

St. Albans and Hertfordshire  
Architectural  
AND  
Archæological Society.

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**Report on the Muniments  
of the Gape Family,**

Now Deposited at the Hertfordshire County Museum,

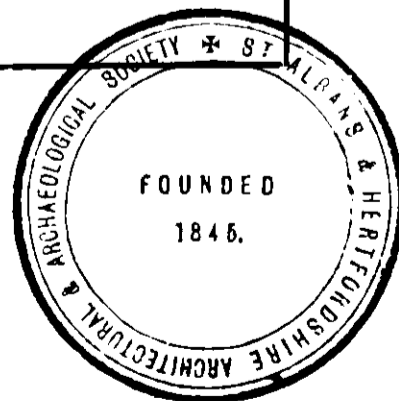
By J. VACY LYLE.

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St. Albans:

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## Report on the Muniments of the Gape Family.

THE first of the family mentioned in the documents under consideration is Henry Gape, of St. Albans, tanner, who died in 1558; but there is an earlier reference to one Richard Gape (who may have been the father or grandfather of the same Henry) in an ancient deed preserved in the Public Record Office:—"grant by Richard Purs, smith, and John Broke, yeoman, to John Carpenter and Alice, his wife, John Taverner, Richard Gape, Thomas Kyngeston, and John Merston, tanner; of 3 cottages under one roof in Sopwell Lane, St. Albans. Dated May . . . Ric. iii." The family of Merston, or Marston, had dealings with the Gapes in the reign of Henry VIII., as appears from certain of the catalogued deeds. We can locate the Gape family, therefore, in St. Albans at least as early as 1483-5; and, during the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, the founders of the family would seem to have acquired considerable property and status in that town. Their successors were no less prosperous, and took an active part in municipal and parliamentary politics. Among the mayors of St. Albans we find Henry Gape (1554), John Gape (1564, 1572, and 1579), Henry Gape (1633), John Gape (1658, 1668, 1679). John Gape was member of Parliament for the borough of St. Albans in 1679, and his son, also named John, sat for the same constituency in 1701, 1702, and again in 1705. With reference to the last election there is an interesting note in the Harley Papers:—"1705, May 10. Mr. Gape has carried it at St. Albans, notwithstanding a great lady\* went thither to oppose him, whose endeavours it is hoped will succeed no better at Woodstock in favour of Brig<sup>r</sup>. Cadogan an Irishman." The original grant of arms to John Gape by Charles the Second is still among the family muniments. The manor of Harpsfield Hall was acquired by John Gape in 1673, and he and his son, known as John Gape the younger, purchased other properties in Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire, and may be said to have reached the high-water mark of prosperity in the fortunes of the family.

We may now proceed to a short summary of the documents described in the annexed catalogue, which has been subdivided as follows:—

### I. MISCELLANEOUS EARLY DOCUMENTS (1-7).

### II. GENERAL SERIES.

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|--------------------|---|
| A. Nos. 1 to 96    | Properties in St. Albans and the neighbourhood. |
| B. Nos. 97 to 132  | Properties in Cambridgeshire.                   |
| C. Nos. 133 to 244 | Properties in Lincolnshire.                     |
| D. No. 245         | Properties in London and Bucks.                 |

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\* Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, it may be inferred.

## I. MISCELLANEOUS EARLY DOCUMENTS (1-7).

No. 1. The first and most important of the MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS is a Lease, dated 1538, from the Abbot of St. Albans to Henry Gape for 81 years, of a meadow next "Prayemead": a meadow called "Mill mead," and a "pightell": a tenement in "Salypaith": a cottage called "Coppydhall" and 2 tenements in "Fishpole St," at an annual rent of 33s. 8d. for the meadows, 6s. 8d. for one tenement, 8s. for the cottage, and 15s. for the other 2 tenements. There are broken specimens of the abbot's seal and the common seal of the abbey attached. The latter represents St. Alban holding his severed head in his hands. (A description of this seal may be found in the Brit. Mus. "Catalogue of Seals.")

No. 2 is a copy (with probate annexed) of Henry Gape's will, giving full details of his property, real and personal. Mention is made of "Dixe in St. Michaels," "Potterscrowche Farm," a messuage called "Croskeys or Peterkeys" near Romeland in St. Albans, tenements and shops in the "Wheat-market," the "Butchery," "Romeland," on "Halliwell Hill" and in "Fishpole Street." Some of the bequests are curious and interesting, *e.g.*

"To the mayor and brethren of St. Albans, for the maintenance of the Corporation, a tenement next the pillory in St. Albans."

"His executors shall bestow yearly during 10 years after his decease in amendment of the highways about St. Albans where need shall require 20s."

"To the abbey of St. Albans, if it fortune to be made an abbey again, a tenement upon Halliwell Hill."

"To the church of St. Michael, where he is a parishioner, to be perpetually prayed for, 2 tenements in Saly Pathe."

"To Alice the little maid, his sister's daughter, that he now keeps, to be paid to her at her marriage, 40s, and his executors to keep the same child, until she be able to go to service."

Of his personal property may be noted "10 dicker of leather, of backs and over-leather," a silver "salt," a "maser," a gown "furred with lamb," and a "satin doublet." He leaves 10 pounds to be distributed to the poor at his burial and "moneth's minde"; 10s to the high altar of St. Michael's for "tithes negligently forgotten, and for repair of the bells 40s."

Among the legatees are his wife Florence, his sons John and Henry, his daughter Alice with her children, Elizabeth Bowyer and Joan Alder; and his granddaughter Florence, child of his son John.

No. 3 is interesting as an example of a writ levied for ship-money on the boroughs and chief towns of Hertfordshire, which were required to provide a ship of 40 tons burthen, with a crew of 120, and all necessary munitions for a period of 20 weeks. The ship was to be ready at Portsmouth within 6 months. The writ is dated from Cambray, 1636 Aug. 12.

No. 4 is a lease from the Mayor etc. of St. Albans to John Gape the younger, of "a piece of ground lying in the street of St. Albans, joining to the north side of his mansion-house, about 10 ft. in breadth along the side of the house, with liberty to enclose the same with posts and rails, yet so as all people may pass and re-pass without hindrance." The term of the lease is for 100 years at a rental of 1d. per annum. The common seal of the corporation is attached, and the document is dated 15 Oct. 1684.

No. 5 is a list of voters at the parliamentary election in 1689-90. Among the names we find Mr. [John] Gape, senr., and Mr. Thomas Gape.

No. 6 is a printed sorg with reference to the Duke of Marlborough's trial, and

No. 7 is Letters Patent of Naturalisation for Martin Gayle, a native of Germany, "de regis stabullo," of the year 1540, with the great seal attached.

*N.B.*—In the same box will be found some papers containing pedigrees of the Gape family, which may be carried back to an earlier date, and amplified, by reference to the catalogue accompanying the foregoing summary.

## II. GENERAL SERIES.

### A. PROPERTIES IN HERTFORDSHIRE.

1. "Dixies" or "Le Dykes," in Westwick, in St. Michael's parish, with "Busshicrofte" and "Tygheleys" were acquired in 1536 by Henry Gape from one Henry Bestney and others (No. 12). This series of deeds dates from Nov. 1493.

2. Certain properties in Fishpoel Street were sold by Richard Done, of Friern Barnet, tanner, to Ralph Gape. The earliest of these deeds is dated 1436. No. 21 shows the marriage of John Gape to Joan Marston in 1621, and No. 22 that of Simon Gape, of Christchurch, London, merchant taylor, to Amy Lownes in 1634. Simon Gape was dead four years later (No. 23), when Anne, widow of Ralph Gape, released her share in the property to Amy Gape, widow.

3. The series of deeds relating to Harpsfield Hall show that the Wolley family obtained it from John Brokett, of Brokett Hall, Hatfield (No. 24) in 1565, and sold the property in 1676 to John Gape (No. 34). No. 36 is the settlement made on the marriage of John Gape, junr., to Susan Cowley in 1679. The Manor of Harpsfield Hall, with other properties, is included in this settlement. Other interesting documents are the grant of reversion by William Gape, of Westminster, in 1733, to John Gape (No. 38); and the partition (No. 39), in 1745, of the estate of William Gape, whose will is dated 1735, between his sons Thomas and Joseph.

4. King Harry's Close etc. were released by John Jenyns in 1668, to John Gape, the elder (No. 56). This series goes back in date to 1617.

