

## THE HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB AT FARLEY CHAMBERLAYNE.

[From the *Hampshire Independent*.]

The earliest record relating to this parish as far as I know, is that in Domesday Book, which is as follows :—

“Herbert, the son of Remigius, holds Farley, and Alwin and Ulwin held it of the king. It was then assessed at 5 hides and now at 1 hide. Here are 8 ploughlands, 3 in demesne, and 7 villeins and 4 borderers, with 4 ploughlands; also 6 slaves. Its value was in the time of King Edward and afterwards 60s., and now 100s.

The same Herbert holds Farley (*i.e.*, another part of the manor) and Norman held it of King Edward. It was then assessed at half a hide, and now at nothing. Here are 3 borderers and 1 villein, with half a ploughland. Its value was and is 10s.

William de Ow claims this hide and says that it belongs to his manor, but the jury of the hundred do not testify to it, but consider that it previously belonged to the king.”

William de Ow, who is mentioned in this record, held part of the land in the adjoining parish of Somborne at the time of the Survey.

This short record tells us the names of the Saxon and Norman lords of this manor. The villeins and borderers mentioned in the Domesday record, who were the ancient working farmers and labourers of this parish, have left their marks on its hillside, which have survived until the present day.

Agriculture at that time was communal. After the tenants of the manor had performed their customary work on their lords' land, who held on this manor three ploughlands out of eight, they cultivated their own land in common. These lands were laid out roughly in strips or acre plots, and the eastern

slope of the hills in this parish still shows the unmistakable outlines of these ancient communal fields which were worked by the Saxon, Norman, and early English inferior tenants of this manor.

It is interesting to note that this parish of Farley Chamberlayne has derived its name of Chamberlayne from Galfrey le Chamberlain, one of the royal chamberlains early in the reign of King Henry III, who held it at half a knight's fee.

It is also worth remarking that the parish derived its second name from the same period of English history, viz., the 13th century, from which other places in this county which have double names have also derived theirs; for example, Sutton Scotney derived its name of Scotney from the Escotney family in the time of Henry III, Stoke Charity from the de la Charite family in the same reign, Newton Valence from the Valence family, also in the time of the same king. It appears to have been a fashion in the time of Henry III to give manors a second name, *i.e.*, the name of their holders at that time, and some of these have survived until our own time.

In the taxation of Pope Nicholas in 1290, for the purposes of the last Crusade, the church of Farley Chamberlayne was assessed at £12, and the tax, or tenth of its annual value which was paid, was £1 4s.

In the 15th year of Edward III, when the Inquisitiones Nonarum were held for the purposes of the tax known as the ninth of corn, wool, and lambs, an Inquisition was held here, probably in this church, and the jurors, who were sworn *super sacramentum* to declare the annual value of these commodities, were David Rigg, Hugh le Estemeste, Andrew Godwine, and William Govayre.

They declared that the ninth of corn, wool, and lambs, according to the value previously assigned, was £14 6s. 12d., but that it did not really amount to this because in this was reckoned the value of a messuage, a carucate of land, and a pasture belonging to the church, which were worth £4 6s. 8d. per annum.

The earliest lord of Farley Chamberlayne after the Domesday Survey is the Chamberlayne from whom the second name of the manor was apparently derived. In the Testa de Neville

it is recorded that Galfry le Chaumberleyn held this manor in the 13th century, at half a knight's fee, but he held it not directly of the king but as part of the military feod or barony of Igeramus de Patell. It was a manor of old enfeoffment, that is, had been held by military service before the death of Henry I.

In the time of Edward I Farley was part of the great lordship of Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, and held of him by feudal service. Later in the same reign it was possessed by Hugh de Mortimer.

In the 9th year of Edward II, about 1316, it was held by Nicholas de Bertune or Berton, and this family of de Berton held it by feudal service of a superior lord from the time of Henry III, when the manor passed from the family of le Chamberlain to that of de Berton. The record relating to this transfer of the manor from the Chamberlains to the Bertons is a very interesting one.

In the latter part of Henry III's reign, Farley was held by Robert le Chamberlain, the son of Galfrey, and a special application was made in the king's court for leave to transfer this manor with the feudal obligations to William de Berton. The record states that Robert de Chamberlain had been faithful to the king's cause in the late troublous time, *i.e.*, in the civil war of that reign, and he appears to have been granted the liberty of disposing of his interest in this manor by the king as a special favour, without reference to his immediate feudal superior lord, who was, probably, either the Earl of Gloucester or the baron named Hugh de Mortimer.

This transfer of the manor in any case took place after the application had been heard and considered, and Robert le Chamberlain enfeoffed William de Berton of his manor on receiving from him 80 marcs of silver, and with the manor, it is specially stated, went the advowson of this church, which is, probably, as old as Norman time, as shown by the existing remains of the doorway on the south side.

In the time of Edward III the manor of Farley was held as part of the Duchy of Lancaster. The Hampshire estates of Henry Duke of Lancaster in the year 1362 included the

adjoining manor of King Somborne, Farley Chamberlayne, and other manors in this part of the county.

There is a record relating to Farley Chamberlayne of the time of Edward II which is of some general interest. The middle classes were beginning to rise into importance at that time, and in Hampshire one of these middle-class families took the name of John the son of John, that is Johnson.

In the 5th year of Edward II John Johnson, who was himself the son of one of the Godwins or Goldwins, was put into possession of eighty-five acres of land at Farley Chamberlayne as tenant in chief at the king's court, held at Odiham in that year. It may be worth mentioning that this middle-class family of Johnson rose to be considerable landed proprietors in Hampshire early in the middle ages.

In the 18th year of the reign of Richard II the manor of Farley Chamberlayne was held with the advowson of this church by Edmund Missenden. In the beginning of the next reign, first Henry IV, it was held by Thomas Skelle. Later on in the same reign it appears to have been again in the possession of the Missenden family, either its former possessor Edmund Missenden, or his son of the same name.

The statement concerning the church land at Farley Chamberlayne which the four jurors, whose names I have mentioned, made on oath in 1342, is very interesting to us, for they declared that the church at that time possessed a pasture.

I think there can be but little doubt that that pasture, which the ancient forefathers of this parish declared to belong to the church in 1342, is that on which we are now assembled, and which, I believe, still belongs to the living of this parish.

---