HISTORICAL ACCOUNT

OF

DUNWICH,

Antiently a CITY, now a BOROUGH;

BALITHBURGH,

Formerly a Town of Note, now a VILLAGE;

O U T H W O L D,

Once a VILLAGE, now a TOWN-CORPORATE;

WITH

REMARKS on some PLACES contiguous thereto,

Principally extracted from several antient Records, Manuscripts, &cc. which were never before made public.

By THOMAS GARDNER.

Illustrated with COPPER-PLATES.

L O N D O N:

Printed for the AUTHOR, and Sold by him at Southwold, in Suffelk; and also by W. Owen, at Homer's Head near Temple-Bar.

MDCCLIV.

1485, THE Town of Walberfwick paid ten Marks to the Lady Brandon, and the like Sum the two fucceeding Years. And the Inhabitants, for Neglect, or Contempt of Payment, were involved in Troubles, as appears by

the following Acquittance. v. C. vi. C. 4.

**Noverint universi per presentes, nos Will. Brandon Militem et Elizabetham Uxorem meam remissise, relaxasse et omnino de et pro nobis, Herer dibus, et Executoribus nostris, imperpetuum quietem clamasse, Tho. Byrd, Rob. Delfynby, John Poty, RobertPoty, Joh. Greyve, Joh. Sokke, et Tho. Brownede Walbertyswk in Com. Suff. ac omnibus, et singulis in predicta Villa permanentibus, (except Edm. Wrytz) omnimodas Actiones, Transgressiones, Querelas, Calumpnationes, Suggestiones, Sectas et Demandas, tam reales quam personales, quas versus eosdem Thomam, Robertum, Johannem, Robertum, Johannem, Robertum, Johannem et Thomam; ac omnes et singulos predictos ibis dem in dicta Villa permanentes, unquam hujusmodi habemus, seu quomodo habere potuimus aut potimus, Ratione quacunque ab origine Mundiusque in Diem Consectionis presenti Anno. In cujus Rei Testimonium presentibus Sigilla nostra apposumus. Dat. vicesimo septimo Die Mensis Marcii, Anno Regni Regis Hemici septimi, post Conquestum, secundo.

Per Wyll. Brandoon, Knyght." (b)

CHAP. VI.

WALBERSWICK, WALBURISWICK, or WALD-BERIGE-WYC.

A. I. MALBERSWICK, a Hamlet to Blithburgh, with which it is bounded on the Scath-West, and other Ways with Dunwich River.

2. The Antiquity of this Place is indifputable, taking its Appellation from the Saxons.

OF WALD, a Wood. Westwood extending to its Confines.

BERIGE, a hiding Place, the Village standing in a remote Nook.

AND Wyc, a winding River, Dunwich Haven running North, East, and West thereof.

3. By the Situation of the antient Church, which was about one Furlong from the old Key, shew'd a Probability, that the first Foundations of Edifices, in the Town, were laid thereabouts; and increased as Trade flourished; and spread along the Confines of the Marshes casterly to Southwold Player; and from thence bordering on the Common northwards, encompassing all the Inclosures to the West End of Fish-Street, and South-Street, and South-Street, and so on fouthwards to where it began; occupying great Part of the Land

(7) W. A. B.

within

within that Circuit: The chiefest Buildings of the Town being heretofore on the South of Fish-Street, where several Lanes, formerly built, are blended with contiguous Pieces of Land, now Corn-Fields. And what are yet standing be in that Street, and the Greens leading from thence to the present Key.

4. This Town must have been considerable and populous; supposing the Number of Parishioners, in Proportion to the Largeness of the Church. And its Ability and Wealth may be conjectured by the Inhabitants raising such a noble structure, at the sole Expence of themselves, without the Assistance of others. v. C. vii. B. i.

