

GLASS AND MONUMENTS FORMERLY IN THE CHURCH
OF GILLINGHAM

By C. R. COUNCER, F.S.A.

I. THE RECORDS

THE often-quoted account, by Baptist Tufton, parish clerk of Gillingham, of the glass and monuments remaining in the church early in the seventeenth century was first printed in Thorpe's *Registrum Roffense*, in the year 1769. It is a record of considerable importance, because nearly everything described by Tufton has since disappeared from the church, and for most of the subjects represented in the glass he is the sole authority.

It seemed worth while to reprint Tufton's text from the *Registrum*, and, on a diagram of the church, to work out the former position of the things he describes; but I soon came to the conclusion that if this study was to be of any value it would be necessary to offer some comment on the Beautitz and other families who were responsible for so much of the work described by Tufton, and who have been dealt with very inadequately by the county historians. Finally, a chance hint from Mr. Philip Rogers, of the Freckleton Training College, in Lancashire, that there was MS. material relating to Gillingham in the Bodleian, led to the discovery there of Tufton's original MS. A series of photostats, kindly obtained by Mr. R. H. D'Elboux, F.S.A. (to whom I am much indebted for other help connected with the preparation of this paper) enabled me to use the original text instead of Thorpe's printed version.

I cannot altogether blame the critic who may dislike the work if he complains that the *apparatus criticus* which has emerged from these studies notably exceeds in bulk the text which it is designed to elucidate, and poses more questions than it answers.

Tufton's MS. (Bodl. Gough: Kent 44) is bound up with a number of pages of MS. notes on Gillingham, probably by Thorpe, dated 1726. It consists of four folios, showing signs of having been folded in four like a lawyer's packet, written on both sides and endorsed "old notes of the Antiquities in Gillingham Church collected by M^r Baptist Tufton the parish Clarke, 1616" in a cursive seventeenth century hand. The main text is written in an elegant court hand, with a number of corrections and interpolations, mostly heraldic, in the more cursive hand of the endorsement.

Collation of the MS. with the printed version in the *Registrum* shows a number of points of difference, for which Thorpe was doubtless

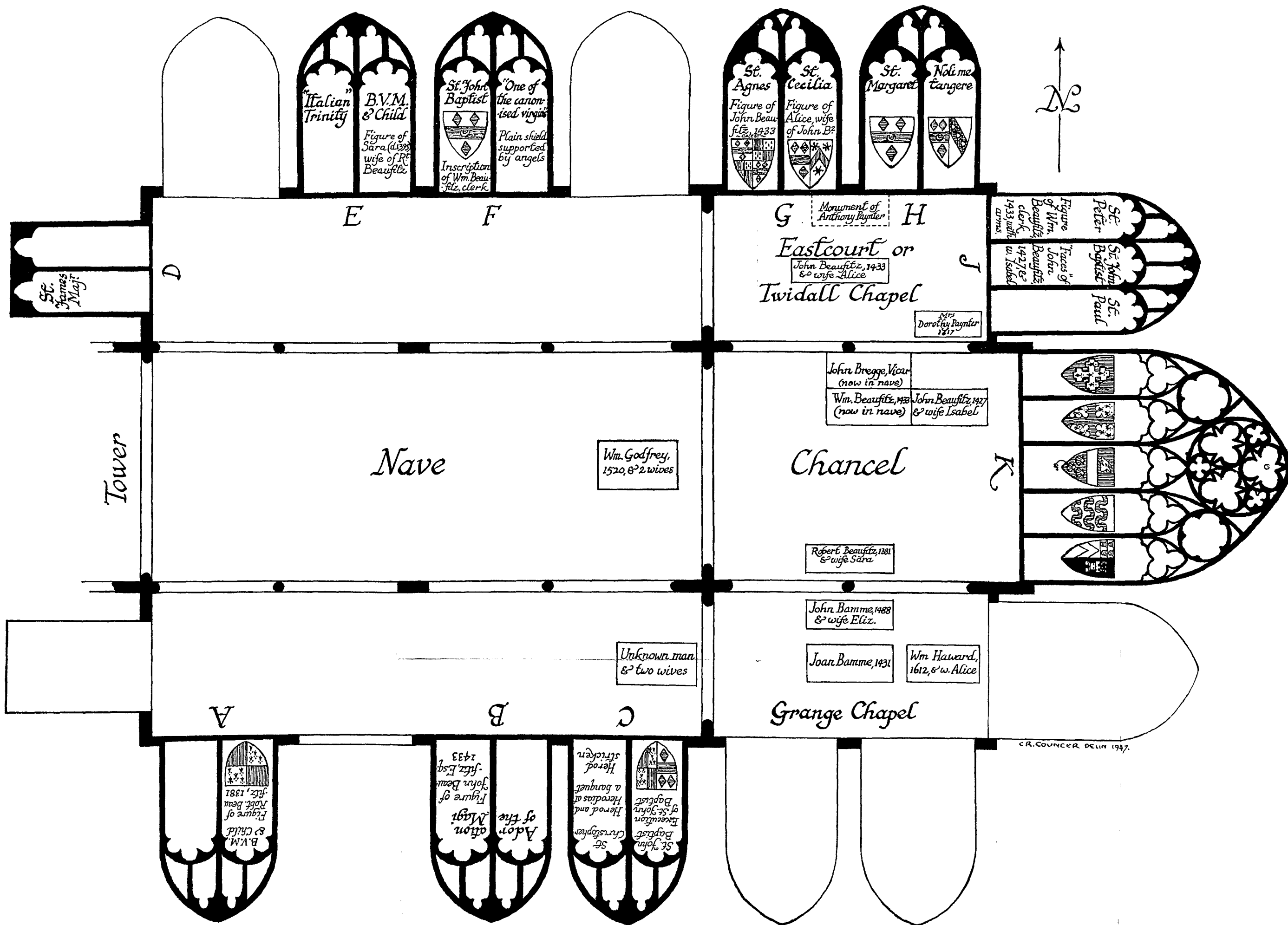


FIG 1. GILLINGHAM.

Diagram (not to scale) showing the arrangement of the glass and monuments as described by Tufton and Phillipot.

responsible. His most serious error was in the date, which for some unknown reason he has altered from November, 1616, to September, 1621. On the other hand he adds a description of the monuments in the south (Grange) chancel which no longer exists in the MS. The version which follows is taken word for word from the MS., the seventeenth century interpolations in the cursive hand being printed in italics, and any helpful additions made by Thorpe in the printed text being given in square brackets. The letters in heavy type in the margin are inserted to facilitate reference to the lettered windows in my diagram of the church which accompanies the text. One liberty taken by Thorpe with the text has been allowed to stand. Tufton describes the windows in the following order: *D, A, E, B, F, C, G, H, J*. I have followed the more logical order adopted by Thorpe.

