

# Crutched, Crouched, or Crossed Friars.

## FRIARY OF BARHAM, *in* CAMBRIDGE-SHIRE.

"At Barham, in the parish of Linton," say the Messrs. Lysons, "was a Priory of Crutched Friars as early as the year 1292. It was a Cell to the Monastery of Welnetham in Suffolk. The Site of this Priory was granted by King Henry VIII. to Philip Paris, Esq. and afterwards to John Millicent, Esq. who was before possessed of the manor of Barham, purchased of the Loktons: this manor had been in the family of Furneaux, from nearly the time of the Conquest, till about the year 1396. The Millicents possessed this estate for several generations; Robert Millicent, Esq. the last of the family, died in 1740: the manor and priory were purchased of his representatives, by the Rev. Christopher Lonsdale, who became the second husband of his widow. Mrs. Lonsdale died in 1807, at the advanced age of 93; having bequeathed her estates at Barham to the master and fellows of Pembroke-Hall. Barham-Hall, late the seat of Mrs. Lonsdale, appears to have been formed out of the Conventual Buildings, soon after the Reformation; the hall, chapel, and cloisters remain, but have undergone considerable alterations; under Mrs. Lonsdale's Will, it was appropriated, with a few acres of land annexed to it, as a country-seat for the Master of Pembroke-Hall for the time being."<sup>a</sup>

Cole, in his Manuscripts in the British Museum, says it was founded not later than 1282:<sup>b</sup> and considers the founder to have been one of the Family of Furneaux.<sup>c</sup> In 1321, King Edward the Second granted licence to John de Furneaux that he might give to the Prior and Convent of this House fifty-two acres of land and meadow at Barham, held of John de Bretagne Earl of Richmond, by the service of one Knight's fee.<sup>d</sup>

Cole has preserved the Names of three Priors of this House, viz. PHILIP UPTON; ALEXANDER BYSSE; and JOHN BYBE, or BYDE, 1532.

Mr. Cole possessed the matrix of the SEAL of this House. It was of brass, small, and oval, and bore the figure of St. Margaret, a book in her left hand, and a spear with a cross upon the top in her right, holding a dragon upon which she stood: one of the brethren of the Cross kneeling before her, a cross patée over his head. The whole circumscribed, s' PRIORIS SCE CRUCIS DE BERHAVM.

## COLCHESTER, *in* ESSEX.

STEVENS, in his Continuation of the Monasticon, gives the following Account of this House from Newcourt's Reperitorium.

"Without the walls of this Town, towards the South-east, stood this House of the Crouched or Crossed Friars, wherein were placed Brethren of the Holy Cross, Weever says he cannot find, neither can I find when. However, Matthew of Westminster tells us, that, in the year 1244, this Holy Order came first into England, and it is said that their first Cloister was here at Colchester, so that we may from thence conclude that this House was first founded in or soon after the year 1244.

"In the London Registry this House is recorded by the name of the Hospital or Chapel of the Crossed or Crouched Friars, *Hospitale sive Capella Fratrum Cruciferorum*, and in the year 1332 it was in the gift of Sir Robert de Rochford, and in 1334 he presented to it under the name of an Hospital; but afterwards, in 1438, I find it in the gift or patronage of the Keepers of the Fraternity of the

Guild of St. Helen in the said Chapel, and the Brethren of the same Guild.

"This House was valued at the Suppression at 7*l.* 7*s.* 8*d.* per annum, after which it was granted to Thomas Lord Audley by King Henry the VIIIth in the 34th year of his reign,<sup>e</sup> and he, by his last Will and Testament, gave this Priory of the Crossed Friars to his brother Thomas, during his life, and after his decease to his second son Thomas; to which Thomas, the brother of the said Lord, there was a Pardon granted in 36 Hen. VIII., for that he, by reason of the last Will and Testament of his brother, Thomas Lord Audley, had entered into and taken possession of the Site of the Hospital of the Holy Cross in Colchester without the King's licence. After this, I find that one William Watson, in the 15th Eliz., died seized of the Site and Precinct of the whole capital message called *Le Crossed Friars*, upon which his son John Watson had livery thereof, and obtained licence of the Queen, the same year, to alienate the premises to William and Robert Woodward, and to their heirs."<sup>f</sup>

Morant in his History of Colchester, p. 149, ascribes this foundation to William de Lanvallei, lord of the manor of Stanway. In an Inquisition "ad quod damnum," he adds, of the 16th Rich. II., he finds the Advowson of the Hospital of the Holy Cross in Colchester represented as attached to the manor of Stanway. The lords of Stanway manor, with some interruption, appear to have continued the patrons of the Convent as low as the time of Henry the Eighth.

Morant thinks that in 1407 (when the Chapel and Hospital here received a great accession of strength and riches, by becoming the seat of the Guild of St. Helen,) the Crouched Friars were turned out of the House till about the beginning of King Henry the Seventh's reign, when one Roger Church, an active man, brought them in again; and producing some Papal bulls and other evidences, whereby it appeared that this House was originally founded for Friars of that Order, they were re-instated therein through the interest of John Earl of Oxford and James Hubert the King's attorney, who were their friends.

The following are the Names of the few Priors of this House which Morant could recover: JOHN DE WISTON; RICHARD DE BOTYNGHAM; JOHN STEVYN; JOHN QUENE; THOMAS TURNOUR, master of the Hospital; ROGER CHURCHE, prior; JOHN OF COLCHESTER; JOHN DOWALT; JOHN DRYVER; RICHARD DERYKS was the last Prior.

This House and Church of the Crutched Friars stood in the suburbs of Colchester, on the south-west of the Town, and on the south side of the London road. The Church and Chapel had been long pulled down. The House was converted into a seat of the Stephenses, and afterwards of Sir Harbottle Grimston. It was much damaged during the Siege of Colchester, and never became afterwards fit for a gentleman's residence. About the beginning of the eighteenth Century it was hired by the Workhouse Corporation, and converted into a general Workhouse for the whole Town. But when they removed into another in St. James's parish, this was let into tenements to the poorer sort of people, which bringing little or no profit to Mr. Daniell, the owner, he caused it to be taken down.<sup>g</sup>

## WOTTON UNDER EDGE, GLOUCESTER-SHIRE.

LICENCE was granted, 23d Edw. III., to . . . . . to

<sup>e</sup> 24th April, 1542.

<sup>f</sup> See Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 166. The subsequent possessors to 1763 may be seen in Morant's Hist. of Colchester, p. 151.

<sup>g</sup> Compare Morant, Hist. Colch. p. 151.

<sup>a</sup> Mag. Brit. vol. ii. p. 230.

<sup>b</sup> MS. Cole, Mus. Brit. vol. xlvi. p. 401.

<sup>c</sup> Ibid. vol. xlvii. p. 294.

<sup>d</sup> Esch. 15 Edw. II. n. 63.