

## DALISON DOCUMENTS.

LETTERS OF THOMAS STANLEY OF HAMPTONS, WRITTEN  
BETWEEN 1636 AND 1656.

*Communicated by* MRS. DALISON *of Hamptons, and Edited by*  
CANON SCOTT ROBERTSON.

THE writer of these letters, Mr. Thomas Stanley of West Peckham, was born there in February 1580-1. Late in the reign of James I., upon the death of his father John Stanley, in March 1616-7, he succeeded to the possession of *Hamptons*, in West Peckham, where a portrait of him is still preserved. His daughter and ultimate heiress, Frances Stanley, married young Maximilian Dalison in or before 1652; and Hamptons has remained with them and their descendants, ever since Mr. Stanley's death in 1669.

In what year Thomas Stanley first came to occupy his West Peckham home is not certainly known. For some years, after his father's death, he was described in legal documents as domiciled at Gravesend. There his first wife's former husband (Leiston) had resided. Mr. Stanley's papers shew that he lent money to many persons while he lived at Gravesend. He had also some connection with a brewery there, called "Mr. Finch's Brewhouse," which was occupied by Thomas Collett, who relinquished it at Michaelmas 1633. Mr. Stanley continued to possess this brewhouse for many years after he had removed to Peckham. In 1635, and later still, he speaks of his "Houshold Stuff and Plate" at Gravesend, and at Maidstone, at Rochester, at North Stoke (Sussex), at London, at Canterbury, and in Thanet. He was a man of great activity, who so far increased the patrimony left him by his father, that, in 1635, when that patrimony was valued at £900, his other possessions were worth nearly £10,000 more.\*

\* MY ESTATE, 29 *Sept.* 1635.

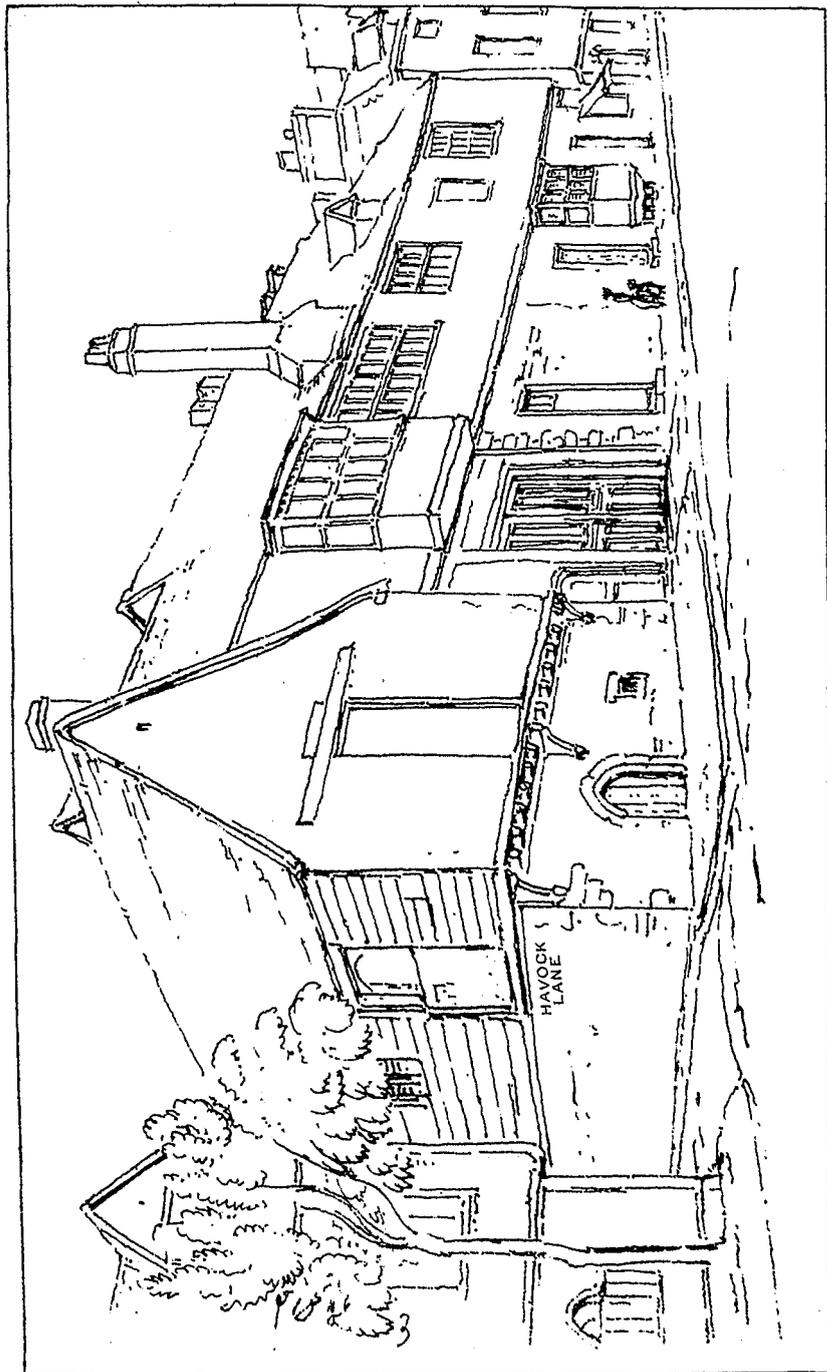
	Value. £
My land at Peckham, from my Father, viz., the house, £10; Milfield, £5; Kitchenfield, £5; Horseleas, £6; Mildrede, £4; Long Meade, £3; Hillyfield, £3; Theslyfield, £2; Calvescroft, £2; Horesmeade, £5; the Strake and fish ponds, £4 .....	900

Not at Gravesend only was he a man of influence. Mr. Stanley occupied a much more prominent position in the town of Maidstone. We know that he was Mayor of Maidstone, and that he was the owner of Earls Place there. At that time Earls Place was a mansion surrounded by park-like grounds, which extended from the mansion-house to Week Street on the east, and from Earl Street to St. Faith Street on the north. In 1635 he estimated the value of Earls Place at £640; but in 1645-9 its value had increased to £750; and in 1653 it had risen to £850.

Whether Mr. Stanley resided at Earls Place I cannot ascertain; but he probably did so; as we know that at some house in Maidstone he possessed "Plate and Household Stuff," which he always included in the periodical valuation of his property, until after the year 1640. In 1645, however, he no longer retained a residence in Maidstone; and Earls Place seems to have increased in value, to the extent of £110. Probably he had let it to a good tenant. In 1640 he mentions among his property the lease of "Bower" at Maidstone as worth £150.

His connection with Rochester was mainly through a brewery; probably that which had been the property of Alderman Duling.

	Value. £
Turkes, £80; Sheepcrofte, £70; Bingham's, £110; Guttermead and Pondbrooke, £90; Highlands, £200; Fullingmill and lands, £700; Cases, £120; Pullins, £170 .....	1540
Threesland at Northstoke, £35 per ann., and a faier house .....	700
The old brewhouse, Gravesend, £30 .....	500
Earls Place at Maidstone .....	640
The Ship .....	180
The little Farm, Great Peckham, £6 per ann. ....	110
Lease for 500 yeares at Ratcliffe, a bakehouse .....	280
Land at Plextole .....	100
Stock at Peckham.	
6 Oxen and 2 Steers, £42; 7 kine, £28; gray gelding, £10; gray nag, £7; mare and colt, £5; buckhorse, £10; blackhorse, £10; black gelding, £10; a colt at Stoke, £3; 12 Runts, £20; 10 acres wheat, £20; wheat, malt, and oats, in the loft, £15; and in the barne, wheat, oats, pease, and tares, £24; hay, 30 lodes, £50; Wood, £10; tymber and boorde, £10; Wagons, Carts, tackle, harnesse, and ymplements, £15 .....	245
Houshold stuffe and plate HERE, at MAIDSTONE, ROCHESTER, NORTH-STOKE, LONDON, CANTERBURY, and THANETT .....	500
The lease of Rochester Brewhouse, and Stock .....	2000
Debts due to me .....	2160
Officium Irrotulament' fortasse .....	800
Total value .....	£10655
I owe .....	£2995



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EARL'S PLACE, MAIDSTONE.

