

SUSSEX DOMESDAY TENANTS.

IV. THE FAMILY OF CHESNEY OR CHEYNEY.

BY L. F. SALZMAN, F.S.A.

IN volume LXIII. of the *Collections* I referred to the confusion existing between the families of Keynes and Cheyney, dealt at some length with the former, and promised to deal with the Cheyney pedigree in the next volume. Owing to the complicated nature of the subject that promise could not be fulfilled, and even now I cannot claim to have unravelled and re-knit the evidence into a complete and satisfactory pattern, but as I do not foresee much chance of getting any better result by delay I have decided to put forward such results as I have obtained.

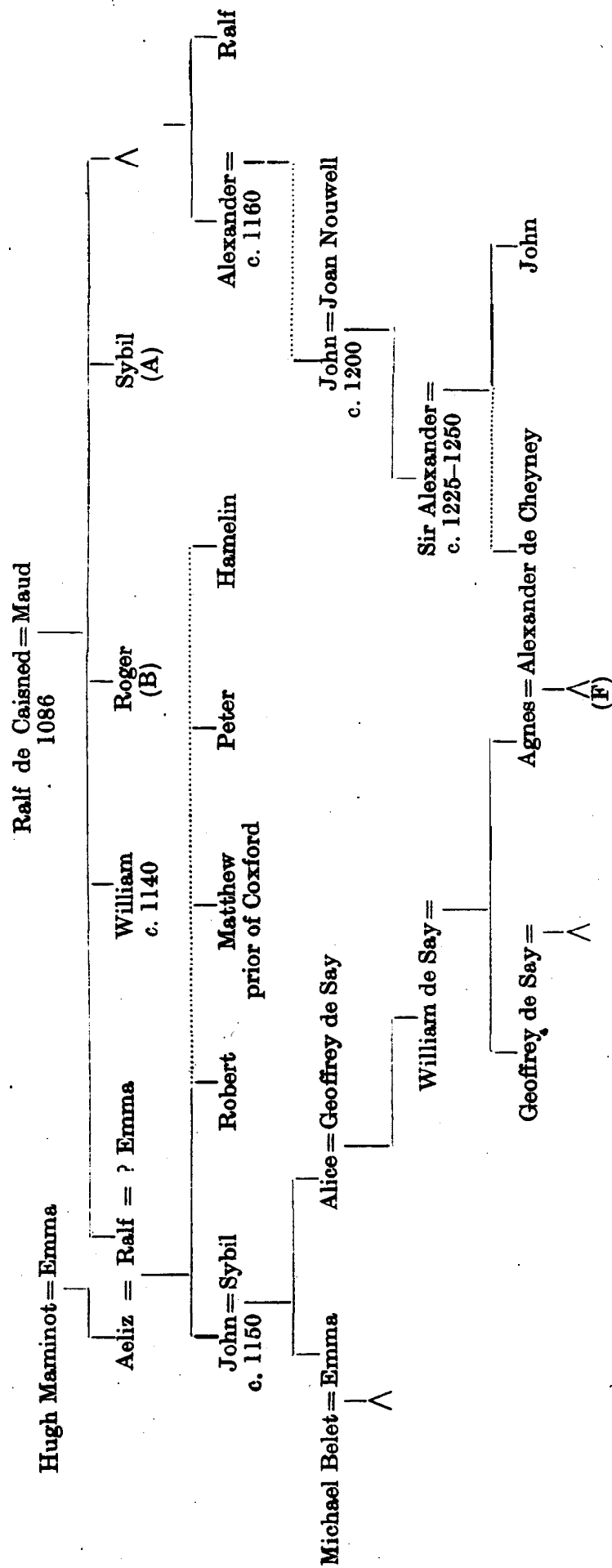
The family of Cheyney, Cheyne or Chesney (Latinized as de Caisneto, de Querceto) apparently derived its name from Quesnay between St. Lô and Caen.¹ Its Domesday representative, Ralf, is only referred to by his surname in one entry in the survey; under Bosham, where it is noted that 17 hides formerly belonging to that manor are now held by Ralf de Caisned.² These 17 hides formed the manor of Saddlescombe,³ in Newtimber, which latter was also held by "the same Ralf." The descent of Street and Hamsey to the family of de Say enables us to identify him as the Ralf who held those two estates in 1086. Some five or six years later, on the day of the consecration of the church of Lewes Priory, Ralf de Kaineto gave to the monks the church of Brighton (Bristelmeston) and the tithes of all his possessions in that vill, the churches of Balcombe and West Hoathly, the church of Keymer with one virgate of land and tithes, the church of Barcombe with the land belonging to it and tithes of corn and hay and sheep and of the mill of "Bar-desey," and a meadow at Hamsey, and the houses of

¹ *V.C.H. Sussex*, I., 378.

² *Ibid.*, 392.

³ *Ibid.*, 440.

PEDIGREE OF CHEYNEY.



Wlnod Parmentarius in the borough of Lewes, and one hide of land in Allington. At the same time his son Ralph gave, with his father's permission, a hide of land at Offham (Wocham).⁴ Of the places mentioned in this donation Balcombe and West Hoathly are not named in Domesday; Offham was part of Hamsey, and may be represented by the two half-hides held thereof by Hugh and Ralf; Hamsey and Allington were held by "Ralf," who also held the chief manor at Brighton. The only church mentioned under Brighton, however, was in the manor held by William de Watevile, and this same William held Keymer and Barcombe. William de Watevile is also entered as holding Perching,—a manor afterwards held by the Aguillons, one of whom, as will be seen, married a co-heiress of Bartholomew de Cheyney,—and Hangleton, while Clayton is assigned to "the wife of William de Watevile," an entry which suggests that William may have died during the actual process of the survey. It seems quite possible that Ralf de Cheyney, whose wife's name was Maud,⁵ may have married a daughter of William de Watevile.

Ralf left at least three sons and one daughter:

Ralf II.

William.⁶

Roger, whom I identify with the founder of the Oxford branch (*B*).

Sybil, from whom the Norfolk Cheyneys were descended (*A*).

Of Ralf II. there seems to be nothing to say beyond the fact that he married a daughter of Hugh Maminot, another of whose daughters married Ralf de Keynes.⁷ The source of our information is the chartulary of Merton Priory, in which it is said:⁸

"The estate of Petham (Kent) is of the fee of Hugh Mamminot, and he received it in marriage with Emma his wife, and Emma

⁴ Cott. MS. Vesp. F., XV., f. 37.

⁵ Dugdale, *Mon.*, V., 14.

⁶ Possibly the William de Querceto who, with Philip de Querceto, was among the Norman witnesses to a charter of William, Count of Flanders, in 1127: d'Albon, *Cart. de l'Ordre du Temple*, 5.

⁷ *S.A.C.*, LXIII., 183.

⁸ Cott. MS. Cleop. C., VI., no. 69.

obtained of her lord that that estate should be given to Ralf de Caisneto with her daughter, who was called Aeliz, who also is buried (*jacet*) at Merton. This Aeliz out of good will to the house of Merton obtained of her lord Ralf that he allowed her to give that estate to us, and as we have said above Aeliz is buried at Merton, and so is Emma her mother, from whom this marriage settlement comes, and so we have that tenement and another of the free barony of Walkelin Maminot."

As a Lewes manuscript⁹ gives the name of Ralf's wife as Emma, he must have married twice, unless there is some mistake. It is some evidence of the alleged Maminot marriage that Alice de Caineto, Ralf's grand-daughter, confirmed a grant to Combwell Priory made by Alan de Castilun of land in Colred which was given him by Walchelin Maminot.¹⁰ This same grant was further confirmed by Alan's nephew Hugh de Castilun,¹¹ who was "almost, if not quite, identical" with a remarkable man referred to in 1200, when an assize was held to decide whether Emma, sister of Hugh de Castilun, the wonderful drinker (*potatoris mirabilis*), was seised of land in Clotton (Northants.).¹²

Ralf II. left at least two sons:

John.

Robert.

The latter occurs as witness to the following two charters, by the first of which John de Chaisneto grants to the monks of Lewes:¹³

"Half the land which my father Ralf had in Brighton (*Bristolmestona*) with all the men belonging to it; namely, 5 virgates of land assigned to (*assisas de*) these persons, Ivo, Matctilda, Alvric Palmer (*palmario*), Salida and Matctilda, mother of the same Salida; and 4 cottars with the lands they held, namely, Edward, Martin, Ulfwin son of Eadsi, and Saiua the widow; and half of my demesne in the same vill, so divided that the monks may have the lower (*subteriolem*) acre nearer to the sea on the west of the barn (*in West de grancia*) with the other acres which were divided out to that acre at the partition, and with the pasture belonging to the same land, and with the homage of Chetel, dwelling on the same demesne. I also give to them the same Chetel's son Aldwyn and the latter's daughter Leuina absolutely freely. Moreover I give

⁹ Dugdale, *Mon.*, V., 14.

¹⁰ *Arch. Cant.*, VI., 198.

¹¹ Harl. Ch. 76 E. 41. He calls Alice "heir of Walchelin Maminot."

¹² *Curia Regis*, 25, m. 7.

¹³ "Lewes Book" (P.R.O.), f. 27.

them a meadow near Hamsey (*Hammes*) which is called Wildebroc. This aforesaid grant I John de Caisneto will discharge the services of (*adquietabo*) for the monks from my own possessions (*de meo proprio*) against the Earl and all men in all things; and in order that this grant may be stable and free and quit in perpetuity the said prior and convent have given me 100 marks of silver towards the relief of the land (*ad relevandum terram*)¹⁴ as against my lord the Earl de Warenne. Witnesses: Roger the chaplain, Hugh de Petraponte, Robert de Wesneual, Robert de Petreponce, Robert de Frievilla, Robert his son, Dru the latter's brother, Guy Vicecom',¹⁵ William his son, William de Petreponce, William the Constable, Peter Luvel, Roger de Clera, Edwin the priest of Hammes, Roger de Sancto Victore, *Robert brother of John*, Ralf de Mundisdiei."

The second deed, dated 1147, was evidently drawn up at the same time:¹⁶

"After John de Caisneto had given the monks half his land of Brighton (*Bristelmestona*) which his father Ralf had held on the day of his death, he granted to the same monks the other half of that land to hold for 7 years freely and quietly for the rent of that land, namely, for 60 marks which the monks had given him before for his needs.

"This agreement was made in 1147 on the feast of St. Mark.

"This is the stocking of it: 5½ acres sown with wheat, 6½ with barley, 2 acres 1 rod with oats.

"These are witnesses: Hugh de Perrepont, Robert de Frievill, Ralf de Plaiz, Dru de Frievilla, William de Perrep', Guy de (?mcece), and William his son, Edwin the priest of Hammes, *Robert de Chaisn'*, Roger de Vict', Ralf de Muntisdier, Hugh son of Richard."

We now turn to the county of Norfolk, where we find that about 1140 William de Cheney, son of Ralf I., gave the churches of St. Peter and St. Mary at Rudham (a manor held by "Ralf" in 1086) for the establishment of a priory of canons, afterwards known as Coxford Priory.¹⁷ The grant was made for the souls of "Ralph my brother and all my brothers and sisters," and the charter also refers to "John my nephew." The latter, that son of Ralf II. with whom we have been dealing, was regarded as the "true founder" of Coxford, and in his foundation charter¹⁸ he speaks

¹⁴ I am not certain whether this means only buying out the Earl's feudal rights or whether John had recently succeeded and was selling part of his land to pay "relief," or death duties.

¹⁵ Probably Sheriff of the Rape of Lewes.

¹⁶ "Lewes Book" (P.R.O.), f. 23.

