

In process of time this place became divided into several Manors, *viz.* The Chief Manor, afterwards called Saysbury; the Manor of Pishobury; the Manor of Bancrofts, derived from Pishobury; the Manor of Tednambury, derived from Pishobury; the Manor of Groves, derived from Pishobury; the Manor of Mathams; the Manor of Shingeyhall, united with Mathams; the Manor of Blounts, derived from Mathams; the Manor of Hide.

#### MANOR OF SAYSBURY.

THE principal Manor, afterwards called Saysbury, which at the time of the Conqueror's Survey was the property of Geoffrey de Magnaville or de Mandeville, continued for a great length of time in his posterity. The possessions of that nobleman, who accompanied William the Norman in his Conquest of this Country <sup>b</sup>, were very great, not only in this County, but in the Counties of Essex, Berks, Suffolk, Middlesex, Surrey, Oxford, Cambridge, Northampton, and Warwick <sup>c</sup>. He was Constable of the Tower of London under the Conqueror <sup>d</sup>; and founded the Priory at Hurley in Berkshire, and endowed it (*inter alia*) with the tithes of his demesne of Sabrichworth, for the health of his soul and of the souls of his wives Leceline and Athelaise <sup>e</sup>.

William de Magnaville or de Mandeville, son and heir of Geoffrey, greatly increased his fortune in this and other Counties by his marriage with Margaret <sup>f</sup>, the daughter and heir of Eudo Dapifer, the Steward of the Conqueror. Geoffrey de Magnaville or de Mandeville, son of William and Margaret, was Steward of Normandy, by inheritance from his mother <sup>g</sup>; and in the 5th year of King Stephen paid £.866. 13s. 4d. to the King for livery of his inheritance in England <sup>h</sup>: and was employed with Earl Gilbert de Clare to suppress the rebellion raised in the Isle of Ely, by the Bishop and Baldwin de Redvers, against King Stephen <sup>i</sup>. He held the office of Constable of the Tower of London, which had formerly been enjoyed by his grandfather <sup>k</sup>; and was advanced by King Stephen to the Earldom of Essex, by a charter, dated at Westminster, to hold as freely, peaceably, and honourably as other Earls held their Counties, to which were witnesses Will. de Ipre, Hen. de Essex, John son of Robert Fitz Walter, Robert de Newburgh, Will. de S. Clare, Will. de Dammartin, Richard Fitz Urse, and Will. de Owe <sup>l</sup>. And Matilda, the Empress, by her charter, dated at Oxford, confirmed to him all that had been enjoyed by Geoffrey his grandfather, and William his father, and particularly the Tower of London, with the Castle under it, to be fortified at his pleasure; the hereditary Sherifalty of London and Middlesex, as amply as Geoffrey his grandfather held it; and the hereditary Sherifalty of Hertfordshire, in like manner; she also granted to him the trial of causes in those Counties, and confirmed to him the £.100 *per annum*, and the services of twenty knights, which she had formerly given to him. She also confirmed to him £.200 *per annum* lands, £.100 land in escheats, and the knights' fees given to him by King Stephen and his wife Matilda; she also confirmed to him all the lands of Eudo Dapifer, with the Stewardship of Normandy; she also gave him licence to obtain the Castle of Storford, by exchange with the Bishop of London; she also granted that Ernulph de Mandeville, his son, should enjoy £.100 lands, and ten knights' fees which she had formerly given to him, and £100. more land in escheats, to be held of her husband the Earl of Anjou and her *in capite*, *viz.* Cristeshale and Benedis, in Essex; and as much more as would make up the amount. She also engaged not to make peace with the Burgesses of London without the assent of this Geoffrey, because they were his mortal enemies; and gave him leave to fortify his castle on the Wye, and to build another castle on his land where he pleased <sup>m</sup>. She also by charter granted to him the title of Earl of Essex, with the third penny of the County, and divers other privileges <sup>n</sup>. King Stephen hearing of these favours heaped upon our Earl, or rather promised to him by the Empress Matilda, had him seized in the Court at St. Alban's, and compelled him to consent to the surrender of the Tower of London, and of the Castles of Plessey and Walden in Essex, before he would set him at liberty <sup>o</sup>. This proceeding provoked him to a life of turbulence

<sup>b</sup> Mon. Ang. I. 416.

