

Notes on Exford.

BY THE REV. PREB. J. G. HOWES.

I AM afraid that the first part of my paper may be a little unintelligible to those who do not know the country, without the aid of a map. I will therefore mention how the places I shall have occasion to refer to may be found on the old 1-in. Ordnance Map. About one mile south south-west of Cutcombe Church, is marked *Bushel Bridge*. The road leading down from Lype Hill to Bushel Bridge is called *Hare Path*. To the west of Bushel Bridge is *Oldre Farm*; and further on (about three miles) is *Road Castle* (both marked). About three miles up the Exe, from Road Castle is the last crossing place of the river that I shall mention, near *Wellshead* (marked). *Castle Farm* (not marked) is near Wellshead, a little to the north north-west.

I. THE OLD TRACKWAY.

It seems to be well ascertained that an ancient road or trackway ran from the neighbourhood of Bridgwater, passing above Treborough, along Brendon Hill, into the heart of Exmoor. This road has been fairly traced, until it ran into the lane called *Hare Path*, which leads down to Bushel Bridge: I am not aware that its course has been distinctly made out any further. The account given of it in Phelps' *History of Somerset*, is this: "It . . . ascended north of

Willet Hill to Elworthy, and ran along the ridge of Brendon Hill, accompanied on its line by barrows, to the western extremity. Here it descended to the valley of the Exe by Hare Path¹ (a sure indication of an ancient road), and after crossing the Exe at Exford, pursued its line over Exmoor into Devonshire, crossing Bratton Down, to Barnstaple, and thence to Bideford.”²

This statement must be taken with some qualifications. In the first place, the Hare Path does not reach the Exe, but only the Quarme Water, a tributary of the Exe; and in the line of road there are two considerable ridges to be crossed before the valley of the Exe can be reached. In the next place, as I hope to shew, instead of crossing the Exe once for all, the road, or at all events a road connected with the Hare Path, leading directly into the midst of Exmoor, ran for some distance along the ridges on either side of the upper valley of the Exe, crossing that river at more than one point. All the crossing places, however, were within or very near to the present parish of Exford.

There are two pretty sure indications of the course of the trackway along the upper valley of the Exe. First, there is Road Castle; an earthwork standing on a hill above the Exe, forming a spur of what is called Road Hill. This is at the point where the Exe leaves the parish of Exford. Higher up the river, not far from the point where the Exe enters the parish from Exmoor, was another earthwork, on what is now called Castle Farm. The latter earthwork has disappeared, the place of it being occupied by a house and farm buildings. The line joining these two “Castles”—the local term for an earthwork—corresponds with the main direction which the road pursued in its course along Brendon Hill.

¹ *Ang.-Sax. Dict.* ‘Here,’ an army, a host. ‘Here-pap,’ ‘herpap’ = a road for an army; a road large enough to march soldiers upon.

² Phelps’ *History of Somerset*, p. 85. See Rutter’s *Delineations of Somerset*, p. 253.

It will be convenient to divide the portion of the trackway, which comes under our notice, into two parts; taking first the part which extends from Bushel Bridge to the first ford of the Exe below Road Castle; and next the continuation of it through the parish of Exford, up the Exe, to near Castle Farm.

After crossing the Quarme Water at Bushel Bridge, the road would no doubt pursue the course of Thorne Lane, as it is called, an extension of the Hare Path, as far as the gate into Oldre Farm. Oldre, or Aldre, as the name is sometimes written (called in the new Ordnance Map Aldworthy), is a place of interest. Collinson, in his account of Exford, says: "About a mile and a half eastward of the Church are the vestiges of some ancient iron works, in which, tradition says, much of the wood of Exmoor was consumed. Many of the old pits where the ore was dug still remain, and great quantities of the *scoria* are found about them.³ The only place I know of to which this description applies is Oldre, which, however, is in Winsford parish. At Oldre, evidences still exist that some process of smelting must have been carried on there. *Scoriæ* and ashes of charcoal are still to be found.⁴ The same is the case, I believe, at Treborough, near the line of this road. It may be noticed that wood must once have been obtainable here in abundance, without going so far for it as to the forest of Exmoor. The parish name of Cutcombe (from, I suppose, *coit*, a wood), and the farm names of *Cut-thorn* and *Cods-end*, and the more recent names of *Bush-el Bridge*, *Wootton Courtney*, and perhaps *Timbers-combe*, all seem to show the

³ Collinson, vol. ii, p. 21.

⁴ If it be allowable to suppose that the word *wheal* was applied to mines here, as it was to copper mines in Cornwall, many field names in the neighbourhood would seem to indicate places where mining operations were carried on. A field on Oldre Farm bears the name of Willey Close; and there are two on the neighbouring small farm of Pinn which bear the same name. In Exford there are fields which are called Whale's Close, Wheal Close, Willy Piece, and Willis.

existence here of a large tract of wooded country—a kind of western Selwood.

Not far from the gate into Oldre Farm, Thorne Lane makes a turn and trends towards the north-west. The ancient trackway, in order to pursue its course to Road Castle, must have followed the direction of a lane which leads down by the side of a modern lime-stone quarry and kiln, and have crossed at the bottom a small stream, the Larcombe Water, which flows into the Exe a little further on. That this was the course of a well known road is corroborated by the fact that the crossing-place of this stream bears the name of Lady-ford. The lane by the lime quarry is still called Lady-ford way; it passes through Lady-ford Meadow; and the opposite hill is called Lady-ford Hill.⁵

There are traces of a road crossing a part of Staddon Hill, which led from this ford to the river Exe at Lincombe, very near Road Castle. This road was still, I believe, in occasional use some fifty or sixty years ago. On the side of Staddon Hill fronting the road there is an earthwork. Following the track, which still exists for the greater part of the way, and passing through a field called Pit Park, in which are several round, funnel-shaped pits, we come to a steep descent to the Exe by an old lane. Here the trackway would strike the Exe for the first time, and crossing the river near the present small bridge at Lincombe, would ascend the opposite hill and pass by Road Castle.

We now come to the second part of the trackway, that part of it which, as I conceive, ran up the valley of the Exe for more than three miles—now on one side and now on the other side of the river. At Lincombe the Exe, running from the west, makes a sudden bend to the south; and the three miles and a half of its course above that point constitute that part of it

⁵ Does the former part of this name represent the old English *lād* or *lāde*? If so, the name would be equivalent to Way-ford. Or was the original word Liddyford?

which is parallel with the direction of the ancient road. That part of the river is almost wholly contained within the present parish of Exford. The road then, I conceive, from Lincombe to Castle Farm, would cross and recross the river several times. It is evident that before artificial draining took place there must have been many marshes and marshy places along the river. These would occur principally at points where small streams make their way down between the neighbouring hills. A road running near the river, and in the same general direction with it, would be impeded by these marshy places; it would often be more practicable to cross the river and ascend the opposite hill, than to attempt to carry the road through the marsh. Thus, where the breaks in the hills, and consequently the marshy places, were numerous, there would be many fords; and this is exactly the character of the country through which the trackway would have to pass.

Encountering, then, these marshy places, the trackway ran from ridge to ridge on that side of the river which was found most convenient. There must, I think, have been as many as four—possibly there were six⁶—crossings of the Exe, from first to last. The first ford, reckoned from east to west, being at Lincombe, the last would be at what is called Silly Bridge.⁷ Here is a field which is called Way-meadow, as there is also a Way-close at Oldre. A little further up the river there is a rough, and evidently a very old, lane (near the house at Wester-mill), leading up by the side of Castle Farm, and running in the direction of Exmoor. The intermediate fords cannot, perhaps, all of them be certainly ascertained. Judging from the nature of the ground and the remains of old roads, I am inclined decidedly to place one by North Cott, and another at Lower Mill. Perhaps the ford by Court House, and that in the village where is now the stone bridge over the Exe,

⁶ The number must have been *even*, because the road struck and left the river on the same (the left) bank.

⁷ The name appears to be connected with *sul*, a plough.

may also have existed at a very early time. It is not unlikely, I think, that another road, running, roughly speaking, north and south, may have crossed the river once.

II.—DOMESDAY MANORS IN EXFORD.