¹⁷ *Norf. Arch.*, XVII., 288, 330. ¹⁸ *Ibid.*, 331: Dugdale, *Mon.*, VI., 369.

of "Ralf my grandfather and William his son my uncle," and makes his grants for the souls of "Ralf my grandfather, and William de Querceto, my uncle, and Roger, and their sisters, and Waleran de Rocesford, and all my relations (*parentum*), and for my own soul and those of my wife and my brothers and sisters." The witnesses to this charter include, "Sibyl wife of Sir John, Peter de Caineto and Matthew his brother." The date of this charter is given approximately by another charter of John de Querceto, addressed to William, Bishop of Norwich (1146–1174) and William Earl de Warenne, notifying the grant to the canons of the two churches of Rudham and the mills of Coxford and Thorp; to which Peter de Caineto was a witness, and which was renewed "before William, Bishop of Norwich, at Thornage (*Tornedis*) on the eve of the Ascension and day of St. Dunstan, 1148, in the presence of John de Caineto himself."¹⁹

These important charters show that Ralf I. had, besides his namesake, several sons, including William and Roger, and daughters; and that John had a wife Sibyl and brothers, besides Robert, whom we have already met, amongst whom may possibly be included Peter and Matthew,—the latter apparently the first prior of Coxford. There was, however, a contemporary Peter (see below, p. 28), of the Norfolk branch, a cousin of John. A charter of Maud de Cheyney, about 1180, grants to Eynsham Abbey land in Hayford Warren (Oxon.) "which in former days Hamelin, brother of Peter de Chaisnei, held."²⁰

John left two daughters, Emma, who married Michael Belet, and Alice, who married Geoffrey de Say, and brought to him the Sussex manors of Saddlescombe, Allington, Street and "Hammes," which became known as "Hammes Say," and afterwards Hamsey. The two daughters and their husbands united in a grant of the church of St. Margaret of Thorp to Coxford Priory.²¹ Alice's granddaughter

¹⁹ Harl. Ch., 47 H., 45.

²⁰ Salter, *Cartul. of Eynsham*, 93.

²¹ *Norf. Arch.*, XVII., 298.

Agnes married Alexander de Cheyney about 1270, and brought him as part of her dower the manor of Street,²² which thus returned to the Cheyney family.

The identity of Alexander and his connection with Ralf, the Domesday patriarch of the family, is one of the problems which I have not been able to solve. At the time of his death in 1295 he held lands in Kent and Sussex which he had obtained by his marriage, and the manor of Titeberste in Aldenham (Herts.), which had been granted him by Henry III. There was a Sir Alexander de Chesney who occurs as witness to a Buckinghamshire deed²³ of Ralph de Cheyndut (a family with whom the Cheyneys seem to have been associated) in about 1240; in which year Alexander de Chedneto presented John de Cheneto to the living of Isenhampstead (Berks.)²⁴ He was probably dead before 1259 when John, son of Sir Alexander de Cheyne, granted to the Abbey of St. Albans five messuages in St. Albans which Geoffery Nouwell and Benedicta his wife gave with Joan their daughter in marriage to John de Cheyne ancestor of the donor.²⁵ This latter John was probably son of an earlier Alexander, as in 1199 an assize was summoned to decide whether Alexander father of John de Chesnei was seised of 10 acres of wood in Suinesheued (Swineshead, Hunts.), which William son of Ralf was holding.²⁶ This I take to be the Alexander who, always in company with his brother Ralf,²⁷ witnesses charters of Robert de Chesney, Bishop of Lincoln,²⁸ William de Chesney²⁹ of Oxford the bishop's brother (by whom they are styled *cognati mei*), and Ralf Murdac,³⁰ the bishop's nephew, between 1165 and 1180. In view of the fact that Bishop Robert was accused of bestowing the estates of his church too lavishly upon his relations it is worth

²² *Cal. Inq. p. m.*, II., 335.

²³ *Anct. Deeds*, A. 141.

²⁴ *Hugh de Welles* (Linc. Rec. Soc.), II., 85.

²⁵ *Math. Paris, Chron.*, VI., 416.

²⁶ *Rot. Curiae Regis*, I., 194.

²⁷ Probably the Ralf who held two fees of the Honor of Wallingford in 1166: *Red Book of Exch.*, 309.

²⁸ *Eynsham Cartul.*, I., 17.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 415.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, 89; *Dugdale, Mon.*, VI., 1217.

noticing that land in the episcopal manor of Dean (Beds.) was held in 1216 by John de Cheyney, who seems to have been succeeded before 1228 by Alexander.³¹

I suggest, therefore, that the Alexander who brought the Cheyney name back into East Sussex was a younger son of Sir Alexander, but exactly where his line should join on to the main stem I cannot say. The descendants of Alexander I propose to deal with in section (F), and will now turn to the consideration of the Cheyneys of Norfolk, descendants of Sybil, daughter of Ralf I.

(A)

THE CHESNEYS OF NORFOLK.

Into the history of this branch I shall not go in detail; it does not greatly concern Sussex and it has been fully dealt with by Mr. Round.³² In fields which Mr. Round has reaped gleaners are apt to come away empty-handed. The pedigree brings out one rather trying habit of the family of Cheyney,—the way in which the name was assumed by descendants of the female line. Sybil, daughter of Ralf I, married Robert fitz Walter, son of Walter de Caen, a Domesday tenant. Sybil and Robert seem to have had at least five sons:—

Roger, who died without heirs.

John, the sheriff of Norfolk, who died in 1146, also childless.

William de Caisneto, to whom we will return later.

Elias.

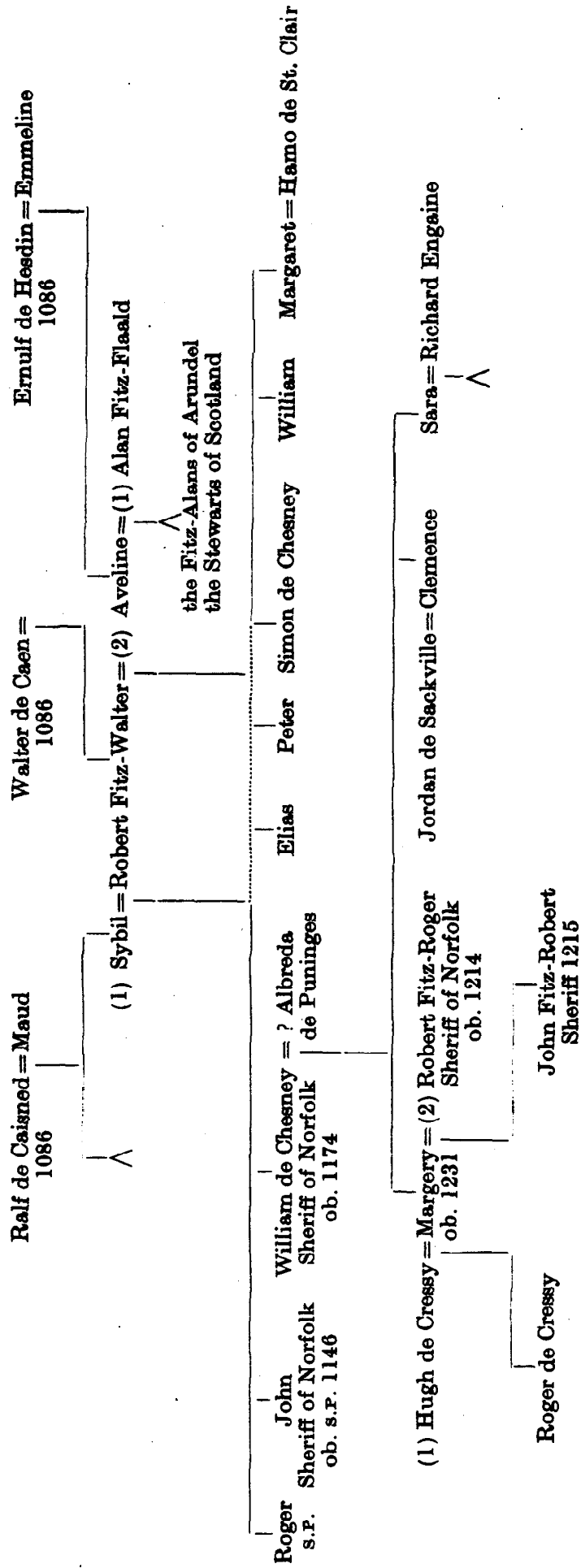
Peter.

After the death of Sybil, Robert fitz Walter married Aveline, daughter of Ernulf de Hesdin and widow of Alan fitz Flaald, by whom she was ancestress of the Stewarts of Scotland and the Fitz-Alans of Arundel. By Aveline Robert had a daughter Margaret, who married Hamo de St. Clair, and apparently a son Simon de Norwich, who was also called 'de Caisneto,' although there was no Chesney blood in his veins.

³¹ *V.C.H. Beds.*, III., 133.

³² *Genealogist* (N.S.), XVIII., 1-13; *Engl. Hist. Rev.*, XXXV., 487-496.

(A)



William de Chesney son of Robert and Sybil, is called William de Norwich and was Sheriff of Norfolk from 1157 to 1164. He was in favour with Henry II, who gave him an estate in Blyburgh in 1157 and employed him in 1167 as one of the escort of his daughter Maud on her way to marry the Duke of Saxony.³³ He seems to have held some twenty knights' fees in the eastern counties, but I do not quite understand on what grounds Mr. Round assigns to him the fees held in 1166 by 'William de Chesney' in Staffordshire, Derby and Notts. There was at least one other contemporary of the same name, and possibly as many as three. Mr. Round does not give the name of his wife; it is therefore open to me to suggest that she was Albreda de Ponynge. In the Lewes Chartulary is a charter³⁴ by which William de Kaysneto and Albreda his wife grant to the priory "for the welfare of our relations (*parentum*) and of John de Puningis, 1 virgate of land called Wilanesdena for the service of the altar of St. James, which was set up for the soul of the said John." The witnesses are Richard de Belmeis, Philip de Kaysneto, Adam de Puningis, and Walchelin the clerk. We also find a charter of Adam son of Adam de Punyngis, concerning five houses in Lewes, witnessed by Hamelin Earl Warenne, Reynold de Warenne and Albreda de Querceto "my sister."³⁵ And William, prior of Lewes (c. 1160), granted to Albreda de Caineto a messuage formerly of Reinbert and Alan his son in "Suttuna" in exchange for two other messuages and a perch of land in Waletuna (? Walton in Norfolk).³⁶

William de Chesney died in 1174, and left three daughters: Margery, Clemence, who married Jordan de Sackville, and Sara, who married Richard Engaine. The bulk of his lands went to Margery, who married, first, Hugh de Cressy, and, secondly, Robert fitz Roger of Clavering, by both of whom she left issue. Her son, Roger de Cressy, it may be observed, gave 2½ marks

³³ Pipe R., 13 Hen. II.

³⁴ Cott. MS. Vesp. F., XV., f. 125.

³⁵ Cott. MS. Vesp. F., XV., f. 124; original in "Lewes Book" (P.R.O.), f. 33.