A second MS.; which must be nearly coeval with Tufton's and supplements the latter, is John Philipot's book of church notes, B. M. Harley 3917. In this the notes on Gillingham occupy three folios, 65b-66b. Extracts are here printed as an appendix to Tufton's text.

About the end of the eighteenth century Thomas Fisher, F.S.A., made a series of admirable drawings and rubbings of the brasses then remaining at Gillingham. His drawings of the following five subjects are in the British Museum, and rubbings of portions of all except No. 4 are in the collection of the Society of Antiquaries. Much of this work of Fisher's was reproduced by Griffin and Stephenson in their *List of Monumental Brasses in Kent*, 1922 (hereafter as G. & S.).

1. John Beaufitz, 1427, and wife Isabel. G. & S., Plates XXII and XXIV.

2. William Beaufitz, priest, 1433. G. & S., Pl. XXI.

3. John Beaufitz, 1433, and wife Alice. G. & S., Pls. XXIII and XXIV.

4. Joan, wife of Richard Bamme, in shroud, 1431. G. & S., Pl. XXV.

5. John Bamme, 1488, and wife Elizabeth. G. & S., Pl. XXVI.

Gillingham church to-day exhibits all too clear evidence of the drastic "restoration" to which it was subjected about 1868. The only brasses remaining are those of the two priests, John Bregge, vicar (undated; he d. 1425) and William Beaufitz, 1433, the latter less complete than in Fisher's day but retaining one shield of arms. Both have been moved from their original position and placed in the nave. In the north chancel, which was converted into a vestry and organ chamber, and in the quire, the restorers made a complete clearance, though it is just possible that the indents of the Beaufitz brasses may remain beneath the modern wooden flooring. The monument of William Haward has disappeared, but the incised slab which covered it,

illustrated in *Arch. Cant.*, VI (1866), 300, remains, set in the floor of the south chancel.

As early as the eighteenth century practically all the glass had disappeared, the sole surviving fragment in 1808 being "the remains of a figure of a bishop" in the east window of the north chancel.¹ It is difficult to see which of Tufton's figures this can have been, and it was probably a piece obtruded from some other window. There is now no vestige of ancient glass remaining in the church.

II. TUFTON'S TEXT

A Memoriall of such Monuments as are now extant in the parrishe Church of Gillingham in the Countie of Kent as well such as are paynted upon the glasse windowes as also such as have ben erected over those who have ben buried in the said Churche, Chancell and Chappells as they are now to be seene the first daye of November in the yeare of our Lord God one Thousand Sixe hondred and Sixteene.

[First, in the Westerne windowe, on the South syde of the said churche, there is no picture.]

A. [Item,] *First begynning at ye west end* In the first windowe Southwards [on the South syde of the churche, in the first light thereof,] there is the picture of the blessed virgin Marie, sitting with her sonne upon her knee, and in her left hand a golden scepter, with this inscription on her right hand much broken and defaced, Misericordiam memento nostri and wth this inscription on her left hand also broken and defaced, Secundum peccata nostra que. ¶ And beneath is the portraicture of Robert Beaufitz who deceased in the yeare of our Lord God 1381 and lyeth interred in the Chancell. ¶ *In this wyndowe is the Coate of Stanhop* [or Thomas of Gillingham.] *viz^t Quarterly E. & G.* [as appears by many seales of his tyme].

[In the second light of this wyndowe there is no picture.]

B. In the second windowe on the South syde of the Churche there are figured the three kinges going to worship Christ, after he was borne. And in the second light the virgin Marie is pourtrayed as she was in the stable, with the Babe swaddled before her, where the oxe, the Asse, and the Manger are also represented. The kinges have over them this inscription, Hoc signum dom[ini] est, [eamus] et offeremus ei munera, aurum, thus, et myrrham.

And beneath, in the said second light of the said windowe, there is the picture of John Beaufitz the younger, Esquier with a Garland [of roses]² upon his head, whose bodye is interred in the North Chappell . . . the said John Beaufitz deceased in Anno Domini 1433. There is

¹ Britton and Brayley, *Beauties of England and Wales*, Vol. viii (1808), p. 682.

² Crossed out in MS.

this inscription over his head in the said windowe, Miserere mei Deus secundum ; the rest is defaced.

C. In the third windowe on the South syde of the said Church in the first light thereof is also the portraicture of St. John the Baptiste holding a booke in his left hand and a Lambe [and a crosse] figured thereupon, with his right hand pointing to the Lambe, wth this inscription, *Sis n̄r p̄tector~p̄cursor et Rector.*

And beneath in the same [first] light [of the third windowe] St. John the Baptist is figured wth his necke upon the blocke, the headsman wth his sword elevated to take of his head and the daughter of Herodias standing by wth a charger ready to receive his head, to carrie it to her mother. & thereby *Beaufitz and Stanhopes Armes* [or rather Gillingham, ermine and gules] *empaled.*

In the second light of the said windowe there is the picture of St. Christopher carrying Christe [upon his shoulder] over a greate water, his staffe in the meane time bearing leaves and flowers.

And underneath [in the same light] Herod and Herodias sitting crowned at a banquet. And lowest of all Herod stricken wth wormes dead upon the pavement, and Herodias Daughter bewayling him.

D. In the Westerne Windowe on the North syde of the sayde Church their is a Remnant of the picture of St. James, as appeareth by his face, the toppe of his Pilgrimes staffe, and his Pilgrimes hatt hanging behinde.

In the first windowe Northwardes [on the North syde of the church] there is no picture.

E. In the second windowe on the North syde of the church in the first light thereof, is pourtraied the Auncient of Dayes sitting, holding in his hands the upper parte of a Crucifixe with the picture of Christe dead thereupon, the lower parte whereof is set in a Globe, wth this word, *Gloria*, thereupon but parte thereof is decayed.¹

And in the second light thereof is againe the picture of the blessed virgin Marie sitting wth Christ in her Right arme, and a scepter in her left hand.

And beneath is the portraicture of Sara the wife of the above named Robert Beaufitz who lyeth entered by her husband in the Chancell, and deceased in the yeare of our Lord 1390.

F. In the third windowe on the North syde of the Church, in the first Light thereof St. John the Baptiste is represented with a golden booke and a Lambe upon it, and a little golden cross thereupon erected [in his left hand, and pointing to the lambe with his right hand].

And beneath in the same light are the Armes of Mr. William Beaufitz, Clarke, who caused the said windowe to be glazed as by his

¹ This was evidently a representation of the Trinity of the kind usually designated "Italian."