5. Popefields Farm was acquired by the same John Gape in 1665 (No. 88) from Thomas Briscoe and Anne his wife; Rohithe Farm in 1671 (No. 90), from the More family, descendants of the famous Sir Thomas More.

6. Pitwicks and the Woolsack. No. 95 deals with the securing of an annuity in 1674 by John Gape, junr., to his father. This property was situate "in Salipath St. between the tent<sup>t</sup> of Sir John Cotton and a malthouse adjoining to the street, near the river that runs from St. Michael's mill to the Abbey mill." Mention is also made of Bell mead.

### B. LAND, ETC., IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

Caxton manor passed from Sir Anthony Cage to Sir Ralph Bovey in 1655 (No. 102). No. 110 recites the history of the various mortgages of the manor. Nos. 114-118 are connected with the sale of Caxton by the trustees of Sir Ralph Bovey's estate (who died very much in

debt) to John Gape, in 1681-3. John Gape "of Caxton" made a settlement on his sons, Thomas and William, in 1729 (No. 125). In 1733 William Gape married Hester Putland (No. 127).

"Parsons" was conveyed to Thomas Gape, of Grays Inn, in 1724 (No. 130).

#### C. LINCOLNSHIRE PROPERTY.

Nos. 133-152 relate to Birchwood in Revesby, which passed to the Gape family in 1732. An interesting document is the release (No. 151) by John Crofts to Joseph Gape in 1786 of a yearly rent of 6s. 8d., issuing out of the site of the late monastery of Revesby. A batch of letters and papers (No. 152) deals with the purchase of Birchwood in 1732, and certain litigation connected with the sale.

Nos. 156-176 deal with the fortunes of Sibsey manor and rectory. In 1590 Sibsey passed from Lord Sheffield, of Butterwick, to William Gannock. In 1663 it became the property of Henry Mellor of Derby. No. 165 recites the settlement made by Sir Thomas Rich on the marriage of his son Sir William to Lady Anne, 2nd daughter of Robert, Earl of Aylesbury, in 1672. Lands to the value of £750 were to be purchased by the trustee, who, empowered by special Act of Parliament, lent £10,000 on mortgage to Henry Mellor. A 5th share in this mortgage was acquired by John Gape in 1682 (No. 166), and subsequently the whole estate passed to John Gape in 1693. Other property in Sibsey was acquired by the Gape family in 1729 and 1732.

Nos. 208-244 are a fine series of early deeds (1586-1612) relating to various small holdings in Sibsey, sold to members of the Gannock family.

#### D. PROPERTY IN LONDON, ETC.

No. 245 is an isolated document, relating to property in St. Martin's Lane, London, and "Suttons" in Iver, co. Bucks, belonging to Thomas Gape and Elizabeth his wife, dated 1710.

*N.B.*—Some of the deeds above-mentioned were preserved in 4 leather boxes of considerable antiquity, which are worth keeping as curiosities, and might be suitably placed in a local museum.

April, 1902.

J. VACY LYLE.

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## Catalogue of Deeds and Documents in Possession of the Gape Family.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

1. 1538, April 10.—Lease by Richard, abbot of the monastery of Seynt Albon in the County of Hertford, and the convent of the same place, to Henry Gape of the same town, tanner, of their meadow lying against Prayemeade next the town of Seyn Albon, on the South part, and against the lane leading from Seynt John's Crosse towards Kingesburie on the North part, whereof of the one head abutteth upon a meadow belonging to Praye, now in the tenure of Mr. Ranshawe on the West part, and the other head abutteth upon the river and the highway on the East part; and a meadow called the Myllmeade and a pightell abutting upon the river of Kingesburie on the North part, and upon the ground of Harry Bestneye, gentleman, on the South part, and the one head abutting upon Prayemeade upon

the West part; and upon the Maltemyll upon the East part, and a tenement with meadow lying in the town of Seynt Albon in a street called Salypaithe between the land of John Baker on the East part and the priory and Convent of Seynt Bartholomew in Westsmythfelde in London on the West part; and a cottage called Cppydhall now lying ruinous and in decay with a croft lying in Salypaithe between the land of the abbot of Seynt Albons, which late held Richard West, gentleman, on the East part and the land of William Byggon on the West part, and it extendeth in length from the King's highway on the South part into the Field of the abbot called Downefelde on the North part; and two tenements in Fishepolestrete, whereof in one of them Robert Longe, wheler, now dwelleth, and in the other Peter the Looder, the first abutting upon the King's highway on the South part and upon Downefelde on the Northpart, and adjoining the tenement of Mr Pavyor of the East part and George Welles on the West part, and the other tenement abutteth on the King's highway on the North part and the prior's pond on the South part, toward the Kechener's Meade and adjoining to the teñt of John Berye, carter, on the East part and the teñt of Robert Clement, carpenter, on the West part; to have and to hold for the term of fourscore years and one from Michaelmas last past for a year by rent of 33s 8d sterling for the two meadows and pightells, 6s 8d for one tenement, and 8s for the other and for the Cottage called Cppydhall 15s, the said Henry Gape to Keep and bear all the reparations except timber necessary with lop and top as often as need shall require, to be taken at the assignment of the cellarer of the monastery out of the woods called Prayewodde and Bacheworth, for the carriage of the said timber workmanship with all other costs and charges the said Henry Gape shall be at his proper costs and charges; and whereas the said Henry Gape and John Atkyns of St Albans, tanners, are bound to the abbot and convent in the sum of £6 13s 4d, if they will truly perform all conditions of the lease, the bond shall be null and void. Given in the Chapter house of the said monastery. 10th April, 29 Hen. viii.

Seal (broken) of the abbot and common seal (broken) of the monastery.

Endorsed "a lease from the abbot and convent of St. Albans to Henry Gape 29th of H. 8. of Horsleye and Millymead and other lands and teñts." Parchment, 1 m.

2.—1558, Aug 28.—Copy of the Will of Henry Gape, of St. Michael's parish, in the town and borough of St. Albans, in the County of Hertford, yeoman, dated 28 August, 1558. His body to be buried in the parish church of St. Michaels. His executors to distribute at his burial and "monethes mynde" £10 by penny dole to poor people. He bequeaths to the high altar of St. Michaels Church for tithes negligently forgotten 10s, for the repair of the bells 40s; to the Church of St. Albans towards repairs 20s; to the Church of St. Peters towards repairs 3s 4d; to the Church of St. Stephens 20d. He bequeaths to Florence his wife all his lands called Dixe, in a shop in the Butcherye in the tenure of John Rogers, a tenement wherein Valentine Tyler hath dwelt, a barn in the tenure of Alice Cartledge, widow, and a tenement in the tenure of John Meade, carpenter.

*Item*, to Henry, his son, a tenement situate against Romeland, in the tenure of Elizabeth Staunton, widow, and three tenements on Hallywell Hill over against John Lockey's, in the tenure of Richard

Lobley, — Godlington, and John Grene's wife, and two tenements in Fyshe Poole Street in the tenure of Elizabeth Threder and Joan Cole, widows.

*Item*, to Alice his daughter, a tenement in Fyshe Poole Street in the tenure of Marie Slenes, widow, and a tenement in the tenure of William Fletcher.

To Elizabeth Bowyer, daughter of the said Alice, a tenement in Fishpool Street in the tenure of Henry Mownsey.

*Item*, to Joan Alder, daughter of the said Alice, a tenement in the tenure of Thomas Chibnoll.

*Item*, to the Mayor and brethren of St. Albons, toward the main-ance of the Corporation of the same, a tenement against the pillory in St. Albans, with a stable, in the tenure of William Gowldson, carpenter.

*Item*, to John Done, son of Randolph Done, a tenement in Fishpool Street, in the tenure of John Sare.

*Item*, in St. Michaels, freehold, with remainder to John Gape, his son and his heirs for ever, with remainder to Henry, his son, with remainder to Alice his daughter; to his son Henry his messuage and in St. Michaels, freehold, with remainder to John Gape, his son and his heirs for ever, with remainder to Henry his son, with remainder to Alice his daughter; to his son Henry his messuage and farm called Potterscrowche, leased to John Wynsoure.