³⁶ Cott. MS. Vesp. F., XV., f. 156.

rent in the manor of Possewyc (Postwick, Norf.) to Sibton Abbey,³⁷ "to hold of me and my heirs for the life of Margery formerly wife of Walter Maleth. For this grant the said monks have undertaken to pay 2½ marks yearly to the said Margery for me and my heirs in compensation for her dower from the land of Rottingeden and Baldesheld³⁸ which belonged to Walter her husband." The approximate date of this grant may be taken as 1212, in which year Osbert Giffard claimed against Roger de Cressi son of William half a knight's fee in Rottingeden and Baldesheld; Roger called to warranty Roger de Cressi son of Hugh.³⁹

William de Chaineto, sheriff of Norwich, made two grants to Colchester Abbey,⁴⁰ in each case "for the souls of my brothers John, Roger, Helyas and William and of my sister Margaret." Margaret, as we have seen, was William's half sister; on her death-bed she and her husband Hamo de St. Clair granted to the abbey the manor of "Stoches" (Stoke Clare, Suffolk),⁴¹ which grant her brother Simon de Caisneto confirmed by a charter addressed to Theobald, Archbishop of Canterbury (1139-1161), and William, Bishop of Norwich (1146-1175).⁴² John and Roger were full brothers of William, but his namesake must almost certainly have been a half brother and the position of Helias is uncertain. One of William's charters was witnessed by Peter "my brother,"⁴³ whose exact relationship is equally indeterminate. It is probably he who appears as Peter "de Kenet" with Nicholas de Kenet, William de Muncheaus and others as attesting a grant of a quarry at Reigate to Colchester by Earl William de Warenne.⁴⁴

Several charters of William's daughter Margaret and of her son Roger de Cressy are attested by Turgis de Cheineto and John his son⁴⁵; and we find Turgis de

³⁷ Arundel MS., 221, f. 91.

³⁸ Probably near Balsdean.

³⁹ Curia Regis 54, f. 16d. cf. *Feet of Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 106.

⁴⁰ *Cartul. mon. de Colecestre* (Roxburghe Club), 172, 180.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, 159.

⁴² *Ibid.*, 163.

⁴³ *Ibid.*, 172.

⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴⁵ *Ibid.*, 182-6.

Chesney, knight, with Stephen⁴⁶ and William de Chesnet, who were of the garrison of Framlingham Castle, received into the King's favour in 1216.⁴⁷ The family seem to have joined the baronial opposition to King John, as we also find in 1217 notifications of Margaret de Chesney in Norfolk, John de Chesney in Bedfordshire, and Reynold Chene in Cambridgeshire having returned to their fealty.⁴⁸

(B.)

THE CHESNEYS OF OXFORDSHIRE.

Ralf I., as we have seen, had a son Roger; and him I take to be the Roger de Chesney who married Aliz de Langetot, probably daughter of Ralf de Langetot who held Campton (Beds.) of Walter Gifford in 1086, and became the progenitor of the Oxfordshire Chesneys. The history of this branch has been sketched by Mr. H. E. Salter, mainly from the evidence of the Eynsham charters.⁴⁹ Mr. Salter suggests that this Roger was the man of that name who in 1086 held Heyford Warren of Robert d'Oilly; on the other hand, Blomfield⁵⁰ identifies Roger's manor as Lower Heyford, and gives Heyford Warren as the manor held by "Ralf" of Miles Crispin. Roger seems to have died in or before 1109, but his wife survived him by about forty years. They had at least ten children, of eight of whom the names are known, namely:

Hugh.

William.

Roger, who died about 1147. Mr. Salter says:

"Roger on his death-bed granted to Eynsham the mill of Dallington, Northants. From the fact that his brothers carry out the gift, and that there is no confirmation by son or daughter, we gather that Roger died without heir." But

⁴⁶ Stephen de Chaineis paid 20s. scutage in Norfolk in 1187: Pipe R., 33 Hen. II.

⁴⁷ *Cal. Rot. Claus.*, I., 254.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, 333, 326, 323.

⁴⁹ *Cartul. of Eynsham* (Oxf. Hist. Soc.), I., 411-423.

⁵⁰ *Deanery of Bicester*, II., s.v. Hayford.

the charters concerning Dallington mill show that, whatever the nature of Roger's interest, the mill belonged to Eva de Broc, wife of his cousin Walter. There is, therefore, nothing to show that he was childless, and I suggest that he was ancestor of the Cheyneys of West Sussex (C).

Ralf, who apparently died about 1150.

Robert, who became Bishop of Lincoln at the end of 1148. Giraldus Cambrensis describes him as "a man of gentle blood, by birth an Englishman, but of a Norman family. He alienated certain estates (of the see) and gave some to his nieces for marriage portions." He also made his nephew Martin treasurer of Lincoln.

Beatrice, who apparently married Ralf Murdac and died about 1170, leaving a son, Ralf Murdac.

Isabel, who married Hugh fitz-Gocelin of Buckinghamshire. Their son Walter took the name de Chesney and married Eva, daughter of Eustace de Broc.

Hawise, who probably married Roger d'Oilly.

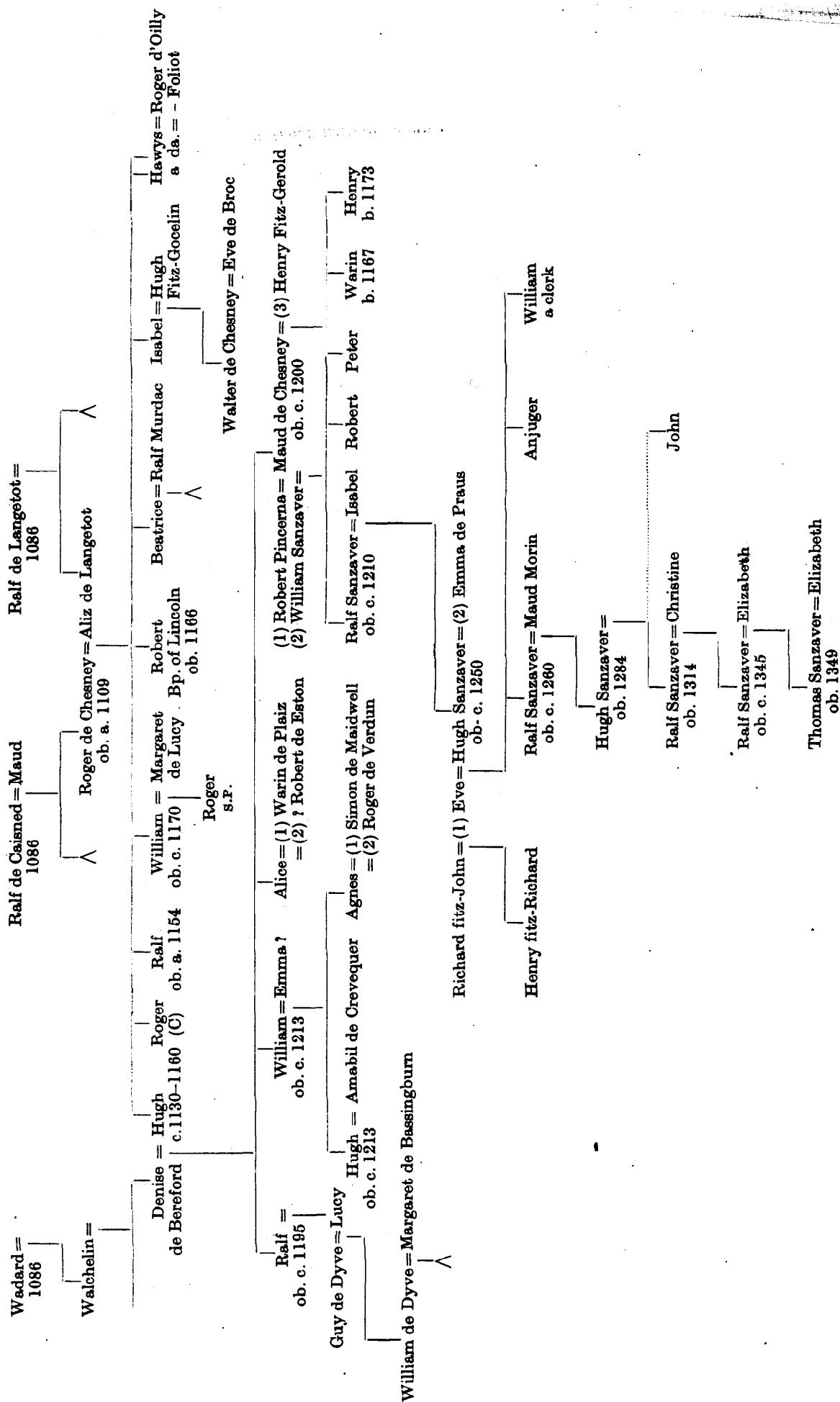
Another daughter was mother of Gilbert Foliot, Bishop of Hereford and afterwards of London.

Of these, Hugh appears on the Pipe Roll of 1130 as holding in Oxfordshire, Bedfordshire and Northants. He married Denise de Bereford, daughter and co-heir of Walkelin Waard⁵¹; her sister had married (1) Hareng, by whom she had a son, Walkelin Hareng, and (2) William Avenel, by whom she had two daughters, who married respectively Richard de Verdun and Simon Basset. Hugh had a daughter, Alice, who married Warin de Plaiz,⁵² and two sons, Ralph and William. Ralph died about 1195, leaving an only daughter Lucy, who married Guy de Dives. William, who died about 1213, had a son Hugh, who predeceased him, leaving no issue, and a daughter Agnes, who married (1) Simon

⁵¹ Curia Regis 59, m. 9.

⁵² Anct. D., A. 7056.

(B) AND (D).



de Maidewell and (2) Roger de Verdun.⁵³ The name of William's wife does not appear to be known, but she must have been a lady of some importance if it is to him that an entry refers under Northants. on the Pipe Roll of 1177:—"William de Caisneto owes £100 because he took a wife in the king's gift without licence."

Roger's other son, William de Chesney, was one of the most faithful supporters of King Stephen, and is specially mentioned in 1141, with his brother Roger, as one of the knights, more distinguished by ability than by possessions, who remained loyal to the king and active in his service after his capture.⁵⁴ About 1145 he was "governor (*preses*) of the city of Oxford and general and chief of the staff (*dux et assignator*) of the royal forces." In a charter of 1147, by which he granted the island of Medley to Oseney, he is said to describe himself as "*qui sum aldreman de Gilda Mercatorum*" of Oxford,⁵⁵ and in 1153 he is named, with Richard de Lucy, as one of Stephen's commanders who were defeated and driven back to Oxford by Henry. After Stephen's death, he, like Richard de Lucy, became a faithful supporter of Henry II. He married Margaret de Lucy, and was living in 1169, when he held nine fees of the Bishop of Lincoln,⁵⁶ but seems to have died shortly after this date. He had a son, Roger, who died without heirs,⁵⁷ possibly in his father's life-time, and in 1240 it was decided that heir was Lucy, wife of Guy de Dives or Dyve, and grand-daughter of William's brother Hugh.⁵⁸

⁵³ *Exc. e Rot. Fin.*, 148. Amabil de Crevequer gave land in Hackthorn to the priory of Bolington for the soul of her husband Hugh de Chene: Harl. Ch. 48, I., 5.

⁵⁴ *Gesta Stephani*, 80. Mr. Round identifies this Roger and William with their contemporaries of the Norfolk branch, but I think the whole evidence supports Mr. Salter's view. Mr. Salter's suggestion that the anonymous author of the *Gesta* was their brother Robert, afterwards Bishop of Lincoln, is interesting.

⁵⁵ The entry in the chartulary (Cott. MS. Vit. F., XV., 89) is badly damaged in places.

⁵⁶ Pipe R., 15 Hen. II. He had doubtless obtained them during the episcopate of his brother Robert, who died in 1166.

⁵⁷ Assize R., 695, m. 7.

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

(C.)