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name *with this inscription* though much defaced appeareth *viz.* *Orate p̄ anima Willm̄i Beufitz qui hanc fenestrā fecerit vitriari.* The said William Beaufitz lyeth buried in the Chancell and is there set out in his presbiteriall habiliments upon his sepulchre in Brasse. *His* (?) *Armes are Arg^t on a fess between 3 lozenges azure a Cressent of the first.* The said armes are holden and supported by two Angells.

In the seconde Light of the said windowe is the picture of a [canonised] virgin.

And underneath a *plaine* scutchion supported by ii angells.

[In Mr. William Paynter's chappell belonging to his manor of Eastcourt.]¹

G. In the first wyndowe on the North syde of the said Chappell there is in the first light thereof the picture of St. Agnes naked with her haire hanging about her, and an Angell bringing a garment to cover her. There is this inscription about the said picture *viz.* *Gratias tibi ago domine Jhu qui mihi hanc vestem largiri precepisti.*

And beneath in the same light there is the lively picture of John Beaufitz the sonne of John Beaufitz Esquier. He is pourtrayed kneeling wth his booke before him. *By him is the Armes of Beaufitz and Stanhop* [rather Thomas of Gillingham's] *quartered together.*

In the second light of the same windowe there is the pourtraiture of St. Cecilie with a garland of Roses upon her head, a sword in her right hand and a garland of Roses in her left hand. And beneath in the same light there is also the lively picture of Alice the wife of the same John Beaufitz kneeling wth her booke before her *and by her the Armes of Beaufitz empaled wth A chevron G between 3 starrs S :*

Against the wall betwene the first and second windowes on the North syde of the said Chappell there is erected the Monument of Mr Anthony Paynetere *gent wth this inscriptiō.*²

H. In the second wyndowe on the North syde of the said Chappell in the first light thereof there is the picture of St. Martha having a crosse in her right hand wth the end thereof thrust into the mouth of a Beast or Serpent called a Terasco and she herself treading upon the same Beast.³

And underneath in the same light is the scutchion of the armes of Mr William Beaufitz clarke [supported by two angells, argent on a fesse between three lozenges barry, a crescent of the fiede].

And in the second light of the said [second] wyndowe there is the representation of our Saviour Christe appearing to Marye Magdalene after his resurrection wth this inscription proceeding from Marye

¹ i.e. the north chancel.

² Nothing follows; the inscription is given in the *Registrum.* Anthony Paynter d. 1613.

³ From this description it appears that the saint represented was really St. Margaret.

Magdalene, Rabboni, and these words from o^r Savio^r Christ, Noli me tangere.

And underneath in the same light there are the armes of *Beaufitz empaled with A on a bend G 3 bells Or* :

J. In the wyndowe on the East end of the said Chappell in the first light thereof is a decayed picture of St. Peter.

And underneath in the same light the lyvely portraiture of M^r William Beaufitz Clerke kneeling wth habiliments of his degree of Maister of Art wth his armes before him.

And in the second light of the said windowe there was a faire picture utterly decayed but seeming to be of Mary Magdalene¹ and beneath in the same light are the lyvely faces of John Beaufitz the elder esquire and Isabell his wyfe, who are buried in the Chancell.

In the third light of the said windowe is a decayed picture of St. Paul and all the rest utterly defaced.

Upon the pavement towards the North syde of the said Chappell right under the Monument of M^r Anthony Payneter upon a square marble stone these two letters A.P. are engraven signifying the place where his bodie is entered.

Also upon the pavement in the middle of the said Chappell upon a veye faire stone both in length and breadth there are the pourtraictures in brasse of John Beaufitz the younger esquier and Alice his wyfe who had betwene them as there appeareth seaven sonnes and fyve daughters (of the w^{ch} daughters fower were married at the tyme when the said stone was laid, and one unmarried).² The pictures of them all are there yet to be seene in brasse : and about the stone there is a square border of brasse wherein is thus engraven viz. Hic iacent Johannes filius Johis Beaufitz Armigeri et Alicia uxor eius : qui quidem Johēs obiit xxv die mensis Nouembris Anno Domini Millō ccccxxxiiij^o liter Dominical D. et dicta Alicia obiit die mensis Anno Dñi millimo cccc Quorum animabuz propitietur Deus Amen~Amen~ At the foot of his picture there is figured a Lyon couchant, and at the foot of her picture a little dogg with a collar of bells and *at the Corners of the monument the Armes of Beaufitz empaled wth A a chev^r G between 3 starrs S.*

Upon the pavement at the East end of the said Chappell towards the South (syde ? ; MS. illegible) thereof lyeth a faire stone under the w^{ch} Mrs. Dorothe Payneter wydowe (MS. illegible) buried as appeareth by these words engraven thereupon Here lyeth (buried ? ; MS. illegible) the bodye of Dorothe Payneter widowe late wyfe of William

¹ In the MS. the name "Mary Magdalene" is crossed out. The printed version reads "a faire picture, now much defaced, of St. John the Baptiste."

² The words in brackets crossed out in the MS.

Paynetor esquier deceased. She died the xixth daye of october being 80 yeares of Age. 1617.

In the Chancell towards the South syde lyeth the toombestone of Robert Beauftiz and Sara his wyfe with their pourtraitures in brasse whereunder it is thus engraven in brasse, viz.

Hic iacent Robertus Beauftiz et Sara uxor eius qui~Robertus obiit Anno Dñi 1380 : et dicta Sara obiit~Anno Dñi 1395° quorum aīabꝫ ꝑꝑicietur deus.

And over their heads in brasse, Ecce nunc in pulvere dormio.

Also towards the North syde of the said Chancell lyeth the Toombestone of John Beauftiz Esquier and Isabel his wyfe wth their pourtraitures very faire set out in brasse; he having at his feet a Lyon Couchant: and she at her feet a little dogge wth a collar of bells. And round about in a faire border of brasse it is thus engraven in the frenche language :

Cy gisent John Beauftiz qui morust le 25^{me} iour del Mois de Novembre l'an de Dieu Mill cccxxvii et Isabelle sa feme qui morust le xxx^{me} iour del moys de Decembre Lan de dieu Mill cccxix Jhū nre sauveur de sa grande pitè de leur almes eit mercy Amen.

[There is proceeding from him this versicle, In Deo speravi.

And from her, Fili Dei, misereri nostri.]

At th^r feet 2 escochions whereof one The Armes aforesaid of A on a bend G 3 bells o quartered wth Beauftiz Armes, the other the first of the 2 quartered Coates alone. [His wife's arms were argent, on a bend sable three bells of the feilde.]

Also adioyning to the head of the stone of Robert Beauftiz lyeth the Toombstone of M^r William Beauftiz Clarke who as it appeareth was son of the said Robert Beauftiz and brother to the said John Beauftiz last above recyted, and uncle to that John Beauftiz Esquier that lyeth in the North Chappell. This M^r Willyam Beauftiz hath his pourtraicture very faire sett out in brasse, as he was in his presbiteriall habiliments wth his shorne crowne readye to sing Masse, standing as it were in a Crosse elevated, at the foote of the w^{ch} crosse it is thus engraven in brasse viz.