5. HERE were the GUILDS of St. Barbara, the Virgin Mary, St. Andrew, and St. John. (a)

6. WALBERSWICK, cum Blithburgh, has been held in Efteem by, and participated of many Favours from, the Crown, (a) and exempted from paying any Custom, or Dues to Dunwich, for Fish, or other Goods, Wares, or Merchandizes exported; or imported in their proper Veffels, at their own Key; enjoying a confiderable Trade by Sea, and Land, for Butter, Cheefe, Bacon, Corn, Timber, Chals, Salt and Fish; especially the latter, having, Anno 1451, thirteen Barks trading to Iceland, Farra, and the North Seas: And on their own Coast, twenty-two Fishing-Boats for full and shotten Herrings, Sperlings; or Sprats, &c. Anno 1602, fifteen Barks, exclusive of Boats to catch 'Herrings and Sperlings; of which the Town had a Dole, according to the annual Rate thereon; the King had too of the Herrings (b); all which the Church-Wardens were impowered to receive, together with the Rents of the Town-Land, Houses of Guilds, Warfage, and other Dues and publick Donations, &c. and to keep the Houses of the Guilds, and other common Edifices, as the Church, Key, &c. in Repair; and to make Difbursements to pay Sallaries incident on Town, and Church; and to discharge all publick Debts, Impositions by the Crown, &c. 7. As Trade at Dunwich decreased, by the Alteration of the Port, so at Walberfwick Commerce increased, whereby the Town grew into good Repute, and established Intercommerce with Gypswich, or Ipswich, by Roger Tymply, and Richard Bayly, Bailiffs thereof; and Robert Gardner, Will. Genyngbam, John Nokke, Rob. Afhwell, and Rob. Chapel of this Town, the 21st Day of April, 1495, Anno 10 Hen. VII. And off Valentine's-Day, Anno 17th of the same Reign, with Lincoln, by the Maior and Aldermen of that City, and John Pyms of Walberswick. (b)

(b) W. A. B. (a) v. C. r. N. 1. and z. (b) W: A. B.

B. 1. A LIST of the FISHING-CRAFT at Walberswick, 1451. The 29th Year of the Reign of King Henry VI. Sperlings 6 s. per Last.

Owners Names.	Num. of Sperling Boats.	Masters Names.
Thomas Birc.	1	John Glov.
Thomas Paschelew	1	Himself Robertus Hammond
Rici. Cok	1	Nicholas Gerard
Margerie Fuller Johannes Basset	1	Johannes Golding
Rici. Colyor	ť	Himself .
Rici. Water	I	Himself
Willi. Bird	I	Nicholas Bird
Johannis Manyng		Johannes Crystyn
		Thomas Gamyn
Margarete Wellvar	rd 1	Johannes Blome
Galfryde Greyve	I	Richard Suckling
Willi. Wicceles	1	Edmundus Cok
Rici. Breton	1	Robert Smyth
Willi, Amrygale	2	Robert Steward
		Johannes Stevenys
Nich. Valeyn Edmund Wellvard	1	Radulph Deering Robert Barkere
Johannes Vynce	I	John Colman
		Roger Whyte
Henr. Poty	2	John Denys
Johannes Paschele	w i	Himself. (a)
V	Marana A	
	22	

2. DEET-SEA BOATS, viz. Boats, or Barks for North-Seas, &c. 1451.

Full Herrings per thousand 6 s. 8 d. Shotten per thousand 3 s. 4 d.

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Num. of Boats.

I Edmundus Woolward
I Henricus Thomae.
I Thomas Comber
I Robertus Smyth
I Johannes Comber
I Thomas Pafchelew
I Ricardus Coleowre
I Willimus Alen
I Thomas Thucke

(a) W. A. B.

(b) Ibid.
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Willi

Willimus Wiccleles
Ricardus Bate
Johannes Midilton
Henry Boty. (b)

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3. The State of the FISHERY to Iceland, North-Seas, &c. 1602.

Ships Names.	Owners N ames.	Whither bound.
John Baptiste	Robert Bonneck	Iceland
Hounde	the same	Farry
Hopewell	Henry Fearmes and Robert Smy	yth Iceland
5peedwell	Henry Fearmes and William G	oulde the same
George	Robert Muller and Leonarde Pr	yme the same
Thomas and Mary I	Ann, John Arnolde	the same
Jonas	Robert Archer and William Cha	pman, North-Seas
Unitie	William Goulde	the same
Thomas	Thomas Benneck	the fame
Gryffin	John Eybroke, jun. and Rich. Ey	
Mary	Robert Miller	Farry
John	Robert Lavendor	North-Seas
J ames	John Watson and Thomas Burle	
Grace	Robert Beare and Thomas Burfe	orde the same
Sonne	Thomas Ficket	the same: (c)
Donles		7

15 Barks.

C. 1. The following are Transcripts of Church-Wardens Accompts.

"HERE is Remembruance, that Harry Poty, and Thomas Pafebelew Churche Maysters of Welburyswyche, have made a Rechenynge of her Acounse, to the Parysshe, upon Sonynday next after the 12th Day, the Zere of Kynge Edwarde the IVth. after the Conqueste the 3d Zer. And all Thynges cline quitte, be clene Rechanynge. M. whysse Acounse; lest in the Box 4 Nobyllys, and 20 d.