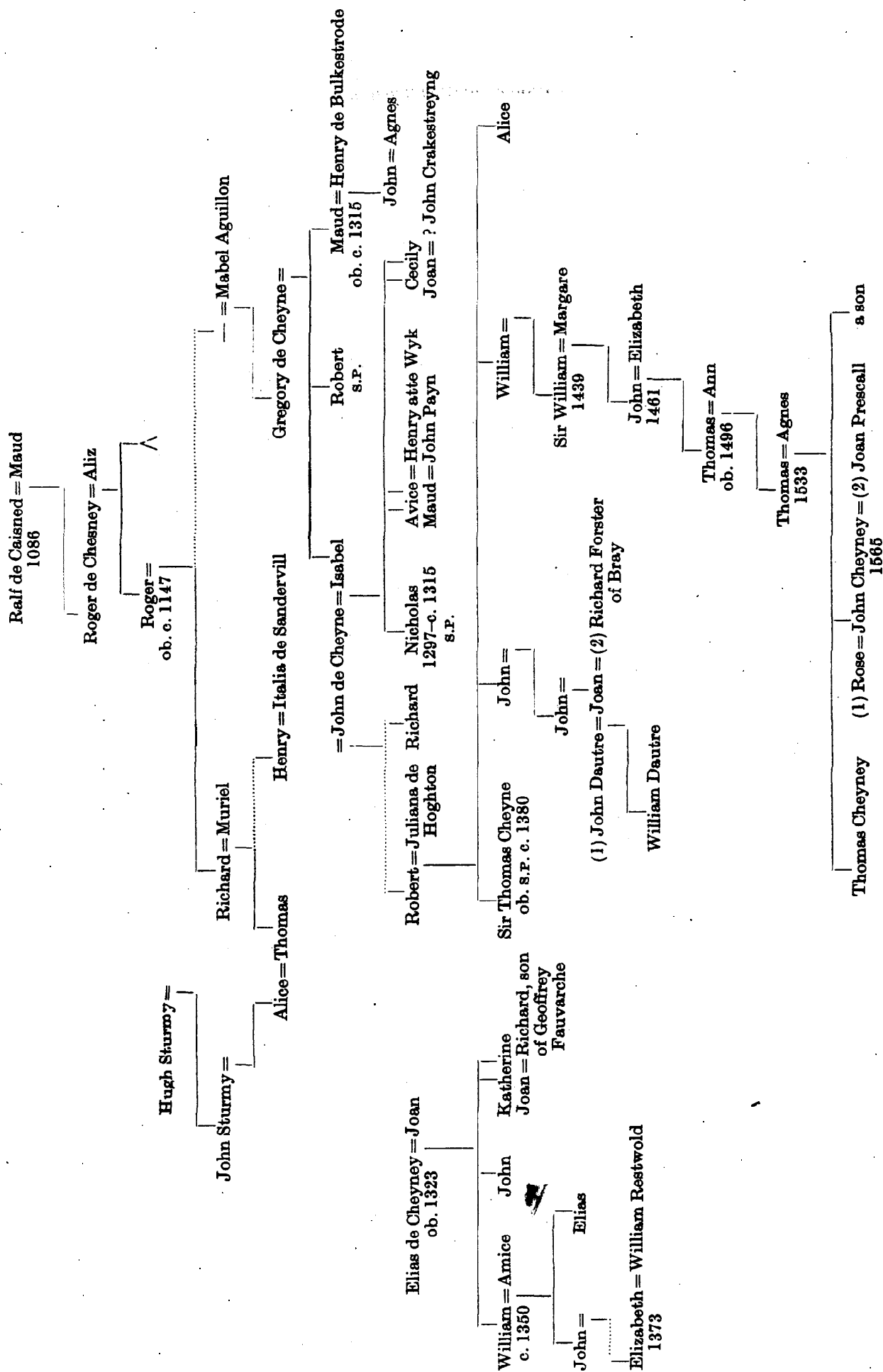
THE CHEYNEYS OF WEST SUSSEX.

At the time of the Domesday survey "Ralf" held in West Sussex: a haw in Arundel, and estates in Buddington, East Wittering, Bignor, Glatting in Sutton, and Graffham. Cheyneys are found as land-owners all round East Wittering from the beginning of the twelfth century; Bignor was held by the family of Sanzaver, who were, as we shall see, closely connected with the Cheyneys, under the family of Dyve,⁵⁹ who were, as we have seen, representatives of Hugh and William, sons of Roger; the Sanzavers also held land in Buddington⁶⁰; the tithes of Glatting were given to Lewes Priory by Ralf de Kaisneto, probably the Domesday tenant, the tithes of Graffham by Roger de Kaisneto, and the church of "Meslirs" or "Mellers" (now Madehurst) by Hugh de Kaisneto.⁶¹ Among the Eynsham charters is one of about 1170 by which William, Earl of Arundel, allows to Ralf de Cheisnei the arrangement which he has made with the abbot of Eynsham about his land of Graffham and of Mellers⁶²; but the nature of the agreement does not appear, nor is there any other reference to connect the abbey with this Sussex estate. The Ralf here referred to is probably the son of Hugh, son of Roger of Oxfordshire.

In the Lewes chartulary are four charters⁶³ which seem to link up the Sussex and Oxfordshire branches: William de Caisneto confirms a grant by "my father Roger" to Lewes of the church of Mellers and all the title of his demesne and the tithe of his demesne of Graffham; among the witnesses are Miles de Langetot and Ralf de Verding. Ralf de Keidneto confirms a grant made by the monks to "William our clerk of Medliers" touching the church of Medliers, that he is to have the tithes of my demesne of the said manor, paying to the nuns of Mallingis (Malling in Kent) 7s. "Wherefore I will that he hold the church and 1 virgate

⁵⁹ *Cal. Inq. p. m.*, II., 526.⁶⁰ *Feet of Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 15.⁶¹ *Cal. Docts. France*, 510.⁶² *Cartul. of Eynsham*, no. 86.⁶³ *Cott. MS. Vesp. F.*, XV., ff. 135, 133d, 133.

(C.)



of land and Bernard's wood, wherewith it was endowed by the gift of Roger de Keidnetho my grandfather." The witnesses to this are Robert Dawtrey (*de alta ripa*), and William his son, Ralf de Suleham, Gilbert the priest, Puniante the serjeant (*serviente*) of lord Thaillebois, Richard de Huntewia, Adwin the reeve of Medliers.⁶⁴ Then there is a charter of William de Caisneto, probably the brother of Ralf, confirming the grant of the church of Mellers to Lewes, which is attested by William fitz Roger "*dapifero meo*," Ilbert Avenel, William his son, Robert the clerk, Aldwin the reeve of Mellers and William "my clerk." Finally Hugh de Caisnei, more probably the son than the father of William, confirms to the monks the church of Mellers, with the advowson on the death of Roger the present parson, the rector paying yearly 7s. from Mellers and 3s. for tithes from Graffham.

In the inquisition of 1170 touching the Honor of Arundel is an entry:—*Terra Willelmi de Caisneto de Stoka dedit comiti de Arundel xxs. per breve regis et xxs. Radulfo de mutuo*. This evidently refers to South Stoke, which was intimately connected with Graffham and was at this time held by Hugh de Cauz.⁶⁶ It is possibly significant that the families of Chesney and Cauz both held land in Weld in Ducklington (Oxon.).⁶⁷

We now come to some more difficult problems of identification. Henry II. by a charter⁶⁸ given at Salisbury and witnessed by Thomas (Becket) as chancellor, and therefore probably of 1155, confirmed the partition of the lands of Savaric fitz-Cane between his sons Geldewin and Savaric. To Geldewin's share fell, amongst other estates, "land of the manor of Hertinges (Harting) and land of the manor of Burne (Westbourne), which William de Caisneto and Gernagod and Richard Ruffus and Thomas de Asevilla hold." Geldewin fitz-Savaric subsequently gave to Boxgrove⁶⁹

⁶⁴ Pipe R., 16 Hen. II., Sussex: Rads. de Camera et Alfwin de Milliers xxs. pro disseisina super assisam.—In pardon' Willo. de Caisneto xxs.

⁶⁵ *Red Book of Exch.*, CCLXXI.

⁶⁶ *S.A.C.*, LIX., 10-14.

⁶⁷ *Cartul. of Eynesham*, I., 83, 88.

⁶⁸ Hope, *Cowdray*, 13.

⁶⁹ Cott. MS. Claud. A., VI., 75.

"the mill of Butheswille and the land of the same well (*fonte*), as William de Cheisnei gave them." Among the witnesses to this charter are Lady Estrangia, wife of Geldewin, and Sibyl, wife of William de Chesnei. Ralph Sanzaver and Maud "my mother" confirmed this gift of "the mill of Butehulle (*sic*), and the land of the same well which William de Cheisneto my uncle gave them . . . as my lord Geudwin confirmed; and we have given the assart land which the wife of Roger (Cheinei, *in margin*) held; and of the grant of the said William my uncle the land which is called Wurda." With Maud and the Sanzavers I shall deal later, and we shall then see that this William was the son of Hugh, eldest son of Roger.

We find a Richard de Chesneto in 1207 engaged in a suit with Enjuger de Bohun, grandson of Geldewin, as to land in Rogate, adjoining Harting, and "Elham."⁷⁰ We also find him as one of the jury in a case between Richard and Manasser Aguellun touching land in Inland (in Westbourne).⁷¹ This Richard gave land to Boxgrove⁷² "for the soul of Roger de Keisnei my father,"—presumably the Roger whose wife is mentioned by Ralph Sanzaver. I suggest, therefore, that Richard was the son of Roger, and that he was the Roger, son of the founder of the Oxfordshire branch.

In 1204 William de Fauvarches claimed against Richard de Cheisny and Muriel his wife land in "Waberton" (? Walberton), which he said had been given him by his grandfather Robert de Waberton⁷³: the identity of Muriel does not appear. Thomas, son and heir of Richard de Keisneto gave to Boxgrove "la Hulle" in Birdham.⁷⁴ Thomas also gave the monks a right of way through his land in East Itchenor to the land which John Sturmi had given them.⁷⁵ He married Alice, daughter and heir of John, son of Hugh Esturmi,⁷⁶ and is mentioned in 1236, when John de Wykes granted to Hubert de Warham land in Wykes

⁷⁰ *Cal. Rot. Claus.*, I., 93.

⁷² *Cott. MS. Claud. A.*, VI., 68.

⁷⁴ *Cott. MS. Claud. A.*, VI., 111d.

⁷¹ *Rot. Cur. Regis*, II., 50.

⁷³ *Curia Regis*, 29, m. 3; 30, m. 10d.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, 92d.

⁷⁶ *Ibid.*, 102.

(Rumbaldswick outside Chichester) with the service of Thomas de Cheney and Alice his wife.⁷⁷ Contemporary with Thomas, and possibly his younger brother, was Henry de Chesnei, who in 1219 sold 3 virgates in Clayton and Stammerham to William Berneus.⁷⁸ Five years later we find Henry de Keisneto claiming, in right of his wife Italia, against William Bernehus and Agnes his wife 22 acres in "Wellegrave"; but his suit was adjourned as William was in Poitou on the king's service.⁷⁹ Italia and Agnes were sisters of Sara de Sandervill,⁸⁰ and they are presumably the "heirs of Gilbert de Sandervill,"⁸¹ who were in ward to Hugh Esturmi in 1187. Henry de Casneto is found witnessing a confirmation by Bertha, daughter and heir of William de Lancinges, of a grant of 2 hides in Earnley made by her father to his uncle Luke de Erneleia.⁸² The original grant by William de Lancinges, son of William and Maud, it may be remarked, was witnessed by Richard de Cadneto; and a grant of "about 1255" by Ralf de Erneleye to Thomas his brother was witnessed by a Hugh de Kaineto, with whom I have not met elsewhere.⁸³

There now comes a gap in our records. Roger de Cheinei in 1263 sold 50 acres in Itchenor and Birdham to Thomas de Chanceus,⁸⁴ and in 1296 Nicholas and Robert Cheney occur in the subsidy roll for Manhood Hundred,⁸⁵ Nicholas being the largest contributor in the Hundred. In the same subsidy Elias de Chenne pays nearly four times as much as any other person under Tortington,⁸⁶ he having bought that manor in the previous year from William de Braclesham, Dean of Chichester.⁸⁷ Elias also held land from the Bishop in Cakeham in 1300 and 1310,⁸⁸ and is found dealing

⁷⁷ *Feet of Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 329.

⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, 150.

⁷⁹ *Curia Regis* 58, m. 12d.

⁸⁰ Cott. MS. Claud. A., VI., 126.

⁸¹ Pipe R. 33 Hen. II., Honor de Arundel.

⁸² *Hist. MSS. Com. Various*, IV., 97.

⁸³ *Ibid.*, 99.

⁸⁴ *Feet of Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 709.

⁸⁵ *Subsidy Rolls* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 89.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*, 79.

⁸⁷ *Feet of Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 1101.

⁸⁸ *Episc. Recs. Liber P.*, f. 13; *ex inf.* Mr. W. D. Peckham.

with property in Eastergate in 1317 and 1321.⁸⁹ In the latter year John de Rumbryg and Amy his wife complained that they had been disseised of 5 mesuages and 20 acres of land in West Wittering by Elias de Chenney and Joan his wife, Katherine, daughter, and William, son of Elias and Richard de Gouneshudd. The land had been held by William Sturmy, whose son Roger granted it to Robert de Lypering and Joan his wife, who was mother of the said Roger, with reversion to Clement his brother; and the question was whether Clement had granted his rights to his daughter Amy and her husband John or to Elias.⁹⁰ The case was decided in favour of John and Amy, but in 1326 a suit was brought against them by Joan, now the widow of Elias, and Katherine her daughter,⁹¹ but with what result does not appear. Besides William, mentioned above, Elias had another son,⁹² as in 1346 a pardon (for unspecified offences) was granted to John, son of Elias Chenny of Tortington for his good service in France as testified by John Brocas.⁹³ William, son of Elias, is presumably the Sir William Chenne⁹⁴ who with Amice his wife (who after his death married Richard de Stapeldon) in 1346, settled the manors of Tortington and Itchenor, then held in part for life by Joan, widow of Elias, on themselves with remainder to their son John.⁹⁵ They seem to have had another son, as in 1328 Robert le Mareschal claimed to have been disseised of land in Wittering and Sidlesham by William de Chenny and Elias his son.⁹⁶ As the manor of Tortington was sold to the Earl of Arundel in 1373 by William, son of Ralph Restwold and Elizabeth his wife,⁹⁷ it seems probable that Elizabeth was the daughter and heir of John Cheney.

Going back to the year 1321, we find a Robert de

⁸⁹ *Cal. Anct. Deeds*, B. 1467, 1469.

⁹⁰ Assize R. 938, m. 34d.

⁹¹ *Ibid.*, m. 14.

⁹² He had also a daughter Joan who married Richard son of Geoffrey Fauvarche before 1330: *De Banco*, 278, m. 58.

⁹³ *Pat.* 20 Edw. III., pt. 4, m. 4.

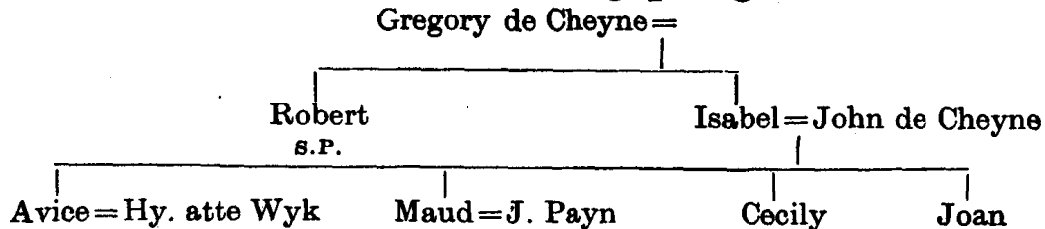
⁹⁴ Knight of the Shire of Sussex in 1333 and 1347: *S.A.C.*, XXX., 175, 181.

⁹⁵ *Feet of Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 2269.

⁹⁶ Assize R. 938, m. 1d.

⁹⁷ *Feet of Fines*, 2421.

Cheyne failing in a claim brought against Elias and Joan touching lands in East Wittering, but successful in his claim against the four daughters and co-heirs of John and Isabel de Cheyne.⁹⁸ In the course of the plea we are given the following pedigree:



Moreover, when Juliana Aguillon died in 1313 her property in Westbourne had to be divided⁹⁹ between the descendants of the three sisters of her grandfather William Aguillon. From the enquiry then held we learn that the youngest of these three sisters, Mabel was the mother of Gregory de Cheyne; that Gregory had another daughter, Maud, wife of Henry Bulkestrode, still living in 1313; and that Isabel had at that date a son, Nicholas de Cheyne, of the age of 16.¹⁰⁰ Unfortunately the name of Gregory's father is not given, nor is there anything to show the relationships between Isabel, John and Robert, the plaintiff in 1321; but as Cecily, sister of Maud, wife of John Payn, brought an action against Robert, son of John de Cheyny and Richard his brother, John Crakestreynge and Joan his wife, and Henry atte Wyke and Avice his wife,¹⁰¹ it is probable that Robert was the son of John by a previous marriage.

Robert Cheyne, just mentioned, married Juliana, sister and eventually heir of John Houghton, and thereby the manor of Houghton came into the hands of his descendants. His eldest son, Sir Thomas Cheyne,¹⁰² in 1363, being about to go abroad, made a

⁹⁸ Assize R. 938, m. 34.

⁹⁹ For details of the division, see, Mee, *Bourne in the Past*.

¹⁰⁰ *Cal. Inq. p. m.*, V., 407.

¹⁰¹ Assize R. 938, m. 37d.

¹⁰² Presumably the Thomas Cheyne who in 1330 acted as attorney for John, son of Henry de Bulkestrode, and Agnes his wife, in a fine concerning land in East Wittering, formerly held by Henry's wife Maud; *Feet of Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 1849. If he was the Sir Thomas Cheyne who assisted the Prior of Lewes to repel the French at Rottingdean in 1377 (*S.A.C.*, XII., 42) he must have been an elderly man at the time.

settlement of part of his property in Houghton and Billingham, which fortunately led to a law suit in 1474, in the course of which the pedigree of the family for five generations was recited.¹⁰³ Sir Thomas died without issue; his next brother John had a son John whose daughter Joan married (1) John Dautre, by whom she had a son William Dautre, and (2) Richard Forster of Bray. The third son of Robert was William,¹⁰⁴ whose son Sir William was father of John,¹⁰⁵ who married Elizabeth and left a son Thomas Cheyne. Robert had also a daughter Alice, of whom we hear no more.

Thomas Cheyne, who held of the manor of Amberley 4 hides in Houghton by knight's service, died in 1496.¹⁰⁶ Another Thomas Cheney of Houghton, probably his son, married a certain Agnes, and in 1533 sold to Sir William Skeffington, master of the Ordnance, the wardship and marriage of his son and heir Thomas, to marry the daughter of Sir William or some other honest young gentlewoman. If Thomas died, Skeffington should have the second son William, and if he died the third son.¹⁰⁷ Whether the younger Thomas did marry "Skeffington's daughter" I do not know; but if so he apparently did not survive very long, as in 1548 Houghton manor was settled on William, son of Thomas Cheyne, and Joan, daughter of Thomas and Margaret Prescall, whom he was about to marry.¹⁰⁸ William had previously married

¹⁰³ *Coram Rege* 853, m. 114; cf. *Genealogist*, XIX., §108, quoting De Banco Mich., 8 Edw. IV., m. 328.

¹⁰⁴ He dealt with land in Bosham in 1373 (*Feet of Fines*, 2420). He and his son were probably lawyers, as the name of William Cheyne occurs frequently in West Sussex fines between 1360 and 1435 as an attorney, or as one of the parties to a settlement. The son, indeed, seems to have been Chief Justice of the King's Bench in 1426 (*Cal. Anct. Deeds*, A. 7406). In 1439 Sir William settled on himself and Margaret his wife the manor of Houghton and lands, &c., in the neighbourhood of Birdham, Chichester and Pulborough: *Feet of Fines*, 3025.

¹⁰⁵ John Cheyne and Elizabeth occur at Birdham in 1461: Add. Ch. 24906.

¹⁰⁶ Court Roll, Eccles. Com., P.R.O. The brass to him and his wife Ann in Houghton church is wrongly said in *S.A.C.*, XXIII., 165, to give the date as 1486.

¹⁰⁷ *L. & P. Hen. VIII.*, VI., 1627.

¹⁰⁸ *Sussex Manors* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 230.

a wife named Rose, as appears from a second settlement of the manor upon himself and Joan his wife in 1553, in which remainder is to the heirs of his body by Rose his late wife. These heirs probably died, as in 1565 a third settlement of the manor on William and Joan for their lives gave the remainder to John Caryll, esq. and his heirs.¹⁰⁹ Beyond this date I have not traced the Cheyneys of West Sussex.

(D.)

MAUD DE CHESNEY AND THE SANZAVERS.

In 1185 Maud de Caisneto was, as a widow, in the king's gift, and had two sons, of whom the elder was 18 and the younger 12.¹¹⁰ She held land in "Camelton" (Campton, Beds.) worth £7 yearly. She is known to have married Henry fitz-Gerold, chamberlain to Henry II., and her sons were Warin and Henry. Two years earlier, in 1183, she had paid, or rather promised, 300 marks to have her land and the custody of her son¹¹¹; and she was still paying this off in 1198, in which year she also paid 50 marks to have the third part of "Dadinton" (Deddington, Oxon.)¹¹². In the previous year the sheriff had accounted for two-thirds of Deddington, in the King's hands for some reason not stated, but probably because Warin fitz-Gerold had forfeited his lands for supporting John in his plots against King Richard.¹¹³ Among the deductions from the farm of the manor are:—"In land given to Richard fitz John 5s., of the gift of Maud de Caisneto. And to Hugh de la Mare 20s. for 1 hide of land which the same Maud gave him. And to Miles de Frettevil 10s. for half a hide which the same Maud gave him. And to Juliana 5s. for a virgate of land which the same Maud gave her. And to William de Parco for 1 hide of land which William de Caisneto gave him."¹¹⁴ Maud is also found giving the mill of Clifton in Deddington to Eynsham.¹¹⁵

¹⁰⁹ *Sussex Manors* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 230.

¹¹⁰ *Rot. de Dominabus* (Pipe R. Soc.), 31.

¹¹¹ Pipe R., 29 Hen. II.

¹¹² Pipe R., 9 Ric. I.

¹¹³ Cf. *Cartul. of Eynsham*, I., 99.

¹¹⁴ Pipe R., 8 Ric. I.

¹¹⁵ *Cartul. of Eynsham*, I., 92.