*Item*, to Florence, his wife, £20, ten dicker of lether of backes and over lether, and all his plate, bedding and household stuff; and, after her death, to his son Henry, 12 silver spoons, his best silver salt and a maser, and to his son John 12 other silver spoons, his other silver salt and one of his silver goblets; and, to Alice his daughter, 6 silver spoons, a silver pot and a silver goblet.

*Item*, to John, his son, all his other leather and hides in his yard and vats and bark; to Henry, £50, to be paid within two years after the testator's death.

*Item*, to Hugh Claptyn, his kinsman, 26s 8d.

*Item*, to William Claptyn 26s 8d, when he shall accomplish the age of 18 years.

*Item*, to John Claptyn the same.

*Item*, to Robert Claptyn the same.

*Item*, to Florence, his wife, a messuage called the Croskeys or Peterkeys over against Romeland in St. Albans, now in the tenure of Richard Haulle.

*Item*, to John, his son, a tenement in Wheat Market, in the tenure of John Caynhoo.

*Item*, to John Alder, his son-in-law, his best gown.

*Item*, to John, his son, his gown furred with lamb.

*Item*, to Henry, his son, his gown furred with cony fur.

*Item*, to Randolph Done, his satin doublet.

*Item*, to John Sare, of London, draper, £3 6s 8d.

*Item*, to Alice, the little maid that he now keeps, his sister's daughter, to be paid to her at her marriage 40s.

*Item*, that his executors shall bring up and keep the same child until she be able to go to service.

*Item*, to Florence Gape, the daughter of John Gape his son, a tenement in St. Peter's Street, now in the tenure of William Smyth.

*Item*, he wills that his executors shall bestow yearly, during ten years after his decease, in amendment of the highways where need shall require about St. Albans, 20s.



*Item*, to Vryan Skaldwell, his servant, 40s.

*Item*, to Baptiste Goulde, his sister's son, 40s.

*Item*, to John Graunnett, his brother, £5.

*Item*, to the Abbey of St. Albans, if it fortune to be made an abbey again or a house of prayer, a tenement upon Hallywell Hill, wherein William Draper last lived.

*Item*, two tenements in Salye Pathe in the tenure of Agnes Mime, widow, and John Sutton, to the Church of St. Michael, where he is a parishioner, to be perpetually prayed for, that is to say, he wills that the vicar and churchwardens for the time being shall yearly for ever keep an obit within the said church to pray for his soul and all Christian souls, and to bestow yearly at the same obit in alms and other charges 20s, and with the residue of the rest to keep the said houses in due repair.

*Item*, to John, his son, the money and debt that William Abraham of London, butcher, hath in his hands with interest, in authority of all bargains made by him with me.

*Item*, to every of his servants, Vryan Skaldwell except, 6s 8d over and besides their wages.

The residue of his estates he bequeaths to Henry and John, his sons, whom he makes executors of his will, and he desires Randall Done to be the supervisor of his will, to whom he gives for his pains 20s.

Witnessed:—Mr. James Dugdall, Archdeacon of the liberty of St. Albans, and Jamys Gleadall.

[Annexed] Probate in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, at London, 21 Oct. 1558.

Parchment, 2 m.

#### “SHIP-MONEY.”

3. 1636, Aug 12.—Writ, dated from Cambray, 12 August 12 Charles 1 (1636), to the Sheriff of Hertford and the mayors and burgesses and bailiffs of the boroughs of Hertford, St. Albans, Barkamsted St. Peters, and in the towns of Barkewaye, Ware, Hatfield Bishop, and Stortford, etc., that whereas the seas are infested with Mahometan pirates, who spoil merchandise and carry away ship's crews into captivity, a matter which closely concerns the royal honour and affects all men equally, it is enjoined upon the above named to furnish a ship-of-war of 400 tons burthen, with officers and crew to the number of one hundred and sixty, with cannon small and great and gunpowder (*pulvere tormentario*), and all other necessary armament and victuals by the first day of March next, and to remain at their charge for twenty six weeks in victuals and wages and other necessary expenses, for the defence of the high seas; to be in readiness at Portsmouth by the 1st of March aforesaid. The writ further requires the assessment to be made within forty days, and provides for the appointment of assessors and collectors, and the treatment of malcontents. Parchment, 1 m.

4. 1684, Oct. 15.—Lease from the mayor, aldermen and burgesses of St. Albans to John Gape, the younger, Esq. of a piece of ground lying in the street of St. Albans, which joins to the North side of the mansion house of the said John, extending from the house about ten feet in breadth and along the side of house, with liberty to inclose the same with posts or rails from the residue of the said street, yet so as all people may pass and repass on foot through the same without

hindrance, for the term of a hundred years at the yearly rent of 1*d.*  
Dated 15 Oct. 1684. Common seal of the Corporation of St. Albans.  
Witnesses:—Thomas Richards; Joshua Carpenter. Parchment 1 m.

5. List of voters at the election of burgesses at St. Albans  
19 February [16]89 where stood Sir Samuel Grimston, George  
Churchill, Esq., and Joshua Lomax, Esq.

Among the voters are the names of:—

	Mr. Gape, senr.	}	G. C.	
	Mr. Tho. Gape			
Endorsed	"Sir Sam <sup>l</sup> Grimston	..	..	338
	George Churchill, Esq <sup>re</sup>	..	..	340
	Joshua Lomax, Esq <sup>re</sup>	..	..	254
				<hr/>
	All ye electors are	..	..	492
				<hr/>
	Single voyces	..	..	653"

Paper, 2 fos.

6. [1711].—A printed song, headed with a bar of music, and  
entitled, "An excellent new song call'd The full trial and condemna-  
tion of John Duke of Marlborough." Paper, 1 fo.

7. 1540, April 30.—Letters Patent of Naturalisation granted to  
Martin Gayle, native of Germany. Fees remitted "quia de stabullo  
Regis." Great seal. 1 m.

## GENERAL SERIES.

### A—LANDS IN HERTFORDSHIRE.

#### DIXIES, ETC.

1. 1493, Nov. 4.—Grant by Robert Stodeley and Joan his  
wife, late wife of William Godeman, John Pereson, and John Hole,  
to Robert Willis of St. Albans and Agnes his wife, John Broke,  
William Heyworth, John Wyncock *alias* John Spenser, and William  
Lawlesse, of Le Dykes in Westwick in the parish of St. Michaels,  
with a croft called Busshicrofte in Westwick, which they had  
together with Richard Harryes, Thomas Palmer, Thomas Asser and  
John Taverner, now deceased, of the feoffment of Benedict Edyrch,  
chaplain, and John Ferrer, 11 April 16 Edw. 4. Witnesses:—Giles  
Bunne, Adam Stoneham, Thomas Merston, Nicholas Couper, John  
Cutte, and others. 4 Nov. 9 Henry 7. 5 seals.

2. 1493, Nov. 8.—Grant by Robert Elys of St. Albans and  
Agnes his wife, John Broke, William Heyworth, John Wyncock *alias*  
John Spenser, and William Lawlesse to Robert Stodeley and Joan his  
wife, for their lives, of lands called Le Dykes in Westwick, in St.  
Michael's parish, with a croft called Busshecroft in Westwick, which  
they had of the aforesaid Robert Stodeley and Joan his wife, John  
Pereson and John Hole by grant, dated 4 Nov. 9 Henry 7.  
Witnesses:—Giles Bunne, Adam Stoneham, Thomas Merston,  
Nicholas Couper, John Cutte and others. 8 Nov. 9 Henry 7. 5 seals.

3. 1496, Dec. 12.—Grant by Robert Willis and Agnes his  
wife, and others to Thomas West, Thomas Ferrers, William Drayton,  
Thomas Hethnes, and John Blythe, of Le Dykes and Busshecroft in  
Westwicke. Witnesses:—John Shaune, William Lawson, Adam  
Stoneham, and others. 12 December 12 Henry 7. 5 seals.

4. 1500, Oct. 24.—Grant by William Stepnethe, John Marchall, schoolmaster, Richard Maykyn, and William Fleccher, roper, to Thomas West, merchant of Calais, Richard Godeyere, William Drayton and Thomas Cook of two crofts called Tyghely in the fee of Newbury, near St. Albans, which they had of the feoffment of Thomas Willes, son of John Welles, tanner, Henry Rysburgh, and Thomas Robyn, and a croft in the fee of Newbury, which they had of the feoffment of Robert Marke, of Langley Regis. Witnesses:—Thomas Waren, bailiff, of St. Albans, Thomas Hethenesse, John Whetaker, Edmund Taverner, and John Skygane. 24 Oct. 16 Henry 7.