If the view enunciated above be correct, it would not be unlikely that more than one settlement in that part of the upper valley of the Exe, along which we have traced the ancient road, should have borne the name of Exford. That such was actually the case we learn from Domesday. In Domesday there are five Somerset manors mentioned bearing the name Aisse-forda. Two only of these were assigned by Collinson to Exford: the other three he assigned to Ashford in the parish of Ilton; for what reason I do not know. The late Mr. Eyton, in his valuable *Domesday Studies*, with more probability assigned all the five to Exford. They were small manors, not exceeding altogether (according to Mr. Eyton's estimation of Domesday measures) 600 acres, and therefore comprised only a small part of the present parish of Exford. Two of them were held in chief by William de Moione; the other three by Roger de Courcelle. Both these great landholders had large possessions in the neighbourhood. Two other manors held by Roger de Courcelle can be identified as connected with Exford. *Edmundswortha*, a large manor, containing, according to Eyton's mode of measurement, more than 6,500 acres, was identified by him, I think rightly, with the manor and tithing of Almsworthy.⁸ That manor is still one of the Exford manors; but it extends beyond the boundaries of the parish; it still forms a tithing used for the assess-

⁸ The barrow known as Alderman's Barrow, a boundary mark, I believe, of Almsworthy, is called in the perambulation of Exmoor (1298-9), Osmundebergh. Was this Osmund a variant of the Domesday Edmund? In the Enclosure Map (1846), the barrow is called Almonsbarrow; and in the Act, Almsworthy is described as "otherwise Almonsworthy." It is a curious circumstance, for which I am unable to account, that in an old map of Somerset (c. 1640), the name Almsworthy is inserted under the parish name Selworthy. I can find no trace of the name in that parish.

ment of land-tax, etc. A small farm in Exford, now absorbed in a larger one, was called Almsworthy Farm: this may possibly represent the demesne of the manor. *Donnescumba*, another manor held by Roger de Courcelle, was spoken of by Mr. Eyton as obsolete: but I have no doubt that it is to be identified with Downscombe, a farm in Exford.⁹ There are significant remarks appended in Domesday to *Donnescumba*, *Edmundswortha*, and one of Roger de Courcelle's *Aissefordas*. Of the first it is said, "*Quando recepit erat vastata;*" of each of the other two, more emphatically, "*Quando recepit erat penitus vastata.*" Here, I suppose, is a reminiscence of the ravages committed by Earl Harold, when, in 1052, he "landed with nine ships at Porlock, and slew there much people, and took cattle, and men, and property, and went his way eastward to his father;"¹⁰ or else of the earlier ravages of the Danes. It may be added, as confirmatory of these identifications, that *Edmundswortha*, and one *Aisseforda*, were both in the time of King Edward held by a Saxon called *Edric*.

Of William de Moione's two manors, called *Aisseforda*, we can, I think, ascertain the position of at least one. It is known that property in Exford was held in later times by the Abbey of Neath (in Glamorganshire); and one of the Exford manors is still called *Monkham*. From a charter of that Abbey, dated 9th of King John, we learn that William de Moione, with the consent of his sons, gave to it *Exefordam et Cubihiete*.¹¹ The latter name (*Cubyate*) survives in *Chibbet*; or, as it used to be called and written, *Chibbate*. *Chibbate* Farm lies away from the river, being separated from it by a hill, and by what used to be the common of *Langdon*: but the "*Exeford*" given by De Moione would no doubt be near

⁹ This identification was suggested by me to Mr. Eyton in 1880, and he fully concurred in it. It is worth remarking that the acreage of Downscombe Farm, exclusive of allotments, corresponds very closely with the acreage of *Donnescumba* in Domesday, according to Mr. Eyton's measurement.

¹⁰ *Saxon Chronicle*.

¹¹ Dugdale, vol. v, p. 258.

the river; and it so happens that a small farm near the present bridge in Exford can be identified as having been possessed by the Abbey of Neath. There is extant at Wells, in the Register of Bishop Ralph (1329—1364) a composition respecting tithes between the then Rector of Exford, Walter de la Mor, and the Abbot and Convent of Neath; which composition was confirmed by the Bishop at Wiveliscombe, in the year 1348. In that document mention is made of lands in Exford, "called in the vulgar tongue *le Schovele*." A very small farm in Exford, lying between a rocky lane running up from the river and the Dulverton road, was known till quite recently as Show'l Farm. Show'l, of course, is the local pronunciation of Shovel. The name, I may say, seems to have been taken from the shape of the piece of land; when looked at from an opposite hill it presents very evidently the shape of one of those pointed spades or shovels which are commonly used in West Somerset. This piece of land, then, belonged to the Abbey of Neath, and was presumably obtained by the Abbey from De Moione; whence we have a clue to an "Exforda," once held by that family.

It appears from a note appended to the list of Rectors of Exford in the Hugo MSS. in the British Museum, that in 1563 the then Rector sued parishioners for tithes accruing from the fields and bartons of Court Place and dairy (deyre) house. His claim was resisted on the ground that the property had formed part of the possessions of Neath Abbey, and was therefore supposed to be tithe free.

I have not had an opportunity of looking up the reference made in this note, but it is a fair conclusion that one, at least, of Court Farms belonged to the Abbey of Neath, and was, perhaps, the other Exford manor granted by the Conqueror to William de Moione. The two, held henceforth by the same lord, seem to have been combined, perhaps with the addition of others also, under the name of *Manerium de Exeford*.

In the list of disafforested places appended to the perambu-

lation of Exmoor in the time of Edward I (1298), there is mention of the *Villa de Exefordemoney*, i.e., I suppose, Monk Exford (or Monkham), which was held by the Abbot of Neath, and of the *Villa de Almonesworth*, held by one Robert, who is described as *filius Pagani*. It is quite plain, at all events, that the present parish of Exford was made up of several Domesday manors, of which some, but not all, have been identified. The possessions of William de Moione lay on the Monkham side of the parish; and those of Roger de Courcelle on the Almsworthy side; and this conclusion may perhaps help towards the identification of other Domesday manors.¹²

¹² I have sometimes thought that an unidentified manor of De Moione, called Lega, represents the small farm Lea, with an adjoining farm, which are on the Monkham side. The name, however, is a common one, and it is difficult to be certain of this.

The Admiralty Court of Minehead.

BY E. CHISHOLM-BATTEN.

AMONG the miscellaneous documents in the Public Record Office belonging to the reign of Henry the Seventh, are some relating to the port of Minehead and the Court of the Admiral there.

The Admiral there was, according to these documents, Sir Hugh Luttrell. This was the second Sir Hugh Luttrell, K.B., a notable person among the lords of Dunster. But, powerful as he was there, he seems in this instance to have met with a mariner of Minehead, Robert Bassher, who was not afraid to resist the Lord of the Manor and Admiral of the Port of Minehead. In fact, the time was favourable for any opposition to Sir Hugh. Somehow, he had favoured the rising of the Cornishmen in 1497, and had been fined in October, 1498, £200 (in our money £2,400), for his contempt in so doing.¹

It appears from the documents that William Kyste of Swansea, a tenant of Sir Charles Somerset the founder of the Beaufort family, had, before September, 1497, let to Robert Bassher of Minehead, mariner, for the carrying on fishing on the coast of Ireland, a fishing vessel, upon terms (found by a jury to be), that the owner, Kiste, was to have one-seventh of the results of fishing, and one-fourth of the freight

War at that time going on between England and Scotland, the vessel was captured, probably in the northern Irish Channel, by the Scotch. In September, 1497, a truce was

¹ "Henry VII in Somersetshire;" *Proceedings*, vol. xxv, pt. ii, p. 71.

made between the Kings of England and Scotland, for seven years, by the intervention of Bishop Fox; and about that time the vessel was ransomed by Robert Bassher, on payment by him of £28 (in our money, £336). The vessel is called a pykard,² and was no doubt a decked vessel, with a mast and sails, called "her apparel."

The vessel probably was at Minehead in December, 1498, when Kyste obtained a judgment against Bassher, in the Admiralty Court held there by Sir Hugh Luttrell as Admiral. This position was held either under an appointment of the Lord High Admiral, Thomas Earl of Surrey, or it might be directly of the King. The Steward of the Manor Court of the Manor of Minehead seems to have acted as the Judge of the Admiralty Court, and the judgment was, that Kiste was entitled to the seventh penny of fishing and the fourth penny of freight; and he was bound to pay the seventh penny of the ransom and of other expenses, and to have the said pykard delivered to him. The share of ransom was paid by Kiste, who seems to have obtained possession of his vessel, but no payment was made to him by Bassher in respect of his share of fishing and freight. The whole sum gained by fishing and freight was £13 13s. 4d., or about £165 of our money.

