

HITCHIN, in HERTFORDSHIRE.

TANNER says, at the end of this Town was a House of Friars Carmelites dedicated to the blessed Virgin, founded by King Edward the Second about A. D. 1316. Sir Henry Chauncy, and Stevens after him, make John Blomvill, Adam Rouse, and John Cobham founders of this Priory, which they are said to have dedicated to our alone Saviour and the blessed Virgin, King Edward the Second only confirming the grant. Speed and Tanner, however, consider them as benefactors only, and the circumstance of the coats of arms of Edward the Second and Edward the Third exhibited upon the Seal of this House corroborate the royal foundation. Stevens says, the Friars held this House until the 9th May, 21st Hen. VIII., when they surrendered it into the King's hands, being then valued at *4l. 9s. 4d. per annum*. The Site was granted, 22d July, 38th Hen. VIII., to Edward Watson and Henden in fee. Its subsequent descent to Emelius Henry Delmè, Esq., who afterwards assumed the name of Radcliffe, will be found, with a wood-cut of the Convent Seal, in the *Archæologia* of the Society of Antiquaries, vol. xviii. p. 447. JOHN BUTCHER, prior here, subscribed to Henry the Eighth's supremacy, May 8th, 1534.^a

AYLESFORD, in KENT.

CLOSE to the Medway, at a small distance westward from the village, stood the Carmelite Friary of Aylesford, founded A. D. 1240, 25 Hen. III., by Richard Lord Grey of Codnor.^b It is said to have been the first foundation of the Order in England. Three acres of land were given to the Friars here to enlarge their mansion in the 11th Edw. II by Richard Lord Grey of Codnor, great-grandson of the founder:^c and 17th Ric. II the King granted to them a spring of water at a place called Haly-garden, in the adjoining parish of Burham, for the purpose of making an aqueduct for the use of their House.^d King Henry the Eighth, by indenture dated Nov. 20th, in the 33d year of his reign, granted in exchange to Sir Thomas Wyatt, among other premises, the Site of this House, its precinct, and the lands belonging to it, by the service of the tenth part of a knight's fee, at the yearly rent of *10s. 3d.* In the reign of Queen Mary it was forfeited by his son, and remained in the Crown till Queen Elizabeth granted it to John Sedley. It is now in the possession of the Earl of Aylesford, in whose mansion and its offices many portions of the Friary buildings are still visible.^e

The Deed of Exchange above mentioned is in the Augmentation Office.

LOSENHAM, in the Parish of NEWENDEN, in KENT.

THIS House was founded in the 26th of Henry the Third by Sir Thomas Alcher or Fitz-Aucher, under the patronage of whose family, their residence being close adjoining, it continued till the Dissolution. The Site appears to have remained in the Crown till 5th and 6th *Phil. et Mar.*, when it was granted to Edmund and Henry Gilberd. It afterwards passed into the family of Colepeper. Among the Harleian Manuscripts is a Book formerly belonging to the Augmentation Office, in which is an Entry of the Sale of the Site of this Priory, July 15th, 1558, to Richard Lake.^f

There is an Inventory of the Goods of this House, *temp.* Hen. VIII., in the Chapter-House, Westminster.

SANDWICH, in KENT.

HENRY COWFIELD, an Almain, in 1272, in the last year of King Henry the Third, was the founder of the Carmelites of Sandwich: but his endowment of their House was so small, that Raynold, or more properly William Lord

Clinton, who was a much larger benefactor to it in the 20th Edw. I., was afterwards reputed its sole founder. Thomas Craythorne, Esq., Sir John Peniel, knt., and William Eve, gent., were also benefactors. Hasted states that this House had the privilege of sanctuary. In the 33d Hen. VIIIth, the Site and possessions of this Friary were granted to Thomas Arden of Faversham, gent., to hold of the King *in capite*. Hasted has given the modern descent of this property to his time.^g

This Friary was situated on the South-west side of the Town of Sandwich, between the rampart of the Town and New-street. From the foundations which were remaining level with the ground in Hasted's time, the buildings must have been of considerable extent. The House, gardens, and meadows occupied an extent of five acres. The estate still pays an annual fee-farm rent to the Crown of *5s. 6d.*^h

The SEAL is engraved in Boys's Sandwich, p. 174.

BOSTON, in LINCOLNSHIRE.