5. 1531, April 28.—Indenture of sale by Henry Bestney of St. Albans, to William Sharpe of Rugge of lands called Tyghele or Tyffeley, Dykys or Dyggs, *alias* Studley's Dykys, and Busshecroft, late belonging to Thomas West, merchant of the staple of Calais, which the said Henry Bestney purchased of Thomas West. 28 April 23 Henry 8.

6. 1532, April 24.—Confirmation of the above to William Sharpe, Thomas Goodere, John Daldron, William Awdeley and Henry Sharp. 24 April 24 Henry 8.

7. Counterpart of the above.

8. 1532, April 25.—Grant by William Sharpe to Henry Bestneye of the before mentioned lands for three years, at an annual rent of 40s, all wood and underwood reserved. Seal.

9. Counterpart of the above.

10. 1536, Sept. 4.—Grant by Francis Goodere, William Audley, and Henry Sharpe, at the instance of Thomas Sharpe, son and heir of William Sharpe, to Henry Bestney and Thomas Chaddysley, of Tygheley, Le Dykys, and Busshecroft, which they had of the feoffment of Henry Bestney aforesaid. 3 seals.

11. 1536, Sept. 6.—Release by Thomas Sharpe, of Rudge, son and heir of William Sharpe, to Henry Bestney and Thomas Chaddysley of all his right in Tygheley, etc. 6 Sept. 28 Henry 8. Seal.

12. 1536, Oct. 3.—Grant by Henry Bestney and Thomas Chaddysley to Henry Gape, tanner, William Bugge, Stephen Carthage and John Adkyns of Tygheley etc., which they had of Francis Goodere and others, to hold the same for use of Henry Gape, his heirs and assigns for ever. At St. Albans, 3 Oct. 1536.

13. 1536, Sept. 12.—Indenture of sale of the above for the sum of £63 6s 8d.

14. 1701, May 13.—Release by William Marston to John Gape, the elder, of £178 for moneys laid out by him for the building of a certain malt-house and barn situate in a yard belonging to a mesuage of the said John Gape's in Fishpole Street: also a covenant by the said William Marston to surrender land called Hollow Dixes, in St. Michaels, held by him of the demise of John Gape. Paper, 1 fo. Seal.

14A. 1762 and 1812.—Measurement and small plan of Dixes and fields.

PROPERTIES IN FISHPOOL STREET, ETC.

15. 1436, Feb. 6.—Release by William Randoff, citizen and goldsmith of London, to Robert Thorn, Henry Farncombe and Edmund Westbye of St. Albans, of all his right to a tenement situate

in St. Albans, opposite to Romeland, between the tenement of Henry Farncombe, late belonging to John Tyler, on one side, and the tenement of John Mordon, late belonging to William Prince on the other, extending from the king's highway to the land of Thomas London, late the property of John Hycheman, mason, which tenement the above named had of the gift of Joan Andrew, widow, late wife of Henry Andrew, of St. Albans. 6 Feb. 14 Henry VI. Seal broken.

16. 1461, Nov. 16.—Release by William Sabbe, *alias* Martyn, and Felicia his wife, to John Holand senior, draper, and Alice his wife, of all their right in a mesuage and lands in St. Albans in the street called Salipath, situate between the land late of John Mowser and the land belonging to the refectory of the monastery of St. Albans, and extending from the street aforesaid to Downefeld; which mesuage etc. was granted by John Merston, of St. Albans, deceased, to William, Henry, Robert and Thomas his sons, and Alice and Felicia his daughters, by deed of feoffment, dated 30 July 28 Henry VI. Witnesses:—Thomas Beverly, bailiff of St. Albans; John Fuller, draper; John Smith, mercer; Richard Swanley; Thomas Margery and others. St. Albans, 16 Nov. 1 Edward IV. 2 seals.

17. 1523, Oct. 24.—Grant by John Purs and John Merston to John Baker and Elizabeth, his wife, of four cottages and land in St. Albans, situate in the street called Salypath, between the land of the monks "de Prato" and the land late of John Welles, tanner, of which they were enfeoffed together with John Heyward and Nicholas Jeffrey now deceased by William Harding, Edmund Taverner and John Spygaunce by deed, bearing date 13 Nov. 19 Henry VII., and which John Heyward by his will dated 13 March, 1503 bequeathed to Elizabeth his daughter aforesaid, on her coming of age. Dated St. Albans, 24 October, 15 Henry VIII. Two seals.

18. 1537, Jan. 7.—Release by Richard Chapman, husbandman, and Elena, his wife, to Richard Clarke, chandler, of all their right in a tenement with garden, situate in Salypath Street, in St. Albans.

19. 1573, Easter—Final Concord—Property in St. Albans (St. Michael's parish)—W. Napton, John Sare and John Dene and Joan his wife.

20. 1590, 17 April:—Indenture of sale—Tenement and land in Fishepole Street *alias* Sallipath—Richard Done, of Friern Barnet, tanner, to Ralph Gape, tanner, of St. Albans.

21. 1621, March 17—Marriage settlement—Tenement and land in Fishepole Street, *alias* Sallipath—John Gape, of St. Michael's, and Ann Gape his mother, widow of Ralph Gape, to Giles Marston of Hill End and John Elltridge, of St. Albans. (Marriage of John Gape to Joan Marston). 2 seals.

22. 1634, July 10—Marriage settlement—Various tenements and land in Salypath Street (Nursey, Millmead and pightell lying behind the mill)—Simon Gape, of Christchurch, London, merchant taylor to Edmond Tocke, of Bread Street, London, haberdasher, and Alice Lownes, of Overton in Smallwood, co. Chester. (Marriage of Simon Gape to Amy, daughter of Alice Lownes). 2 seals.

23. 1638, Nov. 8—Release (on death of Simon Gape)—Various tenements and land in Salypath Street (Nursey, Millmead and pightell lying behind the mill)—Anne Gape, of London, widow of Ralph Gape, to Amy Gape of London, widow of Simon Gape. Seal.

## HARPSFIELD HALL.

24. 1565, April 26—Conveyance—Harpsfield Hall—John Brokett, of Brokett Hall, Hatfield, *to* Robert Wolley, of St. Albans

25. 1639, Nov. 2—Marriage settlement—Moiety of Harpsfield Hall—Robert Wolley, the elder, *to* Robert Wolley, the younger, and Charnell Pettie of Tetsworth. (Marriage of Robert Wolley *to* Anne Pettie).

26. 1651, April 23—Covenant, etc.—Harpsfield Hall—Robert Wolley, senr. Robert Wolley, junr. Charnell Pettie, *to* Ayleworth Mayor and others.

27. Conveyance for recovery—Harpsfield Hall—Tecla Wolley, of Harpsfield Hall, widow, *and* Robert Wolley, Joshua Lomax, George Neville.

28. 1662, June 18—Exemplification—Harpsfield Hall—Robert Wolley.

29. 1666, Dec 24—Mortgage—Harpsfield Hall—Robert Wolley, of Denton, and John Wolley, of Harpsfield Hall, *to* John Ferrer of Shoreditch.

30. Assignment of mortgage—Harpsfield Hall—John Ferrer *to* William Welby of Denton.

31. 1670, Aug. 28—Will (proved 19 Oct. 1670)—Robert Wolley, of Denton—Elizabeth, Mary, Eleanor, daughters, Charnell Wolley, brother, Barbara, wife. Paper, 3 fos. Seal.

32. 1675-6, Jan. 12—Assignment—Harpsfield Hall—William Welby, *to* Samuel Penne.

33. 1676, Dec. 1—Assignment of lease—Harpsfield Hall—William Welby of Denton Co. Linc., John Gape, William Marston of St. Albans, Charnell Wolley, milliner, and others.

34. 1676, Dec. 2—Conveyance (for £300)—Harpsfield Hall—The Wolley family *to* John Gape.

35. Particulars of Harpsfield Hall Estate. Without date. Paper, 1 fo.

36. 1679, Oct. 24—Marriage settlement—Manor of Harpsfield Hall, Waltrotts Farm, Haslegrove, Rohithe Farm, Popefields Farm, Bellmeade, Land in Fishpole Street, Holywell Street, Pitwicks, The "Ram" *alias* The "Catherine Wheel"—(1) John Gape, senr., John Gape, junr. of Lincoln's Inn. (2) Thomas Cowley, Abraham Cowley. (3) Susan Cowley, 2nd daughter of Thomas Cowley. (Marriage of John Gape, junr. *to* Susan Cowley).