(THE PROPERTY 1635-45 OF THOMAS STANLEY OF WEST PECKHAM, MAYOR OF MAIDSTONE 1641-2.)

In 1636, he valued his lease of Rochester brewhouse and stock at £1800. In 1640 we find the lease at Rochester put down at £1500; and the freehold of an "old berehouse," at £500. In 1645 the freehold houses are valued at £450, and the lease at £1100 only.

Among his active employments we find him serving in the militia as lieutenant under Sir Percival Hart for fourteen years; and as captain of a "Selected Band" for ten years.

He seems to have represented Maidstone in the House of Commons, for three months, in 1625; from May to August. Thomas Stanley was also Mayor of Maidstone from November 1625 to November 1626. When the great rebellion was imminent Stanley was on the side of the Church and King. In November 1641 there was a contest for the office of Mayor of Maidstone. The majority of the townsmen were Royalists then, and they procured the election of Thomas Stanley, who was a judicious and moderate man.

When the Grand Jury of Kent, at the Maidstone Assizes, in March 1642, agreed to petition Parliament in favour of the Liturgy and the Clergy, the House of Commons caused a copy of the petition to be burned before the real petition had been presented. The Speaker issued an order for the arrest of all concerned in it. Among others Mr. Stanley (as Mayor of Maidstone) and his servant Skelton were "attached." They attended at the House of Commons for a week, from April the 15th to the 22nd, without being called to the bar. Stanley then petitioned either to be heard or dismissed.

In July 1643, the Royalists in Kent actually took up arms; and they achieved a slight success between Sevenoaks and Tunbridge. It was so evidently transient that Stanley besought them to come to terms with the Parliamentary leaders; and he acted as peace-maker. He went in person, late at night, to Wrotham to see the Deputy-Lieutenants who managed Kentish affairs for the Parliament, and did his utmost to prevent the action which took place at Tunbridge, when the Parliamentary soldiers captured that town.

In Maidstone the Royalist cause lost ground during 1643. In November 1643 Stanley seems to have endeavoured to seize the office of Mayor, but he was superseded. A few months later, in February 1644, he and other Royalists were removed from their position as jurats of the town.

Until the great Rebellion he had a large share (worth £800) in the fees or other profits derived from an *Office of Enrolment* in the Court of Chancery. This source of income vanished during the

Rebellion. Mr. Stanley recapitulates his losses by that Rebellion during six years (1643-1649) until they make a total of £1780; including "composition paid" £275; paid in fines £130; and "plundered" £60. He adds, in 1649, that he had "lost with my son Walsall £250;" and subsequently in 1652 Mr. Stanley writes, "more lost by Walsall £550." To his brother John, he says in 1649, "£600 given," and "to W. Stanley given £1000."

Thomas Stanley was an active churchwarden at West Peckham. Much of the parish register was written by his hand; and in 1631-3 he obtained and administered a Brief to collect money for the restoration of West Peckham Church.

Thomas Stanley was thrice married. The first of these letters relates to the college expenses of Thomas Leiston (or Leyston), who was sent to Oxford in 1636. This young man was a nephew of Mr. Stanley's first wife, a widow named Margery Leiston of Gravesend, whom he married in or about 1606, but by whom he had no children. When Thomas Leiston went to Oxford his aunt Mrs. Margery Stanley had not long been dead. She was buried at West Peckham in May 1633; and within three months Mr. Stanley married Ann, daughter of Captain Long, and widow of John Harvey. Mrs. Harvey married Thomas Stanley at Brabourne Church, on the 20th of August 1633. This lady did not survive many months; she was buried, at West Peckham, on the 24th of April 1634. Before young Leiston went to Oxford his guardian had wedded, as his third wife, Mary Duling, widow of William Duling, and daughter of Manasses Norwood of Chilston in Boughton Malherb. She had one child, Bessie Duling, aged 13, when she married Thomas Stanley on the 29th of September 1634, and she soon became the mother of his only child Frances, who was born on the 24th of July, and baptized on the 4th of August 1635, Frances Lady Vane being one of her godmothers.

When this child was nearly a year old, young Leiston was sent to Oxford, at the end of June 1636. A friend named Champneis, acquainted with the University, had been consulted as to expenses, and as to a tutor. He recommended Mr. George Wilde as private tutor, and estimated the yearly expenses of the undergraduate at £40; but he seems to have suggested a larger allowance, so that Mr. Stanley promised to allow the young man £50 a year. As this sum scarcely sufficed for the first four months, Mr. Stanley wrote a letter of remonstrance, adding, however, that he would make the allowance £60 per annum.

To Mr GEO. WILDE (T. LEISTON'S\* Tutor).

Sir—before I resolved to put my kinsman to the Univ<sup>y</sup> I consulted with divers touching the yearly charge, amongst whome Mr Champneis was one. The most gen<sup>l</sup> resoluc<sup>o</sup>n was that it might well be borne with 40<sup>li</sup> a yeare, but bicause his meanes is good I was willing he should be at 50<sup>li</sup> p<sup>o</sup> annu<sup>o</sup> charges viis et modis. And to that end I wrote unto you in the beginning to conteyne his charges within the boundes of 50<sup>li</sup> p<sup>o</sup> annu<sup>o</sup>, but having received 2 l<sup>res</sup>† from you, one of 6 Sept. and the last (with a note inclosed) of 17 Octob<sup>r</sup> I finde (to my great discontent) thinges carried far otherwise then I intended, or then in reason as I conceive is fitt; for first I sent you 20<sup>li</sup>, and then you rec<sup>d</sup> of Mr Champneis 10<sup>li</sup>, all w<sup>ch</sup> is spent; and nowe you have sent a bill w<sup>ch</sup> comes to allmost 17<sup>li</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> (as you write) is all oweing; and he had of me at his first goeing for spending money as I thinke 3<sup>li</sup>, soe that in a q<sup>ter</sup> of a yeare & 3 weekes the whole 50<sup>li</sup> is nere yf not wholly run out; yf this high rate goe on, both your discrec<sup>o</sup>n & mine cannot avoyd a iust censure, and indeed it is more then his meanes will beare, and yf he spend his whole revenue in this course of life and at these yeares, what p<sup>o</sup>porc<sup>o</sup>n‡ doth it hold with the tyme to come? I must not suffer it leest it tend to his undoeing, and I may be accounted the cause of it. After the rate of this bill, his very diett will be almost 40<sup>li</sup> p<sup>o</sup> annu<sup>o</sup>; you have set 40<sup>s</sup> for tuic<sup>o</sup>n,§ whether you meane it for halfe a yeare, or but a q<sup>ter</sup> I cannot tell, but Mr Champneis & I did speake of noe more then 4<sup>li</sup> p<sup>o</sup> annu<sup>o</sup>; there is alsoe for wood 20<sup>s</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> I marvaile at, because I cannot ymagine howe he should spend 20<sup>s</sup> in wood for this so<sup>m</sup>er q<sup>ter</sup>. I shalbe content that *his whole charge be 60<sup>li</sup> p<sup>o</sup> annu<sup>o</sup>, but yf it be more, I doe hereby p<sup>o</sup>test|| against it.* Howbeit I suppose that this first yeare (being his tyme of entrance) his charges may be extraordinary w<sup>ch</sup> I shall give way unto soe far forth as reason shall requier. I knowe

\* Mr. Thomas Leiston and his sister Margery seem to have been orphans; for whom their "uncle" Thomas Stanley acted as guardian. Young Thomas Leiston came of age soon after May 1638, when he left Oxford. He married early; and his first child, William, was born on the 9th of April 1640, at West Peckham. He resided there, with Mr. Stanley, for a year or more, together with his wife Mary Leiston, and her maid; he had also there a manservant, and a white nag. For the board of himself, his wife, and her maid, he paid to Mr. Stanley £50 a year; the manservant's board cost generally 3s. a week, but occasionally 1s. more. The keep of the white nag was charged at only 1s. 8d. per week. A capital sum of £600 belonging to him was in Mr. Stanley's hands for several years, and for the use of it young Leiston received £40 per annum; rather more than 6½ per cent.