No payment being made, Kiste obtains a Writ of Privy Seal, directed to Sir Hugh Luttrell, to see justice done; and in default of Robert Bassher doing what Sir Hugh should decide, Sir Hugh was to give him notice within eight days personally to appear before the Privy Council, that is, the New Court of Star Chamber. This writ must have been obtained shortly after the date of the certificate of the Judgment of the Minehead Court, which certificate is dated the 10th of June, 1502. By this time Sir Hugh Luttrell had recovered—if he had ever lost—his favour with the Court. In October, 1501, he had been appointed to form one of the

² Pykard, a large boat. *Book of Boats*, S.P.C.K.

band of Somersetshire knights and gentlemen³ who were at Crewkerne to welcome the Princess Katharine of Arragon on her entry into the county, on her wedding journey from Plymouth to London.

In obedience to the Privy Seal writ, Sir Hugh ordered that Bassher should perform the judgment of the Admiralty Court; and as he did not pay the money found due to Kyste, Sir Hugh ordered him to appear before the Privy Council.

Then, it would seem, the Privy Council ordered some of Sir Hugh Luttrell's tenants to appear before them at the hearing of the matter in their Court. Whether these tenants were the witnesses or the jury, does not appear. William Kyste, the promoter of the cause in the Minehead Admiralty Court, was not a tenant of Sir Hugh Luttrell, but of Sir Charles Somerset, to whom Sir Hugh addressed the following letter:—

“P. Record Office, 3rd Nov., 1884.”

[Stamp

[Addressed outside]

Public Record Office Treasury.] “To the right worshipfull and my very good maester S^r Charles Somerset Knyght in goodelly haste be this delyvered.”

“Right worshipfull and my very goode maester I recom- mend me to you in as hertty manner as I can, and whereas it is not unknowen unto you that long tyme passed your tenant William Kyste of Swayneshey put his bote in fysshynge to Robert Daysher of Minehed and then upon the see costes of Irland the said bote was taken with Scotts and ramesoned to the payment the said Daysher would have more mony for the said bote than of right he ought to have: then a Court of Amaltrie was had there upon and xij men sworn upon the same which have gevit that the said Kyste should pay for his

³ “II or III myles before she come to Crewkerne, she shall be met with Sir Amys Paulet, Sir Hugh Luttrell, Sir John Speke, Sir William Willoughby, Sir John Wadham, John Sydenham of Brympton, and John Horsey.”—Bishop Fox's Instructions.

bote the vijth peny of rameson which amounted iiiij^{li} and that was delyvered to the said Daysher and afterwards the said Daysher varyied and said he would not abide the rule of the Amaltry Court where upon the King's Grace sent his Commandment unto me in wryteyng to see Justice in these premises to be had. And then I ordered that the said Daysher should abyde the Juggement and determination of the same Courte which to do he would not and then I gave him day according to the King's writing to appear before him and the Councele with in viij days following to answer whye he will not stand to the said Juggement and whether he appeared then or not I cannot ascertayn you. Beseeching you therefore as my singular truste is in you to socour and helpe forth my said tennants in this said matter for nowe by the labour and untrue strivinge of the said Daysher they ben [have been] sent for by privy seal to appear before the King's Grace and his Councill for the premises. And my said tennants shall be your bedesmen and daylly pray God for your p̄rouse [prosperous] lyfe. And over that I shall be ever redy urging that may be to your desyr and Commandment for the wele of any of yours in this p̄tie [part] or elsewhere in which I shall not estrinte [stint] me as knoweth God Who ever preserve you to his pleasure and yours.

“Yours ever in that I can to my lytell power,

“H. LUTTRELL.”

Nothing further appears of the Admiralty suit, but the documents show:—

1st. The power exercised by the Admiralty Courts then, not only to settle accounts in maritime transactions, but also to order the delivery over of vessels; a power only very recently resumed by the Admiralty Court.

2nd. The extent of the fishing adventures of the Minehead mariners. At the end of the fifteenth and the beginning of the sixteenth centuries, the Minehead fishermen must have

gone to the coast of the North of Ireland to fish.⁴ The utility of the Act of 1486 (3rd Henry VII), modelling the Star Chamber as a Committee of the Privy Council, which had jurisdiction over, and was the Court of Appeal from, inferior Courts, such as Admiralty Courts. This jurisdiction as to Admiralty Courts was reserved to the Privy Council on the dissolution of the Star Chamber in 16th Charles the First (1641).

The documents are set out in the appendix.

APPENDIX.

“MYNHED. At the Courte of the Amyralty holden at Mynhed the xiiijth day of the moneth of December the yere of the reigney of our Sovereign Lord King Harry the vijth afre the conquest of Inghland the xiiijth Byfore Sir Hew Lottrell Knycht and Amyrell there, came on William Keste of Swaynsey in the Lordshyp of South Walys and complayned agaynes one Robert Bassher of Mynhed foreseid and demanded of the same Robart xl marcs for be cause that he witheld frome the saide William a pycard that the said betoke unto the said Robart to ffysshying into Ireland. And the defendant denyed hys axyng⁵ and seid that the said William ought not to have the said pycard nor any part thereof whefore the mater was put to a Tryall.

“And upon this same hyt wasse founde by xij honest men sworn, bothe maisters and maryners of shyppes and vesselles, that is to say, John Botston, Moryce Colleyn, Rychard Graunt, Thomas Dovell, William Culleren, John Lymryk, Morys Quyrk, Thomas Botston, Robart Broke, Harry Laughwyll, Laurance Laughwyll and Nycholas Hatton, That sayde

⁴ Cornish fishermen go now to fish on the Irish coast, in weather when, they say, the Irish boats will not leave the shore.

⁵ “Denyed his axyng.” This is probably the clerk’s euphonic mode of spelling ‘action.’

upon the Holy Evangelists, that the said William Keste ought to have the vijth penny of fyshyng and the iiijth peny of freight, and the said William to paye the vijth peny of the rawnsom and of other costes and he to have the said pycard thereby delyvered unto hym for all maner of accions concerning that mater

“Whiche som I have paid.”

“To all theym to whom this present shall com to. Phelyp becon Steward to Sir Hugh Luttrell Knyght and John Dobyll Bayly unto the said Sir Hugh of his Manor and Lordship of Mynhed sende gretyng in our Lord God everlasting Certifye and by thys present declare that of late Robart Bayssher of Mynhed forsaid trobelled William Keste of Swanese y for a boote of the same William that he had let to the said Robart to fyshyng whereupon the said William founde sureties to answer him according to Kings lawes and then the said William at the next court follyng came before us requiryng us that the said Robart might appere to declare his cause why he troubled him and he would not appear in one Court nor in two wher upon it was ordered by the Courte that the said William should enjoy his said boot with all her apparell and his said sureties for the same utterly to be dyscharged. In wytness whereof to thys present testimoniall we have put to our seale. In the x daye of June in the xvijth yer of the reign of King Harry the vijth.

“Thro the fortune of good this is the Court that the Master William Keste wessell I called John Roche unto the said William Keste in re^me of Olyver Bassher and Thomas Meurleys schen in the contant made mountyth of fishe and freight xij^{li} xij^s iiij^d, the whiche I receyvd not my wessells part of the saide summe.”

“By the King.

“Trusty and wel beloved, We grete you well, and by the contynnt of a Byll herein closed to us lately presented on the behalve of our subject William Keste ye may perceyve the grevous complaynt of our said subject agenst one Robart Bassher of Mynhed maryner, whereupon, we, tendering greatly the furtheraunce of Justice and trustyng in your wysdom and sadnesse for the due ministracion thereof wol and desyre yow that by vertue hereof callyng the partyes before you ye wol set and conclude suche ordre and dyrection betwyx theym according with our Lawes and Justyce as our said subject have noo cause eft sones to retourne plaintyf unto us in thys behalve, and yf for the obstynacy of the said Robart you can not soo doo, we than wol that ye command hym strately on our behalve to come and personally appere by fore us and our Counsaill within viij dayes after your monicion to answer unto hys obstinate dealing in thys partie to the entent that we may further do therein as caas [*i.e.*, as the case] ryhtfully shall require confirmyng you hereunto with all effect and delygens, as we trusty you. Yeven [etc.]

“To SIR HUGH LUTTRELL, Knight.”⁶

⁶Miscellaneous Documents, Henry VII.