Hic iacet Magister Willimūꝫ Beauftiz qui obiit xix° die mensis Maii Anno Dñi 1433 cuius aīe ꝑꝑicietur deus.

And round about in a faire border of brasse it is thus engraven.

Es testis xp̄e quod non iacet hic lapiste

Corpus ut ornetur sed spiritus ut memoretur

Hinc tu qui transis medius magnus puer an sis

Pro me funde preces quia sic mihi sit venie spes.

And on the North syde of the stone of the said M^r William Beauftiz lyeth a faire stone whereon is engraven in brasse

Hic iacet dñs Joh^r es Bregge Vicarius de Gillingham cuius aīe ꝑꝑicietur Deus Amen.

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At the East end of the South Ile of the said Ch[urch] there is a faire stone under w^{ch} there lyeth buried a man with his two wyfes with their Children, w^{ch} in tyme have ben all represented in brasse, as doth appeare by the places from whence the said brasse hath ben taken. Their Children could not be in number lesse than Thirtye as appeareth by the large roomes wherein their pictures were sett, but no memorie of their names remayneth.

In the Middle pace *or Ile* of the Church under a faire stone there lye buried William Godferie, and Johane and Marrian his wyves. He and his first wife are their figures in brasse, but the brasse wherein his other wyfe was figured is taken awaye ; there is also this memoriall of them in brasse yet extant—

Of yo^r Charitie praye for the soules of William Godfraye, Johane and Marrian his wyffes the which William departed this transitorie lyfe the daye of in the yeare of our Lord god MCCCCCXX and the said Joane deceased the Vth daye of November in the yeare of our Lord god MLXXXIX and the said Marrian deceased the daye of in the yeare of our Lord god M^oCXX on whose soules Jesu have mercie.

He had many daughters by his first wyfe as appeareth by the place engraven upon the (MS. defective) where they were pictured in brasse, but long sence taken awaye. He had by his second wyfe two sonnes whose pictures in brasse do yet remaine upon the said stone.

[In Mr. Thomas Haward's chappell belonging to his mannor of Granche.¹

In the middle of the said chappell, upon the pavement, lyeth a short stone, under the which Joane Bamme lyeth buried ; her bodye is there represented in brasse, lying as it were in her wynding sheet, with her face and feet uncovered, and underneath it is thus engraven in brasse :

Here lyeth Joane Bamme, sometime the wyfe of Richard Bamme, esquier, and daughter of John Martyn, sometyme chief judge of the common place, and moder unto John Bamme, the which lyeth as it appeareth on the North syde of this chappell, the which Joane dyed the xv^o daye of Januarye, in the yeare of our Lord M.CCCC.XXXI. On whose soule Jesu have mercye. Amen.

She had IIII sonnes and IIII daughters, whose pictures are there to be seene in brass.

On the North syde of the said chappell, under a very faire stone, lyeth the said John Bamme and his wyfe. His picture is there in brasse, and at his feet a hynde couchant ; her picture was there in brasse, but taken away with the memoriall of their names, and time of their deaths, and the pictures of their sonnes, which were many. They had nyne daughters, as by their pictures there in brasse appeareth.

¹ i.e. the south chancel.

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And neare unto his picture is this versicle, Qui precioso sanguine tuo redimisti me, miserere mei, domine.

And neare to the place of her picture, Gloriosa passio Jesu Christi perducatur me ad gaudia paradisi.

And over their heads the picture of our blessed Saviour Christ rysing out of the sepulchre.

At the East end of the said chappell is the toombe of Mr. William Haward, gent., deceased, being in height fower foote or thereabouts from the gronde, the endes, and sydes all of graye marble, and covered above with a touchstone, whereupon is engraven as followeth :]

(William Haward of "Granch" (d. 1612) and wife Alice, daughter of Thomas Clyve, gent. See *Arch. Cant.*, VI (1866), 300, where the slab is reproduced in facsimile.)

III. PHILIPOT'S NOTES (HARLEY MS. 3917)

f.65b. ¶In Gillingham Church

¶One a faire flat stone one y^e north side the quire this Incribed and these Armes (tricked : *Ar. a fesse between three lozenges az. impaling Ar. a chevron gu. between three stars sa.*).

Hic iacet Johannes Beufis filius Johānis Beufis Armigeri et Alicia uxor eius qui : quidem Johannes obiit 25 Nouembris Anno Domini 1433 quors animabus ppitietur deus amen.

G. In a window against it the same man knelinge In his Coate of These Armes and by it the Coate and Crest in this Manner. (Tricked : Quarterly, 1 and 4, *Ar. a fesse between 3 lozenges az.* ; 2 and 3, *Quarterly gu. and erm. Helm, mantling, and crest, a hand grasping a bunch of seven feathers.*)

(Drawing of kneeling man wearing armour and a tabard of arms, *a fesse between 3 lozenges.*) This is the ould Coate of Hastings Lord of the mannor of Grange in Gillingham w^{ch} after was Philipots (in a cursive hand).

f.66

(Tricked : Quarterly, 1 and 4, *On a bend 3 bells* ; 2 and 3, *a fesse between 3 lozenges.*)

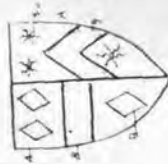
Icy gist Jehan Beufeitz que morust 25 Jour Nouember lan de Dieu 1427 et Isabella sa fame que morust la 30 Jour de December 1419 de ques lalmes Dieu e-t Pite et Mercy.

¶One a faire flat stone in the quire this, the Armes puld away :
 ¶Hic iacet Robertus Beufis qui obiit 1381~et Sara uxor eius quaē obiit 1395.

H. In a wyndow by (tricked : *Ar. on a fesse between 3 lozenges az. a crescent of the first impaling* ; *Ar. on a bend sa. 3 bells or.*).

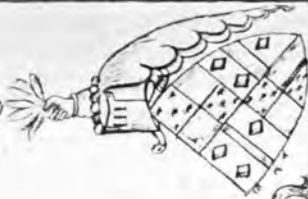
In Gillingham Church

One square flat stone
one of each side the
fourth the inscribed
and the arms.



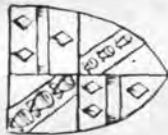
Hic iacet Johannes
Baufis filius Johannis
Baufis Armiger et
Alice uxoris eius que
quondam Johannes
abijt 25 Nouembri
Anno domini 1433
quod armatus est
piscatore deus amen

In a window square is
the same man but in
In his Coat of arms
Arm and by it the
Coat and Crest in
this Manner.



