

NOTES ON THE SKYDMORE ERA AT BURNHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE: PREFACE

This study of the Skydmore family at Burnham has been in progress for some 35 years. In 1971 John Lucas-Scudamore of Kentchurch Court in Herefordshire asked me if I would revise the old 1952 account of his family in Burke's *Genealogic and Heraldic History of the Landed Gentry* for the new 18th edition then in preparation. I did, sending off a typed manuscript of 18 pages for the approval of Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd, the editor, who happily accepted my account of the family without a single exception. It went into print soon after, together with Commander Lucas-Scudamore's addition on his Lucas ancestry, in 1972.¹

There were two major changes in policy for the 18th edition. A gentleman could now be included and known as "formerly OF" an earlier estate that had gone out of the family, and (more importantly) it was now possible to include cadet branches with their older and more important cousins. I took advantage of this provision to include accounts of the families at Upton Scudamore, Rowleston, Holme Lacy, Ballingham, and a good many other less important places, including Burnham.

Later I broke down these segments, enlarged them, added others, and published this in a very small manuscript edition revised as *Thirty Generations of the Scudamore/Skidmore Family in England and America*.² It simplified my life to retain Burke's style of not numbering generations, but instead to move forward with a variety "of whom's." For the reader a major confusion was the listing all of a gentleman's sons before his daughters, a Burke's proviso carved in granite, which I did not presume to change.

The Skydmores at Burnham were one of those families who held on to the old Catholic faith long after it was politically incorrect to do so. Henry VIII's Act of Supremacy may have helped produce a male heir to the throne, but it ruined the sort of life the family knew at Burnham. Sir Philip (*ca.* 1545-1611), childless and locked into a failed marriage, was the last of the name at Burnham. He went off in 1609 to Flanders perhaps so he could still hear a Roman mass said daily, and where he was buried in a proper Catholic church.

His departure left several smaller cadet families, cousins, who had by necessity to eventually confirm sooner in matters of religion. They came out of younger sons (or *sons* of younger sons) who moved up and down the social scale either by chance or native ability. I included several of these "loose" families in my *Thirty Generations*, who lived hard by Burnham, with the suggestion that they had come out of the earlier family there in some unknown way. The discovery of a previously unknown manuscript set down by John Stow (*ca.* 1525-1605) at the British Library that

¹*Landed Gentry* (18th edition, London 1972) III, 811-6.

²The hardbound edition has long been out of print, but a revised second edition is now available on the Scudamore/Skidmore CD-ROM issued in 2006 (along with several other full-length books and innumerable articles). For a description see the *Scudamore/Skidmore* website.

happily tied most of these yeoman families into the principal family at Burnham.

If this memoir of the family at Burnham has a hero it has to be John Stow. He was admitted as a freeman of the Merchant Taylor's Company in 1547. Beginning at least as early as 1560 he occupied himself with collecting and transcribing old manuscripts on the history of London, and then later with producing several fine histories. Stow was, like the Skydmores, partial to the old faith, and was charged several times between 1568-70 with possessing popish and other dangerous writing, but seems to have always escaped chastisement. He had spent most of his small personal fortune on collecting and publishing, and later survived on charities from his readers. His last great work was *A Survey of London* done in 1598 and 1603, an invaluable account of the ancient city, its customs, and its citizens which survives as a manuscript at the British Library.³

In 1601 Richard *Skudamore* (1561-1625), an ironmonger in London, contributed an account of himself, his wife, and their four children to Stow. To this he added what he knew about his distinguished cousins at Holme Lacy in Herefordshire, and the yeomanry at Uxbridge and Kingsbury in Middlesex. The old motto *Nil deperendum* says it all, for the discovery of Stow's notes on several of the living members of Skydmore family in 1601, taken together with DNA specimens from the descendants of other presumptive cadet branches, led to the supposition that they all are from the same stock. Out of this from this has come a study of a family which can be called, in a Burke term, "formerly OF" Burnham.

For the general reader, I have tried to make these notes into a "case history" by including in Appendix Two the full texts and translations of some of the most useful (but seldom used) documents that may frequently be found by the family historian. For the future it should be noted that if there is ever any kind of *easy* access to the enormous mass of medieval plea rolls it will mean that the histories of almost every family, including this one, and whether out of a noblemen or an agricultural laborer, will probably need to be rewritten.

A number of interested descendants of the Burnham family (of which I am *not* one) have had an input into these notes. The late John S. Hunt of Potton, Bedfordshire, turned up many of the documents which have been digitized for Appendix Two.. William F. Skidmore, of Winchester, Tennessee, started the search after the DNA connections between his Rickmansworth family and dozens of other branches on both sides of the Atlantic. George Skidmore of Ilford, Essex did much of the work on the allied families in Hertfordshire. Linda (Skidmore) Moffatt, the founder in 1986 of the Skidmore Family History Group, read all of the manuscript and added some details on recent descendants both from her library and a forthcoming edition of the whole of the British family enumerated in the 1841 census. A great many other descendants, archivists, librarians, and others have had a hand in the making of this work but none of them are to be held accountable for what may turn out to be my errors in judgment.