LELAND, in his Itinerary, speaking of this Town, says, "On the West syde of Lindis is one long Strete, and on the same side is the White Friars."ⁱ Speed informs us that this House was founded by a Knight of the name of Orreby, about A. D. 1300. Tanner refers to the following Records relating to it: "Pat. 33 Edw. I. p. 2, m. . Pat. 2 Edw. II. p. 2, m. 15. pro manso elargando. Pat. 9 Edw. II. p. 1, m. 14. pro eodem; et p. 2, m. 25. Pat. 24 Edw. III. p. 1, m. . Pat. 2 Hen. IV. p. 1, m. 30 vel 31." The Site was granted in the 37th Hen. VIIIth to the Mayor and Burgesses of the Town.

WHITE FRIARS, at LINCOLN.

LELAND, in his Itinerary, vol. i. pp. 32, 33, has one or two sentences relating to the White Friars at Lincoln. Their House, it appears, was situated on the West side of the High-street, in the lower part of the Town called Wikerford. "Gualterus," he says, "as I hard, caullid Dorotheus, Dene of Lincoln, a Scottish man," was "first Founder of the White Friars in Lincoln."^k Speed says this House was founded by Odo de Kilkenny, a Scot, A. D. 1269. The Site was granted in the 36th Hen. VIIIth to John Broxholm.^l The Particular for it is in the Augmentation Office.

STAMFORD, or STANFORD, in LINCOLNSHIRE.

STEVENS, in his Continuation of Dugdale, vol. ii. p. 184, has given the following Account of the Friary here, from the Manuscript Collections of the Rev. Mr. Forster, then late rector of St. Clements Danes.

"On the East, without Stamford, and just at the East end of the Convent of the Franciscans, was situated a large House of Carmelites or White Friars, dedicated to the blessed Virgin Mary. It was founded by the Black Prince's consort, who was also interred there. It seems to have been a large and noble structure. The Gate of the outward Wall leading to it is still standing, having three Niches, where three statues seem to have stood, and over them three coats of Arms; that in the middle was the Arms of England and France quartered; but the two others on the sides of it are so defaced that we cannot guess what they were. This Convent was confirmed by King Edward the Third, who lodged in it, and in all probability held a great council in this place, when he was at Stanford,^m and here gave confirmation to the Priory of Newstede on the 25th of June. Willis says no more of this House, than that it was surrendered by the Prior the 8th of Octob. 30th Hen. VIIIth."ⁿ

Tanner conjectures, with apparent certainty, that this House was founded, not in Edward the Third's time, but in that of Edward the First.^o

^k He adds, "There lay in a Chapelle at the White Freres a rich marchant callid Ranulphus de Kyme, whos Image was thens taken and set at the South ende of the new Castelle of the Conducte of water in Wikerford. There is another new Castelle of Conduct Head *trans Lindim flu.*: and booth these be servid by Pipes derivid from one of the Houses of Freres that were in the upper part of Lincoln."

^l Tann. Notit. Monast. *Linc.* xlix. 15.

^m Brady, vol. ii. p. 216.

ⁿ He refers, relating to this Friary, to Pat. 13 Edw. I. m. . Pat. 11 Edw. II. p. 1, m. 8 et 14. Pat. 7 Edw. III. p. 2, m. 27. Pat. 30 Edw. III. p. 2, m. .

^a Tanner refers to "Rot. pat. 10 Edw. II. p. 2, m. 8. de uno mess. concess. per Regem pro inhabitatione fratrum facienda. Rec. in Scacc. 18 Ric. II. Pasch. rot. 3. Ibid. 19 Ric. II. Mich. rot. 6. de exit. terr. in Hitchin."

^b See Tann. Notit. Monast. *Kent*, ii. from Weever and Speed.

^c Pat. 11 Edw. II. p. 2, m. 16. ^d Pat. 17 Ric. II. p. 2, m. 36.

^e Tanner, ut supr. Hasted, Hist. of Kent, vol. ii. pp. 169, 170.

^f Compare Tanner, Notit. Monast. *Kent*, xxxvi. Hasted, Hist. of Kent, vol. iii. p. 78.

^g Hist. of Kent, vol. iv. pp. 267, 268.

^h Ibid. p. 268, Note.

ⁱ Lel. Itin. vol. vii. p. 39.