This is the
Coat of arms of
Herrings Lee of
the same of which
Mr. Gillingham says
with west church

1701 first Johan Beutfitz
que merust 25 Jour No-
uember lan de Dieu
1427 et Isabella sa
fame que merust la
30 Jour de December
1419 de que la mes-
sieu et Elix et Mercy



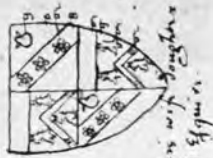
90m a faire flat Stone in the yuire the

The 9 may. Hic iacet Robertus Bauis
qui abijt 1391 et uxor
eius que abijt 1395

In a window by West Church same as with this



Hic iacet Magister Rufus
qui abijt 19 May Anno
1433 Cuius insepulti
ieter deus amen



In an of North
church opposite
to the church
monument last by which
for Anthony Payne of
Essex the son of an
in Payne of Tynhall in
the parish and Kathern his wife
and Child of Rob: Havis Esq:.

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Next to the same tomb this :

¶Hic iacet Magister Beufis qui obiit 19 Marcij Anno 1433 Cuis animæ propitiatur deus amen~

In y^e North chappell . . . A monument lately erected for Anthony Paynter of Estcourt the Sonne of M^r W^m Paynter of Twydall in this Parish and Katheren his wife daughter and Coheire of Rob : Harris Esquire.

(Tricked : Quarterly, 1 and 4, *Gu. a chevron between 3 griffins' heads erased or, a chief of the last [Paynter]* ; 2 and 3, *Or on a bend az. 3 cinquefoils or, in sinister chief an escallop gu. for difference [Harris of Essex].*)

f.66b.

A monument lately erected for M^r—Hayward father of M^r Samuel Hayward of Hartey & of M^r Thomas Hayward Lord of y^e Granch who deceased in the yere 1612 and is buried in y^e Chappell aforesayde wth y^e Armes (tricked : *Or a bull's head cabossed betw. 3 molets sa. [Haward]* ; crest, *a hand ppr., vested sa., grasping a heart gu.*)

(Tricked : *Haward impaling Ar. on a fesse between 3 wolves' heads erased sa. 3 molets ar. [Clive].*)

K. In y^e Est window

(Tricked : [1] *Gu. a crosslet erm. [Norton.]*

[2] *Erm. a cross engrailed gu. [Northwood].*

[3] *Gu. a fesse ar., in chief a goat's head ar. and in base 3 escallops or. [Warham.]*

[4] *Ar. 3 bars wavy gu. [Campania.]*

[5] *Gu. a chevron . . . , a chief vair, impaling Sa. a castle ar. [Sampson.]*

IV. THE BEAUFITZ FAMILY

On 2nd April, 1324, Robert, son of William Beaufitz of Gillingham, bought a house in that parish from Thomas de Gillingham.¹ William was evidently a shipowner. In 1326 he was one of those ordered to guard the coast, to arrest persons landing clandestinely, and to forward their papers to the king, his district being "from Strode as far as the Thames."² He was dead by 1342, when Robert, his son, heir and executor,³ was instituting legal proceedings in connection with the loss of William's ship, called "la Rede cogge," which, together with its cargo, to a total value of £300, had been seized by the King of France. On 10th May, 1342, Robert obtained a writ directing the Lord Warden

¹ A. d. Ch. 36,631.

² Calendar of Patent Rolls (hereafter CPR) 19 Edw. II, Pt. 1, 210.

³ In 1337 John Beaufitz was appointed, with others, a commissioner *de wallis et fossatis* in the Isle of Sheppey (CPR, 11 Edw. III, Pt. 1, 442). His name does not occur again, and it is possible that he was a younger brother of William.

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of the Cinque Ports to recompense him by seizing the goods of French merchants to a like amount.¹

This Robert Beaufitz, as may be shown from the Close and Patent Rolls, played some part in the public life of the county. He took part in an inquisition in 1347; and in 1350, and again four years later, he was one of the commissioners ordered to survey Rochester bridge and to determine who was liable for its repair.² By a fine (No. 746) of 21 Edward III (1348-9), he and Laurence Clak, "chaplain," granted to Thomas de Gillingham a very considerable property in Gillingham, Chatham, Horsmonden, "Begyndenne," and Grain. The property in Gillingham consisted of one messuage, 113½ acres of arable, 12 acres of pasture, 60 acres of marsh, 39s. 6¾d. in rent, and rents in kind. Robert was still alive in 1357, by which time he had a son also named Robert.

Robert Beaufitz II does not figure largely in the public records (he was a Commissioner for the Collection of Taxes in Kent in 1377 and 1380), but in him we recognize the man commemorated by the earliest of the series of brasses described by Tufton. The inscription on the brass gives us the name of his wife, Sara, who died in 1395, and the date of his own death, 1381.

The brasses formerly in the church, and other evidences, enable us to construct the remainder of the pedigree with precision so far as the male members are concerned. We see that Robert Beaufitz II had two sons: John, who died in 1427; and William, who became a priest and died in 1433. William was evidently the owner of property in Gillingham. There is in existence a lease by him, dated 29th June, 1391, and witnessed by his brother John and others, of a messuage at "Estrete" to John Hwton *alias* Hwytton.³ John Beaufitz, after his father's death, was several times employed in the king's service. In 1399 he was a Commissioner for the Collection of Taxes in Kent, and in the same year accompanied Richard II on his expedition to Ireland, nominating Henry Assheburn and John Wymundeswold his attorneys during his absence.⁴ He makes his last appearance in the records in 1420 as a Commissioner for the raising of a loan in Kent.⁵

John's son of the same name died in 1433, only six years after his father, and despite Tufton's statement that his brass showed him to have had seven sons and five daughters he is the last of the line of whom I have been able to find any record. The Rental of Gillingham manor of 1449-50 at Lambeth⁶ refers to "the heirs of John Beaufitz" only. It seems impossible that all the sons, if they survived, could have

¹ Calendar of Close Rolls (CCR), 16 Edw. III, Pt. 1, 435.

² CPR, 24 Ed. III, Pt. 1, 526; *ibid.*, 29 Edw. III, Pt. 1, 230.

³ Add. Ch. 36,633.

⁴ CPR, 22 Ric. II, Pt. 3, 558.

⁵ Cal. of Fine Rolls, 7 Hen. V, 317.

⁶ MS. 1094, ff. 2 *et seq.*

been under age at this time : the youngest, even if posthumous, must have been at least 15 ; and I think it follows that, if Tufton be correct in his statement, all the sons died young. Hasted, without giving any authority, says that John's property passed to his wife Alice, daughter of John Topclive, who married, secondly, Sir John Pashley of Rainham, carrying the estates to him.¹ She survived until 1459.²

The will of John Beaufitz is not in the PCC calendars. Philipot, however, certainly, and Hasted probably, had seen it, for upon it they base their statements that John endowed a chantry in honour of St. John Baptist at his Manor of Twidall in Gillingham, directing that prayers should be offered for the souls of himself, his wife Alice, John Beaufitz his father, Isabel his mother, and William Beaufitz, priest, his uncle. In the seventeenth century the chantry chapel still remained at Twidall, and the seats, "handsome wainscoting," and other remains showed it to have been "a neat and elegant piece of architecture."³ It was demolished in 1756.

