BROUGHTON.

The history of Broughton extends as far back as the later Saxon period, just before the time of the Norman Conquest. We have therefore historical references to it for more than 800 years; but the ancient earthworks, tumuli, and barrows of the neighbourhood and their contents, with other archæological remains, carry us back much further, to about 1200 B.C., as the latest time when human settlements in this neighbourhood began.

Britain, if known at all to the ancient Egyptians, Chaldeans, Phœnicians, and other races of the East, who were the most civilised people of the world at that time, was to them only a remote western island, inhabited by a barbarous race.

Some skeletons of bodies buried in a contracted position, which were discovered by Mr. T. Cannon in a depressed long barrow on Chattis Hill, near Danebury, but in this parish, in February last, are probably remains of that race.

Burial in a contracted posture was a characteristic custom of the long skulled race, known as the Neolithic or Iberian people, who heaped up long barrows, such as that on Chattis Hill, over the remains of their dead chieftains. They were the people of the later Stone Age. As far as modern investigation has been able to discover, they were a hunting, and to some extent, a pastoral race, wandering with such animals as they possessed from one part of the country to another as circumstances required. The open chalk downs in this part of the country certainly attracted them.

These people were succeeded by those of the Celtic race, who conquered them, who were marked by broader skulls, and who, after a time, adopted the custom of cremating their dead.

Their usual mode of commemorating the most important people of their tribes was by making round barrows of various kinds over the places where they buried the ashes of their

dead. There ashes were commonly placed in urns roughly made of coarse pottery, which were deposited bottom upwards under the heap of earth which formed the tumulus or barrow. Sometimes they buried these cremated remains in an already existing long barrow, as was lately found to be the case on Chattis Hill. Their usual funeral monuments, however, were the round barrows, of which examples still exist on Broughton Hills.

The Iberians, or Neolithic people, used stone implements of various kinds, but the Celts introduced the knowledge of the manufacture of bronze, and used spears and other implements made of that material.

The Bronze Age in this country probably lasted from about B.C. 1200 until a century or two before the Roman Conquest, when the invasion of the Belgæ took place. They were another branch of the Celtic race, and probably brought with them from the Continent a knowledge of the manufacture of iron.

In considering the antiquities of Broughton it is therefore necessary to remember that the remains of two distinct races of people, who successively lived in this neighbourhood before the Roman Conquest, have been found.

The Romans themselves have left part of one of their great roads, and have also left other traces of their presence in this neighbourhood, for coins, chiefly of the later empire, and other Roman remains have been found in various parts of this parish, the most important being the great pig of lead, weighing about 156lb., now in the British Museum, which was found in or quite close to the southern part of Broughton in 1783. This block of lead has an inscription upon it showing that it was made about A.D. 59, in the time of Nero, and is supposed to have been brought from one of the lead-making parts of Britain, and to have been lost in the course of its transit to the south coast, probably to the port of Clausentum, or Southampton. The block of lead in the British Museum should be viewed by all who are interested in the antiquities of this county.

Among the Saxon antiquities which have been found here was a boss of a Saxon shield and sword, found with a skeleton on Broughton Hill in 1875. Such a grave, with the sword lying by the bones, denotes a noble's interment during the early Saxon period.

The antiquarian associations of Broughton within the range of history fall under three classes, viz., :—1, Those concerning the lands within the parish itself, and which formed its ancient manors; 2, Those connected with the ecclesiastical history of the parish; 3, Those concerning the Forest of Buckholt, which bounded Broughton on the south.

The Domesday account of Broughton says that at the time of the Norman survey it was a royal manor, held by King William, as it had been by King Edward the Confessor.

The manor was a very valuable one, being valued at £76 16s. 8d. in the money of that age in the time of King Edward, and £66 at the time of the survey. It was, however, what was called afterwards rack-rented, for it actually paid at the time of the survey £104 12s. 2d., a sum equal to about £2000 a year at the present relative value of money.

The inferior tenants were in Broughton eight villeins eleven borderers. In Dean, however, which was also joined to the manor, there were two villeins and fourteen borderers, and the king also had in Wallop, belonging to this manor, five villeins and a slave. The villeins, in subsequent centuries, became known as copyholders.

There were also some free men, whose number is not stated, and three other partly free tenants. There were three mills at that time in Broughton itself; there were also three mills in Nether Wallop, and three in Over Wallop. From these circumstances the stream itself probably became known as the nine-mill stream, and, I believe, it retains the name of "nine-mile water" to the present day, a name derived from these mills.

The king's estate here was superintended by a bailiff, who is mentioned in Domesday Book, but life in and around Broughton at that time was complicated by the near presence

here of another official, the bailiff of the Forest of Buckholt, or the king's foresters.