The connection of Mr. Stanley with the Leiston family was twofold. His mother's brother, Thomas Tuttesham, married a widowed Cecilia Leiston in 1581; and he himself married a widowed Margery Leiston in 1606. Both these ladies were described as "of Gravesend." Mrs. Margery Leiston is said to have been the daughter of an Essex gentleman, named Edgate. As Mr. Stanley in an estimate of his estate, made in November 1649, says, "I owe sister Edgettt £50," we may regard it as true that his first wife was Margery Edgate before she married Mr. Leiston.

† Letters.

‡ Proportion.

§ Tuition.

|| Protest.

not how to send money unto you by reason of the tymes, but I have taken order to have left at my Brothers; John Stanley a goldsmith in Cheapside 16<sup>li</sup> for you, & 19<sup>li</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> Champneis; w<sup>ch</sup> you may there receive yf you can send for it. I have cause ynough but not tyme ynough to write more largely, but I conclude with an earnest request to you soe to mannage him, not only in his learning & manners, but *alsoe in his gen'all expence & charge*, that we may be engaged to give M<sup>r</sup> Champneis reall thankes for helping us to soe good a Tutor.

Your very affeccc'onate

We. Peck. 30 Oct. 1636.

T. S.

To T. LEISTON at Oxford.

Kinde Cosen—Your l<sup>r</sup>e dated 17 Oct. I have rec', wherby you expresse great & gratefull love & respect unto me, w<sup>ch</sup> gives me very good content. I hartely reioyce at your welfare, especially at your p'ficiency in your studies. I rec' a l<sup>r</sup>e & a note from your Tutor w<sup>ch</sup> discovers a much too great a charge & expence in soe little a tyme; far beyond what was p'posed\* by any other, or intended by me. I was & am still very willing that your Exhibic'on† should be large, and reason good for it is your owne; but this rate w<sup>ch</sup> comes to about 40<sup>li</sup> in a q<sup>ter</sup> of a yeare is much more then reason, and it tendeth to your wrong & harme, and to my great discredit and will render me unfitt & unworthie to governe you or your estate. I p'test yf you were my owne only sonne I would not suffer it, and I am verely p'swaded that your goodnes & modesty is such that you will not expect I should let loose the raines of your expence further then may be good & necessary for you. Be p'swaded to affect discrec'on & moderac'on,‡ and let not any man worke uppon your flexible nature beyond the boundes of reason. Consider your owne estate, pry narrowly into your owne Acc'ons,§ and yf you finde in your selfe an inclinac'on to profusenes & ill company, strive to resist it. Have God in all your thoughtes, & then noe doubt your Acc'ons§ will be iudicious & discreet. Quicquid agas prudenter agas et respice finem.

Your assuredly loveing uncle

West Peck. 2 Novemb' 1636.

T. S.

To M<sup>r</sup> WILDE.

Sir—the bill w<sup>ch</sup> I have rec' from you by T. L. comes to 12<sup>li</sup> 18<sup>s</sup>, besides his sute of App'¶ w<sup>ch</sup> you guesse at 7<sup>li</sup>; wherfore I have sent you by him 20<sup>li</sup>, the cheifest thinges w<sup>ch</sup> I except ag'¶ are the silke stock & Holl>\*\* shirtes at 4<sup>s</sup> p' ell. I thinke it would have

\* Proposed.

† Exhibition—the sum devoted to an undergraduate's expenses at the University.

‡ Discretion and moderation.

§ Actions.

¶ Suit of apparel.

¶ Against.

\*\* Holland.

done well to have begun to weare silke stock 2 or 3 yeares hence, & 3<sup>s</sup> or 3<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> an ell for shirtes is as high a rate as I weare any. There is much danger in rankeing or rateing him too high, but for these I am satisfied with a fayer excuse, for he tels me that the King coming to Ox.\* was the cause of the one, & a mistake of his Laundresse a cause of the other. I have expostulated with him touching his charge there for the tyme to come. He assures me that he will conteyne himselfe within the dist(ance) of 25<sup>li</sup> for comons, etc., and of 20<sup>li</sup> for Apparell, and he desires 10<sup>li</sup> for expences; to this must be added tuic'on, chamber wages, & charges of Journeys into Kent; all this will rise to above 60<sup>li</sup>, yet I shall not be discontented with it, being confident that you will be carefulfull to have thinges done with moderac'on & discrec'on. Touching your Tuic'on I am well content that it be 6<sup>li</sup> and my earnest desire is that you will be pleased to accept therof. I well beleeve you to be a gent. of worth & meritt, yet I dare goe noe higher fearing to be taxed for it in the tyme to come. I like very well his adm't to the dauncing schole, and a moderate frequenting therof; I know it is good for his health, breeds a good comportm<sup>t</sup> & the charge not great, and I hope it may p'vent some tyme w<sup>ch</sup> otherwise might unhappily be spent in worse & more chargeable Recreac'ons, yet I beseech you take heed y<sup>t</sup> he be not soe filled with delightes as to alien his mynde & affec'ons from his studies. Vale.

Yours very affecc'onate

20 Ja. 1636[-7].

T. S.

To M<sup>r</sup> CORDELL.

Good Sir—our M<sup>r</sup> workeman Jenkes is now disposed to make a Journey to see our worke, by whome I have sent some old powder desiring it may be new wrought bicause its vertue is decayed, or els send me some better in the roome. You of your owne free will p'mised to give me some powder & to send it for me to my Bro. Jo. Stanley in Cheapside, but Courtyers p'mises are often but formall complem<sup>ts</sup> either never intended or soone forgotten. I shall ioy to heare that our worke holdes currant & successfull. Comend my fayer respectes to your better p'te as alsoe to M<sup>r</sup> Collins. Haste compells me to be briefe, and brevity is acceptable to men of great employm<sup>t</sup>, therefore I say noe more but what I shall ever say that I am

Your servant to comand

West Peckham, 20 July 1638.

T. S.

20 July 1638. My Bro. Norwood† sent his man from the§ Welles to see us howe we doe; I told him I wondered he should

\* King Charles I. went to Oxford with his Queen on August 29th. Before his departure on the 31st, Prince Rupert, and James Stuart, Duke of Lenox, were created Masters of Arts.

† Admission.

‡ Richard, son and heir of Manasses Norwood, of Chilston.

§ Tunbridge Wells.

send such a Message to them he hates. I bid him del'\* this Message back againe:—that I was 100<sup>li</sup> the worse for him for he had forced his mother to give to a younger Sister 100<sup>li</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> she intended to us, that I take him to be the greatest Enemy I have or ever had.

To my Mother NORWOOD.†

Moste kinde Mother—I have rec' from your toe bounteous hand 25<sup>li</sup>, what it is a token of your love I doe most kindly & thankfully receive, but yf you spare this out of that short meanes your sonne allowes you, & soe pinch your selfe of your livlyhood, it would be more acceptable to me that you keepe it to your owne use. Yf your sonne had kept his Covenant, you might without any p'iudice to your selfe or him have given us content, albeit it were but 100<sup>li</sup> 6 monthes after your death, but by violence & wrong he hath disabled you soe to doe; and wheras the last tyme I was in Thanett you did promise & undertake that he should give his bond to do it, and that he hath above 200<sup>li</sup> a yeare of your estate w<sup>ch</sup> he hath most iniuriously wrested from you, yet it seemes that (doe you what you can) neither your authority over him, your desert from him, nor your ympportunity to him can move him to p'forme what you have undertaken, and nowe being thus disabled you would pinch & spare out of your small allowance to give us content. Certenly yf your sonne doe lay the foundac'on of his family in the sandes of such iniquity, he must needes drawe downe the wrath of God uppon the building, and it will never p'sper or receive p'fecc'on.‡ I want tyme to enlarge my selfe as I desire. Only this I doe earnestly intreat you, good Mother, that for the tyme to come you would spend & bestowe your small revenue uppon your selfe, & spare nothing for us; for we shall rather accept your goodwill and affection then your benevolence with inconvenience. Soe I take my leave with my harty prayers for your ioy & happienesse ever resting.

Your faithfull & serviceable

Hamptons, 30 Aug. 1638.

T. S.

To my father DULING.§

Good Sir, as touching your intended porc'on|| for Besse¶ Duling, my wife referres you to your owne will & pleasure, only she praies

\* Deliver.

† The widow of Manasses Norwood of Chilston; and the mother of Mary, third wife of Thomas Stanley.

‡ Prosper or receive perfection.