I have been unable to prove from original records the date at which the Beaufitz family acquired the manor of Twidall. Philipot, in the seventeenth century, had access to the title deeds of the then lord of this manor, wherein he found evidence of the ownership, *temp.* Henry I, of one Robert de Twidall ; "from whom was lineally extracted, Richard de Twidall, who in the fourth year of Richard the second [1381-2], passed away this, and Dane-court, to John the son of Robert de Beaufitz."⁴ Hasted contradicts the latter part of this statement, saying that Roger de Twidall, in 38 Edward III, (1365-6), "passed away" Twidall and Dane-court "to Robert Beaufitz, of Acton, in Charing, whose father of the same name was before possessed of lands in this parish, by grant from Thomas de Gillingham. Robert Beaufitz, jun., resided at Twidall afterwards, and . . . married Joan, daughter of Roger de Twidall."⁵

The existence of Roger "Twydole" is an historical fact. He was alive in 32 Edward III (1359-60), when by a fine (No. 1182) he and his wife Joan sold three acres and half a rood of land in Gillingham to Simon Wyse of the same Parish. But we have seen from the brass of Robert Beaufitz, jun., (whom I have called Robert Beaufitz II), that *his* wife's name was Sara. It seems probable that the truth may lie somewhat on these lines : that it was Robert Beaufitz I who married Roger Twidall's daughter ; that she was the heiress ; and that the

¹ Hasted (fol.), ii, 62.

² PCC 17 Stokton.

³ Hasted (8°), iv, 235-6.

⁴ *Vill. Cant.* (ed. 1776), 166-7.

⁵ Hasted (8°), iv, 234. The "grant from Thomas de Gillingham" perhaps refers to the Add. charter 36,631 already cited above. Hasted gives no authority for any of his statements.

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estate came to her husband, or to his family if he predeceased her, on the death of her parents.

V. GENEALOGY AND HERALDRY

We have now to examine the coats of arms of the Beaufitz and associated families now or formerly displayed in the church. They are three in number :

- (1) *Quarterly erm. and gu.*
- (2) *Ar. a fesse between three lozenges az.*
- (3) *Ar. on a bend sa. (or gu.) three bells or.*
- (1) occurs (T = Tufton ; P = Philipot) :
 - (a) In window A, where it is associated with the figure of Robert Beaufitz II. (T)
 - (b) In window C, impaled by (2). (T)
 - (c) In window G, where it occupies the second and third quarters of an achievement wherein the first and fourth quarters are (2). P tricks it *quarterly gu. and erm.* (T and P)
- (2) occurs :
 - (a) Held by a helve-figure at the NE. corner of the nave roof (still remaining ; wrongly re-coloured in modern times).
 - (b) In window C, impaling (1). (T)
 - (c) In window G :
 - (i) Quartering (1) in an achievement. (T and P)
 - (ii) On the tabard of figure of John Beaufitz II (P)
 - (iii) Impaling : *Ar. a chevron gu. between 3 stars sa. (Topclive).* (T)
 - (d) As in (c) (iii) on brass to John Beaufitz II and Alice Topclive, his wife. (T and P)
 - (e) Quartered by (3), the lower dexter shield on brass to John Beaufitz I and his wife Isabel. (T and P)
- (2) *differenced with a crescent on the fesse* occurs :
 - (a) On brass to William Beaufitz, clerk, 1433 (remaining).
 - (b) In window F, associated with the figure of the same man.¹ (T)
 - (c) (Probably : T is not explicit) in window J, "before" the figure of the same man. (T)
 - (d) In window H impaling (3). (P ; T: the crescent not mentioned)
- (3) occurs :
 - (a) In window H (where the bend is said by T to be *gu.* and by P *sa.*) impaled by (2) [*differenced with a crescent (P)*].

¹ In the printed text of the *Registrum* William Beaufitz is stated to bear the lozenges *barry*. This seems to be an invention of Thorpe's, and may be disregarded. It is not borne out by Tufton's MS., and in the shield remaining on the brass of William the lozenges are plain.

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(b) As lower sinister shield on brass to John Beaufitz I and Isabel his wife. (T; Fisher's drawing)

(c) Quartering (2), as lower dexter shield on the same brass. (T and P)

(1) is the coat of the Gillingham family. The identification, made by Thorpe, correcting Tufton's interpolator who gives Stanhope, is confirmed by two impressions of the seal of Thomas de Gillingham attached to extant deeds (B.M. Add. ch. 36,631 and 46,953).

(2) is borne c.1290 (Dering Roll, B.M. Add. MS. 38,537) by William de Hastinge, who held the manor of Grange in Gillingham. From the way in which these arms were displayed in the church it is clear that by the fifteenth century, and probably earlier, they had been assumed by the Beaufitz family.

(3) Hasted (8^o, iv, 234) assigns this coat (with the bend *sa.*) to Robert Beaufitz II, while Filmer Southouse in his Armory attributes it (with the bend *gu.*) to Gillingham. With the bend *gu.* it is certainly the coat of Richbell of co. Hants.¹ There is nothing in the Richbell pedigree to suggest a Beaufitz-Richbell marriage, but the name crops up in Kent, e.g. at Beckenham in 1555.

In order to form an opinion as to the date at which coat (2) was assumed by the Beaufitz family it will be necessary to examine a little more closely the history of Grange. This manor was a dependency of the Cinque Port of Hastings, and its tenant c.1236 was Menasser de Hastinge, who held it in serjeantry of King Henry III.² In 38 Henry III (1254-5) it was held in the same manner by Mattheus de Hastinge,³ who died 5 Edw. I,⁴ leaving as his heir a son, William, then aged 32 and more. William was still living c.1290, when, as we have seen, his arms were recorded in the Dering Roll.

In default of further original evidence we now turn to Hasted (fol., ii, 84): "From the name of Hastings Grange went by purchase to Richard Smith, whose daughter and heir Margaret married Richard Croydon, whose daughter and heir Margery married John Philipott [temp. Ric. II]." In 1375 there is an entry in the close roll which to some extent bears out this statement: in that year William Halden, William Topclive, William Bedmanton, and Robert Claver grant to Margery, who was wife of Richard de Croydon, citizen and fishmonger of London, the manor and chapel of Grange and other lands, with remainder to John Philipot, citizen of London.⁵ It may be noted in

¹ Vis. Hants. 1686: Coll. Arm. K8.106. Information kindly furnished by Mr. H. Stanford London, F.S.A.