<sup>f</sup> Ib. 724.

<sup>k</sup> R. Hoveden, 279.

<sup>m</sup> Ex magno regist. in Officio Ducat. Lanc.

<sup>o</sup> R. Hoveden, 279.

<sup>c</sup> Lib. Domesd.

<sup>h</sup> Rot. Pip. 5 Steph. Essex and Herif.

<sup>l</sup> Dug. Bar. I. 201. "Ex coll. R. Gl. S."

<sup>n</sup> Ex ipso autogr. in Bibl. Cotton.

<sup>o</sup> M. Paris. Hist. Minor. Garv. Dorobern. 1360, and Mon. Ang. tom. I. fo. 449.

<sup>d</sup> Mon. Ang. ut supra.

<sup>e</sup> Mon. Ang. I. 363, 364.

<sup>g</sup> Lel. Col. I. 864.

and mischief, despoiling the demesne lands of the Crown and the estates of the Abbot of Ramsey, for which he was at length excommunicated, and in some affray received a mortal wound at Burwell, whence he was conveyed by some of the Knights Templars, and having after death received absolution, was buried in the Church-yard of the New Temple, London <sup>p</sup>. He founded the Abbey of Walden, in Essex <sup>q</sup>, and, amongst other and very ample endowments, gave thereto the Church of this place, by the name of Sabricheswrth <sup>r</sup>, and died on the 16th of the calends of October 1144, anno 9 Stephen <sup>s</sup>.

Ernulph de Mandeville, the eldest son of Geoffrey, being banished for his adherence to his father's quarrel <sup>t</sup>, Geoffrey de Mandeville, the next son, succeeded, and was created Earl of Essex by King Henry the Second, with the third penny of the County, and a confirmation of all the lands which belonged to Geoffrey de Magnaville, his great-grandfather, and to his grandfather and father, both in England and in Normandy; in which confirmation Sabricthswrth is particularly mentioned <sup>u</sup>. This Geoffrey, in the 12th year of King Henry II. returned his knights' fees to be ninety-seven of the ancient and sixty of the new feoffment <sup>x</sup>. He was a benefactor with William and Robert, his brothers, to the Monastery of Chicksands, in Bedfordshire <sup>y</sup>, and was accounted a man of elegant speech, and well versed in secular affairs. He died at Chester, on an expedition with Richard de Lucy against the Welsh, on the 12th of the calends of November 1167, anno 14 Henry II. and was buried at Walden Abbey <sup>z</sup>.

William de Mandeville, the brother of the last Geoffrey, succeeded in the inheritance of the family, and in the same year paid 97 marks 4s. and 5d. for his knights' fees *de veteri feoffamento*, on collecting the aid assessed anno 12 Henry II. for marrying the King's daughter <sup>a</sup>. In 19th Henry II. he attended the King into France, and was one of the Generals of his Army <sup>b</sup>, and was with him about the same time at the treaty of Gisors, for settling the differences between the King and his sons, at which Louis King of France attended <sup>c</sup>; and he was in the skirmish with the French near that place, and took the Chastellan of Tuce prisoner <sup>d</sup>. About the same time he swore on the part of King Henry for the performance of covenants with the Earl of Savoy <sup>e</sup>, and in 1175, anno 21 Henry II. he was a witness to the agreement made by the King with Roderic King of Connaught <sup>f</sup>. In 1177, anno 23 Henry II. he attended Philip Earl of Flanders to Jerusalem <sup>g</sup>, and was at the siege of the Castle of Harang, belonging to the Infidels <sup>h</sup>. This noble Earl married in 1180, anno 26 Henry II. Hawise, only daughter and heir of William le Gros, Earl of Albemarle, and had for her portion the County of Albemarle, anciently assigned for the guard of the borders of Normandy <sup>i</sup>. The marriage was solemnized at the Castle of Plessey, in Essex, on the 9th of the calends of February <sup>k</sup>. In 1182, anno 28 Henry II. he was appointed an Ambassador to mediate with the Emperor Frederick the Second for Henry Duke of Saxony <sup>l</sup>; and in 1188, 32 Henry II. he attended King Henry into France, and skirmished valiantly with Will. des Barres, Drue de Merlou, and other persons of prowess in that Country, and burnt the Town of St. Clare <sup>m</sup>. At the coronation of King Richard the First he carried the great crown of gold <sup>n</sup>, and he was afterwards employed with three Earls and two Barons to solicit the aid of Philip King of France to recover the Holy Land <sup>o</sup>, and attended the King at Pipwell, in Northamptonshire, preparatory to that expedition, and was appointed Justice of England along with Hugh Pudsey, Bishop of Durham <sup>p</sup>. This Earl spent the early part of his life before his accession to the Earldom with Philip Earl of Flanders, and was accounted a man of ready wit, prudent in council, and valiant in arms <sup>q</sup>, and was much employed in Normandy in his riper years, where he had the care of many forts and castles for King Henry <sup>r</sup>. He was a benefactor to the Monks of Walden, in Essex <sup>s</sup>, to the Nuns of Clerkenwell <sup>t</sup>, and founded the Monastery at Stoneley, in Huntingdonshire <sup>u</sup>. And he gave this Church of Sabrighteswrde to the Monks of Westminster in pure alms <sup>x</sup>, which, however, I presume was only confirmatory of the donation of Geoffrey, his grandfather, to the Monks of Hurley, the latter being a cell to Westminster. He made his will in the garrison of Rullivalle, in Normandy <sup>y</sup>, and died at Roan on the 18th of the calends of December 1190, anno 2