§ John Duling was Mayor of Rochester in 1624 and 1633, and owner of a Brewery there, which was subsequently held by Barnabas Walsall. Mr. Duling's son, William, married Mary Norwood of Chilston; but he died early, leaving an only daughter Elizabeth. William Duling's widow married Thomas Stanley.

|| Marriage portion.

¶ In 1642 Bessie married W. Style, by whom she had seven children. She was buried at West Peckham, in January 1668-9.

you to call to minde your promise to your sonne on his deathbed, viz<sup>t</sup> that his Child should be to you as your owne, alsoe your p'mise to her that you would make your grandchild as good in estate as any of your owne daughters,\* to whome as well as to your sonne you have given former porc'ons. She desires you alsoe to consider of what value & condic'on her p'sent estate consistes, and praies God soe to guide & direct your actions in this life that you may goe to your grave in peace & with a good conscience; and for my selfe I did not well understand your meaning, therfore I doe hereby send you myne, that is yf I keepe & care for Grandchild I will be allowed noe lesse for it then 40<sup>li</sup> a yeare, and whatsoever her Rentes & her money at 20 nobles p' cent comes to more I will be accountable for, yf you like not this I am freely willing that you p'vide her another Gardian, and I shalbe ready to pay in your money uppon reasonable warning, in w<sup>ch</sup> case I pray consider that visites & intercourse betweene her Mother & her may be chargeable to me, and let not me be dishartened from a willingnesse to beare it, soe leaving all thinges to your mature deliberac'on & resolution I take my leave with my prayer to the Almighty to send you helth here & the ioyes of heaven hereafter, ever resting

Yours faithfully loveing

Hamptons, 2 Oct. 1638.

T. S.

To M<sup>rs</sup> SAMMON.

Right vertuous Sister—Wheras I became bound to your ffather† for paym<sup>t</sup> of 640<sup>li</sup> at our Lady Day last, I p'd him in the some of 300<sup>li</sup> being one halfe of the principall money, in or about July was twelve monthes, for w<sup>ch</sup> as I remember I had a note under his hand; but since I came from you I have made dilligent serch for it, but haveing mislayd the same I am almost out of hope to finde it, but I hope your ffa. hath set downe the same on the backside of the bond, as he ought to have done; yf not, yet I make noe question but he hath acquainted you with it or that you knowe of it by some other meanes, for I serious' p'test‡ & will take my othe that I have p'd him the said some of 300<sup>li</sup>; and I hope you will give Creditt to my p'testac'on as one Christian should beleeve another, and I alsoe hope that you will not wrong your Conscience soe much as to make me pay it againe, and for this purpose I doe earnestly & zealously intreat you to accept of such a Reckoning as I told you of, & to give me in my old bond & to take a new bond for 300<sup>li</sup> & the int'est at our Lady Day next, w<sup>ch</sup> yf you will vouchsafe to graunt I shall take it as a great favour & shall ever remayne

Your Bro. & servant to com'

Hamptons, 19 Nov' 1638.

T. S.

\* Alderman Duling's daughters; one married Stephen Alcock, and another — Salmon.

† Alderman Duling of Rochester, who died in 1638.

‡ Seriously protest.

To M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> STILES.\*

Good Sir—I wrote unto you about halfe a yeare since touching 14<sup>li</sup> 10<sup>s</sup> due to me uppon reckoning for your wifes dyett & some other disburse<sup>mt</sup>, to w<sup>ch</sup> you sent me an uncerten & unsatisfyeing answer. You say that when you should be fully satisfied that there was a p<sup>r</sup>fect Agream<sup>t</sup>, & that it had bene duly p<sup>r</sup>formed, and that you should receive a true accompt from me of money received & desbursed for her, since I had the p<sup>r</sup>tecc<sup>on</sup>t of her, then yf the said som<sup>e</sup> were iustly due you would pay it. Sir whether or when you shalbe satisfied that there was a p<sup>r</sup>fect Agream<sup>t</sup> betwixt us I doe not know, nor is it much materiall as I conceive, for you knowe it could not be p<sup>r</sup>fect because she was under age, and yf I shall accept a satisfacc<sup>on</sup> according to such Agream<sup>t</sup> it will be (I take it) in your and her favour. I was not her Gardyan, as you suppose, therefore I owe noe accompt for it. I have often jorneyed on her behalfe, and for your p<sup>r</sup>te<sup>t</sup> I gave you a free welcome to her at all tymes, albeit you may well thinke that I had some reason to look another way. For this I expect noe greater retribuc<sup>on</sup> from either of you then your love & my iust debte, both these I desire & deserve & I hope to have them with your free willingnesse. And I earnestly pray you not to expect that I should purchase your love with the losse of soe much money. I take my leave, being very desirous to be & continew

Your very loveing ffriend & servant

Oxnoth, 18 July 1642.

T. S.

To Capt. SKINNER.§

Hono<sup>rd</sup> Sir—I have had of late some suspic<sup>on</sup> of your disaffect<sup>on</sup> towards me and of your acting ill offices against me, w<sup>ch</sup> did beget in me an ill oppinion of you, and the rather because I conceived that I had deserved well at your hands; but now I gladly p<sup>r</sup>ceive that I am deceived, for S<sup>r</sup> John Sedley|| told me that when the businesse was agitated among you concerning my Captainship, almost you only (besides himselfe) did speake on my behalfe, w<sup>ch</sup> I could not expect: this hath discovered a noble disposic<sup>on</sup> in your selfe & fair report to me and is soe very acceptable as I still think my selfe therby ingaged to be (by way of gratitude) your p<sup>r</sup>petuall debtor not looking uppon the stresse; wherfore I beseech you to

\* William Style (half-brother and ultimate heir of Sir Humphrey Style, Baronet) was a barrister, born in 1619. He married Elizabeth Duling, daughter of Thomas Stanley's third wife (*née* Norwood) by her first husband William Duling, son of John Duling, Alderman of Rochester. William Style, in 1659, inherited the Langley estate, in Beckenham, from his half-brother.

† Protection.

‡ Part.

§ Augustine Skinner, of Tutsham Hall, in West Farleigh. He was M.P. for Kent 1640-55, and an active supporter of the Parliament.

|| Sir John Sedley, Bart., of St. Clere in Ightham, son and heir of Sir Isaac Sedley of Great Chart. This surname has often been written "Sidley" and "Sydley." Sir John Sedley died in November 1673, having held his title as a baronet for nearly fifty years. He was an active supporter of the Parliament.

make noe scruple to comaund my service in any thing that lies in the power of your really loveing friend & servant  
West Peckham, 21 Sept. 1642. T. S.

To Sr HENRY HAYMAN.\*

Noble Sir—It was my misfortune to be possess of the Maioralty of Maidst.† by a litigious Elecc'on,‡ this begat a controvsie,§ & that some mallicious enemies ag' || me, whoe have iniuriously rendred me odious to divers, with whome otherwise I have had a good esteeme. Amongst others I suspect that their spirit of detracc'on ¶ hath in some measure wrought uppon you, bicause (as I understand) you have said me guilty of some thinges wherof I p'test\*\* myselve faultlesse. Beleive me, Sir, I never comited any offence against the Parl<sup>t</sup> or against you but have ever obeyed & executed your orders & directions and shall ever be ready to doe faithfull service to the King, the Parl<sup>t</sup> & Com'on Welth.†† There hath bene p'fe‡‡ ynough of my ready obedience to my sup'iors§§ and you shall not now finde me a contemner in anything, p'ticularly||| of your authority in that you have put me from my Comand, for you have thought it fitt and I submitt though through ignorance I have too much neglected the Com'ittee at the Assizes (ut dicitur) I shalbe ready to repaye the same by a better observance. Howbeit for the future I humbly beg your good oppinion & respect untill it shall evidently appeare that I shall deserve the contrary. That your debates & resolutions may tend to the Glory of God & the peace of this Kingdome is the hartly prayer of

Your humble servant to comand

22 Sept. 1642.

T. S.

To Capt. LEE. ¶ ¶

Hono<sup>rd</sup> Sir—About this tyme twelvemonth we (of the burrough of Oxnoth of the Hundred of Hooe)\*\*\* received a Warrant from Serieant Clerk to certifie the landes & goodes of our Burrough w<sup>ch</sup> we spedily did & sent it on 3 June 1642 a Coppy wherof I here p'sent††† to your view; since w<sup>ch</sup> tyme we heard nothing of it untill the rate of 7<sup>li</sup> 0<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup> was laid uppon us, for the first p'te‡‡‡ of the great subsidy; and a taxe made without our privy & returned into the Excheq<sup>r</sup>, and then after sent us to collect; w<sup>ch</sup> I alsoe p'sent†††

\* Sir Henry Heyman, M.P. for Hythe 1640-53, was an active supporter of the Parliament, and a prominent member of its Committee for Kent.