A Benevolence granted to Charles II by the Hundreds of Williton, Greemanors, and Carhampton.

BY EMANUEL GREEN, F.S.A.

A BENEVOLENCE in the old forms of raising revenue was presumed to be a free gift made to the King, varying in amount, either as evidence of the giver's good will or as evidence of his wealth; thus being distinct from a rateable form of taxation.

In 1475, 14th Edward IV, Fabyan in his *Chronicle* says:—
“This yere this Kyng entending to make a voyage ouer see into Fraunce, called before hym his lordes seuerally, both spirituall and temporall, to knowe theyr good myndes what of their free wylls they wolde ayde and depart with hym towarde the sayd voyage. And after he hadde so knowen their good disposicion to hym warde he sent for the mayer of London and his brethren the aldermen, and them seuerally examyned and exortyd to ayde and assyst hym towarde the sayd great iournaye; of whiche the maier for his parté granted xxx^{li} and of the aldermen some xx marcs and the leest x^{li}. And that done he sent for all the thryffy commoners within the sayd cytie and theym exortyd in lyke maner, whiche for the more partye graunted to hym the wages of halfe a man for a yere, the whiche amountcd to iiij^{li} xj^s iij^d. And after that he rode about the more parte of the land and vsed the people in suche fayre maner that he rayed thereby notable summes of money, the whiche way of leuyinge of this money was after named a Benyuolence.”

But the nature of the thing did not agree with its plausible name, as goods were sometimes taken from the owners against

their wills, as if every man was to pay not what he pleased but what the King would have from him. For this reason the name changed, and it became known as a Malevolence. Hall, the chronicler, writing of this time of Edward IV and of the origin of the name, says that the King wishing to show how agreeable the grant was to him called it a Benevolence notwithstanding that many gave "with grudge and malevolence."

In 1483, 1st Ricard III, an Act was passed to free the subjects from this imposition, and from this may be gathered the way it worked. "Remembering," says the Act, "how the Comens of this roialme by newe and unlawfull Inventions and inordinate covetise, have been put to great thraldome and importable charges and exacons and in especiall by a newe imposition named a Benevolence whereby dyverse yeres the Subgettes and Comens of this land agaynst their willes and freedome have paid great somes of money to their almost utter destruccion, for diverse and mony worshipfull men of this roialme by occasion thereof were compelled by necessity to breke up there householdes and to lyff in great penurie and wrechenesse, their dettes unpaied and their childeryn unpreferred, and such memorialles as they had ordeigned for the welth of their soules were anentised and anulled;" from henceforth therefore there was to be no such charge, but the same was to be 'dampned and anulled for ever.'

Again, in 1487, 2nd Henry VII, an Act sets out that,—Whereas many subgettes had granted divers somes of money of their free wills and benevolence for the defence of the realme, of which somes many had full lovyngly made true payment according to their grants, yet many others remained 'not content ne paid causing murmore and grugge and myscontenting of such as have paid,' it was therefore ordered that proclamation be made for payment within three months, the Commissioners to take every defaulter "by his body and the same comytte to the comen gaole," there to remain without bail until he paid or surety found for the same.

After a time this mode of raising money was called a Loan, the King now engaging to repay.

Many of our troubles have arisen from attempts at illegal taxation. Thus the proceedings of Charles I will be remembered. Charles not only exacted what he chose, but issued secret instructions to his Commissioners to find out those who could bear the largest impost. When however he happened to use the name Benevolence he was quickly met with the argument that the word itself showed that all taxes were voluntary and not to be exacted at will. Eventually by the Petition of Right no man was to be compelled to yield any gift, loan, or Benevolence without the consent of Parliament.

In accordance with this Right, on the restoration of the Kingdom, in the second actual year, but called the 13th, of Charles II, a Benevolence was granted from which the following document resulted. The Act (13th Charles II, c. iv), passed at the first sitting of the Parliament, is shortly entitled,—An Act for a free and voluntary present to his Majesty.

Taking into consideration the King's "great and important occasions" for a speedy supply of money, it was considered that a "free and voluntary present" from those able and willing would be the most ready way of raising it, as a testimony of their affection and in ease of the poorer sort. It was therefore enacted that Commissioners should be appointed under the Great Seal for receiving such subscriptions, and by a further Commission, Collectors or Receivors were appointed whose acquittance was to be a discharge for the sums subscribed. The Commissioners were to meet "with all convenient speed" at the most usual place, and then divide themselves, taking the different Hundreds or such other limits as they thought best. Notice was then to be given of their meeting, "that those desirous of contributing" might come there and make such offers "as their hearts should prompt." No gift from a Commoner was to exceed £200, nor from a

Peer £400. The powers of the Commission were to cease at the Feast of St. John Baptist, 1662, and it was specially provided that the Act was “not to be drawn into example for time to come.”

The return here noticed, now in the Record Office, is in the form of a small stitched book, all carefully and plainly written.¹ On the cover is inscribed :—

“The Commissioners’ booke of the free Presentes to his Matie.”

“Delibatur per manus et super sacrum Jacobi Small 2^{do} die Decembris 1662, cor.

“(Signed) Tho. Leeke.”

Within the cover appear the names of the Commissioners for the Hundreds of Wiliton, Freemannours, and Carhampton:

“Angell Gray	} Esqres.”
“Sir W ^m Windham	...	...
“Peregrine Palmer	...	...
“George Sydenham	...	...
“Francis Lutterill	...	...
“J ^o Mallett	...	...

Then follows the full title :—

“A Booke conteyning the free voluntary offer and Subscriptions of his Matyes good Subjects, in Testimony of their affections to his Majesty. In pursuance of an Act of Parliament Intituled an Act for a free and voluntary present to his Maty, in ye Thirteenth yeare of the Raigne of our Sovereigne Lord Charles the second by the grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland King defender of the Faith, and before us whose names are hereunto subscribed his Majestyes Commissioners authorised to take ye said Subscriptions, by vertue of his Majestyes Commission under the great Seal of England dated the 8th day of August in the sayd thirteenth

¹ Exchequer Q.R. Miscell. Post James I, v.

yeare of the Raigne of our sayd Soueraigne Lord King Charles,
to us and others or any three of us directed.

“WILLITON AND FREEMANNOURS HUNDRED.

“Thomas Coleford of Dulverton in the County of Somersett
doth present to his Matie twenty shillings wch hee doth
promise to bee ready to pay at or before the 25th day of
March next ensuing. xx^s

“(Signed) Tho. Colford.

“S^r Thomas Wroth of Petherton Parke in the County of
Somerset Knight doth present to his Matie the sum of
Twenty pounds wch he doth promise to be redy to pay at
or before the twelveth day of November next ensuing.

“24th Oct. 1661.

“(Signed) Edw. Colthurst for
my M^r S^r Tho. Wroth.

“M^r John Selleck of Ouerstowey in the County of Somst
gent. doth present to his Matie the sume of fower poundes
wch he doth promise to be redy to pay at or before the
last day of November next ensuing.

“24th Oct. 1661.

“(Signed) Jo. Selleck.

“M^r John Farthinge of Monksilver in the County of Somsett
gent. doth present to his Matie the sum of Three pounds
which he doth promise to be ready to pay at or before the
last day of November next ensuinge.

“(Signed) Rich. Musgrave for
the sd M^r Farthinge.

“M^r Richard Musgrave of Nettlecombe in the County of
Somsett gent doth present his Matie the sum of Fower
poundes wch he doth promise to be ready to pay at or
before the last day of November next ensuinge.

“(Signed) Rich^d Musgrave.”

These five names thus appear under their respective signs manual because their payment was prospective, to be made on a given date. The four last are crossed out as their payments were made at the Commissioners' ordinary meeting and are found duly entered in the list. The first name, that of Mr. Thos. Coleford, remains uncrossed and, as will be seen, so far as their return shows, remains unpaid.