Anno Domini 1489, in this Zer we make a Constitucion for the Town Dolys by ower Crecon and Wysdom, to the Profeyth of the Cherche, yt ys to seye, Ibomas Byrd, Richard Poty, Thomas Brown, John Almyngham, Roberd Gardner, John Palmer, Roberd Geodyng, John Blybor, Harry Gybbys, William Nune, Cuth. bert Eyer, John Co-Carnyshe, John Greywe, Sawndyr Richardson, Thomas Pegot, wt other mooharn consent be ys Present, yt 1 Man, or 2 Men shall receptive Town Doollys of Heryngs, and Sperlings of the Masters of the Shyppys, and Bots, and to tewe them to most Profyte of the Town. And

(b a) W. A. B.

the fed 2 Men to gef a Rekenynge of the Heryegs, and S newer Daye, unto the feid Townschyppe. All rekeneth, & pd. remaynyth in the Towne Boxe 11/. 19		

3. Some of the Church-Wardens Receipts in different 1	l'éars.	
Anno Regni Hemici fexti post Conquestum 29.		
1451. " Rec. of Thomas Comber 2500 full Heryns, 200 fcl	s. 10tyn	D.
Allec, in Moneta		12
Barca Thome Buck, un. John Glover est Magist. 1100 Slings, for the Kyngs Heryngs		
1453. sexto Die Maii at a Cherche Ale	13	4
Item de uno Cherche Ale in Festo omnium Sanctorum	13	4
at a Gaderyng on the Sonday next aforn the Feste of	16	ŧ
Postel Seynt Barnebe, Apostal the 31 Zer of the I	Z	
yat now is	Lyng	
1458. for the Sowle of Syr Harry Barbour	: ,	20
of Ric Cokk: for the Schools at the Character Ver	, 6	8
of Ric. Cokk; for the Schoppe at the Chyrche Yate		44
1459. of Cha. Browne, for the Gylde of Seynt Barbara	9	ΙI
for the Gylde Sanstae Mariae Virginis	7	
1463. of Alfon Kocks, for the Gylde of Seynt Andrew		45
for the Gylde of Seynt Johannis	9	2
1466. for Seynt Johannys Schoppe		13
of Syrre John Kock		4
1481. of John Norton, for a Net	12	
of Cutberd Eyer, for the Queth Word of Tym Charembyr	40	
1498. for a Peyre of Bedys that were Marg. Medylton's	4	4
of Pecke, for standing in Soynt Johnnys Hows	2	6
1409. of John Wolward, that he took for Keyage	4	2
of the Baly of Blabur, for the Hows in Blabur	Ġ	8
of Tho. Browne, for Ferme of the Land at Blaknes		12
of Cefyly Peggot, for Ferme of the Town Lands for the	laft	
Zeer		1 1
of The. Draper, for his Chamber for a Zeer (c)	3 6	8
4. Some of the Church-Wardens DISBURSEMENTS in differen		
The charten wateris Disborsements in all even		
1451. PAYD for skoring of the Cherche Ger.	s.	D.
for washing of the Cherche Clothes		8. 9
for Offring Fest. Trinitatis at Blibro for the Toper	3 6	
for Romescot in Fest. Paschae		8
for waching of Candel Estorne Nytis	11	10b.
for halyng up of the Ferme-Tre, and other Labor		7
for Cloth for Amyte, and Girdelys		8 .
·		16
(b c) W. A. B.		
	1451 Pa	yd