† Maidstone. ‡ Election. § Controversy. || Against.  
¶ Detraction. \*\* Protest. †† Parliament and Commonwealth.  
‡‡ Proof. §§ Superiors. ||| Particularly.

¶ ¶ Richard Lee, of Great Delce, M.P. for Rochester 1640-53; he was Mayor of that city in 1643. Capt. Lee was an active supporter of the Parliament.

\*\*\* Hasted says (iv., 8) that the Manor of Great Hooe extends over part of the parish of West Peckham. At the court of this Manor, a borsholder is appointed for the borough of Oxenheath.

††† Present. ‡‡‡ Part.

to your view. This being done (as by dark) hath these Errors in it (1) Whereas in our Certificate under the title of Sr Nich. Miller is conteyned all his landes in that burrough both in his owne & his Tenantes Occupac'on\* (where a Cornemill is expresst) at 75<sup>li</sup> p' annu' ; yet he is taxed for 80<sup>li</sup>, & his Tenant Austen for the said Cornemill & landes at 24<sup>li</sup> besides ; w<sup>ch</sup> comes to more then according to truth & our certificate, at 4<sup>d</sup> p' li. (the rate of the rest of the Hundred) 29<sup>li</sup> p' annu'—w<sup>ch</sup> is 9<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>. (2) All my lands in that Burrough were alsoe certified by the name of my mansion house, 3 tenem<sup>ts</sup>, one fullingmill, & 63 acres of land, at 42<sup>li</sup> p' annu' ; yet my Tenant Greene for the fullingmill is taxed at 20<sup>li</sup> p' annu'—6<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>. (3) We certified John Usher for a tenem<sup>t</sup> & 10 acres of land in thoccupac'on of Rob<sup>te</sup> Clampard at 7<sup>li</sup> p' annu', w<sup>ch</sup> comes to but 2<sup>s</sup> 4<sup>d</sup> ; yet this is set in that blind taxe at 90<sup>li</sup>,—30<sup>s</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> is more then right by 27<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> (a grosse mistake) Yet bicause this was taxed & sent into the Excheq<sup>r</sup> we were remedylesse, & were forced to beare it. Our whole land comes to but 207<sup>li</sup>, w<sup>ch</sup> at 4<sup>d</sup> p' li. is 3<sup>li</sup> 9<sup>s</sup> ; and our goodes to 580<sup>li</sup>, w<sup>ch</sup> at ob<sup>t</sup> p' li. is 1<sup>li</sup> 4<sup>s</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> ; w<sup>ch</sup> comes to 4<sup>li</sup> 13<sup>s</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> some<sup>†</sup> is the full some that ought in Justice to be imposed uppon us. And according to this Error wee are p'porc'onably<sup>§</sup> too much for the weekly contribuc'on. Good Sir, Serieant Clerk is offended with us, and sutes<sup>||</sup> have bene touching the Jurisdicc'on of the Court of Hooe over us, and we have little hope of helpe by any adresse to him, whoe we feare is the cause of our harme. I humbly beg your helping hand & iust favour to reduce us to the said some<sup>†</sup> of 4<sup>li</sup> 13<sup>s</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> is our due p'porc'on<sup>§</sup> for the last paymt. of the great subsidy. Alsoe to doe us iustice by an equall distribuc'on of the weekly contribuc'on, w<sup>ch</sup> being p'porco'ned<sup>§</sup> generally to an eight p<sup>te</sup><sup>¶</sup> of the moiety of the great subsidy will be 11<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> a weeke, for our little burrough of Oxnoth ; soe shall we be the better encouraged to pay the some. Pardon Sir that I in p'son<sup>\*\*</sup> doe not wait uppon you, w<sup>ch</sup> I would most willingly doe but I have bene long lame & cannot travaile ; p'don alsoe my want of pap'.<sup>††</sup> Lastly my sute is that I may enjoy your former love & good esteeme with a Continuendo, and I shall ever rest

Your obliged kinsman & humble servant

Oxnoth, 15 May 1643.

T. S.

Oxnoth for the great subsidy 4<sup>li</sup> 13<sup>s</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>  
for the weekly contribuc'on - 11<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>

To y<sup>e</sup> Eady SEDLEY.††

Sweetest Madam—Your favours towards me are soe manifold, that I cannot (without great ingratitude) but have them in a high

\* Occupation.

† "At ob<sup>t</sup> p' li." means "at one halfpenny per pound."

‡ Sum. § "P'porc'on" stands for "proportion."

|| Suits at law. ¶ Part. \*\* Person. †† Paper.

‡‡ Mary Bradshaw, married Sir John Sedley, Bart., of Great Chart, who purchased St. Clere in Ightham (from Robert Moulton). Sir John seems to have

esteeme; soe that I might therewith very well rest satisfied, and not (doe as I now doe) beg for a friend; but tis your fault (yf goodnesse be a fault) for that invites me to this boldnesse. The case is thus—One Woolfe (who hath some relac'on\* to Sr John Sedley) was lately at Mr<sup>s</sup> Norwood's at Chilson† in the Parish of Boughton (her husband [my wife's owne brother] lyeing sicke 30 miles from home) and there tooke an Inventory of their Cattell and apprised the same, w<sup>ch</sup> brought uppon my sister Norwood a great p'plexity,‡ the rather bicause her husband hath bene very compliable to the pleasure of the Parliam<sup>t</sup>, except in the gen'all§ lending & giving a yeare ago, but instead therof he gave freely 20<sup>li</sup> for Irland, and yet his horses and armes, to the value of 80<sup>li</sup>, were about 3 monthes since taken away without any restituc'on,|| and yf these now prised¶ should alsoe be taken from them, I hope your La<sup>p</sup> will thinke it very hard measure, and iudge this their case a fit subiect for your compassion & intercession; w<sup>ch</sup> that you will vouchsafe to doe in your owne p'vayling\*\* way is the full som'e†† of this my humble sute.

The God of m'cy keepe your La<sup>p</sup>.

Your La<sup>p</sup>'s devoted servant

West Peck. 26 May 1643.

T. S.

The following letters are of importance in their bearing upon Kentish history. Very few details have been preserved of the Royalist risings, in Kent, during the years 1642 and 1643. These letters furnish us with several facts. The Royalists had achieved a slight success, in July 1643, near Tunbridge. They had captured two of the Kentish Parliamentary leaders (Sir Thomas Walsingham and Lieutenant Lee), and were sending up a petition to both Houses of Parliament.

The Deputy Lieutenants of the Parliament were assembled at Wrotham, and Thomas Stanley was striving to obtain a cessation of hostilities.

To my very Loveing ffrriends Capt. LEE, M<sup>r</sup> ROBERTES, M<sup>r</sup> CHASE‡‡  
& the rest of the gents assembled at Tunbridge.

Gentlemen—We came soe late last night to Wrotham that the Deputy Lieutenants were gone to bed, & we were forced to sit up borrowed money from Mr. Thomas Stanley. In 1639 he owed that gentleman £100; in 1640, £116; in 1645, £150; in 1647, £150; and in 1649, £160. Sir John Sedley was one of the leading members of the Parliamentary Committee of Kent. A letter of his is printed in *Archeologia Cantiana*, III., 195.

\* Relationship.

† Chilston Park, now the seat of Mr. Akers Douglas, M.P.

‡ Perplexity.

§ General.

|| Restitution.

¶ Appraised.

\*\* Prevailing.

†† Sum.