The people of Broughton had privileges in the forest, except when they were withheld. The Domesday account says that honey and pasture, and timber for housebuilding, were formerly among the privileges for Broughton, but that the foresters had withheld them. The record says that the honey and pasture in dispute were worth annually 10s. each.

Life in this part of Hampshire was also complicated by the two legal codes, for forest law certainly prevailed within the forest. The present boundary of the parish on the south, which fringes the crest of the hills, shows where the manor ended and the forest began.

Domesday Book also records a little sharp practice connected with one of the mills of Broughton.

Apparently some of the freemen, or inferior tenants, wished to have a mill at which to grind their own corn, for it is stated that in the time of King Edward some land was given in exchange for one of the manorial mills, but in the time of King William the bailiff resumed possession of the mill, and he also kept the land.

The people of Broughton were evidently made to feel the effect of the Norman conquest, as shown by the increased amount required to be paid by them to the Exchequer, also their pasture restrictions in the forest, and by the mill for which they exchanged the land and lost both.

Apparently Broughton continued to be part of the demesne land of the Crown for more than a century after the Norman conquest. There is a record in the Patent Rolls of the fourth year of King John's reign, which, I think, refers to it under the name of Brocton, the name under which the Hundred is entered in Domesday Book. It is there stated that the king assigned Watteville and Brocton to Robert de Haracount, as his vadium or mortgage. King John was certainly in want of money for his wars in France, and this record appears to show one of the means he took to raise it, by pledging one of the most valuable of the crown manors in Hampshire.

Brocton, Berghton, Burghton, are the names under which it occurs in the national records.

During the 13th century the land in Broughton was on many occasions granted by the Crown under the exacting conditions of feudal tenure, even the smaller free tenants being assessed at parts of a knight's fee.

The inhabitants, however, enjoyed some special trading privileges, among which was freedom from toll in Southampton. Early in Henry III. reign, Broughton was held by William Percy, the 6th baron of that distinguished family. He was connected with this neighbourhood through his second marriage, his seond wife having been Joan, a daughter of William Briwere. The Briwere family founded and endowed Mottisfont Priory, and were connected with King's Somborne.

By charter of the 23rd of Henry III. all the land in Berghton and Meonstoke which had formerly been given to William Percy was granted to Fulk de Montgomery. While he held Broughton the record of lands held by knight's service and other tenures was made as regards Broughton, and afterwards embodied in what is known as the Testa de Neville.

From this record we learn how the land at Broughton was held between the years 1239 and 1247.

The baron Fulk de Montgomery was the superior lord, and had tenants by knight's service, who held the land of Broughton of him.

These knight's and others who were rated at parts of a knight's fee were named William de Lucy, Alienora Cotele, Acelina Cotele, Jacob de Burghton, and Henry de la Mar, who all held half a knight's fee of Fulk de Montgomery, and he of the king. There were smaller holders by knight service named John Chevan, the heirs of Thomas de Waleys and Walter Whyton.

It is stated that Fulk de Montgomery held the whole of the residue of the Manor of Broughton, but it was not known by what service. It is, however, stated that it was by new

feofment, by the gift of the king, and that it was land which was escheats of the Normans.

After the English Crown had lost Normandy the lands held by Norman nobles and knights who resided in Normandy and were subjects of the French king were confiscated.

Part of the land at Broughton reverted to the Crown in this way, and was given to William Percy and subsequently to Fulk de Montgomery. He did not hold his Broughton estates long, for in the 31st Henry III., i.e. in 1247, he gave or conveyed his manors of Berghton and Meonstoke, in Hampshire, to John Mansell, and this transfer was confirmed by the king.

John Mansell was a clerk, but more a lawyer than a clergyman in his avocations. He was brought up in his early youth at the Court of Henry III. In a Close Roll dated July 4, 1234, Henry III. mentions him as "his beloved clerk." He was in that year appointed to a high office in the Exchequer, the office which afterwards became that of Chancellor of the Exchequer. He had the custody of the Great Seal in 1246, and again 1248. He was one of the most trusted counsellors of Henry III., who employed him in arranging the matrimonial affairs of his son Prince Edward and his daughter Margaret, who married Alexander, King of Scotland. He was present at the marriage of Prince Edward with Eleanor of Castile at Burgos, in Spain, in 1254.

As he had such great influence with the King he was able to obtain valuable grants for himself. Later on he was driven from the country by the Barons, but he has left his mark on this place. In 1248 he obtained a charter for a fair and a market for Broughton. The fair is still held as a decayed institution, with some old traditions concerning it, and the market privileges are represented at the present time by the shops of this village, but the remains of a market cross are said to have existed a century ago. Shops, however, were market privileges, and could not be opened in the Middle Ages without a Market Charter. That charter was granted to Broughton in the year 1248 by King Henry III.

