

found here, and endow with lands to the yearly value of 10*l.*, a House of Crossed or Crouched Friars.^a

CROSSED, or CRUTCHED FRIARS, LONDON.

THIS House of Friars of the Holy Cross was founded in the parish of St. Olave, Hart-street, near Tower-hill, about the year 1298, by Ralph Hosier and William Sabernes, who both, afterwards, became friars of St. Cross. The House was built upon the site of certain tenements purchased of the Prior of the Holy Trinity. Adam de Bures gave to this House, 5th Edw. III., a messuage and twenty-eight acres of land, and one of meadow in Aketon; and a messuage and sixty acres of land in Walingfield, in the county of Suffolk. There was a licence also granted, 23d Edw. III., to the Prior of the Holy Cross to take lands in Oxford: and the Prior had another grant for a tenement in Seething-lane. In the beginning of King Henry the Eighth's reign the Common Council of the City gave a portion of waste ground for the enlargement of the Friary Church; and they appear to have been again applied to for assistance in the 12th Hen. VIIIth.^b

ADAM was the name of the first Prior of this House.^c Another Prior was reported by the Visitors of Religious Houses to Lord Cromwell as a man of an inoffensive life.^d EDMUND STRETHAM subscribed to the King's Supremacy, 17th April, 1534.

In the 26th Hen. VIIIth this Friary was valued at 52*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* per annum. It was surrendered 13th November, 1539. The Site was granted to Sir Thomas Wyat in the 32d Hen. VIIIth.^e

The Continuator of Stow, A. D. 1755, says, "The very ruins of this religious House are not now to be seen, and nothing of it remaining, only it gives name to the street, being more commonly called Crutched Friars than Hart-street. But in the place now stands the Navy Office, and within the compass of it many other fine buildings."

Stow enumerates a long list of persons of consequence buried in this Priory. He adds that two Fraternities of Dutchmen, which nation seemed chiefly to inhabit hereabouts, were founded in the Church of these Friars. The Friars' Hall was afterwards converted into a manufactory of drinking glasses, which was burnt in an accidental fire Sept. 4th, 1575.^f

In the Augmentation Office are the Surrender and an Impression of the COMMON SEAL.

BRACKLEY, in NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

LELAND, in his Itinerary, vol. viii. p. 101, mentioning what Master Paynell told him of the ancient state of Brackley, says, "And that ther was of late a Place of Crossyd Friars, and that one Nevill a great gentleman there was buried." In the margin Leland has added "*Hospitalarii*:" whence Tanner supposes that this Foundation was the same with St. Leonard's Hospital in that Town already noticed.

CROUCHED FRIARS, in OXFORD.

THE following Account of the House of Crouched Friars in Oxford is given by Stevens in his Continuation of Dugdale, partly from the printed work of Anthony à Wood, and partly from his Manuscript Collections.

"These religious men lived some years at Oxford, in or near a tenement formerly called Broadgates, which they seem to have had of Richard Cary, citizen, and several times mayor of Oxford, being in Grand-pont street, and in St. Michael's parish, near the South-gate. In the year 1348, they began to build themselves an house and chapel, near the church of St. Peter in the East, towards the which it appears that John Fitz Walter, of Mylton, perfumer of

Oxford, contributed 40 bushels of wheat, in the year 1349. But the fryers erecting those buildings without having first procured licence of the diocesan, nor of the warden and scholars of Merton College, who had the patronage of the aforesaid church of St. Peter, they were pestered with law-suits from both parties, as appears by ancient manuscripts. At length, having submitted to the conditions proposed by those of Merton Colledge, they finished their work, building an house and chapel, convenient enough to entertain all the brethren of that order that should happen to resort to Oxford to acquire learning. But it does not appear to what year that society continued at Oxford; but it is well known that they received the legacies of citizens of Oxford very long after, as their last wills and testaments do testify.^g

"This from the printed history; here follows what the same author has left, concerning these friars in MS.