37. 1733, June 5—Assignment—Harpsfield Hall, etc.—John and William Gape *to* Edward Woodcock, of Rolls Buildings, London (in trust).

38. 1733, July 21—Grant of reversion—Harpsfield Hall, etc.—William Gape, of Westminster *to* John Gape.

39. 1745, Jan. 15—Deed of partition for payment of charges on estate of William Gape (will dated May 23, 1735) and discharge from Thomas Gape *to* Joseph Gape—Estate of late William Gape—Thomas Gape and Joseph Gape (sons of William Gape). Paper 2 pp.

## KING HARRY'S CLOSE AND GRAVEL PITS.

40. 1617, June 23—Indenture of sale—King Harry's Close, etc.—Thomas Shrympton, of Northampton, and John Shrympton his son *to* Richard Lightfote, of St. Stephens.

41. 1617, July 26—Indenture of sale—King Harry's Close, etc.—Richard Lightfote to Michael Weldon of Hemelhempsted and Elizabeth his wife.

42. 1617, Aug. 18—Marriage settlement—King Harry's Close, etc.—Richard Lightfote, of St. Stephens to William Hertford, of St. Albans and John Arnold. (Marriage of Richard Lightfote and Susanna —).

43. Exemplification of fine and recovery—King Harry's Close, etc.—William Hertford and Richard Lightfote. Fragment of great seal.

44. 1626, Ap. 30—Indenture of sale—King Harry's Close, etc.—Hugh Williams, of St. Olaves Southwark and Rebecca, daughter of Susan Lightfote, of Odiham to Hamlet Marshall of Odiham.

45. 1626, March—Final Concord—King Harry's Close, etc.—Hamlet Marshall and Hugh Williams and Rebecca his wife.

46. 1633, Dec. 9—Indenture of sale—King Harry's Close, etc.—Hamlett Marshall, of Lincoln Close, D.D. to Robert Newhall, of Clothall.

47. 1647, Sept. 30—Lease—King Harry's Close, etc.—Robert Newall to John Cooper.

48. 1648, Ap. 24—Articles of agreement—King Harry's Close, etc.—Robert Newall and Nathaniel Hill, of St. Stephens. Paper 1 fo.

49. 1648, Aug. 20—Conveyance—King Harry's Close, etc.—Robert Newall to Edward Eames.

50. 1648, Aug. 20—Indenture of sale—King Harry's Close and field, King Harry's "poole" with the elms—Robert Newall of Clothall to Edward Eames, of St. Albans.

51. 1648, Nov. 11—Acknowledgment of debt—Robert Newall to Edward Eames. Paper 2 fos.

52. 1646, May 21—Indenture of sale—"Gravell Pitts," etc.—John Berry, of St. Albans to Thomas Tanner, of St. Albans.

53. 1652, Aug. 20—Indenture of sale—"Gravell Pitts," etc.—Thomas Tanner to Edward Eames.

54. 1654, June 5—Indenture of sale—"Gravell Pitts," etc.—Robert Robetham to Edward Eames.

55. 1654, Ap.-May—3 copies of documents—Manor of Newlands and Gravell Pitts and land in Sandridge—Robetham to Farr. Paper 27 fos.

56. 1668, March 17—Release (with subsequent documents).—"Gravell Pitts"—John Jenyns, of St. Albans, to John Gape, of St. Albans.

#### POPESFIELD, ETC.

57. 1607, Trin.—Final Concord—Popesfield, etc.—Andrew Duffy and John Clarke.

58. 1607, May 20—Indenture of sale—Popesfield, etc.—John Clarke, of the Beech, St. Peters, to Andrew Duffy.

59. 1610, Nov. 8—Bond for £1000—Popesfield, etc.—Andrew Duffy, of the Cross of the Oke, St. Peters, and others to Nicholas Audley, of London, grocer.

60. 1610, Nov. 15—Indenture of sale—Popesfield, etc.—Andrew Duffy, of St. Peters *to* Nicholas Audley.
61. 1610, Nov. 20—Release—Popesfield, etc.—John Clarke *to* Nicholas Audley.
62. 1610, Nov. 29—Warranty—Popesfield, etc.—John Clark *to* Nicholas Audley.
63. 1611, Easter—Final Concord—Popesfield, etc.—Nicholas Audley *and* Andrew Duffey.
64. 1615, June 7—Indenture of sale—Popesfield, etc.—Nicholas Audley, of London, grocer and Elizabeth his wife *to* Willam Exelbye of North Mymes.
65. 1615, Trin.—Final Concord—Popesfield, etc.—William Exelby *and* Nicholas Audley.
66. Assignment of lease—Popesfield, etc.—John Gobert, of Coventry *to* William Exelby.
67. 1616, June 1—Pardon for alienation—Popesfield, etc.—Richard Audley. Great seal (a fine specimen).
68. 1618, Dec. 23—Settlement—Popesfield, etc.—William Exelbye, of St. Peters *to* Sir George Peryent, of Ayott Mountfichet. (Marriage of Exelby *to* Elizabeth Peryent).
69. 1644, Trin.—Final Concord—Popesfield, etc.—Thomas Foster *and* Frances Parker, widow.
70. 1645-6, Feb. 17—Lease—Popesfield, etc.—William Barker, of London and Mary, his wife, *to* Robert Barlee, of Kimpton co. Herts.
71. 1647, May 8—Mortgage—Popesfield, etc.—Robert Barley *to* Philip Oxton.
72. 1649, June 23—Agreement to mortgage—Popesfield, etc.—William Halsey, of London and Elizabeth, his wife, *to* William Barker of Fleet Street.
73. 1649, Nov. 8—Mortgage—Popesfield, etc.—William Barker and Robert Barley *to* Richard Wagg, of London.
74. 1649-50, Feb.—Bills (3 documents)—Popesfield, etc.—Thomas Briscoe.
75. 1649-50, Feb. 13—Indenture of sale—Popesfield, etc.—William Barker of Fleet Street, Mary, his wife, and others *to* William Axtell, of Shenley.
76. 1650—Release—Popesfield, etc.—Robert Barley *to* William Axtell.
77. 1650, Hilary—Final Concord (2 documents)—Popesfield, etc.—William Axtell *and* William Barker and others.
78. 1650, Oct. 1—Extract of Court Roll—Popesfield, etc.—Thomas Smith, surrender *to* William Axtell, of Shenley, in Court Baron of Sopwell.
79. 1650, March 27—Receipt for £240—Popesfield, etc.—Elizabeth Halsey *to* William Axtell.
80. 1650-1, Feb. 13—Indenture of sale (with 3 bonds)—Popesfield, etc.—William Barker and others *to* William Axtell.
81. 1651-2, Jan. 31—Certificate of purchase money paid—Popesfield, etc.—Joshua Lomax *to* Mr. William Axtell.
82. 1651-2, Jan. 26—General release—Popesfield, etc.—Thomas Scriven *to* William Axtell.

83. 1663, Aug. 22—Will of William Axtell—Popesfield, etc.—Executor and chief legatee Ann Briscoe, mother of testator. Also legacies to Robert Briscoe and Abel Briscoe (brothers) Mary Loeffs (sister), Hannah (sister), John (brother), Ann Roberts (née Axtell), Axtell Roberts. Remainder to Robert Briscoe (brother). Seal and signature. Paper 2 fos.

84. 1663-4, Feb.-March—Acquittances (5 documents)—Legacies from will: Axtell—*See* Axtell's will. Seals and signature. Paper.

85. 1663-4, Mar. 16—Discharge—Lands in St. Peters—Robert Sadleir, Lord of Sopwell Manor, *to* John Gape.

86. 1663-4, March 16—Extracts of Court Roll—Lands in St. Peters—John Gape admitted to use by Court Baron of Sopwell.

87. 1663-4, March 12—Acquittance for £80—Isaac Loeffes *to* John Gape.

88. 1664-5, Jan. 26—Indentures of sale—subsequent documents (3)—Popes, *alias* Popefield and farm in St. Peters—Thomas Briscoe, of Shenley and Anne, his wife, *to* John Gape, of St. Albans.