Following these five names comes the list of receipts accounted for by the Commissioners, the result of their first sitting held at Stogumber 24th October, 1661:—

“ Robert Beadon, one of the head Constables of the said Hundred doth present to his Matie one pound in hand paid	...	...	...	...	li 01. 00. 00
“ Mr Lewis Datscombe of Brusford doth present to his Matie in hand paid two pounds	...	...	...	...	li 02. 00. 00
“ Hugh Pulsford of the same yeoman doth present to his Matie twenty shillings in hand paid	...	...	...	...	li 01. 00. 00
“ John Towill doth present to his Matie for Cathanger part of Exton Tything six shillings in hand paid	...	...	...	...	li 00. 06. 00
“ Mr John Baker of Withipoole doth present to his Matie the sume of Ten shillings in hand paid	...	...	...	...	li 00. 10. 00
“ John Langdon of Chipstable gent. doth present to his Matie twenty shillings in hand paid	...	...	...	...	li 01. 00. 00
“ Gregory Gardner of Brumpton R ^s doth present to his Matie the sume of three pounds in hand paid	...	...	...	...	li 03. 00. 00
“ Thomas Wescombe of Halse gentl. doth present to his Matie the sume of three pounds in hand paid	...	...	...	...	li 03. 00. 00

- “Walter Sydenham of Elworthy gentl. doth present to his Matie in hand paid the sune of Two poundes ^{li} 02. 00. 00
- “Elizabeth Gardner of Brumpton R^s widow doth present to his Matie twenty shillings in hand paid ^{li} 01. 00. 00
- “Thomas Thorne of Old Cleeve yeoman doth present to his Matie twenty shillings in hand paid ^{li} 01. 00. 00
- “Angell Grey of Netherstowey Esq^{re} doth present to his Matie the sune of Ten pounds in hand paid ^{li} 10. 00. 00
- “Hugh Norris of S^t Decuman’s Esq^{re} doth present to his Matie the sune of foure pounds in hand paid ^{li} 04. 00. 00
- “John Crockford of Old Cleeve gentl. doth present to his Matie Twenty shillings in hand paid ^{li} 01. 00. 00
- “John Sweeting of Thorncombe gentl. doth present to his Matie the sune of two pounds in hand paid ^{li} 02. 00. 00
- “Edward Saffin of Bicknaller gentl. doth present to his Matie one pound and ten shillings ^{li} 01. 10. 00
- “Lewis Sweeting of Stogumber Clothier doth present to his Matie Twenty shillings in hand paid ^{li} 01. 00. 00
- “Giles Strong of Crocumbe yeoman doth present to his Matie the sune of Twenty shillings in hand paid ^{li} 01. 00. 00
- “Nicholas Tresor of Netherham being parte of Exton doth present to his Matie for Netherham aforesaid the sune of one pound eleaven shillings and foure pence in hand paid ... ^{li} 01. 11. 04
- “John Doble of Crocumbe yeoman doth present to his Matie five shillings in hand paid ... ^{li} 00. 05. 00

"EASTER DIVISION.

- " Thomas Webber of Browne yeoman doth present to his Matie the sume of twenty shillings in hand paid ^{li} 01. 00. 00
- " John Write of Dunster mercer in Carhampton Hundred doth present to his Matie the sume of five shillings in hand paid ^{li} 00. 05. 00
- " Thomas Syderfin of Luxborough Esq^r Councillor at Law doth present to his Matie Twenty shillings in hand paid ^{li} 01. 00. 00
- " George Trevelyan of Nettlecombe Esq^{re} doth present to his Matie the sume of Twenty poundes in hand paid ^{li} 20. 00. 00
- " S^r Thomas Wroth of Petherton Parke Knight doth present to his Matie the sume of twenty poundes, wch M^r Edw. Colthurst subscribed to pay for the said S^r Thomas at or before the 12th of November next, and is accordingly paid ^{li} 20. 00. 00
- " S^r William Wyndham of Orchard Knight doth present to his Matie the sume of fifty poundes in hand paid ^{li} 50. 00. 00
- " John Farthing of Monksilver gentl. doth present to his Matie the sume of three poundes which M^r Richard Musgrave subscribed to pay for the said M^r Farthing at or before the last day of November next and is paid accordingly ^{li} 03. 00. 00
- " Richard Musgrave of Nettlecombe gentl. doth present to his Matie the sume of foure poundes wch hee subscribed to pay at or before the last day of November next and is since paid accordingly ^{li} 04. 00. 00

“HALSWAY TYTHING.

“ Thomas Sweeting doth present to his Matie				
Five shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
“ Alexander Amory one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Thomas Doble five shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
“ Thomas Cridland six shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 06. 00
“ Robert Howe one shilling and six pence	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
“ John Withers one shilling one penny halfe				
penny	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 01½
“ Will ^m Risedon two shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
“ Will ^m Binford five shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
“ John Hooke Tythingman sixpence	...	...	...	li 00. 00. 06

“CROCUMBE TYTHING.

“ Henry Apley doth present to his Matie one				
shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Hugh Coles one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Nicholas Durberow two shillings six pence	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Francis Hill one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ John Burston two shillings sixpence	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ John Long one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Thomas Doble one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ W ^m Chappell one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Robert Poole one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Will ^m Poole one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Alice Sulley widow three shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 03. 00
“ Elizabeth Lyddon and John Lyddon two shil-				
lings six pence	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Robert Torre one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ William Whitelocke two shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
“ Richard Dawe one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Emanuell Webb one shilling three pence	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 03
“ Richard Graunt one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ John Dotheridge one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ John Tratt one shilling six pence	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 06

“ Benjamin Parsons one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Arthur Middleton one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Robert Burton one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ W ^m Allen one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Valentine Brewer two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ John Doble sen ^r two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Robert Pyke five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
“ John Graunt one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Thomas Parsons one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Sume total Three pounds ten shillings		—————	
and four pence halfe penny	...	...	li 03. 10. 04 $\frac{1}{2}$

“ CROCUMBE TYTHING.

“ Joane Beadon widow and Richard Beadon doe present to his Matie five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
“ Henry Welshowe one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Edmond Webb one shilling three pence	...	...	ii 00. 01. 03
“ John Allen one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ John Durberowe one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Elizabeth Cole widow one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Richard Puddy one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Alexander Gill one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ John Chaplen two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ John Strong two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Andrew Dibble one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Christopher Weech six pence	...	...	li 00. 00. 06
“ W ^m Slocumbe one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Christopher Hill sen ^r one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Nicholas Apley one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Jeffery Oldman two shillings	...	...	li 00. 02. 00

“ NETTLECOMBE AND WOODAVANT TYTHING.

“ Richard Howe presents to his Matie two shil- lings and six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Edward Thorne two shillings and Sixpence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06

" Hugh Likey five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" John Farthing five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" John Hancock two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Henry Moore five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Thomas Webb two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" George Huish gentl. ten shillings	...	...	li 00. 10. 00
" Rob ^t Dashwood thelder ten shillings	...	...	li 00. 10. 00
" Rob ^t Dashwood the younger five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" George Chilcot two shillings sixpence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Richard Winter two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Francis Goore two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" John Tucker two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Thomas Andrewes six shillings	...	...	li 00. 06. 00
" John Musgrave two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
" Thomas Furze two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Will ^m Howe two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" John Woolcot two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Richard Clarke two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06

" TWO THIRD PARTS OF WILLITON TYTHING.

" Andrew Slocombe doth present to his Matie two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" John Dawe five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Aldred Dawe five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Robert Leigh two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" John Welshman foure shillings	...	...	li 00. 04. 00
" Ely Holcombe one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Richard Chaplin ten shillings	...	...	li 00. 10. 00
" James Fowler five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Robert Woolcot five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" John Fowler thelder five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" James Greene one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" W ^m Moore two shillings	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
" John Likey five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Nicholas Dawe five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00

“Mr George Blinman ten shillings	...	li 00.	10.	00
“Rich ^d Moore five shillings	...	li 00.	05.	00

“PART OF STOGUMBER IN WILLITON TYTHING.

“William Allen doth present to his Matie foure shillings	...	li 00.	04.	00
“Francis Quicke five shillings	...	li 00.	05.	00
“Robert Calway two shillings six pence	...	li 00.	02.	06
“Thomas Ingram one shilling	...	li 00.	01.	00

“WATCHET BURROUGH.

“John Wheddon sen ^r two shillings six pence...	...	li 00.	02.	06
“Attewill Porter two shillings sixpence	...	li 00.	02.	06
“Attowill Lucas two shillings six pence	...	li 00.	02.	06
“M ^{rs} Katherine Clavetowe two shillings six pence	...	li 00.	02.	06
“M ^{rs} Martha Bickham five shillings	...	li 00.	05.	00
“John Wheddon jun ^r two shillings	...	li 00.	02.	00
“Thomas Wheddon two shillings six pence	...	li 00.	02.	06
“John Slocumbe one shilling six pence	...	li 00.	01.	06
“John Holcombe one shilling six pence	...	li 00.	01.	06
“Silvester Laby one shilling	...	li 00.	01.	00
“Robert Hooper two shillings six pence	...	li 00.	02.	06
“Hugh Sulley six pence	...	li 00.	00.	06
“Henry Bridge two shillings six pence	...	li 00.	02.	06
“Hugh Mills one shilling	...	li 00.	01.	00
“Robert Morris one shilling	...	li 00.	01.	00

“TYTHING OF OLD CLEEVE.