‡‡ These were the Royalist leaders who had in their hands Sir T. Walsingham as their prisoner.

the rest of the night untill they met this morning about 6 o'clock, at w<sup>ch</sup> tyme we d'd\* our Petic'on & l're, after w<sup>ch</sup> (and their consultac'on betwene themselves) we were called in and they d'd their mindes unto us very fairly but not soe fully as we desired w<sup>ch</sup> occasioned a long debate and at the last for the p'venting of bloud & Ruyn to this County they have agreed to send our Petic'on to the Parliam<sup>t</sup> this day by a Messenger of their owne with their l'res of recommendac'on, hoping such an answer as may content reasonable men; and as touching our l're for a cessac'on of armes until an answer from the 2 Houses to our Petic'on; they have therunto agreed, soe we will doe the like, as alsoe keepe our soldiers from plundering & violence. The great hardship of this last day & night have soe distemp'd my body that I cannot come unto you this day, but I shall (God willing) wait uppon you to-morrow and doe you the best service I can yf I may enioy my former freedome & lib'ty, wherof I would make noe question yf I had not some cause of suspicion. I protest I have (since I came among you) bestowed all the faculties of my witt & understanding for a good accomodac'on betwene them & us, for the peace & utility of this County in danger to be destroyed by these unhappy distract'ons; noe man can p'mise to himselfe his desired successe, a bad end is better than lawe, soe a reasonable satisfacc'on is far better then a miserable devastac'on. Let me intreat you to send me a l're by this bearer w<sup>ch</sup> may testify your consent to avoyd all Actes of hostility & plundering, as alsoe that I may freely come unto you; and yf your mindes be unhappily otherwise, yet send it p'sently unto me that I may give an Account unto the Deputy Lieuten'ntes. The God of peace direct you all for his glory & our comfort. Soe I rest

Your really affecc'onate

West Peck. 23 July 1643.

T. S.

S<sup>r</sup>—I dispatched a l're yesterday to the gentlemen at Tunbridge touching what was agreed on betweene the Deputy Lieuten'nts & us:—w<sup>ch</sup> was that they would p'sent our Petic'on† and that both sides should forbere hostility untill our Petic'on should be answered, this I conceived to be the Agreeam<sup>t</sup>, yet my body & minde being distemp'd I might forgett, of this I was to return a speedy answer, yet albeit my l're came to you by one of the clock, and my man wayting for an answer untill midnight could not get any, but returned this morning without. I was inforced to signifie the same unto the Deputy Lieuten'nts this morning, before my man returned; for w<sup>ch</sup> cause it seemes they conceive you have reiected the matter of my l're to you, and theruppon are resolved to advance towards you with more forces then you are able to resist. I advise you therefore by all meanes to lay downe your armes, to release S<sup>r</sup> Tho. Walsingham & Lieuten'nt Lea, and to lay hold on the Pardon sent unto you in

\* Delivered.

† Present our petition.

the declarac'on of Parliam<sup>t</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> yf ye doe not yee are undone; this is counsell of

Your Loveing ffriend

Monday, 24 July [1643] at 12 o'clock. T. S.

To Capt. SKINNER.

Hono<sup>rd</sup> Sir—A weeke since I rec' a l're from you to p'vide\* a horse & armes to shew before you to-morrow at Offam. Sir, I was S<sup>r</sup> Percivall Hart's Lieuten'nt 14 yeares and have comanded a selected Band 10 yeares for w<sup>ch</sup> service I ought to be p'viledged from finding of armes by the custome of this kingdome. Wherefore I humbly beg your favour that I may enjoy that priviledge. For some speciall service to you (w<sup>ch</sup> p'haps you know not) I have deserved more then your lawfull favour, then let it not now be wanting to

Your truly devoted servant

Oxnoth, 28 Aug. 1643. T. S.

To M<sup>r</sup> STEPHEN PANKHURST.

Worthie Sir—When my ffather sold you the parsonage of Northstoke† you p'mised a lease therof to my Brother Beeke‡ for 21 years at 50<sup>li</sup> rent & 5<sup>li</sup> for the Cure, this you have p'formed accordingly, but this lease is long since expired, and after the expiracon of it you agreed to continew my Sister your Tenant, at the former rent, soe as she would pay 10<sup>li</sup> a yeare to the Curat; and you p'mised to make her a lease for 21 yeares on the same termes, since w<sup>ch</sup> tyme she hath soe held the same, but hath noe lease; yet she hath bestowed much money on stone walles & buildings, and of late (since the Bishop's Courts are downe) the Vicaredge tithes are very ill paid, and not halfe soe good as formerly, alsoe the other tithes are much ympaired and would be farre worse yf my Sister were out of it. And bicause of her unhappie marriage she hath forborne to request your p'mise, but now that her daughter is dead she doth intreat you to make a lease to this bearer, my Nephew, whome she hath especially made choise of to trust in that matter. He is well able to answer you your Rent, and he is well able to doe you service, otherwise, by reason of his office in Chancery; And if it be your minde to deny a lease on her behoof, then shee must of necessity leave it & p'vide for her selfe elsewhere. But I hope you will not thinke fitt to put out an old tenant, of soe long continewance, who hath bestowed soe much uppon it; and yf she should hold it without a lease you will expect security for your rent, w<sup>ch</sup> she of her selfe cannot make (being a feme covert) & none other can safely doe it, unlesse he have an interest therin, by lease, to secure himselfe. Wherefore I thought fitt to comend this her request to

\* In this letter *p'* stands for *pro*, and *pri*, and *per*. † Near Arundel.

‡ Thomas Beeke married, 26 Sept. 1604, Elizabeth Stanley, who was baptized at West Peckham 25 Dec. 1579.

your tender considerac'on, and I have sent my Nephew of purpose to you, to negotiate the same on her behalfe. God keepe you. Soe I rest

Oxnoth, 4 Sept. 1643.

Your very affecc'onate

T. S.

To y<sup>e</sup> Ladie SEDLEY.

Dere Ladie—I have now rec<sup>\*a</sup> a l<sup>r</sup>et from y<sup>e</sup> Comittee to pay 30<sup>li</sup> to their Treasurer within few daies, and indeed I am altogether unprovided; nor doe I know where to get it. But unles your La<sup>p</sup> shall now furnish me, after soe over long tarriange, † I am like to have my goodes taken from me as heretofore, w<sup>ch</sup> I must endeavor to avoyd. Good sweet Madam helpe me nowe, in this pinch of need, least I be exposed to take some such course, to save this sore, as may be sore ag<sup>g</sup>§ my minde. Consider I beseech you how long a tyme I have forborne, how many p<sup>r</sup>omises I have had, and by how many sev'all waies I have bene driven into want, and then you will I know earnestly strife to rememb' him whom I suppose you have most unwillingly forgotten, soe not doubting of your La<sup>p</sup>'s helpe at this tyme, I humbly take my leave ever resting

Your La<sup>p</sup>'s Humble servant to comand

1<sup>st</sup> Dec. 1645.

T. S.

To Capt. HOWE at Maidston.

Worthie Sir—I have rec' a Ticket to quarter 4 foot soldiers here where I dwell. The truth is I have not above 20<sup>li</sup> a yere in this parish, in mine owne occupac'on. I p<sup>r</sup>sume you have bene misinformed concerning me, w<sup>ch</sup> I intreat you to rectifie according to Justice, and let me not exceed the rate & p<sup>r</sup>porc'on of other men; howbeit yf you shall thinke fitt to shew favour to me (of your owne ranke & p<sup>r</sup>fession) it shalbe to him whoe abhorres ingratitude

Your humble servant

West Peck. 4 Oct. 1647.

T. S.

Son Walsall||—I have long expected money, viz<sup>t</sup> 32<sup>li</sup> rem' at Mich' last, 50<sup>li</sup> & 13<sup>li</sup> at Lady Day, alsoe money for my wheat w<sup>ch</sup> you p<sup>r</sup>misid at a month 19 q<sup>rs</sup> 4<sup>b</sup> at 3<sup>li</sup> p<sup>r</sup> q<sup>r</sup>, w<sup>ch</sup> will now come to nere 60<sup>li</sup>; and now, notwithstanding my great necessity, instead of money (long waited for & with much patience) I am supplied with wordes; nay w<sup>ch</sup> is worse, instead of money to me you would have money from me, to lend you 50 or 60<sup>li</sup> p<sup>r</sup>sently & to be bound for 200<sup>li</sup>; surely you have not your reasonable wits about you, in demanding such a thyng of me, with whome you are soe much

\* Received.

† Letter.

‡ Tarrying=delay.