89. 1672, Feb. 29—Exemplification of probate of will—Axtell's last will and testament.—Popes *alias* Popefield and farm in St. Peters—At request of Thomas Briscoe and Anne, his wife. Great seal (fine specimen).

90. 1671, June 23—Conveyance, with abstract of title, etc. (5 docts.)—Rohith Farm, in St. Peters—Basil More, of Gubbins and Anne his wife and Sir William Hamble *to* John Gape.

91. 1671, Aug. 3—Conveyance with abstract of title, etc.—(3 docts.)—Rohith Farm, in St. Peters—John Gape *to* William Marston.

92. 1698, March 17—Conveyance with abstract of title, etc. (2 docts.)—Rohith Farm in St. Peters—William Marston *to* John Gape.

93. Miscellaneous papers (6)—Rohith Farm, in St. Peters—Chiefly concerning the More family (descendants of Sir Thomas More).

#### PITWICKS, ETC.

94. 1646.—Copy of deeds, etc.—“Peahen,” “Woolsack”—John Baldwin, of Cashoe Bridge. Paper, 16 fos.

95. 1674, Dec. 9—Demise and redemise (for the security of an annuity to John Gape, the elder). 4 documents—“The Woolsack,” Pitwicks (in Salipath Street, between the tenement of Sir John Cotton and a malthouse adjoining to the street near the river that runs from St. Michael's Mill to the Abbey Mill), Bell Mead—John Gape (father and son).

96. 1716 to 1717—Surrender, etc.—Pitwicks in St. Albans, with malthouse and nursery—John Thomas, of St. Albans, and others, *to* John Gape.

#### LANDS IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

97. 1602, May 4—Conveyance—Lands in Caxton—Andrew Hart and others *to* Edward Martyn.

98. 1603.—Final Concord—Lands in Caxton—Edward Martyn *and* Andrew Hart and others.

99. 1626.—A number of documents relating to a message and land in Caxton—The Frith family and others.



100. 1645, Oct. 10.—Sale—A messuage and lands in Caxton—William Levit *to* Henry Thombs.
101. 1652, June 1.—Sale—Land in the Common Fields of Caxton—Rose Levit *to* Henry Toms.
102. 1654-5, Mar. 13.—Assignment of lease—Caxton and Long Stow—Sir Anthony Cage *to* Sir Ralph Bovey.
103. 1661, May 22. Conveyance—Lands in Caxton—John Martyn *to* Sir Ralph Bovey.
104. 1662, July 1.—Conveyance—Wardon, co. Bedford—Francis Drake, of Walton-on-Thames, *to* Sir Ralph Bovey.
105. 1663, May 20.—Article of agreements, etc.—Lands in Caxton—John Martin *to* Sir Ralph Bovey. Paper, 3 fos.
106. 1663, April 18.—Surrender (in Manor Court)—Lands in Caxton—John Martin. Paper, 1 fo.
107. 1663, Dec. 29.—Conveyance—Lands in Caxton—John Martyn, of Caxton, *to* Sir Ralph Bovey, of St. Giles in the Fields.
- 107a. 1669, Nov. 9.—Conveyance—Lands in the Common Fields of Caxton—Henry Thorne *to* Thomas Chicheley.
108. 1670-71, Mar 8 —Mortgage—Lands in Caxton, etc.—Sir Ralph Bovey *to* Sir George Downing.
109. 1677, Mar. 5.—Surrender—Lands in Caxton, etc.—John Whistler *to* Sir Ralph Bovey.
110. 1677, July 5.—Assignment—Manor etc. of Caxton—Sir Ralph Bovey, of Hillfield Hall, co. Warwick; Sir George Downing, of Westminster; Philip Viscount Lisle —[This indenture recites that by indenture dated 1st Oct, 1638, Sir Anthony Cage, son of Sir John Cage, mortgaged to certain merchants of London the Manor of Caxton, etc, who assigned it to Sir Ralph Bovey, who assigned it to Sir Abraham Reynardson, who assigned it to Sir George Downing].
111. 1677, July 5.—Mortgage—Lands in Caxton, etc.—Sir Ralph Bovey *to* Viscount Lisle and Sir John Monson.
112. 1677, July 5.—Assignment of Mortgage (3 documents)—Caxton, etc.—Sir Ralph Bovey and Sir George Downing *to* Lord Lisle and others.
113. 1677, July 5.—Covenant to assign judgment—Manor of Caxton—Philip Viscount Lisle, Sir John Monson, and H. Spelman *to* Sir Ralph Bovey.
114. 1681, Nov. 22.—Letter of Attorney—Caxton, etc.—Elizabeth Simmons for payment of interest to John Gape.
115. 1681, Nov. 22.—Covenant to assign judgment—Caxton, etc.—John Warren *to* John Gape.
116. 1681, Nov. 22.—Mortgage—Caxton, etc.—Mr. Spoure and Mr. Monson *to* Trustees of John Gape.
117. 1681, Nov. 22.—Assignment for payment of bill due—Lands in Cambridgeshire—Trustees of Elizabeth Simmons, etc. *to* John Gape.
118. 1682-3, Jan. 13.—Conveyance (4 documents).—Caxton, etc.—Elizabeth Simmons *to* John Gape.
119. 1683, May 19.—Discharge for £1,062. Mortgage—Caxton, etc.—Mary Howell *to* John Gape.
120. 1684, May 28.—Deed to declare uses, etc.—Farm in Caxton—John Gape, junr. *to* John Gape, senr.

121. 1690, July 2.—Conveyance—Home Close, Lammas Close, and other lands in Caxton—William Frith, of Hornchurch, co. Essex *to* John Gape, jun.

122. 1692, July 20.—Acquittance—Lands in Caxton—Robert Milward, of Caxton, *to* John Gape.

123. 1692, July 20.—Conveyance—Lammas land in Caxton—Robert Millward *to* John Gape, junr.

124. 1699, May 9.—Conveyance—Lands in Caxton—Thomas Ward *to* John Atkin.

125. 1728-9, Mar. 12.—Settlement—Caxton, etc.—John Gape *to* Thomas and William Gape, his sons.

126. 1733, June 26 and 27.—Conveyance—Manor of Caxton, etc.—Thomas Richards *to* John Gape.

127.—1733, July 31.—Settlement—Caxton, etc.—John Gape, on marriage of William Gape *to* Hester Putland.

128 *undated*. (a) Report on suit, with schedule, of Sir Ralph Bovey's debts and other papers—Debts of late Sir Ralph Bovey. Paper, 7 pp. (b) List of Caxton deeds—Caxton, etc. Paper, 2 pp. (c) Release dated 1677, July 3.—Caxton—Sir Ralph Bovey *to* John Warren. Paper, 2 pp.

129. 1677-1715—A number of documents relating to "Parsons" in Caxton—Hosted, Sams, Atkins, Wortham, Cotton, etc.

130. 1724, May 1.—Conveyance—Parsons—Thomas Robason and others *to* Thomas Gape, of Gray's Inn.

131. 1729-30, Feb. 17.—Annuity—Parsons—Thomas Gape *to* Margaret Tooke.

132. 1546-7, Jan. 8.—Terrier (detailed)—Crawden, co. Camb., a tenement called Lynslader and Ossebornes, and a pightell called Purfyld—Richard Godfrey, of Crawden, yeoman. A roll. 3 membranes.

#### LANDS IN LINCOLNSHIRE.

133. 1622, May 1.—Conveyance (2 documents).—Birchwood, St. Ellens in Hansted †—Theophilus, Earl of Lincoln, and Bridget, Countess of Lincoln, *to* Nehemiah Rawson and Frances, his wife.

134. 1713-14, Mar. 2.—Copy of will and probate (24 May, 1716).—Noseley (co. Leicester), Birchwood and other lands—Rawson Hart, of Lincoln's Inn.

135. 1718, April 21.—Lease—Birchwood—Reuben Parke, of Sutton, co. Linc., John Whelpdale, of Scrivelby, executors of the will of Rawson Hart, of Grantham, *to* Richard Percy, of the Inner Temple, and Thomas Clarke, of Revesby.

136. 1718, April 22.—Release—Birchwood—Reuben Parke and others *to* Richard Pacey and others (Rawson Hart *to* Thomas James).