John Mansell also obtained from Henry III. permission to enclose Frenchmore, and to make a ditch and hedge round that outlying part of his manor.

After his time Edward I., in the 20th year of his reign, committed the manors of Berghton and Frenchmore to Radulf de Rokeland, to hold during the King's pleasure, on an annual payment of £46.

Subsequently the manor passed to William Waleraunde and Isabella his wife, and afterwards to Robert Waleraunde their son.

An inquisition was held concerning the Waleraund manors of Burghton, Frenchmore, and Meonstoke in the first year of Edward II.'s reign.

Robert Waleraunde had a brother named William, who died leaving two sons—Robert, who appears to have inherited the family estates, and John Waleraunde, both of whom were idiots. Both died without issue, and subsequently Alan Plukenet came into possession through his grandmother, Alicia Waleraunde, the daughter of William Waleraunde the first, who succeeded John Mansell as Lord of Broughton. Then arose a great lawsuit concerning the whole of the Waleraunde estates, interesting to us as concerning Broughton, but expensive, no doubt, to the litigants of the 14th century.

Four claimants came forward and disputed Alan Plukenet's title, on the ground that William Waleraunde, whom he claimed to be descended from as his great grandfather, only had one daughter, named Alicia, as stated, but that as she became Abbess of Romsey she could not have married Plukenet, Alan's grandfather, and therefore he could not have been descended from her or her father William Waleraunde. The four claimants, moreover, claimed collectively the Waleraunde estates through their descent in the female line from the same family.

The case came before the king, at Westminster, in Michaelmas term, 13 Edward II., 1320, and again at York in the Spring term of the following year. The trial involved estates

in several counties, but chiefly in Hampshire and Gloucestershire, and conflicting pedigrees were put in. Finally the case was ordered to be decided by a jury of twelve knights, six of Hampshire and six of Gloucestershire. This jury decided that Alan Plukenet had a good title, that his grandmother was Alicia Waleraunde, and that it was another sister, also named Alicia, who became Abbess of Romsey, from which circumstance the doubt appears to have arisen.

This lawsuit must have been of much interest to the people of Broughton nearly 600 years ago. Part of Broughton about that time was, however, held by Adam Grucle, apparently as a manor from the Plukenet family, or under that barony.

In 1311 Alan Plukenet was summoned as a Baron to Parliament. The various writs which he received commanding him to assemble his knights and men at arms for service against the Scots are interesting in connection with Broughton, for the people of this village must have seen the Broughton knights or their men at arms set out for these wars more often than they saw them return. For example:—In 1300 Alan Plukenet was summoned to perform military service against the Scots, and to muster at Carlisle on St. John Baptist's Day, June 24th.

In 1309 he was summoned to serve again; and assemble with his force at Newcastle-on-Tyne. In 1310, 1311, and 1313 he was required to muster at Berwick-on-Tweed, and in 1314 and 1316 he was again summoned to bring his force to the muster at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Among the later lords of Broughton were William Wykeham, who was granted a licence in 7 Hen. IV. to crenellate his manor house here, of which nothing now remains, and Sir John Typtot, who held manors in Over and Nether Wallop and in Broughton in the 21 Henry VI.

Broughton gave the oldest name to the Hundred in which it is situated. This, as mentioned in Domesday Book, was Brocton, and comprised the west part of Hampshire, including Wellow on the south and Over Wollop on the north.

In the 13th century the name had become changed to that of Thorngate, probably from the common name for the place

where the Hundred Court was held. This, I think, was probably on Broughton Hill, where the two great mounds still exist. These mounds are on the boundary of the parish, and resemble the mound known as Cutted-thorn on the northern boundary of Southampton, where a second mound also formerly existed.

One of the Southampton mounds was the meeting place of the open air court, and the other the place of execution. The Broughton mounds served perhaps for similar purposes.

Thorngate, the later name of the Hundred, was probably the people's or the popular name for the meeting place, and the word gate, in ancient Hampshire place names, is commonly found at entrances to the old forests, such as was the case on Broughton Hill in regard to the forest of Buckholt.

Buckholt was one of the bailiwicks of the Forest of Clarendon, and in the Middle Ages the bailiff was provided with land in or near Broughton, which he held by the service of custody of the forest. In Edward I.'s time eighty acres of land were in Berghton by this tenure, and in the next reign fifty acres were held by John de Putton by the service of the custody of the forest.

Later on William de Putton held land and tenements in Burghton by custody of Buckholt.

After his death, in the 10th Edward III., the king appointed John de Scoteney custodian of a house and land in Burghton which had been held by William de Putton, to be held until his heir had attained full age, an annual payment during that time to be made to the Exchequer.

King John often hunted in Buckholt, and passed through it on his way to and from Clarendon, as his Itinerary shows, and his enforcement of forest law is a matter of history.