§ Against.

|| One Barnabas Walsall married Adrie Stanley, widow of William Stanley, at West Peckham Church, on the 25th of September 1625. He was Mayor of Rochester in 1639-40. "Son Walsall," also named Barnabas, was Mayor in 1649. Constant Walsall, distiller at Strood, issued a copper token in 1667.

run behinde, and have broken soe many p'mises & ingagem<sup>ts</sup>. Be it known unto you, that my necessities are made soe great by you, & my patience soe far p'voked, that I doe not only utterly refuse your request, but doe really intend to take a speedy course ag' you. I see that my very much forbearance hath harmed us both, yet I did it out of my love, but seeing my love p'ves your p'judice it is high tyme to take another course. You write that you will follow my advice to your utmost abillity, but I cannot beleve it, nor intend to try it, for (besides all former direcc'ons & instrucc'ons) I gave you some in writing about 3 yeres since w<sup>ch</sup> you p'mised to observe, but I doe not know that you have observed any one of them. Touching your p'posic'ons for putting of\* the Brewhouse I can say little, bicause I know not how thinges stand; only in your third p'posic'on you demand 300<sup>li</sup> for your addic'onall buildinges, without w<sup>ch</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Duling thrived well, grew rich, and would not soe build, though an Owner & a man of great estate; yet, your estate being alwaies weake, you would needs weaken it more with unnecessary building, etc. Me thinks yf you mean to put of, you should looke & thinke much upon those articles & termes, as were p'pounded, debated & lastly agreed on, betweene M<sup>r</sup> Duling & us. And yet yf you can put of upon better condic'ons I shalbe very glad, but I doubt you must content your selfe with worse, bicause for ought I see, you have put your selfe upon an absolute necessity of putting of, & cannot tarry a better market then the p'sent tyme will afford. I advise you to take heed & be wise, least an improvident close bring upon you an utter undoeing, w<sup>ch</sup> you may p'vent. The cause requires me to write much more at large, but I have noe tyme nor will soe to doe; consider how much your friend I have bene, and doe not now inferre the contrary. Vale.

Yours in what I reasonably may.

3 Sept. 1649.

T. S.

Son Walsall—I am much obliged to M<sup>rs</sup> Dalyson† for her affectionate inclynac'on towards my daughter, but that the very young couple should in the first place see each other I doe not well approve of, especially here at my house, untill all other matters are

\* Off; *i.e.* selling.

† Mrs. Dalison was Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Oxenden, of Dene in Wingham. Her husband, William Dalison of Halling, had died in May 1642, in the 33rd year of his age, leaving her with one son Maximilian, and two daughters Mary and Margaret. In 1650, on the 20th of September, Thomas Stanley records his intention to let to Mrs. Dalison on lease (at a rental of £61 per annum) his house at Hamptons in West Peckham, with garden, 2 orchards and fishponds, £10; Kitchenfield, 5 acres, £4; The Park, £9; Upper Horslease (5½ ac.), £4; Milfield 4, Mildrede 3½, the Strake ¾, Pondbrook 1½, Horesmede 4½, the Upper Orchard 1, being special good meadow containing 15½ acres, at 26s. 8d. per acre, £20; Hillyfield and Sheepcroft (5 ac.), £5; Calvescroft (3 ac.), £2; 2 pieces of Upper Highlands (15 ac.), £7. Total £61.

Young Max. Dalison, in 1651 or 1652, married Frances Stanley, Thomas Stanley's only child; and as a consequence of this connection between them, Mr. Thomas Stanley henceforth (oddly enough) spoke of Mrs. Dalison, senior, as "Sister Dalyson."

in some measure agreed; in Order wherunto I thinke fitt, yf M<sup>rs</sup> Dalyson see please, that she come hither with you under the notion to accompany you and as having occasion this way, only I am not p<sup>r</sup>vided for her enterteynm<sup>t</sup> according to her worth; after w<sup>ch</sup> I may take occasion to see her son & see p<sup>r</sup>ceed on or of\* as the cause shall requier. This matter I desire to be a while concealed from my wife, who I know will oppose it what in her lies; bicause she inclynes to another whom you well know, being noe far dweller from you, and where she inclynes her byas drawes hard. A good opportunity doth now p<sup>r</sup>sent it selfe, bicause she is not at home. Vale.

Yours very assured

18 No<sup>o</sup> 1649.

T. S.

Son Walsall—by your l<sup>r</sup>e w<sup>ch</sup> I rec<sup>d</sup> last night, I finde that the Alpha & Omega of it concernes my takeing a course ag<sup>t</sup> you, for that great p<sup>r</sup>te<sup>t</sup> of my estate w<sup>ch</sup> is in your handes; you say that upon your giving me satisfaction for my wheat I p<sup>r</sup>mitted to stay (but you say not how long) this I deny. Did you thinke I would be content with nothing of those great Arreres for the Maine (w<sup>ch</sup> is my chiefe livelyhood) and noe assurance when to receive or what. You speak much of my wisdom, piety, pittie, Clemency, etc., but to suffer you (as I have already too long) to go on in a consuming way and so sinke me with your selfe would be neither wisdom, piety, or pittie, for true pittie & charity begin at home. Your serious offers, promises & p<sup>r</sup>testac<sup>o</sup>ns made by many l<sup>r</sup>es & otherwise cannot stand with innocency & integrity bicause not p<sup>r</sup>formed, yf they were I should not be brought into such vexatious penury as I am, and soe forced (with great grieffe of hart) to take a course soe destructive to you & displeasing to my selfe. I have forborne & forborne iterum atque iterum, untill my most scrutinious thoughtes can find noe hope of help but this on hand, w<sup>ch</sup> I fear (as you doe) will tear & mangle your estate much more then I would it should. I shalbe glad, very glad to stay the good tyme wherein you may make the most, & put of with the best advantage, (yf a short tyme) but not soe long untill you have nothing left to make the most of, for I see and for many yeres past have observed that your courses tend to manifest consumpc<sup>o</sup>n, how ever you flatter your selfe & will not be removed from it. When you followed my Modell you could in a weake estate keep touch, buy for ready money and pay currant, and increast in few yeres from 500<sup>li</sup> to 2500<sup>li</sup>; but then you grew proud of your estate forsakeing myne & falling into extravagances, wherof when I took notice & used some rep<sup>r</sup>hension and advise, you slighted the same or rather scorned it, as appears by your l<sup>r</sup>e 11 Oct. 1643 wherin are these wordes “ though much ingaged to you I know my self for estate able & for resoluc<sup>o</sup>n willing to pay, I desire you would forbere your frequent too sharp reproofes, grave & gentle admonic<sup>o</sup>ns become the mouth & pen of a friend, but to be continually like an Apprentice boy or slave, subiect to the lash, I have

\* Off.

† Against.

‡ Part.

not patience to bear it." Upon the reading of this l're I resolved therein to be silent, untill by a visible declinac'on from that tyme, you fell soe lowe and brought your Affaires to soe p'plexed a Condition, that you prayed my Ayd, wherupon int' alia I sent you instrucc'ons in writing w<sup>ch</sup>, yf you had punctually observed, you might have kept tyme with me & all men els, and not have brought this trouble & damage both upon your self & me. You write that with a little help you might not only hold forth but thrive, etc., but can you expect help from me, who besides 1500<sup>l</sup> principall debt are run behinde above 200<sup>l</sup>, w<sup>ch</sup> you p'mised at your last contract to pay in due tyme (it being a great p'te of my maintenance); and not only soe but to pay of, before this tyme, a good p'te of the principall? You complaine that bad Clerkes have been your greatest hinderance, Whose fault is that? Whie did you not p'vide better, and when you had them whie did you not looke better to their Accountes? I should write much now of this, but I cease because you intend to be here on Tuseday next wherof I pray faile not. Touching the l're of Attorney it is not intended to alter the nature of the Executorship but only thus—My Cosen\* Leiston, being a Coexecutor and lyable therunto, doth desire for his own security & indemnity that the money therein menc'oned may be put into safe handes, to be desposed of by the ioynt consent of y<sup>r</sup> Executors & not by me, and to that end did intreat me to receive the same, and soe much is exprest in the l're of Attorney. Touching M<sup>rs</sup> Dalyson I know not how to treat untill I can know the strength of my estate. Vale.