(2) BLITHBURGH.		149
1451. Payd for making of a Surplys	•.	D.
for new bynding 2 Bekes		20
for Wax azons Edwar and Olling the Day 1	3	2
for Wax azens Estern, and filling the Rowel apud Southwalde at a Chirche Ale	4	. 6
for a Cleth aforn the how duty of black n.t.		3
to a clear atom the new zhiter of black Bokerain		. 6
to Reb. Sammes, pro 1 Cade of Hering for the King	4	4
to Will Amrigale, for the Dyner of my Mayfler Hepton	7	ŧ
to Ric. Preton, for the Ton Land, and the Schereuys Torn		19
for a Rop to the Paskil		I
1452. for Clay Wark to the Chercke Houles, and Straw	2	
for Pedyng and thakyng of the Cherche Logge, for Shetis and		
Byndyngs	2	2
for Frakencens 2 lb.		8
for making the Hofys afore the Rode		4
at Blibro, for halwyng of the Pyx, Auter Clothis, and a Tonych.		
an Aube, an Amyte, and Expens		20
for a Kerchef of Sylc		12
to Herri Terri, Clarke, at Myghelmes	3	6
1454. to the Quest Men for the Ton		12
to the Clarke, for kepyng of the Candells de Sepulcris		6
1458. to Jenkyne Jell, elder, for Gate to Londone		16
at Southwold, for fending to my Lord Roos		12
for makyng of a Welle	2	10
to Will. Roper, when he went to the norre Contre for the		
Kyngs Vinge	6	8
to Water Perfe, for rydyng to the King	6	8
to Will. Allcock, for cleanlynge of the Ymages	3	3 8
1463. to Syrre John Engelystche	.6	Ś
1466. to Nyc. Byrd, for Mony that he payde to Syrre John Haward		
for the Town	0	6
1472. for a Kade of Heryngs to Ser John Haveningham	7	4
1476. to John Waller, for rydyng to Newcasteel and London 5 Noblys		
to Rob. Gardynyer, for rydyng to my Lady Brandon		4
1478. to Mastyr Nicholas 5 Noblys		
1485. to my Lady Brandon 10 Marks		
to The. Brown, for Fische that went to Syr John Henyngham		12
	II	4
1490. to the Sexteyne, for his Rewar for ryngyng of the Day Belle		1 ï
1491. to the Sexteyne, for ryngyng of the Kerfow Belle	3	4
1493. for a Bessume of Pekoks Fethers		, 4
\$1496. to Dunwyche, for the Sute of the Stal Bots for a full Payment 5	Ŋο	blys
1499. for dreffynge of the baly Watyr Stoppe. (d)	3	4
(d) W. A. B. See Hol. p. 1232.		

Anno

5. Anno 27 Eliz. Bonn given by all Masters of Vessels on Account of the

Transporting the Queen's Subjects to or from foreign Parts.

"MEMORANDUM, that on the 21st Daye of January, for the Year of our Lord God 1585, there was Bond taken by the Vice-Admiral of all Masters and Owners dwellinge in Walberswick, as concerning the transporting of any Passengers, being the Queen's Subjects, out of England, into the Parts beyond the Seas. As also from the other Syde of the Seas into this Realme of Ingland, without Licence or Pasport, uppon Paine to forset for any suche Offence, one hundred Marks, of good and lawfull Monny of Ingland, to be paid to her Majestes Use.

On the Arrival of every Ship or Vessell, Presentments were made of all such Persons so transported, to the Commissioners appointed to fit at South wold." (c)

6. PRESENTMENTS Anno 1590, for BUTTER, and CHEESE.

Ships Names.	Masters Names.	Num. of Viages.	What per Viages.	Total.
Thomas Griffin Dolfin Cryftofer Divers Crayers Divers Crayers Divers Crayers Mary Raydon	T. Bonneck, Ro. Smith Nicho. Millar John Arnold John Bartlet Tho. Figget John Shock John Fox Will. Raydon. (f)	7 7 5 7 7 7 7	s. D. 3 4 3 4 4 4. 3 0 2 8 2 6 2 0	s. b. 23 4 21 8 21 0 21 0 18 8 17 6

7. "BE it knowne unto all Men by theis Prefents, that wee the Inhabitants of Walberfeeicke, the 6th Day of January, Anno Domini 1597, whose Names are hereunder subscribed, have by a general Consent, and Assent, joyntlie agreeinge together, gyven and graunted in sull and absolute Authoritie to the Churchewardens, for this present Yere chosen, and elected, to sett, lett, and to ferme, hyer, to any on Man, or many Men, all such Prostytte, and Dewties, as by any manner of Means may or shall arise to the Townes Behause, Prosytt, and Comodytie, by Name; the Hearing Fishing Dele; the Spersinge Loyre Dele; the Dewties done for Iceland, and North-Seas, viz. 3 s. 4 d. for every Viadge; the Dewtie of 2d. a Load for the Carriadge of Butter and Cheese; the Dewties for greate Beasts; the Dewtie for Kyadge; all whiche Dewties beinge demanded by the sayde Churchwardens, viz. Themas Meene, John Bartlet, and William Daubney; on by any Parte or Partes by them assign'd, and autoryshed; wee do give over free Assent, and Con-

sent, to pay according to order; taken in that Behaest specified, and sett downe in our Towne Booke; as Means occupyinge, and Dealinges shall require. And looke what the sayde Churchwarders shall by this their Authoritie do in the Premisses aforesayd; wee the sayde Inhabitaunts, do by theis Presents allowe, ratify, and confirme. In Wyttness where, we have to theis set to owre Hands, and Names, the Day and Yeere abovewritten.