“Humphry Hooper doth present to his Matie five shillings	...	li 00.	05.	00
“Robert Shute two shillings	...	li 00.	02.	00
“James Evitt three shillings	...	li 00.	03.	00
“George Ingram one shilling	...	li 00.	01.	00
“Philip Clowter one shilling	...	i 00.	01.	00

" Rich ^d Radnidge one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Ely Bartlet one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Robert Moore two shillings	...	...	li 00.	02.	00
" W ^m Oateway thelder one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" John Mills one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" W ^m Hodge one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" George Taylor two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	02.	06
" W ^m Baker one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" John Prior ten shillings	...	...	li 00.	10.	00
" Francis Edwardes two shillings...	...	...	li 00.	02.	00

"TYTHING OF MONKSILVER AND PRESTON BOYER.

" John Dyer doth present to his Matie five shillings	li 00.	05.	00
" Elizabeth Gore widow five shillings	...	...	li 00.	05.	00
" Mary Bellamy widow five shillings	...	...	li 00.	05.	00
" Agath Poole widow two shillings six pence...	...	...	li 00.	02.	06
" Richard Milton five shillings	...	...	li 00.	05.	00
" W ^m Jenkins five shillings	...	...	li 00.	05.	00
" Richard Burd five shillings	...	...	li 00.	05.	00
" John Engram five shillings	...	...	li 00.	05.	00
" Richard Natcot two shillings	...	...	li 00.	02.	00

"BICKNOLLER TYTHING.

" John Streate doth present to his Matie five shillings	li 00.	05.	00
" Rich ^d Gunning three shillings	...	...	li 00.	03.	00
" Thomas Lewis two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	02.	06
" John Crosse three shillings	...	...	li 00.	03.	00
" John Allen five shillings	...	...	li 00.	05.	00
" Robert Sulley one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00.	01.	06
" Roger Manders five shillings	...	...	li 00.	05.	00
" John Velacot two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	02.	06
" Precilla Burd and } two shillings	...	...	li 00.	02.	00
" Anne Burd						

" Alexander Harcombe one shilling	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Edward Doble one shilling	... ..	li 00.	01.	00
" Joane Parsons one shilling	... ..	li 00.	01.	00

" SAMPFORD BRETT TYTHING.

" Robert Sweeting doth present to his Matie two shillings	... ..	li 00.	02.	00
„ John Strange two shillings	... ..	li 00.	02.	00
" George Dashwood two shillings and six pence	...	li 00.	02.	06
" Robert Markes six pence	... ..	li 00.	00.	06
" Richard Burge three shillings	... ..	li 00.	03.	00

" WEST QUANTOXHED TYTHING.

" Richard Lucas doth present to his Matie six shillings	... ..	li 00.	06.	00
" Michaell Conibeere seaven shillings and six pence	... ..	li 00.	07.	06
" Henry Bird two shillings and six pence	... ..	li 00.	02.	06
" John Withers two shillings	... ..	li 00.	02.	00
" John Slocock five shillings	... ..	li 00.	05.	00

" EAST QUANTOXHED TYTHING.

" Robert Bartlet doth present to his Matie two shillings and six pence	... ..	li 00.	02.	06
" Robert Deake two shillings and six pence	... ..	li 00.	02.	06
" Andrew Baker two shillings and six pence	... ..	li 00.	02.	06
" James Henborow five shillings	... ..	li 00.	05.	00
" Martha Goodenow two shillings	... ..	li 00.	02.	00
" John Gage three shillings	... ..	li 00.	03.	00
" John Mare and } " Sibill Mare } foure shillings	... ..	li 00.	04.	00
" Conant Gage two shillings and six pence	... ..	li 00.	02.	06
" George Sulley three shillings six pence	... ..	li 00.	03.	06
" Symon Slade and the widow Slade one shil- ling and sixpence	... ..	li 00.	01.	06

“LILSTOCK AND HONIBEERE.

“ William Poole doth present to his Matie five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00
“ Edith Poole widow two shillings six pence	... ..	li 00. 02. 06
“ George Bradrip, Tythingman, five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00

“KILVE TYTHING.

“ Thomas Dodington gen. doth present to his Matie five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00
“ George Pollard five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00
“ John Shurt three shillings	... ..	li 00. 03. 00
“ W ^m Shurt five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00
“ John Sealy two shillings six pence	... ..	li 00. 02. 06
“ Michael Gregory three shillings	... ..	li 00. 03. 00
“ W ^m Radibone one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
“ Simon Gransill two shillings and six pence	... ..	li 00. 02. 06

“ELWORTHY TYTHING.

“ Henry Sweeting thelder and	} ten shillings...	li 00. 10. 00
“ Henry Sweeting the younger		
“ Christopher Hawkins five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00
“ Elizabeth Tayler vid. two shillings six pence	... ..	li 00. 02. 06
“ John Truckwell two shillings	... ..	li 00. 02. 00
“ Thomas Webber six pence	... ..	li 00. 00. 06
“ John Upham two shillings six pence	... ..	li 00. 02. 06
“ John Criddle	} ten shillings ...	... .. li 00. 10. 00
“ Henry Criddle		
“ Thomas Criddle		
“ W ^m Engram two shillings six pence	... ..	li 00. 02. 06

“KILTON TYTHING.

“ Joane Goveningham widow five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00
“ Joane Baker and	} foure shillings	... .. li 00. 04. 00
“ Marian Dible		

"BINCOMBE TYTHING.

" Robert Govet presents to his Matie five shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Christopher Reade one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Alexander Kingsland gen. five shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Benjamin Willis one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Mary Rich widow one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00

"NETHERSTOWEY TYTHING.

" Edward Dyer five shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Richard Buller five shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 05. 00

"DODINGTON TYTHING.

" John Buller five shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Thomas Cole two shillings and six pence	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Thomas Seager two shillings six pence	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06

"BROMPTON RALPH TYTHING. Wester Division.

" Thomas Steevens one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Emery Tuckfield two shillings six pence	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Joane Washer one shilling six pence	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" Mary Bryant widow two shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
" John Martyn one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Thomas Martyn } two shillings six pence	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Edw. Martin }	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" David Selleck two shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
" W ^m Brewer one shilling	...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00

"HALSE TYTHING.

" Thomas Comer doth present to his Matie two shillings	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
" George Comer two shillings sixpence	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Ursula Bird widow two shillings six pence	...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06

“CLATWORTHY TYTHING. Wester Division.

“Edward Chichester doth present to his Matie one shilling 	li 00.	01.	00
“Giles Thorne two shillings six pence ...	li 00.	02.	06
“Roger Steevens two shillings six pence ...	li 00.	02.	06
“Thomas Burge two shillings six pence ...	li 00.	02.	06

“PARISH OF UPTON.

“James Hill doth present to his Matie foure shillings 	li 00.	04.	00
“Elizabeth Balch widow two shillings six pence	li 00.	02.	06
“Prudence Barber widow two shillings and six pence 	li 00.	02.	06
“Elizabeth Greenslade widow two shillings six pence 	li 00.	02.	06
“Thomas Cookesley two shillings six pence ...	li 00.	02.	06
“Ellin Baker widow one shilling six pence ...	li 00.	01.	06
“Thomas Ven two shillings 	li 00.	02.	00
“Nicholas Cruse } “John Nicholls } two shillings ...	li 00.	02.	00

“HUSH CHAMFLOWER TYTHING.

“John Dallen presents to his Matie one shilling six pence 	li 00.	01.	06
“Roger Gorton two shillings 	li 00.	02.	00
“Richard Marsh two shillings 	li 00.	02.	00
“John Dawe one shilling six pence ...	li 00.	01.	06
“John Steevens two shillings 	li 00.	02.	00

“SKILGATE TYTHING.