Yours assuredly soe far as conveniently

18 No' 1649.

T. S.

M<sup>r</sup> Maur—Having occasion to send to my Attorney I thought fit to write to you, my chief errand is to put you in minde that you neglect no opportunity w<sup>ch</sup> may conduce to the putting off the brew-house, for (as I often prest it before) it must be done, and you must not stand upon niceties & Puntilioes, to have your Customers offer them selves; but he that hath a comodity w<sup>ch</sup> lies upon losse, must either send it to market, or use other meanes to put it of, least he fall under the Censure of extreme neglect, etc., this will be your case yf you take not the more care of it, for I assure you I am not able, nor will my affaires p'mitt me, to forbere longer then Mich' at the farthest, w<sup>ch</sup> is the greatest favour I am able to do you; wherfore I pray you in tyme consider the great detrym<sup>t</sup> may accrue unto you yf you neglect this thyng, for then I cannot avoyd (yet with great grief of hart) to take such spedy course ag' you as the Law will allow. I say noe more now but that you send me your Account.

Your very loveing friend

9 Aprill 1650.

T. S.

\* Cosen here means nephew.

† Putting off = selling.

To my Cosen DILLINGHAM late STANLEY.\*

Kinde Cosen—I p'mised M<sup>r</sup> Powell to send you an account of Rentes from Gravesend & Peckham, w<sup>ch</sup> I here send you though long; first, the first rent from Gra. due at Mich. 1648 besides the taxes was 13<sup>li</sup> 15<sup>s</sup>; but there is noe reason in the world you should expect that, for in Novemb' foll. there was 33<sup>li</sup> 6<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> due for a whole yeres int'est, for 500<sup>li</sup>, for w<sup>ch</sup> that at Gr. was ingaged, & is not yet redeemed. As for the 2 tenem<sup>ts</sup> here—Terry & Best; they were then in M<sup>r</sup> Bowles† his handes, & he rec' that Mich. rent; therefore good Cosen doe not urge it any farther, but according to your own native gentlenesse and loving kindnesse sit down & be quiett. The Rentes afterwards stand thus:—the Lady daies Rent (taxes deducted) from Gra. was 13<sup>li</sup> 15<sup>s</sup>, last Mich. Rent for that was 13<sup>li</sup> 5<sup>s</sup>, and last Lady Day 14<sup>li</sup> 5<sup>s</sup>. Terry paid for a whole yere at Mich. last besides taxes 6<sup>li</sup> 5<sup>s</sup>, and Best for a yere then beside taxes & reparac'ons 5<sup>li</sup> 0<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>. Last Lady Dayes rent they have not yet pd. w<sup>ch</sup> I suppose will come to about 5<sup>li</sup> 15<sup>s</sup>, all w<sup>ch</sup> amounts to the some of 58<sup>li</sup> 15<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>. This according to my Judgem<sup>t</sup> must, and by my will shalbe pd. you, yf you will accept therof. I rec' this last week 157<sup>li</sup>; wherof there was but 7<sup>li</sup> for int'est, w<sup>ch</sup> 7<sup>li</sup> I have appoynted to be paid to you; the int'est came to 18<sup>li</sup> more, all w<sup>ch</sup> you should have had, but it seemes that M<sup>r</sup> Mour rec' 6<sup>li</sup> of it, & th'other 12<sup>li</sup> was pd. to M<sup>r</sup> Callice for Phisick. I hope you shall rec' the next rentes your selfe, and for the said arreres I will contribute my best assistance, that they may be so spedily pd. as contently they may, and over & above I shall ever rest

Your really loveing uncle

5 May 1650.

T. S.

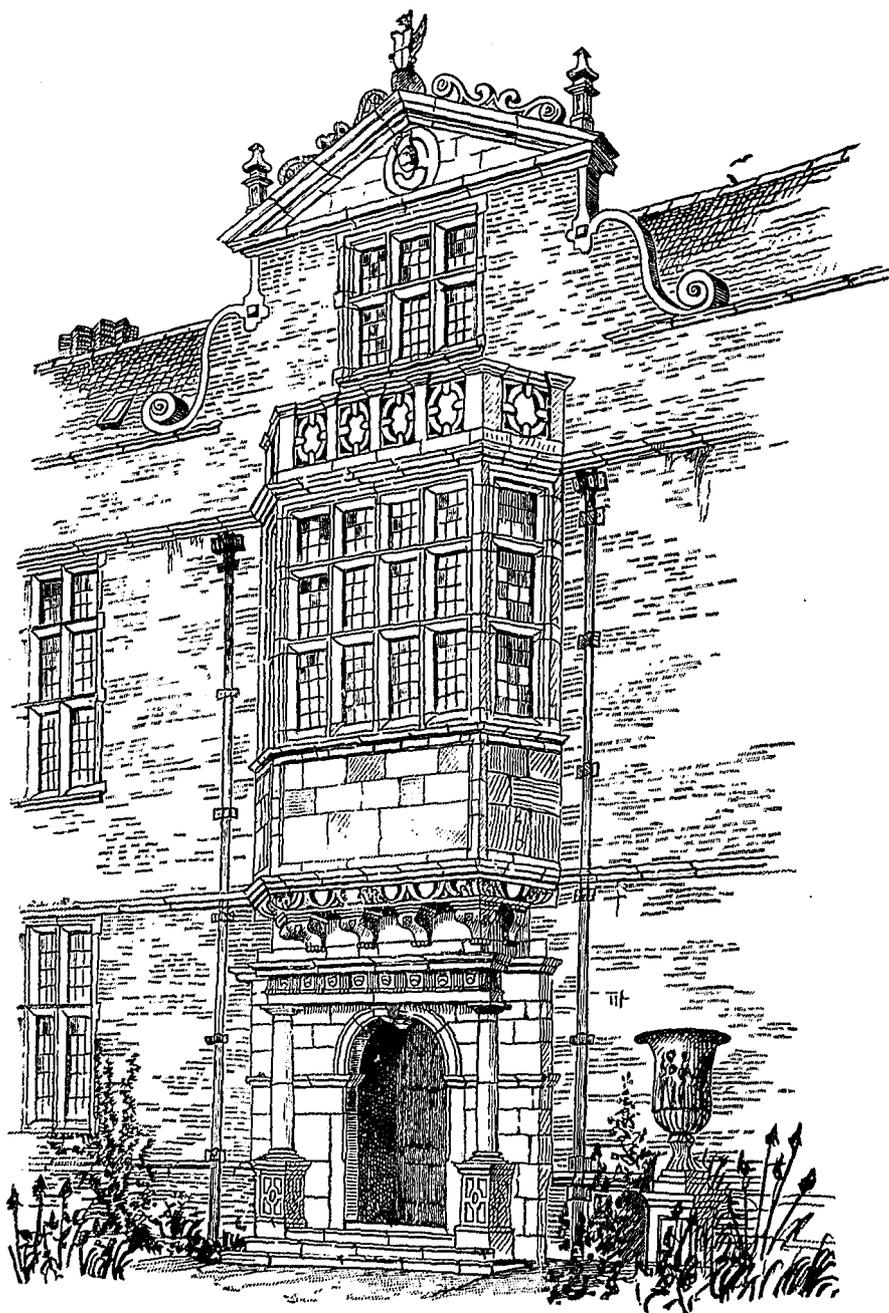
Since these pages were printed I have ascertained that Mr. Stanley was Portreeve of Gravesend from Michaelmas 1611 to Michaelmas 1612, and also, a second time, from Michaelmas 1616 to Michaelmas 1617.

W. A. SCOTT ROBERTSON.

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\* Ann, daughter and coheir of Thomas Streatfeild of Shoreham (who was buried at Chiddingstone in 1628) by Frances daughter of John Reeves (afterwards in 1632 wife of John Seyliard), married three times. Her first husband was William Stanley, of the Middle Temple, nephew of Thomas Stanley. She married him in 1644, and her marriage settlement is still preserved at Hamptons. Ann Streatfeild's second husband was the Rev. Samuel Dillingham. She married, thirdly, the Rev. Dr. Stephen Luddington.

† Mr. Bowles was the clergyman, Vicar of West Peckham,



AT COBHAM HALL.

DOORWAY in the north side of the SOUTH WING.

[*This and the two following Plates are taken from drawings made, and given to the Society, by HERBERT BAKER, Esq., of Owlets, Cobham.*]