seem to have been part of that piece of the modern parish which lies S. of the tributary of the Brue, the *Olan* or *Olitane*. A note at the end of the Lottisham charter shows that Lottisham had also a detached mead hereabouts, a mead which is described as being partly N. and partly S. of the Brue, which would seem to imply that it was partly in Baltonsborough and partly in West Lydford parish, as those

<sup>1</sup> The language of the first landmark of the Lottisham charter, 'First to *Nymede* as far as the *Wideres Weies Ford*.' This shows that the survey was being carried along a stream to a ford. The same stream-name occurs in an old Devonshire charter.

parishes are now. The Lottisham charter says also that this mead was at *Scobbanwyrth*, and that accounts for *Scobbanworth* being mentioned with Baltonsborough in the Baltonsborough charter. It would appear to have been the name of the land between the *Bru* and the *Olan*, what is now the S. end of Baltonsborough parish.

*Local and Field Names.*

- Hestover's Walk : field about 3 fur. SW. of Coxbridge.  
 Starveall : field about 4 fur. SW. of same.  
 Hoar Leaze : field 1 fur. SE. of same.  
 Coxbridge : now the orchard of Burnett's Farm on WNW. slope of Windmill Hill (OM1).  
 North Moor : 3 fur. NNE. of Tilham Street (OM1). 'Marshy land.'  
 Great Wormshill : 1 fur. NE. of same.  
 Shawls : field immed. SW. of same.  
 Lugbourne : field immed. E. of Lubborn House (OM6)  $\frac{1}{2}$  m. E. of the church (OM1). Name of the neighbouring stream.  
 Muchelney Hill : 3 fur. SSW. of the crossroads in Ham Street (OM1). May be named from some connection with Muchelney Abbey. May be independent name 'aet *thaere Miclan Ig*', 'Great Island'.  
 Batch Brook Corner : immed. NNE. of Catsham (OM1). 'Ridge' (?) or, as a small brook flows through Catsham, AS. *baec*, 'a brook which is dry at certain times'.  
 Batch Ground : immed. E. of same.  
 Skippets : about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  fur. ENE of same. House near Basingstoke, Hants, of this name.  
 Sidewoods : about 5 fur. SE. of crossroads at Ham Street (OM1). Probably 'Woods on a slope'.  
 Southover : 3 fur. E. of Tootle Bridge Farm (OM1). 'South Bank or Slope.'