“Hugh Perot presents to his Matie two shil- lings and six pence 	li 00.	02.	06
“Edward Norman two shillings six pence ...	li 00.	02.	06
“Thomas Webber two shillings six pence ...	li 00.	02.	06
“Francis White two shillings six pence ...	li 00.	02.	06

“ Francis Yeadle two shillings six pence	..	li 00. 02. 06
“ Thomas Yeadle two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Rich ^d Harrison two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Nathaniell Goodman one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00

“ WITHYPOOLE PARTE OF EXTON TYTHING.

“ Richard Goole, Tythingman, doth present to his Matie on behalf of Withypoole aforesaid, the sune of thirteene shillings and six pence		li 00. 13. 06
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“ DULVERTON TYTHING.

“ Rich ^d Holcombe doth present to his Matie seaven shillings six pence	li 00. 07. 06
“ Thomas Wilson two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Thomas Evitsen two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Abraham Tudbale two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Mathew Woolcot two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Mary Fisher widow one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Dorothy Towte widowe two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
“ George Whiteyare two shillings and six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ John Chilcot the younger three shillings	...	li 00. 03. 00
“ W ^m Morse two shillings	... ..	li 00. 02. 00
“ John Collard two shilings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Ambrose Hagley two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Rich ^d Bishop one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
“ John Plaite one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
“ John Anstey one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
“ Andrew Frost two shillings	... ..	li 00. 02. 00
“ W ^m Coxton six pence	... ..	li 00. 00. 06
“ Abraham Toute two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Rob ^t Luckis twenty shillings	... ..	li 01. 00. 00

“ CHEPSTABLE TYTHING.

“ Henry Hill two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ M ^{rs} Joane Huish two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06

" Nicholas Norrish one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" Robert Hill one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" John Marsh one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" James Perrot one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" Benjamin Case one shilling	...	.	li 00. 01. 00
" James Surrage one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" John Surrage one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Margaret King widow one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Roger Upham one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" Abraham Tudbole six pence	...	...	li 00. 00. 06

" HAWKRIDGE TYTHING.

" John Davy presents to his Matie two shillings and sixpence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Mary Hindom widow two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Thomasine Joice one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" John Moore one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Michael Coty one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00

" WINSFORD TYTHING.

" Mr. Hugh Crockford five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Will ^m Lyddon two shillings	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
" Rich ^d Hill two shillings	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
" Christian Huse widow two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Thomas Howe one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00

" BRUSHFORD TYTHING.

" Arthur Lyddon one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" Jane Towte widow two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" George Gooding one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Margaret Datscombe one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" James Blackmore one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" John Newbech one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" Andrew Pearse one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00

" TYTHING OF BROMPTON REGIS.

" W ^m Joice five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" John Bryant two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Nicholas Lyddon one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" Thomas Nicolls two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" John Hill two shillings	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
" John Webber	} two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Prudence Webber			
" Thomas Bobier one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" John Hawkens one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" W ^m Blackmore one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" James Martin one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
„ W ^m Wall two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" John Vicars one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" W ^m Sealy three shillings	...	...	li 00. 03. 00
" Katherine Webber one shilling sixpence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" Thomas Langdon two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Andrew Hosgood one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" W ^m Langdon thelder one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Mary Milton widow one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" Robert Howe one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Thomas Lyddon two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Christopher Lyddon one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Christopher Joyce six pence	...	...	li 00. 00. 06

" STOGUMBER TYTHING.

" Thomas Beadon two shillings sixpence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" John Langham two shillings	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
" Hugh Sweeting two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Nicholas Hawkins five shillings...	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Mr Thomas Payne two shillings	...	...	li 00. 02. 00

“CARHAMPTON HUNDRED.

“2^d Sitting att Dunstar 28^o Octob. Anno R^s Car. 2^{di} dei gra.
Angl. etc. xiiij^o, 1662.

“DUNSTAR BURROUGH.

“ Mr John Question of Dunstar doth present to his Matie twenty shillings ... ..	...	li 01. 00. 00
“ Mr Nicholas Blake the sume of twenty shil- lings ... ..	...	li 01. 00. 00
“ Mr Andrew Worth two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
“ Robert Worth one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Rich ^d Bowers five shillings	...	li 00. 05. 00
“ Mr George Mitchell five shillings	...	li 00. 05. 00
“ Thomas Clement one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Arthur Dennis jun ^r one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Alice James widow six pence	...	li 00. 00. 06
“ Hugh Sanders one shilling six pence	...	li 00. 01. 06
“ Thomas Macknes one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ John Clement one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Aldred Millet six pence	...	li 00. 00. 06
“ Rich ^d Cookesly one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Mary Foord widow six pence	...	li 00. 00. 06
“ Eliz. Bartlet one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00

“CARHAMPTON TYTHING.

“ Richard Escot five shillings	...	li 00. 05. 00
“ Eliz. Mills two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ John Skinner one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Mary Poole one shilling six pence	...	li 00. 01. 06
“ William Baker two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ Hugh Escot two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
“ The widow Nurcombe one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Philippa Blundle widow two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
“ John Westerne one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00

" Mrs Mary Crockford five shillings	...	li 00. 05. 00
" John Michell five shillings	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Augustin Question two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Rich ^d Mogeridge two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Joane Grime two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Rosamond Withicombe two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" William Wallis one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" John Cogan three shillings	...	li 00. 03. 00

" WOOTTON COURTNEY TYTHING.

" George Leigh doth present to his Matie two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Michaell Hole two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" Hugh Hole one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" William Woolcot one shilling six pence	...	li 00. 01. 06
" John Whedon one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Thomas Wheddon one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Roger Bryant one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" John Westcot one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Robert Court one shilling six pence	...	li 00. 01. 06
" Christian Batt, widow, one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Anne Churchey, widow, one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Joane Chapman, widow, one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Margaret Kitner, widow, one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00

" CUTCOMBE TYTHING.

" Francis Hawkewell two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Peter White two shillings sixpence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Katherine Thorne two shillings sixpence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Will ^m Thorne one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" John Thorne one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" John Edbrooke one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Joane Cording two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" W ^m Edbrooke one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Lawrence Widlake one shilling...	...	li 00. 01. 00

" Rob ^t Norcombe one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" John Whitfeild six pence	...	...	li 00.	00.	06
" Henry Case one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" John Burnoll one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" John Wyborne one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Thomas Baker two shillings	...	...	li 00.	02.	00

" MINEHEAD TYTHING.

" John Burnard two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	02.	06
" Rob ^t Syderfin two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	02.	06
" John Giles one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" John Bond one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" George Hayman two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	02.	06
" Rob ^t Quicke two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	02.	06
" Thomas Giles one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" James Pearce one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Walter Giles one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" John Quicke two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	02.	06
" Edmond Knolls one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" John Vicary one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00.	01.	06
" Will ^m Trego one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" John Chapple one shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	01.	06
" Christopher Teage one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" William Evan one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" George Hayman the younger one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" John Atwill one shilling	...	(sic)	li 00.	00.	00
" Rob ^t Ugden one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Will ^m Wyatt six pence	...	...	li 00.	00.	06
" W ^m Bickham one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Will ^m Bryant one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Nicholas Bryant one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Adam Baker one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Robert Deake one shilling	...	...	li 00.	01.	00
" Anne Quicke widow two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	02.	06
" Mary Brooke widow two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00.	02.	03

" Alice Dyer widow two shillings six pence ...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Alice Punter widow one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Alice Giles widow one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Alice Quicke widow two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Joane Roach one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00

" STANTON.

" Rich ^d Turnell ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" James Shutt one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Thomas Blackwell one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Ralph Hill one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00

" ALCOMBE.

" Mathew Hooper one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Thomas Blackwell one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" W ^m Leigh one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" John Edmond one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00

" WITHICOMBE TYTHING.

" James Vicary two shillings six pence ...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Richard Hiles one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Arthur Elsworthy one shilling six pence ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
" George Wilcox one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" John Steevens one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Margaret Sulley widow two shillings six pence ...	...	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Hugh Hiles	} two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Richard Slocumbe		...	li 00. 02. 06
" Christopher Hiles one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Will ^m Thorne one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Samuell Mathewes one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00

" BLACKFORD TYTHING.

" John Trull one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Joseph Kent one shilling ...	...	...	li 00. 01. 00

" Henry Clement one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" William Elstone one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Eliz. Blackmore widow one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Joane Coffin widow one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Joane Elston widow one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Joane Bryant widow six pence	...	...	1i 00. 00. 06

" WEST LUCCOMBE TYTHING.