<sup>p</sup> R. Hoveden 279. M. Paris, Hist. Minor. Garv. Dorobern, 1360, and Mon. Ang. tom. I. fo. 449.

<sup>q</sup> Mon. Ang. tom. I. fo. 447.

<sup>r</sup> Ib. fo. 459.

<sup>s</sup> Ib. fo. 447.

<sup>t</sup> H. Hunt. 225.

<sup>u</sup> Ex. ipso autogr. in Bibl. Cotton.

<sup>x</sup> Lib. Nig. Seacc.

<sup>y</sup> Dug. Bar. I. 224. "Ex. Reg. Priorat. S. Jo. Jerus."

<sup>z</sup> Mon. Ang. tom. I. fo. 451.

<sup>a</sup> Rot. Pip. 14 H. II. Essex and Hertf.

<sup>b</sup> Joreval. 1086.

<sup>c</sup> Ib. 1088.

<sup>d</sup> R. Hoved. 306.

<sup>e</sup> Ib. 304.

<sup>f</sup> Ib. 313.

<sup>g</sup> Matt. Paris.

<sup>h</sup> R. Hoved. 323.

<sup>i</sup> Mon. Ang. tom. I. fo. 772, and R. de Diceto, 609.

<sup>k</sup> Ib.

<sup>l</sup> Hoved. 351.

<sup>m</sup> Ib. 367.

<sup>n</sup> Ib. and Joreval. 1158.

<sup>o</sup> Dug. Bar. I. 205. "Chron. MS. Jo. Castor. Monac. Westm."

<sup>p</sup> Hoved. 375.

<sup>q</sup> Mon. Ang. tom. I. fo. 451.

<sup>r</sup> Ib. fo. 453.

<sup>s</sup> Ib. fo. 453, 460.

<sup>t</sup> Ib. fo. 430.

<sup>u</sup> Mon. Ang. tom. II. fo. 319.

<sup>x</sup> Ex autogr. in Bibl. Cotton.

<sup>y</sup> Mon. Ang. tom. I. fo. 453.

Richard I. after which his body was buried in the Abbey of Mortimer, in Normandy, and his heart was deposited in Walden Abbey, Essex <sup>z</sup>.

On the death of this William without issue his inheritance passed to his aunt Beatrix, an aged woman, the wife of William de Say <sup>a</sup>, a warlike man, who had much distinguished himself by the support of his brother-in-law Geoffrey de Magnaville in his turbulent proceedings in the time of King Stephen <sup>b</sup>. William de Say and Beatrix had issue two sons. William, the elder, died in the life-time of his mother, leaving two daughters, through the marriage of the elder of whom, Beatrix, with Geoffrey Piers, the Earldom of Essex became vested in him and his descendants. But Geoffrey de Say, the younger son of William and Beatrix, succeeded his mother in the possession of this Manor of Sabrichworth, and anno 4 Richard I. was one of the Barons employed respecting the King's enlargement from his imprisonment under the Emperor Henry <sup>c</sup>.