137. 1718, May 17.—Copy of will and probate—Birchwood and other lands—Thomas James, of Revesby, Edward James (son), Frances (wife), John (son), Thomas (son), legatees. (Probate Oct. 2, 1719).

138. 1718, Sept. 24.—Conveyance—Oak Range, in Birchwood—George Skroopholme *to* Thomas James.

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† St. Helens, near Revesby.

139. 1722, Oct. 18.—Lease and release—Birchwood—Thomas James *to* John Way, of Lincoln's Inn (to bar entail).

140. 1722-3, Feb. 12.—Exemplification—Lands in Birchwood, Revesby, and Wildmore—William Booth and John Way. Great Seal in tin case.

141. 1723, April 13.—Mortgage—Birchwood—Thomas James *to* Samuel Newcomen.

142. 1723, Sept. 28.—Mortgage for £225—Birchwood—Thomas James *to* Joseph Banks.

143. 1723-4.—Miscellaneous papers—Birchwood—Relating to mortgage of Birchwood.

144. 1724, April 13.—Assignment of Mortgage—Birchwood—Samuel Newcomen, of Bag Enderby *to* Joseph Banks, junr.

145. 1724, Oct. 13.—Further Mortgage for £375—Birchwood—Thomas James *to* Joseph Banks.

146. 1726, Dec. 16.—Assignment of Mortgage—Birchwood—Joseph Banks *to* Richard Hardwick, of Spilsby.

147. 1728-9, Jan. 28.—Copy of will—Land and goods—Thomas James. Paper, 1 fol.

148. 1731-2, March 14.—Conveyance — Birchwood House—Edward James *to* William Gape.

149. 1731-2, March 15.—Conveyance—Birchwood—Edward James and others *to* William Gape.

150. 1731-2, Mar. 16.—Conveyance and assignment of mortgage—Birchwood—Richard Hardwick *to* Mr. Shephard (in trust for William Gape).

151. 1786, 28 Dec.—Release of a yearly rent of 6*s.* 8*d.*, issuing out of the site of the late monastery of Revesby—Birchwood—John Crofts and John Pinnock *to* Joseph Gape.

152. Miscellaneous papers relating to purchase of Birchwood Hall by John Gape in 1731:—1. Articles of agreement, between Edward James, of Benington, co. Lincoln, and John Gape, of St. Albans, for the sale of Birchwood Estate. Paper, 1 fo.

2. Letter from Edward James *to* John Gape, dated Benington, Jan. 17, 1731-2:—"Had I had the favour of a line from you, you should not have accused your rev. friend of a breach of friendship . . . I have endeavoured to put the affair on as fast as I could, I mean the conveying the Estate of Birchwood to you, and to your satisfaction; but Mr. Burton I think has been very dilatory . . . I have been long in an ill state of health, which has prevented both my coming to wait on you and my more earnest prosecution of the affair betwixt us."

3. Letter from Edward James *to* John Gape, Boston, March 20, 1731-2:—"After a deal of expectance and trouble to you, I have at last done something for your satisfaction by conveying of Birchwood to your own proper use and occupance . . . I heartily wish you and your family may long enjoy your purchase."

4. Letter to John Gape, Benington, May 20, 1732, advising of various bills drawn on Mr. Gape.

5. Abstract of title deeds, belonging to Birchwood Estate. Paper, 2 fos.

6. Depositions taken at Boston, April 22, 1732, of witnesses in a cause depending between Edward James, and others *and* Elizabeth and Mary James, infants.

7. Miscellaneous accounts and receipts relative to purchase of Birchwood Estate.

153. 1682-3, March 12.—Deed of sale—Cottage, etc., in Mareham—John Sharlock *to* John Cawthorp.

154.—1688, Aug. 2.—Deed of sale—Cottage, etc., in Mareham—John Carder *to* Robert Clarke.

155. 1732, July 9.—Conveyance (2 documents)—Cottage, etc., in Mareham—John Cawthorp, etc. *to* John Gape.

## SIBSEY.

156. 1589-90, Jan. 20.—Deed of Sale—Manor of Sibsey—Sir Edmond Sheffield, Lord Sheffield, of Butterwick, *to* William Gannock.

157. 1656-92.—Rentals—Manor of Sibsey—Account of Mr. Mellor.

158. 1663-4, Feb. 17.—Mortgage—Manor and Rectory of Sibsey—Henry Mellor *to* John Searle.

159. 1678, April 2.—Assignment—Manor of Sibsey—John Searle *to* Robert Gayer and Sir Thomas Dolman.

160. 1692-3, Feb. 15.—Assignment—Manor of Sibsey—Robert Gayer, etc. *to* John Gape, junr.

161. 1692-3, Feb. 15.—Lease and release—Manor of Sibsey—Henry Mellor *to* John Gape.

162. 1693, June.—Lease—Manor of Sibsey—John Gape *to* his father.

163. 1663, Oct. 1.—Conveyance (3 documents)—Manor and rectory of Sibsey—Michael Willimot, of Gray's Inn, and Gervase Bennett, of Snelston, *to* Henry Mellor, of Derby.

164. 1678, Dec. 21 and 22.—Lease and release (2 documents)—Manor and rectory of Sibsey—Henry Mellor *to* William Millet, of London, and Henry Cherry.

165. 1680-1, Feb. 12.—Declaration—Henry Mellor's Mortgage—1. Sir William Rich, of Sonning. 2. Sir Robert Gayer, of Stoke Poges, C.B., Sir Thomas Dolman, of Shaw. 3. Thomas Browne.—[The deed recites that, by the will of Sir Thomas Rich, Sir Robert Gayer and Sir Thomas Dolman were appointed trustees of Sir William Rich, the son; that, on the marriage of Sir William Rich to Lady Anne, second daughter of Robert, Earl of Aylesbury, in 1672, it was agreed that lands, etc. should be purchased to the value of £750 per annum, to be settled on the Lady Anne; that, by Act of Parliament the purchase thereof was confirmed and entrusted to Sir Robert Gayer and Sir Thomas Dolman; that, at the time of the marriage over £10,000 was secured by mortgage to Sir Thomas Longueville, which was paid off, and £10,000 lent to Henry Mellor, of Derby, upon security. Sir William Rich declares that he has received all interest, etc. on his father's personal estate, with £4,988 in cash, and further assigns £5,000 of the said mortgage to Thomas Browne, who had found that sum out of his own pocket].

166. 1682, Oct. 4.—Agreement as to the disposition of money due to Thomas Browne—Henry Mellor's Mortgage—1. Sir Robert

Gayer and Sir Thomas Dolman—2. Sir William Rich. 3. Thomas Browne.—[This document relates to the same matter as the preceding and is endorsed with an assignment by Thomas Browne to John Gape, of all his share (a fifth) in the mortgage of £10,000. Dated October 4, 1682].

167. 1683, Sept. 22.—Agreement—Henry Mellor's Mortgage—John Gape and others.

168. 1693, Feb.—Miscellaneous papers (6)—Relating to purchase of Sibsey—By John Gape, the elder.

169. 1709, Oct. 11.—Lease—Parsonage, etc., of Sibsey—John Gape to John Brown and Richard Shepard.

170. 1729-30, Feb. 4.—Lease—Parsonage House, of Sibsey, etc.—John Gape to Richard Shepard.

171. 1729-30, Feb. 4.—Lease—Parsonage of Sibsey—John Gape to Richard Shepard.

172. 1730, Mar. 26.—Conveyance—Tithes of Sibsey—John Gape to Edward Woodcock and William Rowlandson.

173. 1734-5, Mar. 24.—Conveyance—Tithes of Sibsey—John Gape to William Gape.

174. 1675, June 17.—Deed of Sale—Well Field in Sibsey—Michael Woodthorpe to James Woodthorpe.

175. 1682.—Deed of Sale—Well Field in Sibsey—James Woodthorpe to Thomas Searles.

176. 1683, July 5.—Bond—Well Field in Sibsey—Thomas Searles to John Young.

177. 1685, Mar. 8.—Will (probate May 10, 1865)—John Young, of Sibsey. Paper, 1 fo.

178. 1705 6, Jan. 23.—Conveyance—Well Field in Sibsey—Samuel Young to Richard Johnson.

179. 1706, June 12.—Conveyance—Stump Mill Field in Sibsey—Nicholas Wilkinson to Richard Johnson.