" George Bickham six pence	...	...	1i 00. 00. 06
" Henry Phelps six pence	...	...	1i 00. 00. 06
" Agnes Phelps six pence	...	...	1i 00. 00. 06
" Alice Powell six pence	...	...	1i 00. 00. 06
" John Westron two shillings six pence	...	...	1i 00. 02. 06
" Robert Parramore one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Andrew Arnall one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Michael Ferres one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Lewis Parramore one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Abraham Edbrooke one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Andrew Snowe one shilling six pence	...	...	1i 00. 01. 06
" Michael Hill one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Richard Ridler six pence	...	...	1i 00. 00. 06
" George Phelps one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00

" PORLOCKE TYTHING.

" Robert Phelps five shillings	...	...	1i 00. 05. 00
" Garret Westron two shillings six pence	...	...	1i 00. 02. 06
" John Slowley one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" John Rawle one shilling six pence	...	...	1i 00. 01. 06
" Elias Ridler one shilling six pence	...	...	1i 00. 01. 06
" Andrew Kent one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Christian Mogridge widow one shilling	...	...	1i 00. 01. 00
" Margaret Franke widow six pence	...	...	1i 00. 00. 06
" John Western sen ^r two shillings six pence...	...	...	1i 00. 02. 06
" W ^m Creech six pence	...	...	1i 00. 00. 06

"YARNER TYTHING.

" John Davy two shillings six pence	...	li 00. 02. 06
" Michaell Terrell thelder	} ...	li 00. 02. 00
" Michaell Terrell the younger		
" Michaell Giles one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" W ^m Harton six pence	...	li 00. 00. 06
" John Terrell one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" John Snowe one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" John Bushton one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00

"TYMBERSCOMBE TYTHING.

" John Bryant doth present to his Matie five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00
" Robert Syderfin five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00

"ALMSWORTHY TYTHING.

" John Court five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00
" Richard Court one shilling six pence	... ..	li 00. 01. 06
" Joseph Houndle two shillings	... ..	li 00. 02. 00
" Andrew Crange two shillings	... ..	li 00. 02. 00
" Christopher Crange two shillings and six pence	... ..	li 00. 02. 06
" Anthony Powell one shilling six pence	... ..	li 00. 01. 06
" Roger Sherlocke one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
" W ^m Almsworthy one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
" Walter Almsworthy two shillings	... ..	li 00. 02. 00
" Humphry Delbridge one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
" Elizabeth Gundry one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
" W ^m Gundry one shilling six pence	... ..	li 00. 01. 06
" Elias Cooke two shillings	... ..	li 00. 02. 00
" John Court jun ^r one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
" Ric ^d Crange two shillings	... ..	li 00. 02. 00
" Roger Court two shillings six pence	... ..	li 00. 02. 06
" John Tucker one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00

" W ^m Clatworthy sen ^r } two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" W ^m Clatworthy jun ^r }		
" W ^m Edbrooke one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Valentine Almsworthy two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" John Hawton two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" John Baker five shillings	...	li 00. 05. 00
" Will ^m Baker one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Silvester Williams two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" Joane Shopland one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Joane Sholford one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" George Tayler one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Silvester Gregory two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" Robert Taylour two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" W ^m Hawkwell two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" Richard Gregory two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" Margaret Court widow one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Martin Greenslade one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00
" Charles Ware two shillings	...	li 00. 02. 00
" Andrew Ware one shilling	...	li 00. 01. 00

" BROWNE TYTHING.

" Mr Robert Darch doth present to his Matie five shillings	... ..	li 00. 05. 00
" Henry Burge one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
" Edward Hurford three shillings six pence	... ..	li 00. 03. 06
" John Baker foure shillings	... ..	li 00. 04. 00
" Nicholas Towill two shillings six pence	... ..	li 00. 02. 06
" John Norman two shillings	... ..	li 00. 02. 00
" Richard Thorne two shillings	... ..	li 00. 02. 00
" James Winter foure shillings	... ..	li 00. 04. 00
" Bartholomew Norcombe one shilling	... ..	li 00. 01. 00
" Robert Bryant ten shillings	li 00. 10. 00

" ALLERFORD TYTHING.

" Walter Coffin seaven shillings six pence	...	li 00. 07. 06
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“ Henry Hensly three shillings	li 00. 03. 00
“ Walter Yond two shillings	li 00. 02. 00
“ John Beage one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ George Hensly one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ John Stoate three shillings	...	...	li 00. 03. 00
“ Edward Pyle two shillings	...	...	li 00. 02. 00
“ John Cotes six pence	...	...	li 00. 00. 06
“ John Reade one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Edith Huish three shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 03. 06
“ Nicholas Snowe one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
“ John Eame sen ^r one shilling	...	...	ii 00. 01. 00
“ Rich ^d Marchant one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
“ Alexander Blackford two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06

“ LUXBOROUGH EVERARD TYTHING.

“ Mr William Syderfin doth present to his Matie ten shillings	...	...	li 00. 10. 00
“ Mr Christopher Escot ten shillings	...	...	li 00. 10. 00
“ Mr Thomas Syderfin ten shillings	...	...	li 00. 10. 00
“ W ^m Welsh one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
“ John Chapman one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
“ John Hayse one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
“ Edward Bryant five shillings	...	...	li 00. 05. 00
“ Thomas Hurford one shilling six pence	...	...	li 00. 01. 06
“ Joane Hayse widow, one shilling	...	...	li 00. 01. 00
“ Elioner Joice two shillings six pence	...	...	li 00. 02. 06

“ The sume totall of the free Present Money to his Matie within the Hundreds of Williton and Freemannours and Carhampton amounts to Two hundred and three poundes nineteene shillings and eleaven pence halfe penny ... li 203. 19. 11^{ob}.

[This addition was found to be in error and the amount is altered to] ... li 204. 15. 11^{ob}.

Whch is all paid to the Receiver, and there only

remaynes vnpaid Twenty shillings wch Mr
Thomas Coleford of Dulverton subscribed to
pay the 25th of March last past.

“This Booke conteynes all the Subscripcions and free
Present money to his Matie within the two Hundreds of
Williton and Free Mannours, and Carhampton, taken since
the 24th day of October last past before us whose names are
herevnto subscribed. In witnes whereof wee have herevnto
sett our handes the fourteenth day of July in the fourteenth
yeare of his Maties Raigne. Anno dⁿⁱ 1662.

“Will. Wyndham,

“Jo. Malet,

“George Sydenham.

“Summa total hujus libri 204. 15. 11½”

Whether these gifts were made freely, or with “grugge
and malevolence” as of old time, or whether any pressure
was brought to bear to produce them, there can now be no
evidence to show. It may be assumed that there were dif-
ferences of opinion, but perhaps as a whole the contributions
were readily and voluntarily paid. To realise more exactly
the value of the amounts they must be multiplied by, say ten,
to equalise them with our money.

There is one point which may be noticed, viz., that the
Hundreds are made up of Tythings, but that these tythings
are simply our parishes, the same parishes now that they were
in King Alfred’s time. When Alfred cut up or sheared the
petty kingdoms, each off-cut or shere was put under a shere-
reve. The shere was then divided into Hundreds, these being,
as we see here, an aggregate of parishes, from which a hundred
men were to be ready to serve the King. The origin of the
name and the intention of the Hundred are thus clear. The
Hundreds were not formed or built up from subdivisions, but
were formed from, and their boundaries determined by, the
lands of the Thaness,—the Theingah,—Teothing,—by chance

included within them. Each such Teothing had its Tything man or Constable who acted under the Constable of the Hundred. There is no implication that these Tythings were tenths of the Hundred, or that they each found ten men for the King's service. Had this been so there should be always ten of them in every Hundred, which is certainly not the case. The idea that the Hundred was based on the multiple ten seems to have arisen with the Norman scribes, who finding in use the word Hundred translated it readily enough into Latin, and then, not understanding, concluded that a tything must be its tenth and Latinized it so accordingly.

The lists of names in these or other early returns are found to have an increasing and widening interest. Manorial history has in most counties been attacked, but the social history of the population in its various ranks as it is to be gathered from our Records, still remains almost untouched. The document here given has a further especial interest as it appears to be the only one remaining, and consequently without it this little episode in our local history would never have been known. The whole county of course subscribed, but from other Hundreds perhaps only a memorandum of the total received was sent up. In any case all the other returns seem to have disappeared.