"Concerning the exact time of their first coming to Oxon, we have not as yet seen upon record; but that they inhabited here in the reigns of Edward the Second and Edward the Third, we have sufficient proof from a certain indenture (e Chyrographis Oliveri Smith, de Oxon, gent.) dated the first year of Richard the Second, wherein Thomas Fournays clerk, and Robert Boteler, of Oxon, demise to William Witteney and John Grom, a tenement in Grand-pont, lying on the north side of another belonging to Saint Frideswyde's Priory, in which tenement as it is there said, the brethren of the holy cross were wont formerly to inhabit. Thus the said indenture; but where this place was situated, whether on the east or west side of that street, or whether it was an house of their own hiring, I as yet doubt of, though I am not ignorant that one Richard Cary (of whom I have spoken in St. Martin's Church) did a little before his death, which was in the year 1549, either give them lands in St. Peter's parish in the East, or at least monies to purchase them; for upon the said gift, relinquishing their habitation in Grandpont, and gaining a licence from Frier Libertus, the general of their order, dated in the cloyster of Hoy, 1349, to obtain lands, houses, and tenements, for the receiving and converting young people, according to their statutes, did include a piece of ground by St. Peter's Church in the East, to build an house and chapel thereon, accounting the said Cary to be their founder, but with these considerations and compositions drawn between them and Merton Colledge: that is to say, that for the said plot of ground, they should pay a mark per annum, for tithes to the parish church of St. Peter's, which belonged to the said colledge, and that one of their brethren should pray daily in their oratory then going forward for the founder, warden, and scholars of Merton Colledge; that they should give 20*s.* yearly pension for the said ground; that they should not celebrate divine service in their oratory or chapel, with a loud voice, when the parishioners were at high mass in the parish church, excepting on the two feast days of St. Cross; that they should not hear confessions, or bury any of the parishioners or any inhabiting in the parish, in their chapel, without leave from the vicar of the parish church, or the warden of Merton Colledge, or at least if the party deceased had willed his body to be there buryed; that they should act nothing to the prejudice of the mother church, in receiving or inticing by whatsoever compacts, obligations, or legacies, from any of the parishioners on their death-beds, upon penalty of refunding threefold to the vicar, with other considerations, which upon good security given by them for performance thereof, they proceeded in their building, which contained in length, on the south side, 59 feet, and at the east end 30 feet. But, before their foundation was levelled with the ground, they received a prohibition, having no licence for their proceeding from the Bishop of Lincoln, and also, upon the knowledge thereof from Richard Medmenham, employed as a proctor in behalf of Merton College, who was a fellow of the same, to desist in their work; and then the next year following, they removed the said foundation to another place not far from thence,

^a See Tann. Notit. Monast. *Glouc.* xxxv. from Atkyns's Gloucestersh. p. 852, ex Rot. pat. 23 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 23.

^b See Stow's Survey of London, edit. 1755, vol. i. pp. 406, 407.

^c Ibid.

^d See the Letter.

^e Tanner, Notit. Monast. *Middlesex*, viii. 54.

^f Tanner gives the following References to Records concerning this House: "*Vide* In plac. apud turrin London. 14 Edw. II. rot. 50 et 51. litem de situ hujus Prioratus cum Abbatissa de Barking. Pat.

4 Edw. III. p. 2, m. . Pat. 5 Edw. III. p. 2, m. 1. pro mess. et ten. in Aketon et Walingfield Suff. concess. per Andream de Bures, et p. 3, m. 9 vel 10. Pat. 7 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 13 vel 14. Pat. 10 Edw. III. p. 1, m. . Pat. 16 Edw. III. p. 2, m. 22 vel 23. Pat. 17 Edw. III. p. 2, m. 30 vel 31. Pat. 23 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 11. licent. perquirendi terras in Oxon. Pat. 29 Edw. III. p. 2, m. 27. Pat. 41 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 29. Pat. 26 Hen. VI. p. 2, m. 19. de terris in Donington, Newbury, et Est Henred."

^g Wood, Hist. and Ant. Oxon. p. 17.