

## No. 7.

## THE FAMILY OF CHESNEY.

In my account of this family (*S.A.C.*, LXV.) I alluded (p. 27) to Albreda de Ponynges, who married William de Kaysneto, who I suggested was William de Chesney, sheriff of Norfolk (with which county the Ponynges family were associated). The volume of *Sussex Records* just published by the Sussex Record Society (Vol. XXIX.) shows (Nos. 331-334) that Albreda was wife of Roger de Fraxineto, by whom she had a daughter Beatrice. Roger, Albreda and Beatrice founded the Leper Hospital of St. James by Seaford. As the hospital was consecrated by Hilary, Bishop of Chichester, this must have been before 1169, in which year Hilary died. Roger de Fraxineto, *constabularius regis*, is found (Cott. MS. Vesp. F. xv., f. 95) undertaking, with his brothers, to warrant to Lewes Priory the lands in Seaford which he had given previous to *die Pentecosten ante mocionem regis Gallie in Jerl'm* (i.e. 1146). As constable he was presumably a man no longer young in 1146; his death might therefore well have occurred about 1160—it certainly occurred before 1166 (*Red Book of Exch.*, 224)—which would leave ample time for Albreda to have married William de Chesney of Norfolk, who died in 1174, and to have been the mother of his three daughters; while, if the daughters were born to a previous wife, the possibility of the marriage is obviously increased. The foundation charter of the hospital (No. 333) shows, however, that I was

## NOTES AND QUERIES

237

wrong in suggesting that "Waletuna" was Walton in Norfolk—where the Priory held land—as there was evidently a Walton near Seaford.

With regard to Maud de Chesney (p. 39) the Rev. H. Salter writes: "You have proved that she was a daughter of Hugh de Chesney, eldest son of Roger, and that she was married three times, first to William Sansaver, next I should put her marriage to Henry Fitzgerald, and third to Robert Pincerna. I put it in this order because Henry Fitzgerald died (as Mr. Farrer told me) in 1174, but in 1184 Matilda bargained with the king to have the custody of her own and her son's lands, implying that she had just become a widow. It remains to discover a Robert Pincerna or Robert le Butiler who died in 1183 or 1184."

To Mr. John Comber I am indebted for the following notes on the later Cheyneys of East Sussex (p. 50):—"It appears that Margaret Oxenbridge, the wife of John Cheyney, had previously been married to William Fincham, of St. Mary Magdalen, Old Fish Street, London, son of Laurence and Elyn Fincham. . . . At the date of his will (30 June, 1484) he had only the one daughter, Anne, but had hopes of another child, and this must have been the Malyn Fincham who (*Visitation of Cambs.*) was wife of (William) Cheyny. In the same Visitation it is stated that the elder daughter, Anne, married Humphrey Bannister, so that the William and Margaret, children of William Cheyney, and the John, Goddard, Margaret and Mary, children of Humphrey Bannister (mentioned in Margaret Cheyney's will) were her own grandchildren. Robert Oxenbridge of Guestling (Will 1503-4, P.C.C. 5 Holgrave) leaves a goblet each to 'my lady Carewe' and 'my niece Anne Banister,' and also to 'my sister Margaret Cheyne.' As William Cheyney did not die till 1509 there were evidently two Malyns."

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