

## HUNTINGDON.

TANNER says, "At the north end of this town was a House of Friars Augustines, founded before the 19th Edw. I.,<sup>a</sup> which being suppressed, was, 32 Hen. VIII., granted to Thomas Ardern."<sup>b</sup>

## CANTERBURY.

THE following is the Account of the Friery of the Augustines at Canterbury given by Stevens in his Continuation of Dugdale, vol. ii. p. 226.

"That these Friars came first into England from Italy, about the year 1252, has been taken notice of before. They settled at Canterbury about the year 1325; for that year the then archbishop of Canterbury sent and directed to his then commissary his mandatory letters concerning them which here follow :

*"The Archbishop's Mandate concerning the Augustin Friars:*

"Walter, by divine permission, &c. to our beloved son the commissary of Canterbury, greeting, grace, and benediction. Notwithstanding both the civil and canon laws in general prohibit any to presume to build an oratory without the authority of the bishop, and that the see apostolick has, especially and expressly, by many privileges, granted that no one shall attempt to build a church, chapel, or oratory within the jurisdiction of the church of Canterbury, without the authority of the archbishop of Canterbury and the chapter. Nevertheless the Friars Eremites of St. Augustine have, this Sunday, on the festival of the nativity of the blessed Virgin Mary, erected a new church or oratory, in a certain house in the city of Canterbury, on the ground of the church of Canterbury, without license from us and our chapter; and ringing a bell, have presumed, as is affirmed, to celebrate solemn mass, and rashly to receive the oblations due to the parish-church. Wherefore we strictly enjoin and command you, that you make diligent inquisition, upon full information of this matter by credible persons; and in case, by the said inquisition, you find what has been suggested to be really true, that then, in our name, and by our authority, you interdict the place in which the said friars did presume to celebrate, and do still, as is said, celebrate divine service; at the same time summoning, by name, those friars whom, by the said inquisition, you shall convict of having said mass in the aforesaid place, and those friars that reside there, if there be any, to appear before us on a legal day, to be by you appointed, wheresoever we shall then be, in the city, diocese, or province of Canterbury; to answer to us for the injury and contempt by them offered to us and our church of Canterbury, and farther to do and receive what shall be agreeable to canonical institutions. And you shall, by your letters patent, containing the series of these presents, certify to us the said day and place, and the day on which you shall receive these presents, and what you have done in relation to the premises. Given at Tenham, the 18th of the kalends of October, in the year of our Lord 1325."

"These friars had purchased and gotten possession of an house or tenement, and appurtenances, in the parish of St. George in Canterbury, of one Thomas of Bonynton, bounded out as follows, viz. by a certain lane, sometime called Lambert's Lane, afterwards Brewer's Lane, that is, between the same lane and another tenement of the said Thomas, towards the north, and a certain place Ealdgaole, and the tenement of Cicily at Gayole, towards the west, and the tenement of Thomas Chich, toward the east, and the tenement of Thomas Clement, and of the hospital of the priests, toward the south. The friars having purchased and gotten possession of this tenement, forthwith built them a church, and therein erected altars, and all of their own authority; so busily bestirring themselves, that both the monks and the parson of St. George's were in danger to be prejudiced in their several interests; the monks to an annuity of 20*d.* per annum, payable to them,

that is, the prior and convent of Christ Church; the parson to the tithes and other rights ecclesiastical, payable to him out of the said tenement. At length, within a year after, or such a matter, the monks and they came to a composition for their annuity, of whom they obtained a remission and release of all arrearages thereof past, so as the friars should see to the due payment of it for the time to come. The parson, also, John of Natyndon by name, after he had, for the timely prevention of his own and his church's prejudice, by the friars' alteration of the state and property of that late house, which, beside first fruits, tithes, and oblations, yielded him, and it, other commodities before the time of the friars; brought his action against them before John Badesley, the chancellor, and Robert de Weston, auditors of causes under the then archbishop, Walter Reynolds, to the end to compel them by course of law, as but right and reason required, to secure him and his church against detriment and deterioration in this behalf. The parson came also to composition with them, in and by the which, the house was quietly yielded and confirmed to the friars, with liberty to make their abode therein, and to get their chapel, oratory, or church and altar already erected upon the place, and also a certain plat of ground laid out for a church-yard, to be dedicated, and 9*s.* to be yearly paid by them, for, and in lieu of all dues to the parson of St. George for the time being, for ever; whereof the one moiety at Midsummer, and the other at Michaelmas; subjecting themselves to the archbishop or any other judge, ordinary or delegate, for compulsion in default of payment. The parson being tied to obey, under pain of excommunication, and the friars under pain of interdict.

"The Friars afterwards enlarged their seat by purchasing of John Chich, of Canterbury, a certain place or court, within the parish of Saint George in Canterbury, lying upon the highway or street at the Cloth-Market, upon part of which they built their outward gate. In the year 1356, they entered into obligation, and did bind themselves and their house, to the prior and convent of Christ Church, of whose fee it seems it was part, to pay them 2*s.* 4*d.* per annum for it. Thus we see how these friars first housed and then settled themselves here.

"A great ornament afterward to this place, and to the whole order, was John Capgrave, in his time; that is, anno 1484, or thereabouts; a famous friar of this house, provincial of the order, and a great writer; the catalogue of whose works may be seen in Pits, who is very full in his commendation, for a man of most excellent parts.

"As for the benefactors to this monastery of note, I read but of two, the one a widow woman, one Amabilia Gobyon, who made choice of these Augustin Friars Church for her place of sepulchre, and gave by her will 10 marks to the repair thereof, in the year 1405. The other one Sir John Fineux, who, in Henry the Seventh's time, became a most liberal benefactor to the place, as appears by the following instrument, translated from the Latin :

*"The Grant of Sir John Fineux to the Augustin Friars:*

"To all the sons of our holy mother the church who shall see or hear these presents, William Mallaham, prior of the convent of the house of the Friars Eremites, of the order of St. Augustin, settled and founded in the city of Canterbury, and the friars of the same house, greeting and true charity in our Lord. Whereas we are in the first place liable in the offices of charity to those from whom we have received benefits, we must not think much of it, but most worthy of us, to refresh those with spiritual bankets who endowed us with temporals; and whereas the Lord John Fineux, knt. and Chief-Justice of the Common Pleas to our Lord King Henry the Seventh, as also the Eighth, a man of singular prudence, of renowned birth, remarkable for justice, full of piety, conspicuous for courtesy, and fruitful in charity, out of his bounty and goodness, has most generously expended the sum of 40*l.* or more in repairing and adorning

tenementis perquisitis infra civit. Winton. in deceptionem domini regis, &c. Pat. 26 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 26. concessionem civitati Winton. per regem de domibus et placeis ibidem perquisitis per fratres August. sine licentia."

<sup>a</sup> Prynne's Papal Usurpations, vol. iii. p. 451. About A. D. 1386, probably, for Joannes Romanus, archbishop of York, granted an indulgence that year to such as should contribute towards the fabric.

<sup>b</sup> Notit. Monast. *Huntingd.* ii. 4. Tanner's references are to "Pat. 30 Edw. I. Pat. 13 Edw. II. m. 16. de ii. mess. et aliis minutis parcellis terræ perquirendis. Pat. 8 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 16, 17, vel 18. Pat. 37 Edw. III. p. 1, m. 37. pro aquæ conductu subterraneo ibidem faciundo. Pat. 46 Edw. III. p. 2, m. 2 vel 3. Claus. 46 Edw. III. dorso. Claus. 7 Hen. IV." See also Repert. Orig. MS. Brit. Mus. tom. iii. p. 214.