² Testa de Nevill.

³ Holders of Fees in Kent; *Arch. Cant.*, XII (1878), 227.

⁴ Cal. I.P.M., Ed. I, Vol. i, No. 220.

⁵ CCR, 49 Ed. III, 219.

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passing that this John Philipot, Mayor of London, was the boasted ancestor of Philipot the herald. In one of his MSS.¹ the latter has left an unfinished drawing of the east window of Grange chapel, showing that his ancestor bordered the window with carved coats of arms.

It seems probable that about the end of the thirteenth century there was a marriage between a daughter of William de Hastings, and, perhaps, William Beaufitz the shipowner; that William de Hastings died without male heirs; and that William Beaufitz then assumed his arms. If we accept this theory, it follows that all the representations of coat 2 in the church refer to members of the Beaufitz family.

Coat 1 (Gillingham) seems to be specially associated, in windows A and C, with Robert Beaufitz II; it is impaled by Beaufitz in window C, and in window G it is quartered by Beaufitz. It follows that there was a Beaufitz-Gillingham marriage, and that the Gillingham bride was an heiress. The obvious candidate for this rôle is Sara, the wife of Robert Beaufitz II.

It is, I think, quite useless at this stage to attempt to disentangle the many branches of the Gillingham family of which we have record; but an effort must be made to distinguish the main line. Robert de Gillingham and Margaret his wife occur in a fine as early as 1202.² In 1254-5 Hugo de Gillingham holds half a knight's fee in Gillingham of the Archbishop,³ which holding (the manor of West Court) had passed by 1347-8 to Thomas de Gillingham.⁴ We have more records of this Thomas than of any other member of the family. We have seen that he was alive in 1324; and that in 1348-9 he received from Robert Beaufitz I considerable landed property in Gillingham. The fine by which this transfer was made gives this information about his family:

Thomas (I) de Gillingham = Mary

Thomas (II) Richard Margery Mary

It is probable, moreover, that he had two further sons, who were priests: Simon, son of Thomas de Gillingham, received the first tonsure 20th Dec., 1326; and John, similarly described, received first tonsure 4th April, 1332.⁵

Thomas de Gillingham's second son, Richard, died in 1389 seized of a messuage, 100 acres of land, pasture, and meadow, in Gillingham, Upchurch, and Rainham;⁶ and Richard's son, Thomas (III), the last

¹ B.M. Egerton 3310, fol. 43.

² *Arch. Cant.*, III (1860), 202.

³ *Arch. Cant.*, XIII (1880), 227.

⁴ *Arch. Cant.*, X (1876), 151.

⁵ Reg. Hamo Hethe.

⁶ Cal. I.P.M., Ric. II and Hen. IV, No. 176.

of the line, had two daughters and co-heirs, Margaret and Isabel, who married respectively John Thorpe and William Greenstreet.¹ By 1449-50 "the heirs of Thomas de Gillingham" only are mentioned in the Lambeth rental.

About Thomas II we have virtually no information. Subject, therefore, to possible future correction, I assume that Sara was his daughter, and that she brought some of the Gillingham property to her husband. This would give the Beaufitz the right to quarter the Gillingham arms.

Coat 3 presents a baffling problem. It would be natural, especially as in window H the coat was impaled by Beaufitz, to accept Thorpe's statement that these were the arms of Isabel, wife of John Beaufitz I, and, by inference, that she was a Richbell; but why, on the brass, should this coat *quarter* Beaufitz? Two independent witnesses assure us that it did, though the shield itself is no longer in existence. In attempting to solve the problem I have tested a number of theories, but all break down at some point. A solution must, therefore, be left to some more learned investigator of the future.

The arms of John Beaufitz I, impaling this coat in window H, are said by Philipot to be differenced with a crescent. It would appear to follow that the window was erected before the death of Robert Beaufitz II, and so before 1381. William the priest, as a younger son, always differences with a crescent. This, though omitted in Fisher's drawing, still remains, very faintly visible, on the shield on William's brass.

The accompanying pedigree has some weak spots, but it embodies, I think, reasonable conclusions from the available evidence. The discovery of additional evidence might necessitate modifications.

Before the final dismissal (not, perhaps, without a sigh of relief) of the Beaufitz family, mention must be made of Agnes, wife of Sir John Scott (d.1485) of Scotts Hall in Smeeth. Berry, p. 170, calls her "daughter and heir of William Beaufitz of the Grange in Gillingham," and Mr. J. R. Scott, F.S.A., in *The Scotts of Scotts Hall*, p. 124, and in a paper in *Arch. Cant.*, X (1876), attributes to her a coat of arms, *Ar. a saltire engrailed between 4 martlets sa.*, which appears on Scott monuments in Brabourne church and in the Visitations of 1574 and 1592.² That Sir John Scott did marry an Agnes Beaufitz is unquestioned and these, for aught I know, may well have been her arms, though Papworth is silent. But no proof whatever is adduced to show that she was a Beaufitz of Gillingham, and Mr. Scott's pedigree, in which he shows her father, William, as a brother of our John Beaufitz II seems, in this particular, to be pure fiction.

The public records of the relevant period show that there were a

¹ Philipot, *Vill. Cant.* (ed. 1776), 166.

² In Vis. 1592 the saltire is *gules*.

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number of families named Beaufitz who were settled in widely separated districts of England ; and I suggest that the parents of Agnes must be sought further afield than Gillingham, and certainly not at Grange, which the Beaufitz never owned.

VI. LATER OWNERS OF GRANGE AND TWIDALL : MONUMENTS

THE EAST WINDOW OF THE CHANCEL.

I have not thought it necessary to indulge in further original research respecting the remaining persons whose monuments are described in the MSS. or recorded by Fisher. Enough information, of a reasonably accurate character, about them is available in print. William Godfrey, 1520, whose brass, now lost, was in the "middle aisle"—presumably of the nave—is not mentioned by the county historians, but a clue as to his status is afforded by the will, dated 1525, of "William Godfrey thelder, yeoman," who desired to be buried "in the parish church of Gillingham as nigh vnto thaulter next before the pewe that I vse to sitt in as it may goodly be done."¹ The brass of the unnamed man with two wives and numerous children, at the east end of the south aisle, now lost, has not been identified.

There remain the Bamme, Haward, and Paynter monuments. The two former families were owners of Grange, which John Philipot, grandson of the Mayor, granted to Richard, son of Adam Bamme, goldsmith, of London, in exchange for Twyford in Middlesex—according to Hasted in 11 Henry VI, though as Richard Bamme's wife Joan died in 1431 and had a brass at Gillingham the date may not be strictly accurate. On the other hand she may, of course, have been moved from a former place of sepulture when Richard acquired Grange. The brass of Joan Bamme, now lost, was in the centre of the south, or Grange, chancel. A rough sketch of it by Fisher shows the lady represented in a shroud, and, below, a number of sons and daughters and a shield of arms, a chevron bearing three indistinguishable charges : if for Martin (she was daughter of John Martin, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas) the charges should be talbots.