180. 1724, April 24.—Conveyance—Well Field, etc.—Richard Johnson to Thomas Twig.

181. 1724, May 9.—Mortgage—Well Field, etc.—Thomas Twig to Francis Franklin.

182. 1729, Sept. 9.—Conveyance—Well Field, etc.—Thomas Twig to John Gape.

183. 1725, Aug. 5.—Lease—Wyedale in Sibsey—John Gape to Joseph Banks, of Revesby.

184. 1622, April 1.—Conveyance—Westhorpe in Sibsey—Silvester Awbyn to Robert Gannock.

185. 1670, Sept. 27.—Mortgage for £100—House and grounds in Sibsey—Thomas Gannock to John Tooley, of Boston.

186. 1676, Aug. 1.—Assignment of lease—House and grounds in Sibsey—John Tooley to Mary Browne, of Boston.

187. 1676, Aug. 24.—Assignment of lease—House and grounds in Sibsey—Mary Browne to Margaret Gannock and Robert, her son.

188. 1695, July 30.—Mortgage—House and grounds in Sibsey—Robert Gannock to Eliza Hunter, of Conesby.

189. 1713, Sept. 22.—Articles of agreement—House and grounds in Sibsey—1. Samuel Gannock, son and heir of Robert Gannock. 2. Elijah Hunter. 3. John Gape. Paper. 1 fo.

190. 1714, July 29.—Assignment of mortgage—House and grounds in Sibsey—1. Samuel Gannock, son and heir of Robert Gannock. 2. Elijah Hunter. 3. John Gape. 1 fo.

191. 1714, July 30.—Lease and release (2 documents)—House and grounds in Sibsey—Samuel Gannock *to* John Gape.

192. 1699, Oct. 10.—Lease—Lands in Sibsey—Robert Drake *to* John Yates. Paper, 1 fo.

193. 1699, Sept. 28—Conveyance—Lands in Sibsey—Robert Drake *to* John Yates.

194. 1721, Nov. 15.—Conveyance—Lands in Sibsey—Thomas Burton *to* Francis Franklin.

195. 1732, July 25.—Conveyance—Lands in Sibsey—Francis Franklin *to* John Gape.

196. 1732, July 3.—Assignment of Lease—Lands in Sibsey—Francis Franklin *to* John Gape.

197. 1670, Oct. 4.—Conveyance—Lands in Sibsey—Mark Antony and William Tupholme *to* Samuel and Eliza Turner.

198. 1713, June 22.—Lease and release—Lands in Sibsey—Samuel Turner *to* Jonathan Johnson.

199. 1716, Nov. 11.—Mortgage—Lands in Sibsey—Samuel Turner *to* John Browne.

200. 1718, July 20.—Mortgage—Lands in Sibsey—Samuel Turner *to* Francis Franklin.

201. 1720, Sept. 20.—Lease and release. Re-conveyance—Lands in Sibsey—Richard Gilbert *to* Samuel Turner.

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203. 1693-4, Mar. 12.—Indenture of Sale—Cottage, etc., in Sibsey—John Brown, Ann, relict of Richard Dickenson, *to* John Gape, the younger.

204. 1720, Aug. 30.—Indenture of Sale—Lands in Sibsey—George Dickinson *to* John Gape.

205. 1695, July 18.—Lease for twelve years—Lands in Sibsey—John Gape *to* Thomas Covell, of Boston.

206. 1714, June 16.—Exemplification (with portrait of Queen Anne)—Lands in Sibsey—John Watson and Joseph Mall. Great seal, broken.

207. 1731, Sept. 1.—Lease for 15 years—Lands in Sibsey—John Gape *to* John Baxter.

208. 1593, Oct. 1.—Deed of sale—Lands in Sibsey—Simon Porter, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock. Seal.

209. 1592, July 8.—Deed of sale—Lands in Sibsey—Christopher Masson, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.

210. 1594, Oct. 10.—Deed of sale—Lands in Sibsey—Robert Leake, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.

211. 1592, Aug. 12.—Deed of sale—Lands in Sibsey—Henry Obbine, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.

212. 1586, Dec. 20.—Deed of sale—Cottage and land—John Thacker, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.
213. 1592, May 1.—Deed of sale—Land in Sibsey—John Ampleforth, of Boston, *to* W. Gannock.
214. 1595, June 8.—Deed of sale—Cottage and land—Christopher Myllnes, of Sibsey, and John Cowper, *to* W. Gannock.
215. 1595, Oct. 1.—Indenture of exchange—Lands in Sibsey—W. Gannock *to* Thomas Leystroop.
216. 1591-2, Jan. 26.—Deed of sale—Lands in Sibsey—Robert Valentine, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.
217. 1583, Sept. 20.—Deed of sale—Lands in Sibsey—John Parblen, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.
218. 1605-6, Jan. 6.—Deed of sale—Cottage and land—Robert Bower, of Sibsey, *to* John Gannock.
219. 1609, April 2.—Deed of Sale—Messuage and Land in Sibsey—Robert Davidson, of Sibsey *to* John Gannock.
220. 1596, Aug. 4.—Deed of Sale—Land in Sibsey—Thomas Ellis, of Boston, *to* W. Gannock and others.
221. 1596, April 3.—Deed of Sale—Land in Sibsey—Leonard Fawlkener, of Swineshead, *to* W. Gannock.
222. 1591, Aug. 19.—Deed of Sale—Land in Sibsey—John West, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.
223. 1584, Oct. 1.—Deed of Sale—Land in Sibsey—Michael Cowper, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.
224. 1612, Aug. 10.—Deed of Sale—Land in Sibsey—Edward Gannock, of Boston, *to* John Gannock, of Sibsey.
225. 1612, Aug. 1.—Deed of Sale—Land in Sibsey—Richard Carlton, of Frampton, and Maria, his wife, *to* John Gannock.
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- 230.—Deed of Sale—Lands in Sibsey—Richard Bavinge, of Sibsey, yeoman, *to* John Gannock.
231. 1605-6, Feb. 20.—Deed of Sale—Lands in Sibsey—Robert Clarke, of Sibsey, *to* John Gannock.
232. 1583-4, March 8.—Indenture of Sale—Land in Sibsey—Nicholas Cowper, of Sibsey, *to* William Gannock.
233. 1593, Oct. 1.—Indenture of Sale—Land in Sibsey—Christopher Fawlkener, of Sibsey, *to* William Gannock.
234. 1592, July 8.—Indenture of Sale—Cottage and land in Sibsey—John Gedney, of Somerby and Marcia, his wife, *to* William Gannock.
235. 1595, April 8.—Deed of Sale—Land in Sibsey—Robert Valentine and Christopher Sprott, of Sibsey, *to* William Gannock.

236. 1592, July 8.—Deed of Sale—Cottage and land in Sibsey—Richard Atkyn, of Butterwick, labourer, and Alice, his wife, and Helena Sharpe, *to* William Gannock.

237. 1590, Mar. 28.—Deed of Sale—Messuage and land in Sibsey—Thomas Parleben, of Sibsey, and Elizabeth, his wife, *to* William Gannock.

238. 1588-9, Jan. 12.—Deed of sale—Land in Sibsey—Thomas Thacker, of Sibsey, and Agnes, his wife, *to* W. Gannock.

239. 1592, July 16.—Deed of sale—Land in Sibsey—William Crowder, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.

240. 1587, May 4.—Deed of sale—Land in Sibsey—John Anderson, of Boston, *to* W. Gannock.

241. 1583, July 6.—Deed of sale—Land in Sibsey (schedule attached)—Alexander Leake, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.

242. 1583, July 7.—Indenture of sale—Land in Sibsey (schedule attached)—Edward Leake, of Boston, and Alexander Leake, of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.

243. 1584-5, Feb. 20.—Deed of sale—Land in Sibsey—Edward Leake, of Boston, and Alexander Leake, of the same, *to* W. Gannock.

244. 1584, Dec. 1.—Deed of sale—Land in Sibsey—Thomas Bavyn, junr., of Sibsey, *to* W. Gannock.

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245. 1710, June 19.—Conveyance—Tenements in St. Martin's Laue, London; Suttons in Iver, co Bucks, and other lands in Iver—Thomas Gape and Elizabeth, his wife, *to* Mathias Caldicott and others.



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- June, 1905.  
 H. R. WILTON-HALL.