As Campton was held at the time of the Domesday survey by Ralf de Langetot it is evident that Maud was a descendant, and from her date presumably a grandchild, of Alice de Langetot and Roger de Chesney, but exactly where she fits into the pedigree is not so obvious. Another important question is, whether she was identical with the contemporary Maud who is found in Sussex. We have seen above (p. 34) that Ralf Sanzaver speaks of his mother Maud and his uncle William de Chesney. Maud de Cheinei, with the consent of "my lord, Robert Pincerna," gave to Lewes Priory a certain Roger Curebroche and his land, namely, 1 virgate, and Aldwin de la Rede, her charter being witnessed by "my lord, Robert" and others, including Ralf de Bigeneure.¹¹⁶ Ralf Sanzaver (*sine averio*) confirmed to Lewes 5s. of land which Roger Curebroche and Herbert de la Rede held, namely, 1 virgate and half a ferding, with the land of la Rede, which "my mother" gave, William Dawtrey (*de Alta Ripa*), Peter brother of Ralf, Alexander and Walter his servants (*servientibus suis*) being witnesses.¹¹⁷ Maud de Chesney, therefore, had a husband, Robert Pincerna and a son, Ralf Sanzaver; but Robert was not the father of Ralf, for in the Dureford Chartulary¹¹⁸ we find:

"I, Ralf Saunzaver, at the petition of Maud my mother and with the consent of Isabel my wife and Hugh my heir have granted (to Dureford) 3s. of land of the holding of Budinton in the parish of Fernhurst, namely, the land of la Rude which Edwin held, together with the same Edwin and his children. This grant I have made for the welfare of King Henry the Second, son of Maud, and for the welfare of the queen and their children and for the welfare of myself and my wife and our children and for the soul of my father William and my mother Maud and all our ancestors and successors."

The identification of Ralf's father as William is further established by a lawsuit¹¹⁹ in 1206, when Ralf Sanzaver claimed against William de Rakindon 2½ hides of land in Rakinton (Racton) and Stansted as

¹¹⁶ Cott. MS. Vesp. F. XV., f. 155d.

¹¹⁷ *Ibid.*, f. 156.

¹¹⁸ Cott. MS. Vesp. E. XXIII., f. 65.

¹¹⁹ Curia Regis 42, m. 4.

his right, whereof William his father was seised at the time of the death of Henry I. (*die et anno quo Rex Henricus avus fuit vivus et mortuus*), in which land the defendant had entry only through Imbert his father, who received it from Savaric de Forde, lord of that fee, while the said Ralf was in ward to him.¹²⁰

Savaric de Forde was the second son of Savaric fitz-Cane and Muriel de Bohun; he held the Norman estates of Bohun and the Sussex lordship of Ford from about 1157 to 1187. Ralf must therefore have been born before 1187, and as Ralf and Hugh his son attest a charter¹²¹ of William, son and heir of Richard Musard, in 1212, Ralf must presumably have been married by 1190. It seems, therefore, safe to identify him with the Ralf Sanzaver who held in Wenham in 1196,¹²² and was pardoned 30s. scutage in the Honor of Arundel in 1187.¹²³ On the other hand, he was not the Ralf Sanzaver who held a fee *in capite* in Devon in 1166,¹²⁴ and paid scutage in that county in 1172,¹²⁵ as we find that in 1176 Albreda, wife of Ralf, "Sine Averio," of Devon, paid 3 marks for leave to marry again.¹²⁶

From these facts we gather that the Sussex Maud de Chesney, sister of William de Chesney, was the wife of William Sanzaver about 1160, and married Robert Pincerna at an uncertain date. On the other hand, the Maud de Chesney of Oxford was wife to Henry fitz-Gerald at least during the period 1165–1172, and was a widow in 1185. While such a triple marriage is not impossible in itself, it seems unlikely that in the *Rotulus de Dominabus* her children by her previous husband should be ignored. There is, however, a charter by which Maud's son Ralf Seynz Aver confirms to Lewes Priory the church of Bigeneur (Bignor), which Hugh his grandfather had given.¹²⁷ As Bignor was held in 1086 by "Ralf," it is clear that the Hugh

¹²⁰ For the settlement of the case see *Feet of Fines*, 111.

¹²¹ Cott. MS. Vesp. F. XV. f. 132.

¹²² Pipe R., 7 Ric. I., Honor of Arundel.

¹²³ Pipe R., 33 Hen. II.

¹²⁴ *Red Book of Exch.*, 261.

¹²⁵ Pipe R., 18 Hen. II.

¹²⁶ Pipe R., 22 Hen. II.

¹²⁷ *Anct. Deeds* (P.R.O.), A. 14212.

here referred to was the grandson of Ralf and eldest son of Roger, and that Maud de Chesney of Oxford and Sussex was his daughter.

We will next consider the husbands and descendants of Maud. If Robert Pincerna is the same as Robert de Dene,¹²⁸ and I can find no other man of the name, he was dead before 1166, and probably ten years earlier; in which case he must have been Maud's first husband.

Sanzaver, "Saunz avoir," or "Sine averio," as it was constantly Latinized, originated as a nickname, meaning "the man without property," "the penniless lad." The original adventurer evidently mended his fortune but kept his nickname and passed it on to his descendants, so that by 1166 we find not only Ralf holding in Devon, but a Thomas Sanzaver holding a knight's fee of Walter fitz-Robert in Essex,¹²⁹ and in Norfolk mention of a knight's fee of Reiner "Sine Averio," given by King Henry to William de Albini.¹³⁰ About the same time land in "Ierpeston" was given to the priory of Bungay by Bartholomew Sanzaver,¹³¹ who is elsewhere referred to as grandfather of William, son of Roger de Stoctune.¹³² Maud's eldest son Ralf married, sometime before 1195, Isabel, daughter of Cecily, daughter of Richard de Vernun, and received as her marriage portion Croxton in Cambridgeshire.¹³³ In 1204 Ralf went, or at least intended to go, on crusade, as in that year orders were given to hasten the hearing of suits brought by Ralf Sanzaver against Ralf de Brueria (or Briwerre) and Muriel his wife, for land in "Herham" (? Eartham) and against William de Gundevil for land in Racton and Stansted,¹³⁴ as Ralf had taken the cross and was anxious to depart. It is perhaps worth noting that the above-mentioned Muriel is referred to in 1240 as "Muriel de Bohun, formerly

¹²⁸ See *S.A.C.*, LVIII.

¹²⁹ *Red Book of Exch.*, 348.

¹³⁰ *Ibid.*, 398.

¹³¹ Dugdale, *Mon.*, IV., 339. He occurs in Suffolk in 1200: *Cal. of Curia Regis R.*, I., 188.

¹³² *Hist. MSS. Com., Various*, VII., 228.

¹³³ *Abbr. Plac.*, 7.

¹³⁴ *Curia Regis*, 32, m. 6; 33, m. 9d, cf. *Feet of Fines*, 100.

wife of Ralf de Brueria.”¹³⁵ The Sanzavers appear to have been closely connected with the Bohuns, by tenure if not by blood, as not only was Ralf in ward to Savaric, but one of Ralf’s grandsons, as we shall see, bore the peculiar Bohun name of Enjuger, and while the Sanzavers bore as their arms azure crusilly 3 crescents or, we find Enjuger de Bohun sealing with a crescent and Savaric de Bohun with a crescent within an orle of martlets.¹³⁶

Ralf’s charter to Boxgrove is witnessed by his brother Robert, and that to Lewes by his brother Peter, but of them I know nothing more, and I am not even certain that they did not take their mother’s name of Chesney; for a charter¹³⁷ of William, son of Hugh de Wildebrigge to Lewes is attested by “Ralf Senzaver and Hugh de Chenei his son,” and it would be quite in accordance with precedents in the Oxford and Norfolk branches for the mother’s name to be taken by some of her sons.

Ralf had died and been succeeded by his son Hugh before 1217, in which year orders were sent to Falkes de Breauté that as Hugh Sanzaver had returned to his allegiance seisin should be given to him and to Isabel his mother of the lands of which he was disseised owing to the war between King John and the barons.¹³⁸ Hugh married Eve, widow of Richard fitz-John of Spargrove (Somerset), and by a fine in 1233 he obtained from her son Henry fitz-Richard the manor of Spargrove in exchange for the manors of “Neuham” (Oxon.) and Racton.¹³⁹ On the death of Eve, Hugh gave to the Somerset priory of Stavordale endowments to support a canon to celebrate mass for her soul.¹⁴⁰ He then married Emma de Praus, heir of Ralf de Sulligni of Kilmersdon (Somerset).¹⁴¹ In 1248 he obtained from William de Dyve the manor of

¹³⁵ *Assize R.*, 895, m. 13.

¹³⁶ *Harl. MS.*, 2044, f. 122d.

¹³⁷ *Cott. MS. Vesp. F. XV.*, f. 155d.

¹³⁸ *Cal. Rot. Claus.*, I., 304.

¹³⁹ *Feet of Fines*, 527.

¹⁴⁰ *Somers. Arch. Soc.*, LXI., 105–7.

¹⁴¹ *Cal. Misc. Inq.*, I., 22.

Bignor, to be held as three knight's fees as of William's manor of Woworth in Graffham.¹⁴²

Hugh died about 1250, and was succeeded by his eldest son Ralf, who in 1231 had married Maud, sister of Richard Morin.¹⁴³ An interesting charter¹⁴⁴ of William, prior of Stavordale, acknowledges that the priory is bound to acquit Sir Ralf Sanzaver of service due from land which it had "ex dono Anjugerii¹⁴⁵ sine averio fratris ejusdem Radulfi in villa de Rakinton."¹⁴⁶ The charter is witnessed by "domino Hugone sine averio, domino Willielmo de Hystenestham (*recte* Wysteneston), domino Drugone de halta ripa, domino Willielmo Godmanestham (? de Godmaneston), magistro Willielmo sine averio,¹⁴⁷ Johanne de Hescite, Roberto Bosse."

Ralf had died and been succeeded by his son Hugh by 1263, when Hugh Sanzaver, William le Waleys and William Sanzaver held jointly half a knight's fee of the Earl of Gloucester in Gransden (Hunts.) and Toppesfield (Essex).¹⁴⁸ Hugh died on 20 March, 1284, seised of Spargrove manor in Somerset, Bignor manor, held of the heir of William Dyve, the hamlet of Rogate, rents in Racton and a windmill and rents in Eartham, all held of Sir John de Bohun.¹⁴⁹ His son and heir Ralf was then aged 22, and it is probable that John, Sannzaver, who makes a solitary appearance at West Burton in 1292,¹⁵⁰ was another son. This Ralf was ordered to go to Gascony in 1295 with Edmund of Lancaster, but obtained leave to remain in the retinue of Sir William de Braose, receiving £100,—or rather £60 and two horses which Ralf considered were not as good as they should have been.¹⁵¹ He died in November, 1314, seised of Great Gransden (Hunts.);

¹⁴² *Feet of Fines*, 460.

¹⁴³ *Cal. Chart. R.*, I., 132.

¹⁴⁴ *Somers. Arch. Soc.*, LXI., 107-8.

¹⁴⁵ Printed "Amugerii."

¹⁴⁶ Printed "Rakincham."

¹⁴⁷ Hugh Sanzaver presented his son William to the church of Bignor in 1236 on the death of Joscelin de Altaripa, but subsequently admitted the right of Lewes Priory to present: Cott. MS. Vesp. F. XV., f. 154.

¹⁴⁸ *Cal. Inq.*, p. m., I., p. 160.

¹⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, II., 256.

¹⁵⁰ *Feet of Fines*, 1079.

¹⁵¹ *Cases before the King's Council* (Selden Soc.), 16.

Croxton (Cambs.) held jointly with Cristine his wife, by grant of John de Helpiston and Alice his wife (possibly her parents), of the heir of Miles de Langetoft; and in Sussex, Bignor, with Medehone in Petworth, Sparwode in Kirdford, the lordship of the manor of Graffham, and tenements in Buddington, all held of the heir of Henry de Percy.¹⁵²

Ralf Sanzaver left a son and heir Ralf, aged 22 in 1314, who had a wife named Elizabeth.¹⁵³ He was living in 1337, but had died before 1346, when the manors of Bignor and Madehurst, of which one-third was held in dower by Elizabeth, widow of Ralf Sanzaver, were settled on Thomas, son of Ralf, Sanzaver and Elizabeth his wife.¹⁵⁴ Thomas died, possibly of the Black Death, as in 1349 Howick in Rudgewick was held by Sir Henry Husee of Elizabeth, widow of Thomas Sanzaver, as of her manor of Bignor.¹⁵⁵ With Thomas the family disappears from Sussex, and their lands passed into the hands of the Earls of Arundel.