Geoffrey de Say, son and heir of Geoffrey, anno 16 John, paid 400 marks to the King, for the livery of the lands of his inheritance, as well on the part of his father as of his mother, who was the sister and heir of Walkeline Maminot <sup>d</sup>; and confirmed soon afterwards to the Canons of Begeham, in Sussex, the land of Brocle, which was part of his barony, and formerly given to them by Walkeline Maminot; and the Church of St. Nicholas at Greenwich, which had been given to them by Geoffrey his father and Alice his mother <sup>e</sup>; and ratified to the monks of Bermondsey, in Surrey, the lands in Dilehersh, given to them by Walkeline Maminot <sup>f</sup>. And having married Alice, daughter and coheir of John de Cheney, he confirmed to the Canons of Rudham, in Norfolk, the gifts of William de Cayneto (Cheney) and John his nephew, and added thereto for his own soul and the soul of Alice his wife, the Church of St. Margaret, at Thorpe <sup>g</sup>. He also gave to the Knights Hospitallers the Manor of Sadlescombe, in Sussex <sup>h</sup>. In 17 John he was in arms with the Barons against the King, for which his lands and knights' fees in the Counties of Kent, Bedford, Buckingham, Northampton, Cambridge, Essex, Hertford, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Lincoln, were seized and given to Peter de Creoun <sup>i</sup>. It seems, however, he was afterwards restored to his possessions, for, anno 8 Henry III. on the levying the scutage of Montgomery, he answered for twenty-seven knights' fees of the fee of Maminot, and fifteen more of the fee of Ingelram Patric <sup>k</sup>. He died in Gascony on Monday next preceding the feast of St. Bartholomew, anno 14 Henry III. <sup>l</sup>

William de Say, son and heir of Geoffrey, performing his homage, and engaging for the payment of his relief of £.100 by 40 marks *per annum*, obtained livery of the lands of which his father died seised <sup>m</sup>. In the 29th Henry III. he gave two palfreys to the King to have warren at his Manor of Sebricewrth, in the County of Hertford, and at his Manor of Edelmeton, in Middlesex <sup>n</sup>. In 44 Henry III. he was appointed Governor of the Castle of Rochester <sup>o</sup>, and anno 48 Henry III. he was with the King at the battle of Lewes, but fled <sup>p</sup>. He confirmed to the monks of Bermondsey, in Surrey, the grant of the Church of Berling, in Kent, by Walkeline Maminot, and the grants of Geoffrey de Say his grandfather and Geoffrey his father <sup>q</sup>. He died anno 56 Henry III. seised of this Manor, of which an extent was then taken. He was also then seised of the Manors of Stratton, in Norfolk, Codham, Berlyng, West Grenewich, and Burgham, in Kent; the Manor and Advowson of the Church of Strete, in Sussex (the Manors of Berlyng and West Greenwich being held by Barony); and of the Manor of Linton, in Cambridge-shire; and the Manor of Hammes in Hampshire (Sussex?), and the Manor of Edelmeton, Middlesex <sup>r</sup>.

William de Say, son and heir of William, was, according to some of the Inquisitions, 18, and others 19 years of age at the death of his father <sup>s</sup>, and anno 22 Edward I. had had summons, with other great men of the realm, to attend the King in the month of June, to advise with him upon important affairs <sup>t</sup>, and had summons to attend the King on the 1st of September following at Portsmouth, prepared with horse and arms, to proceed to Gascony <sup>u</sup>, but died anno 23 Edward I. seised of this Manor of Sabrichesworth, and of the Manors of Berlyng, West Grenewich, Burgham, and Codeham, in Kent; the Manor of Hammes, in Sussex, (Hampshire?) and the Manor of Edelmeton, in Middlesex <sup>v</sup>.