Thomas Fyggott Nycles Myller Humfiel Thomas Wyllyam Daby Jhone Wakeris John Raydon Richard Lower George Ebold William Gowler John Thurston Harry Fearmer Robert Richardson Thomas Bonet Roberte Meller Richard Gilbancke Robert Richer Thomas Bocon William Carmon John Aybroke --- Atchar Robart Wecks Wm Radon Robert Fro

Robt Smythe Robart Beare Thomas Meene John Bartlett Lenard Payne Henry Richarfon Thomas Burfourd Robart Pausse John Corman Thomas Hartt Thomas Archer Jhone Watson Richard Beke Ihone Shoke Robart Lavender John Bates Robart Carfe John Canfay John Wyllfon Robart Jorden Robart Hawes Thomas Botes." (g)

8. For the Enjoyment of the Butter and Cheese Trade transacted at Wallerswik, and carried to London, and other Parts of this Land; an Emulation arose to such a Height, that diverse People committed many Outrages to the Breach of his Majesty's Peace, whereby much Mischief and Harm ensued; and to avert the ill Consequence of such Contentions, an Order was made at Beccles Sessions, Ostober 2, 1609, with the Privity and Consent of the chiefest Inhabitants of Walberswick, that none but old Men, who had spent their former Days in Fishing-Fare, should occupy the coasting Business for Butter, &c. and that the young Men should diligently attend the Fishing-Crast, alledging, that the Neglect of the Fishery was the Means tending to the Destruction of a Nursery that bred up fit and able Masters

of Ships, and skilful Pilots, for the Service of the Nation. And for the Preservation thereof, only eight Vessels, with their Crews, were appointed to Trade as aforesaid; and regularly to take their Turns without molesting each other, upon the Penalty of paying five Pounds of lawful English Molestoney to the King's Use.

And furthermore, that the Graft might not be hindred; these eight Vef-1 fels were not to take their Turns before Martinmas, or after Lady-Day, un-

der the like Penalty.

Fran. Bayldon, Jo. Tasburgh, Thomas Playters, Nicholas Ganeys, John Went-worth. (b)

CHAP. VII.

The ELDER CHURCH.

A. 1. O N the South of the Town, near the Marshes, is Ground called the Church-Land, whereon stood the old Church, which was that ched. v. C. v1. A. 3.

2. It was adorned within with these Images, the Rood, Saint Andrew, Saint John, Virgin Mary, Saint George, this Saint's, and King Harry's Table; also

it was accommodated with an Orgen.

It is uncertain what Bells were here, but probably they obtained a Place in the new Tower.

3. A. D. 1473. This Church was taken down.

4. The Windows of Saint Christopher and Saint Wolstane, seem to have been taken from this, and set up in the latter Church, where all the Images, with the Tables of Saint George and King Harry, accompanied them.

	\mathcal{S} .	D_{\bullet}
1450. " Solutio est pro uno Candelabro coram Sancto Andrea	10	O
to a Redern mending of the Cherche	0	6
1451 mending and thacking the Cherche Logge	2	2
to making Holys to the Cloth aforn the Rood	0	4
to a Board in the Windone afore our Lady	0	4
1452. for Stonnys in Saint Andrew's Foot, and Seynt Jehnnys	2	6
1453. for peyntyng the Image of our Lady	5	0
payd for Nettys for the lowe Awters	O	6
1454. for mending of the Canope at the hey Awter	O	1 .
1466. payd a Man for amendynge of the Orgens		14cb.
1473. rec'd on the Monday when they brokyn down the Cherche.	(a)	18

⁽b) Order penes, 7. Ingham, Arm. (a) Walberfavick Accompt Book. Rob. Blackmore, the Elder, to plow the Ground which was the Coemetery, carried away the last visible Remains of the old Cherch. An. Dom. 1728, as he related to me.

B. 1. On