(E.)

THE CHESNEYS OF PERCHING.

As already mentioned (p. 21), Perching was held in 1086 by William de Wateville and another estate in that vill was held by Tezelin, the descent of whose manor of Addington is given below. In 1218 the prior of Merton leased to Sir William Aguillon a windmill in "Percinges," as it had been granted to them by Bartholomew de Kainet'.¹⁵⁶ Two years later, in 1220, William Aguillon and Joan his wife claimed against Ralf de Clere the vill of Greatham (Hunts.), whereof Philip de Cheisneto was seised in the time of Henry II. From Philip the right had descended to Bartholomew as son of Reynold, brother of Philip, and from Bartholomew to Isabel his daughter, mother of the said Joan; as they offered to prove (in a duel) by the body of

¹⁵² *Cal. Inq. p. m.*, V., 523.

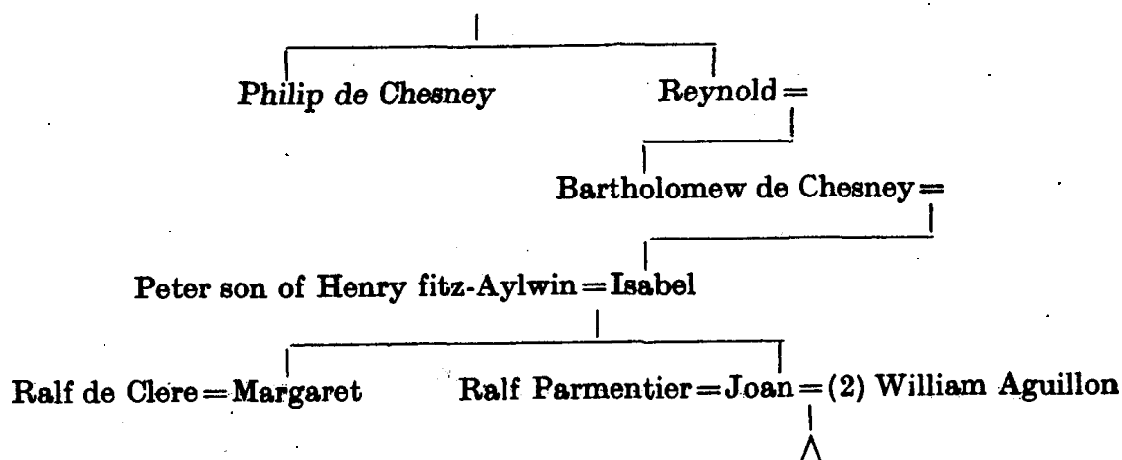
¹⁵³ *Feet of Fines*, 1848.

¹⁵⁵ *Cal. Inq. p. m.*, IX., 222.

¹⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, 2006.

¹⁵⁶ *Cott. MS. Cleop. C. VII.*, f. 86d.

their free man Alexander Dereman. Ralf de Clere said in reply that Mabel de Clere, his mother, was holding two-thirds of the vill in dower; also he denied the right of Joan and offered to prove his case by the body of his free man Simon Fot. An agreement was reached by which Ralf recognized that the land belonged to Joan to be held as half a knight's fee; in return for which William and Joan paid him 10 marks.¹⁵⁷ The relationship between the parties to this suit appears from the descent of the manor of Addington in Surrey.¹⁵⁸ This manor, which in 1086 was in the hands of Tezelin the Cook, was held by the serjeanty of presenting the king at his coronation with a dish of gruel,¹⁵⁹ was held by Bartholomew de Chesney in the twelfth century. Richard I. granted it with Bartholomew's daughter and heir Isabel to Peter, son of Henry fitz-Aylwin, first mayor of London. Peter and Isabel¹⁶⁰ had two daughters. The elder, Margaret, married Ralf de Clerc, and is said to have died without issue, but the above suit suggests that the defendant Ralf was her son—"Mabel," being probably one of those slips so frequent in these rolls. The younger daughter, Joan, married first Ralf Parmentier, merchant tailor of London, and secondly William Aguillon, whose son Robert left a daughter Isabel, who married Hugh Bardolf.¹⁶¹



¹⁵⁷ Curia Regis 77, m. 12.

¹⁵⁸ V.C.H. Surrey, IV., 164.

¹⁵⁹ Round, *The King's Serjeants*, 243.

¹⁶⁰ Isabel was dead in 1204: *Cal. Rot. Cart.*, 114.

¹⁶¹ *Feet of Fines*, 1244, 1523, 1530.

(F.)

THE CHEYNEYS OF EAST SUSSEX.

As we have already seen (p. 25), Agnes, daughter of William de Say, married Alexander de Cheyney, and so brought back into that family the Sussex manor of Street. Alexander seems to have owned no land before his marriage, as at the time of his death in 1295 his manors of Street in Sussex, Patricksbourne and Keston in Kent and Titeburste in Aldenham (Herts.) were all held of the Says.¹⁶² In the case of Patricksbourne the feoffment had been made without the royal licence, but Edward I., wishing to reward Sir William, the son and heir of Alexander, for his good service in Gascony, excused the irregularity and received his fealty for the manor.¹⁶³ Sir William married Margaret, daughter and heir of Robert Shurland of Kent, and their eldest son William settled the manor and advowson of Street on himself and his wife Margery in 1333.¹⁶⁴ William had two brothers, as appears in 1332, when Robert, brother of Sir William de Cheney of Street, was pardoned outlawry for non-appearance in the King's Bench to answer a plea of trespass brought by Robert le Mareschal against them and Peter their brother.¹⁶⁵ Of Peter we hear no more, but on the death of William de Cheyney without issue in 1334, Robert, his brother, then of the age of 30 and upwards, succeeded to his estates.¹⁶⁶

Robert Cheyney died in 1365, leaving two sons, Richard and Roger.¹⁶⁷ Richard married Margery, daughter and co-heir of Robert de Cralle by Margaret, daughter and heir of Simon Pepplesham, and had, according to the visitation pedigrees, five daughters and two sons, William and Simon. William, of Shurland, married Eleanore, daughter and co-heir of John and Agnes Salerne of Iden.¹⁶⁸ He is found acting as Justice of the Peace, and serving on various

¹⁶² *Cal. Inq. p. m.* III., 335.¹⁶³ *Abb. Rot. Orig.*, I., 96.¹⁶⁴ *Feet of Fines*, 1826.¹⁶⁵ *Pat.* 6 Edw. III., p. 1, m. 23.¹⁶⁶ *Cal. Inq. p. m.*, VII., 614.¹⁶⁷ *Visit. of Berks.* (Harl. Soc.), 102.¹⁶⁸ Cf. *Early Chanc. Proc.*, 4, no. 78.

commissions between 1401 and 1407.¹⁶⁹ His son John is presumably the John Cheyne who on 14 July, 1417, pledged to Sir John Pelham at Laughton, as security for a loan of 60 marks,—“a vestment of blue velvet with orphreys of red velvet embroidered with lilies and ‘rounde clowdes,’ that is to say, a cope, 2 albs, 2 tunicles, a chasuble, 2 amuces, 3 ‘fanouns,’ and 2 stoles, also a cope of red velvet with orphreys checky of blue and (? *bagies*) embroidered with gold; also two books called ‘bybles,’ the one of the old testament the other of the new testament.”¹⁷⁰ This Sir John Cheyne married Eleanor, daughter and heir of Sir Robert Shottesbroke of Berkshire, by whom he had a large family. In 1474 we find his widow Eleanor, with (his sons) John Cheyne, esq., William Cheyne, esq., Roger, Alexander and Humphrey Cheyne, gent., licensed to found a chantry in the chapel of the Holy Trinity, lately built by Sir Robert Shotesbroke in the cemetery of the parish church of the Holy Trinity of Farringdon, Berks., for the souls of Sir Robert Shotesbroke, Edith his first wife, Elizabeth his second wife, and Sir John Cheyne.¹⁷¹ Of these sons,¹⁷² John became a Knight of the Garter, but died without issue; Roger was the ancestor of the Cheyneys of Woodhey (Berks.)¹⁷³; and William, who died in 1486, seised of the manor of Legh *alias* Iden in Sussex,¹⁷⁴ was father of Sir Thomas Cheyne, K.G., Warden of the Cinque Ports, who died in 1558.¹⁷⁵

Going back now to Simon the second son of Richard Cheyne, we find that he inherited his mother’s estates of Cralle in Warbleton. The visitation pedigrees agree in assigning him as wife Eleanor, daughter of John Nottingham of Milsted in Kent. Simon Cheyne is found in 1439 dealing with land in Iden and Beckley¹⁷⁶ also, in conjunction with Alexander Cheyne, in 1437,

¹⁶⁹ *Cal. Pat. R.*, *passim*.

¹⁷⁰ Add. Ch. 30366.

¹⁷¹ Pat. R. 14 Edw. IV., pt. 1, m. 13.

¹⁷² Another son was Edward, Dean of Salisbury, 1485–1502.

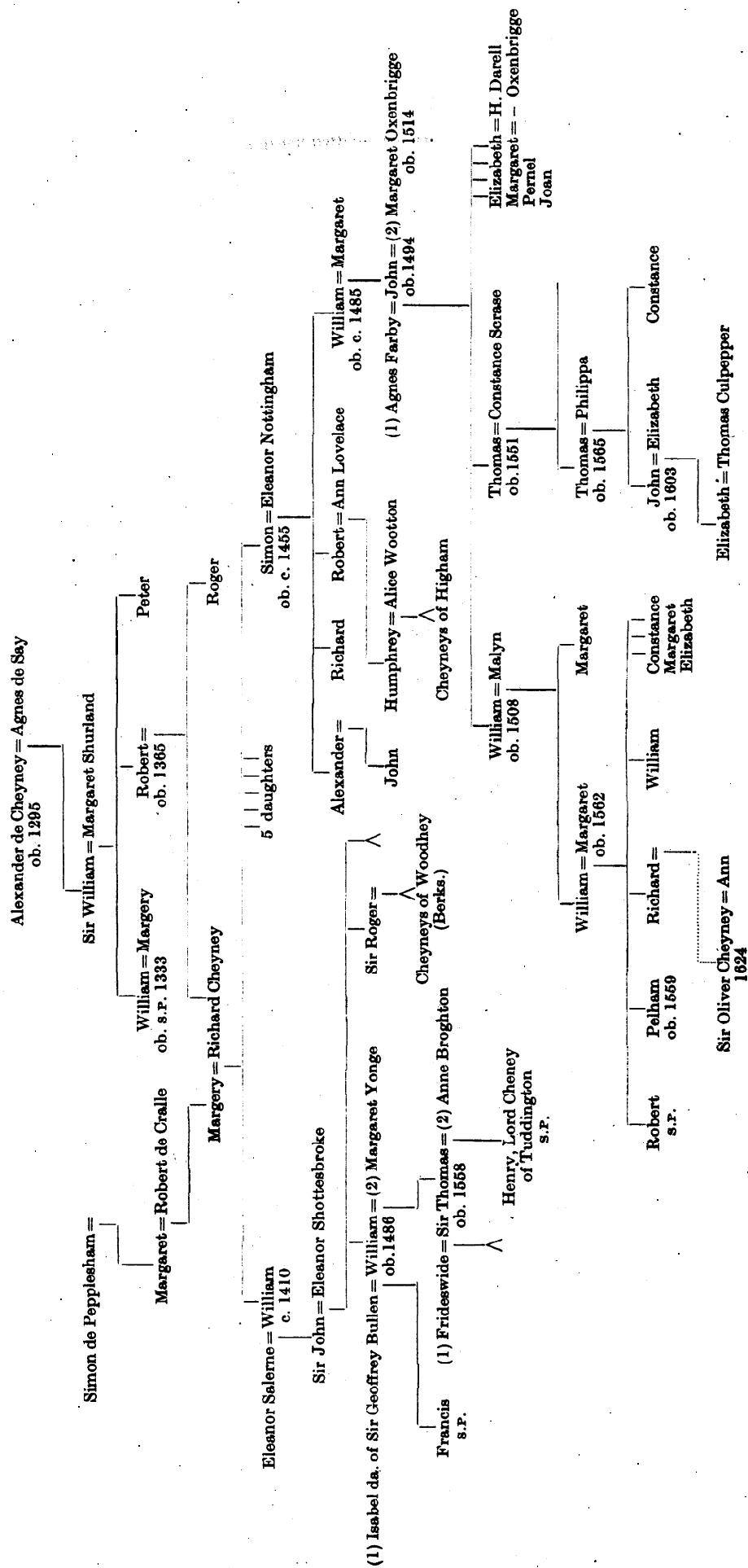
¹⁷³ *Visit. of Berks.* (Harl. Soc.), 103.