The inclusure of parts of Buckholt began in the time of Henry III., and was continued by Edward III.

Queenwood, which at one time must have been part of Buckholt, has probably derived its name from Queen Philippa, wife of Edward III. Certainly a record of 1341 states that

Philippa, Queen of England, by-writ of the king, held land in East Tytherley, apparently newly assorted forest land.

During its later history Buckholt was known as a park, and the earliest maps of Hampshire show it with a fence round it. Its keepers were then probably known as parkers. The greyhound was the crest or badge of the parkers, and the Greyhound Inn sign at Broughton is probably as old as that time.

Broughton Church is mainly a building of the 13th century. It is certain that some of the lords of its manors I have mentioned in that century must have lived at the time of its erection, but the history of the church here, like that of the manors, extends back to the time of King Edward the Confessor. At that time it was a chapel subordinate to the church of Mottisfont.

The circumstances were very peculiar. Mottisfont Church and the six chapels of Broughton, Pittleworth, East and West Tytherley, Dean, and Lockerley belonged to the Archbishop of York.

Domesday Book tells us that these six chapels, with the church of Mottisfont, and about five hides of land, with the customary dues from the living and the dead, belonged at the time of the survey to Thomas, Archbishop of York, and had belonged to his predecessor in the time of King Edward.

The customary dues were no doubt the tithes and oblations due from the living, and the mortuaries paid on behalf of the dead, and Broughton church was technically a chapel, because such dues went to Mottisfont as part of the archbishop's revenue.

Such an arrangement of ecclesiastical matters in this neighbourhood may have been older than Edward the Confessor's time.

Domesday Book says that the Archbishop of York had a house in Winchester, and this circumstance and the revenue assigned him partly from this parish probably point to the occasional visits of that prelate or his officials to that city, when Winchester was the ancient capital.

Domesday Book also tells us that the king's bailiffs, who were apparently zealous in what they thought was their royal master's interest, took away one hide of this land belonging to the See of York, and among the charters of York Minster is one by King William restoring to Thomas, Archbishop of York, one hide of land in Mottisfont, which had belonged to Archbishop Aldred in the time of King Edward. The York charter confirms the entry in Domesday Book.

In the 13th century the Broughton clergy were evidently men of importance, for they were occasionally required to witness the signature of important charters. Thus Williams, who was styled "Dean in Berkton," witnessed one of the charters of the baron William Briwere, by which he endowed Mottesfont Priory in the time of King John. Herbert, "Clerico de Burghton," at a later date also witnessed another of the charters of the same priory.

By the end of the 13th century the ecclesiastical circumstances in this neighbourhood had become re-organised, and Broughton Church was constituted a parish church, independent of Mottisfont.

In the taxation of Pope Nicholas for the purpose of the last Crusade in 1290 this church was assessed at £33 6s. 8d., and paid a tax of £3 6s. 8d. for that abortive expedition.

Fifty years later, viz., in 1341, when church revenues were taxed for Edward III.'s, French wars, and their value in 1290 was taken as the basis for that taxation, the ninth of sheaves, wool, and lambs, in the parish of Broughton was declared by a jury of four parishioners to be worth £18 6s. 9d.

There was at that time a rectory house with forty acres of land, two acres of pasture, and a columbarium or pigeon house, as part of the endowment. The tithes of hay and other small tithes, with oblations and mortuaries, were at the same time declared by the jury to be worth £12 11s. 10d.

The jurors names were John at Pleistede, John at the Mill, Simon le Tailloure, and Thomas le Eye.

The mention of the rectory pigeon house shows that this church possessed a valuable privilege, for a charter was necessary to enable a lord of the manor, or any other person, to keep pigeons in the Middle Ages.

That right is still exercised, and the rectory pigeon house of this parish (a substantial separate building), with accommodation for a large number of birds, still exists.

Similar ancient pigeon houses may be seen at Basing and Lainston, but I know of no other place in Hampshire where the rectory was endowed with a right of this kind, for the pigeons of course enjoyed the privilege of getting their own living, while the rector provided them a comfortable home.

About 1536 the value of the rectory was certified as amounting to £37 9s. 11d., and the rector at that time was Robert Elys.

In the Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series, of that century, there is a letter from John Kyngsmyll, written to William Cecil, from Sidmonton, in this county, dated October 23rd, 1550, "in favour of the bearer of the letter, who had been ill-used by the parson of Broughton," at the instigation, so it is alleged, "of John Coke and John Richards, for giving certain information to the Council." This church was partly destroyed by fire in 1638, and its interior still exhibits some of the effects of that conflagration. Its registers before that date are supposed to have been burnt.

I have given here a few fragments only of the history of this interesting village, and I have to express my hope that someone who is interested in Broughton may more fully write its history.