Richard Bamme, by his will dated 1442, desired his executors to order "unum lapidem marmoreum ad ponendum super tumulum Johanne uxoris mee in australi capella ecclesie de Gillyngham . . . valoris iiii*l*. xiijs. iiii*d*."² This is now lost.

John Bamme, son of Richard and Joan, was Sheriff 2 Ric. III and died in 1488. The brass (now lost) commemorating him, his wife

¹ *Testamenta Cantiana* (West Kent), 27.

² *Testamenta Cantiana* (West Kent), 27.

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Elizabeth, and their children, was on the north side of the Grange chancel, where, considerably mutilated, it remained in Fisher's time. His sketch of the slab, detailed drawing of the male armoured effigy, and rubbing of the same, are extant.

John Bamme died without male heirs, and his daughter and heir Katherine is said by Hasted to have alienated the manor to William Haward of Sheppey, of whose family there is a pedigree in the Visitation of 1619: a well-annotated version is in *Arch. Cant.*, VI (1866), 296. We have noted Tufton's careful description of the monument, of which only the top slab now remains, of a later William (d. 1612).

Twidall and Dane Court by the time of Henry VIII had come into the possession of the Crown. In 1542-3 they were granted by the King to Christopher Sampson, who in the 16th of Elizabeth alienated them to William Paynter, Clerk of the Ordnance to the Queen:¹ his wife Dorothy (d. 1617), daughter of—Bonham of Cowling, and son, Anthony (d. 1613), were commemorated by the monuments, described by Tufton, in the north chancel. There is a pedigree of this family in the Visitation of 1619. They retained Grange until the reign of George I.

We have, finally, to consider the five shields which Philipot noted in the east window of the chancel. Warham presumably is for the Archbishop (1503-32) who, *ex-officio*, was lord of the manor of Gillingham. No. 5 (dexter) has not been identified,² but we have seen that the Sampson family, represented by the impaled coat, acquired Twidall and Dane Court in Gillingham by royal grant in 1542-3. They were considerable landowners in Horsmonden, Bicknor, and elsewhere.

Norton and Northwood go together. The Nortons adopted their ermine crosslet from Sir Richard Atte Lese, the last of his line, who died seized of the manor of Sheldwich in 1394. He left no children, and the manor passed eventually to John Norton, who had married Sir Richard's niece and heiress Lucy, daughter of Marcellus Atte Lese.³ Sir John Norton, three generations later in the reign of Henry VIII, married Joan, daughter and co-heir of John Northwood, thereby acquiring the family seat of Northwood in Milton; and the arms of the two families, alone impaled, and quartered, were of common occurrence in the churches of this district, e.g. Sittingbourne, Milton, and Newington.⁴ Sir John Northwood in the fourteenth century was a landowner in Gillingham.⁵

There remains Campania, also called Champaine or Champion, of

¹ Hasted (8°), iv, 234.

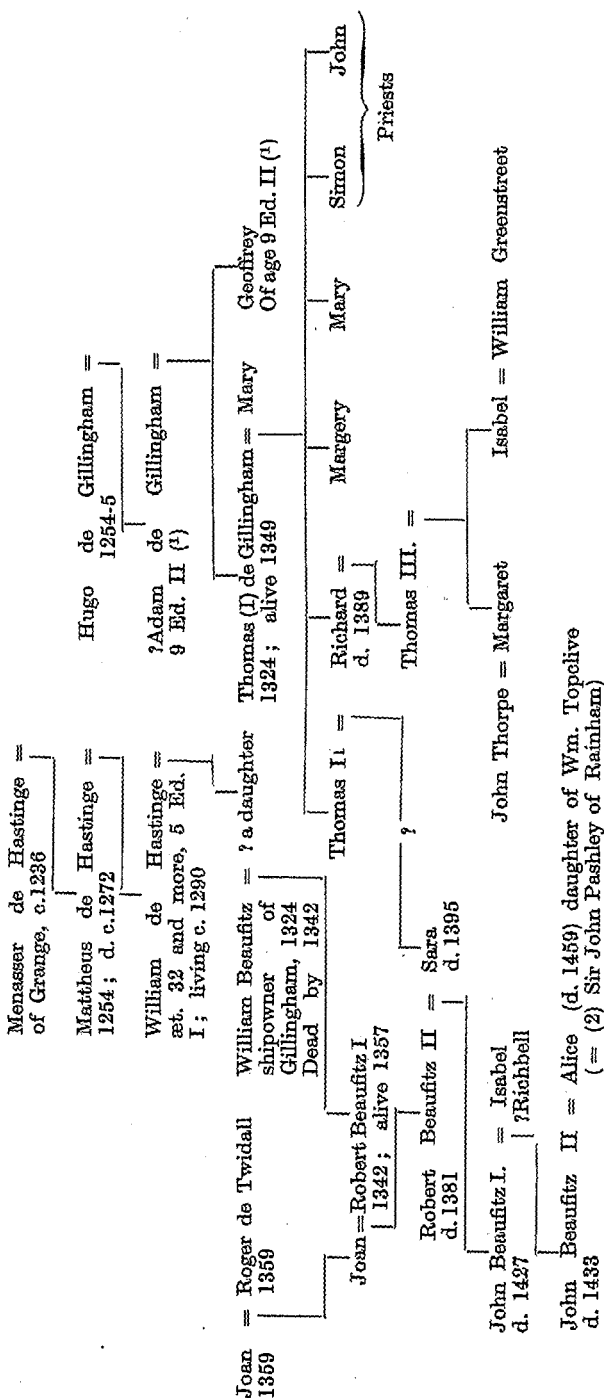
² Or a chevron gu., a chief vair: ST. QUENTIN; HARPER.—Papworth.

³ Hasted, vi, 483.

⁴ See Egerton MS. 3310, ff. 3-5.

⁵ Cal. I.P.M., 48-51 Ewd. III, No. 318.

PEDIGREE TO SHOW THE PROBABLE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HASTINGS, BEAUFITZ, AND GILLINGHAM.



¹ Arch. Cant., XIII (1880), 302.

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Champions Court in Norton. Members of this family were fairly widely distributed in Kent by marriage, but since the other shields in this window appear to have dated from the early sixteenth century this one was perhaps for John Champayn, who occurs in the list of the gentry of Kent *temp.* Henry VII printed in *Arch. Cant.* XI (1877), 397. This John, however, is there stated to bear two and not three bars : three was the more usual bearing.

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