¹⁷⁴ *Cal. Inq. p. m.* Hen. VII., 247, 277.

¹⁷⁵ Will, P.C.C., Chayney, 1.

¹⁷⁶ *Feet of Fines*, 3029.

(F)



at Westfield¹⁷⁷; in 1449 William, Simon and Alexander Cheyne were tenants of the manor of Shurland (Kent)¹⁷⁸ and in 1455 William Cheyne of Sheppey and Simon Cheyne, esq., appointed John Cheyne their attorney to give seisin of land in Hooe to Thomas Cobham.¹⁷⁹ Simon appears to have had four sons, of whom Robert was the ancestor of the Cheyneys of Higham and Milsted in Kent, while William settled at Warbleton.

William was Justice of the Peace from 1461 to 1474, and is found serving on a commission of array as late as 1484.¹⁸⁰ His son John had married Agnes (called in the visitation pedigrees daughter of John Farby) in or before 1467, when William Cheyne, esq., John Cheyne and Agnes his wife bought land in Ringmer.¹⁸¹ He occurs in 1488 with John Thetcher and John Jefferay, as an executor of the will of Richard Heggyngworth of Waldron.¹⁸² By his will,¹⁸³ which was proved in June, 1494, John Cheyny desired to be buried in the chapel of St. Thomas on the north of the choir in the church of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Warbleton. To his daughter Pernel Cheyny¹⁸⁴ he left a girdle with gilt mounts, a golden heart, and 110 marks to be paid when she married; to his daughter Elizabeth (wife of Henry) Darell, 10 marks, a book called a Prymer, and two gold rings; to his daughter Margery (wife of ? John), Oxenbrigge, 10 marks and a gold ring; to his daughter Joan lands in Burwash.¹⁸⁵ To his son William he left various pieces of plate, including a silver "powdurbox"; and to his son Thomas a silver salt, a "flat pece litill gilt" and 12 spoons. He refers to his manors of Cralle and Crowham and certain lands which he had with his first wife Agnes; and appoints his wife Margaret as residuary legatee.

This Margaret was the daughter of Robert Oxenbrigge of Brede. She died in 1514, and desired in her

¹⁷⁷ Add. Ch., 24861.

¹⁷⁸ Add. Ch., 44557.

¹⁷⁹ Harl. Ch. 47 H. 49

¹⁸⁰ Cal. Pat. R.

¹⁸¹ Feet of Fines, 3178.

¹⁸² Cal. Anct. Deeds, C. 915.

¹⁸³ P.C.C., Vox, 9.

¹⁸⁴ She afterwards married Richard Bellingham.

¹⁸⁵ Probably those he had acquired in 1492; Feet of Fines, 3276.

will¹⁸⁶ to be buried in St. Thomas chapel in Warbleton church, to which chapel she left "ij aulter clothes of blake damaske with curteyns and a vestymment of the same." She also gave 6 kine "to the payntyng of the Rode Lofte in Warbylton church," and others to maintain the lights before Our Lady and the Trinity in the choir. To her namesake Margaret Cheyney she left two gilt salts, to be given her when she came to the age of eighteen; if she died unmarried before that age, they should go to her brother William, to whom she left "a playne cuppe of sylver with a skochyn and armys under the botom and xij sylver spones with rounde gylt knoppes." In disposing of certain land in Eastbourne, Berwick and Warbleton, she refers more definitely to William, son of William Cheyney, and Margaret, his sister, which identifies them as the children of her husband's eldest son William, who had married Malyn (Oxenbrige, sister of the testator), and had died in 1509.¹⁸⁷ She also leaves to Joan Cheyney (her step-daughter) "vj spones of sylver with slyppes and a lytle depe goblett of sylver," and also "the bed that she lyeth in." She refers to her brother Sir Goddard Oxenbrige, to whom she left the use of her storehouse in Winchelsea, and his son Robert; her late brother Thomas; her brother John Oxenbrige, clerk; her sister Malyn Carewe, who seems to have been the widow of William Cheyney and wife of Richard Carewe¹⁸⁸; her niece, Mary Pelham; a Thomasine Cheyney, whom I cannot identify; and to John and Goddard, sons of Humphrey Bannister, and Margaret and Mary their sisters, who appear to have been relations of hers. Finally she wills that the profits of certain lands in Warbleton shall go for twenty years to the prior of "the Newe Pryory" (that is, the priory of Hastings, which had been re-founded at Warbleton) to pay for the annual celebration of obits for the souls of

¹⁸⁶ P.C.C., Holder, 3.

¹⁸⁷ Will, P.C.C., Bennett, 17.

¹⁸⁸ See pedigree of Oxenbridge, *S.A.C.*, VIII., 231, where she is confused with Margaret.

William Fincheham,¹⁸⁹ John Cheyny (her husband), Robert Oxenbrige and Anne his wife (her parents), Margaret Cheyny (her mother-in-law), Laurence Fincheham and Elinor his wife.

William the eldest son of John Cheyney died, as we have seen, in 1509. His son and namesake married Margaret (? Palmer), who survived him, dying in 1563.¹⁹⁰ Their eldest son Robert died without issue, as did his brother Pelham Cheyney, who was buried at Glynde in 1559.¹⁹¹ There remained two more brothers, Richard and William, and three sisters, Constance, Margaret and Elizabeth. Richard, who was still under age at the time of his mother's death in 1563, seems to have been the father of Sir Oliver Cheyney, who, with Ann his wife, parted with Cralle and other Sussex property between 1604 and 1624.¹⁹²

John Cheyney left a younger son Thomas, who married Constance Scrase and died in 1551,¹⁹³ leaving sons, Thomas and Richard. Of these, Thomas married Philippa (said to have been daughter and heir of — Hinksted of Winchelsea), and had a daughter Constance who married William Relfe, iron-master,¹⁹⁴ and a son John, who married Elizabeth (daughter of John Palmer of Angmering), and died 17 Sept., 1603, leaving an only child Elizabeth, who married Thomas Culpepper of Guestling.¹⁹⁵

I have now dealt, to the best of my ability, with those branches of the Cheyney family that either were associated with Sussex or are definitely traceable to the Ralf de Caisned of Domesday. There were a number of other branches which I have not attempted

¹⁸⁹ The visitation pedigrees give Malyn Fincham as the name of the wife of William son of John Cheyney.

¹⁹⁰ Will, P.C.C., Chayre, 20.

¹⁹¹ Will, P.C.C., Chayney, 34; see also, *Post Mortem Inq.*, *Eliz.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 16.

¹⁹² *Sussex Fines* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 23, 115.

¹⁹³ Will, at Lewes; quoted *S.A.C.*, XXV.

¹⁹⁴ *S.A.C.*, XVIII., 13.

¹⁹⁵ *Inq. p. m.* (Suss. Rec. Soc.), 243.

to follow. One of the most important was that which is found from the thirteenth century holding land in Cambridgeshire, Herts., Wilts., Dorset, and Somerset. The fortunes of this branch were founded by a William de Cheney, who in 1235 went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land with his kinsman Philip de Albini,¹⁹⁶ and from 1242 to the end of the reign was in the service of Henry III. in France and elsewhere. It ended in the fifteenth century in three co-heirs, one of whom married Sir John Willoughby.¹⁹⁷ There was another branch in Shropshire, at Norton Cheney and Cheney Longville, of which the history begins with Alexander de Cheney¹⁹⁸ in about 1235; a third in Bucks. and Beds., and others elsewhere.

As I began my account of the family of Keynes by pointing out the confusion between that family and this of Cheyney, a confusion which apparently extended even to the twelfth century, I may conclude by pointing out that not only did some of the forms of each name approximate, but a member of each family married a daughter of Hugh Maminot, and the Domesday progenitors of each held land in the same vill. In Northants. William de Cahannes held land in Tiffield, Furtho, Walton, and Charwelton, in each of which "Ralf" also held of the Count of Mortain. That this Ralf (who also held in Hanging Houghton, West Farndon, Middleton Chenduit, Charlton, Foxley, Syresham, and Nether Heyford) was Ralf de Caisned, is shown by later references to Furtho. In 1194 Peter de Kainneto was concerned in a suit relative to the chapel of "Forro,"¹⁹⁹ and in 1225 a presentation was made to the church of "Forho" by Sir William de Forho and Ralf de Chedneto.²⁰⁰

From 1198 to 1201 William de Kahannes and William de Cheisneto are found as parties to a suit about land in

¹⁹⁶ Pat. 19 Hen. III., m. 8.

¹⁹⁷ Harvey Bloom, *Charters of Lord Willoughby de Broke; V.C.H. Herts.*, III., 230.

¹⁹⁸ Eyton, *Shropshire*, XI., 374.

¹⁹⁹ *Rot. Cur. Regis*, I., 128. ²⁰⁰ *Hugh de Welles* (Linc. Rec. Soc.), II., 129.

Clasthorpe in Northants.,²⁰¹ the suit being adjourned because Guy de Dyve, who with Lucy his wife (daughter of William de Chesney's elder brother Ralf) ought to warrant the land, was abroad on the King's service. In 1200 there is also a puzzling notice of a suit²⁰² by William de Kahannes against William de Chein' (or Keisn') and Emma his wife, William de Gretewrd, William Marescall of Astrop, the Abbot of Pipewell, and William de Huntendon concerning the partition of the estates of Clasthorpe, Greatworth, Eltingdon, Astrop, Haldenby, Northampton and Cold Ashby. Can William de Chesney's wife have been the Emma de Kaines²⁰³ who brought an action against William, son of Richard de Kaines in 1199? This might explain his claim to a share in the Keynes estates; on the other hand his calling Guy de Dyve to warrant his land in Clasthorpe seems to imply that land in that vill had belonged to an earlier generation of Chesneys. William's daughter Agnes is afterwards found dealing with land in Clasthorpe.²⁰⁴

Altogether, it is not surprising that earlier genealogists, working at a time when records were far less accessible than they now are, should have confused the families of Keynes and Cheyney. That I have gone some way towards disentangling them and indicating the probable pedigrees of each is, I think, not too presumptuous a claim.

²⁰¹ *Cal. Curia Regis*, I., 43, 65, 370, 475.

²⁰² *Ibid.*, 326.

²⁰³ *Rot. Cur. Regis.*, I., 235.

²⁰⁴ *Add. Ch.* 21674.