<sup>z</sup> Mon. Ang. tom. I. fo. 453 and 454, and Hoved. 376.

<sup>a</sup> Mon. Ang. tom. I. fo. 447.

<sup>b</sup> Ib. fo. 449.

<sup>c</sup> R. Hoveden, 413—414.

<sup>d</sup> Rot. Pip. 16 Jo. Kanc.

<sup>e</sup> Mon. Ang. tom. II. fo. 640.

<sup>f</sup> Dug. Bar. I. 511. "Ex Regist. de Bermondsey."

<sup>g</sup> Ib. "Ex Regist. de Rudham."

<sup>h</sup> Mon. Ang. tom. I. fo. 555.

<sup>i</sup> Claus. 17 Jo. m. 3.

<sup>k</sup> Rot. Pip. H. III. Kanc.

<sup>l</sup> Rot. Vasc. 14 H. III. p. 2. m. 4.

<sup>m</sup> Ib. In the 26 H. III. William de Say had a grant of free warren in his Manors of Sabricesworth, in Hertfordshire, and Edelmeton, in Middlesex. Cart. 26 H. III. m. 6.

<sup>n</sup> Orig. in Scacc. 29 H. III. rot. 5.

<sup>o</sup> Pat. 44 H. III. m. 10.

<sup>p</sup> H. Knighton, 2451.

<sup>q</sup> Dug. Bar. I. 511. "Regist. de Bermondsey."

<sup>r</sup> Esc. 56 H. III. n. 37.

<sup>s</sup> Ib.

<sup>t</sup> Rot. Vasc. 22 E. I. in dorso m. 8.

<sup>u</sup> Ib. m. 7.

<sup>v</sup> Esc. 23 E. I. n. 49.

Geoffrey de Say, son and heir of the last William, was fourteen years of age at the death of his father<sup>y</sup>, and became the ward of William de Leyburne<sup>z</sup>, who married him to Idonea his daughter. This Geoffrey performed his homage and obtained livery of his lands anno 34 Edward I.<sup>a</sup> and was in the same year in an expedition into Scotland<sup>b</sup>. And in the year following obtained a charter for a weekly market on Friday, and a yearly fair on the eve and day of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary at this Manor of Sabricheworth<sup>c</sup>. He was first summoned to Parliament as a Baron by writ dated the 26th July, anno 7 Edward II. and returnable in 15 days of St. John the Baptist then following, and continued to be regularly summoned afterwards as long as he lived<sup>d</sup>. He died in the 15th year of King Edward II. seised jointly with Idonea his wife, who survived him, of the Manor of Sabrichesworth; the Manor of Edelmeton, in Middlesex; the Manor of Hammes, in Sussex; and the Manors of Berlinge<sup>e</sup>, Ryershe, Codeham, Borgham, and West Grenewiche, in Kent<sup>f</sup>; and Idonea, his widow, died anno 43 Edward III.

Geoffrey de Say, son and heir of Geoffrey, was seventeen years of age at the death of his father<sup>g</sup>, and proving his age in the 19th Edward II. obtained livery of his lands<sup>h</sup>; and in the 8th Edward III. had a charter for free warren in all his demesne lands in Greenwich, Deptford, Codham, and Burgham, in Kent, with view of frank-pledge, and other liberties<sup>i</sup>. In 10th Edward III. he was appointed Admiral of the Fleet from the Thames Westward<sup>k</sup>, in which service, besides himself, then a Banneret, he had of his own retinue four knights, twenty men at arms, and three archers<sup>l</sup>. In 12th Edward III. he was employed in Flanders<sup>m</sup>. In 17 Edward III. he was in the wars of France<sup>n</sup>; as also in 19 and 21 Edward III.<sup>o</sup> In 23 Edward III. in consideration of his good services performed, and to be performed, he was retained to serve the King in his wars during life with twenty men at arms and twenty archers, receiving for his pay 200 marks *per annum* at the Exchequer<sup>p</sup>. And in 29 Edward III. he was again in the wars of France<sup>q</sup>. And having been summoned to Parliament at different times from the 1st to the 27th Edward III. inclusively<sup>r</sup>, died on the 26th June, anno 33 Edward III. seised of this Manor of Sabricheworth, held of the King *in capite*<sup>s</sup>. Matilda his wife surviving, who held the Manors of Berlyng and Burgham in dower<sup>t</sup>, and for her good services to Queen Philippa and the Lady Isabel her daughter, obtained from the King, anno 42 Edward III. a grant for life of an annuity of 100 marks at the Exchequer<sup>u</sup>; and by her testament, dated at Bermondsey, on Tuesday next after the Feast of the Apostles Simon and Jude, bequeathed her body to be buried in the Church of the Friars Preachers, commonly called the Black Friars, London, near to Geoffrey her beloved husband<sup>x</sup>.

William de Say, son and heir of Geoffrey, was nineteen years of age at the death of his father<sup>y</sup>, and having been summoned to Parliament amongst the Barons from the 36th to the 47th Edward III. inclusively<sup>z</sup>, died seised of this Manor anno 49 Edward III. leaving John his son and heir<sup>a</sup>.

By an inquisition taken at Sabrichworth on Thursday next before the Feast of St. Matthew the Apostle, anno 6 Richard II. it was found that, by reason of the death of William de Say, and of the minority of John, his son and heir, the Manor of Sabrichworth came to the King's hands; and that John the son died on the 27th of July then last, leaving Elizabeth, his sister and heir, sixteen years of age<sup>b</sup>.

She married, first, John de Fallesley; upon whose decease she married, secondly, Sir William Heron, Knt. who died on the 30th of October, in the sixth year of the reign of King Henry the Fourth<sup>c</sup>; upon whose death this Manor descended to Sir John Heron, nephew and heir of Sir William, from whom it descended to his son John, according to the following pedigree, until it came into the possession of Sir William Say, Knt. son of Sir John Say, of London, Knt.

<sup>y</sup> Esc. 23 E. I. n. 49.

<sup>b</sup> Rot. Scot. 34 E. I. m. 6.

<sup>c</sup> R. conc. quod Galfridus de Say possit imparcare cent. acras terræ et bosci in Bierlenghe et quandam semitam permedium eorundem in com. Kancizæ. Pat. 15 E. III. p. 1. m. 11.

<sup>f</sup> Esc. 15 E. II. n. 41.

<sup>k</sup> Rot. Scot. 10 E. III. m. 27.

<sup>n</sup> Rot. Franc. 17 E. III. m. 15.

<sup>p</sup> Pat. 23 E. III. p. 2. m. 16.

<sup>s</sup> Esc. 33 E. III. n. 37.

<sup>x</sup> Witlesey, f. 106 b.

<sup>a</sup> Esc. 49 E. III. n. 44.

<sup>z</sup> Pat. 24 E. I. m. 20.

<sup>c</sup> Cart. 35 E. I. m. 71.

<sup>a</sup> Claus. 34 Edw. I. m. 20.

<sup>d</sup> Rot. Claus. de divers. annis.

<sup>g</sup> Ib.

<sup>h</sup> Claus. 19 E. II. m. 4.

<sup>i</sup> Cart. 18 E. III. m. 9.

<sup>l</sup> Claus. 14 E. III. p. 1. m. 48.

<sup>m</sup> Rot. Aleman. 11 E. III. p. 1. m. 8.

<sup>o</sup> Ib. 19 E. III. m. 21. and 21 E. III. m. p. 1. m. 10.

<sup>q</sup> Rot. Franc. 29 E. III. m. 9.

<sup>r</sup> Rot. Claus. de divers. annis.

<sup>t</sup> Claus. 33 E. III. m. 18.

<sup>u</sup> Pat. 42 E. III. p. 1. m. 33.

<sup>y</sup> Esc. 33 E. III. n. 37.

<sup>z</sup> Rot. Claus. de divers. annis.

<sup>b</sup> Esc. 16 R. II. n. 67.

<sup>c</sup> Esc. 6 H. IV. n. 21.



## PEDIGREE of the Families of MAGNAVILLE, and SAY.

Arms of Magnaville : Quarterly, Or and Gules.

Arms of Say : Parted per pale, Azure and Gules, three chevronels Or, voided and counterchanged.

Crest, On a wreath, an embattled wall, on it a stag's head Or.