Warren Skidmore

³*Stowe Mss. 624*. Elsewhere a modernized and annotated edition by C. L. Kingsford of the manuscript of *A Survey of London* was published in 1908. There was later an inexpensive edition (Everyman Library, no. 589) which can still be easily found.

INTRODUCTION

The Skydmores of Burnham have several proven ancestors found in the Domesday Book. There is the paternal Ralph “de Scudemer” (mentioned five times in 1086) who did ward at the castle of Ewyas Harold on the Welsh border for his lands in Wiltshire and Herefordshire.⁴ In a maternal line the Skydmores also came out of Walter fitz Otho, the Constable of Windsor Castle, who held manors in five counties including (most importantly for present purposes) at Burnham in Buckinghamshire.⁵ This manor descended to the Huntercombe family, then to the Skydmores, and remained with Walter fitz Otho’s descendants until 1606 when Sir Philip Scudamore sold Burnham to Sir Marmaduke Darrell, a neighbor of Fulmer, Buckinghamshire.⁶

The eventual Huntercombe heirs in 1391 were three sisters Margaret, Elizabeth and Agnes, who married respectively Richard Lyle, Thomas Bekering, and Philip Skydmore. The sisters succeeded in their claim to the estate in 1391 and recovered two-thirds of the whole, which was eventually divided among Margaret Lyle, John Rouse (after the death of his mother Elizabeth Bekering in 1402), and Philip Skydmore.⁷ Philip’s wife Agnes de Huntercombe had died before her husband on 14 May 1411 and her interest passed to her son George on the death of his father in 1419.⁸

In the *Middleton MSS* at Nottingham University Library there is an undated rental list of Burnham Abbey and attached to this, and in the same hand, are the rents due George Skydmore “of his Manor of Huntercombes” set down in the general period of 1430. Obviously the abbess and the lord of Huntercombe were employing the same steward, Andrew de Windsor, a common practice in the middle ages. Previously, whose ancestor had been one of the witnesses to the foundation charter, was chief steward of Burnham Abbey as well as that of the Minresses without Aldgate in London, and the Benedictine Ankerwyke Nunnery at Wraysbury, Buckinghamshire. Windsor earned about £3 for his duties at Burnham.⁹ George Skydmore (*alias* Ewyas) died on 28 February 1441/2, and was succeeded by his son Phillip.

In time all three interests (Lyle, Bekering, and Skydmore) in the two-thirds part of Burnham were acquired either by George Skydmore or his son Philip.¹⁰ Philip, the son, had married Joan

⁴Warren Skidmore, *The Scudamores of Upton Scudamore, a knightly family in medieval Wiltshire, 1086-1382* (2nd edition, Akron, Ohio, 1982) 1-8.

⁵Walter fitz Other was the Domesday lord of lands in Berks, Bucks, Hants, Middlesex, and Surrey. The caput of his fief was probably at Eton.

⁶Victoria County History, *Buckinghamshire*, III (1925) 170/1, 265.

⁷Phillip Skydmore was also known as Phillip Ewyas, by right of a small inheritance and a presumptive descent from Harold de Ewyas, another early tenant-in-chief of the Conqueror.

⁸Agnes de Huntercombe had previously been married to William Barre (de la Barre) who had died in 1363. Phillip Skydmore (who also had an earlier wife) died holding in Agnes’ right a third part of Burnham, the advowson of Beaconsfield Church, the advowson of Eton Church (and certain lands there), together with rents from Windsor Castle. He had, in addition to all this, his own earlier interests in Herefordshire.

⁹T.W.E. Roche, *The precious blood, a history of Burnham Abbey*, 6.

¹⁰George Skydmore married Elizabeth, a daughter and heiress of Pagan Burghill of Burghill in Herefordshire. After the death of Elizabeth Skydmore in 1476 her grandson Thomas Skydmore

Osborne of London. She was generally known in Herefordshire as *Wenllyan*, the Welsh version of her Christian name. Philip acquired the last third of Burnham after the death of the aged widow of John de Huntercombe and he now had the undivided whole of the estate. In 1443 he made a settlement of Burnham manor on himself and his wife Wenllyan, and in 1464 Philip Skidmore held the manor called Huntercombe in Burnham, worth 50 shillings by the year, together with advowson of the church of Beaconsfield directly from the Crown by the service of half a knight's fee.¹¹ At his death on 26 December 1488 their daughter Anne (1458-1528) succeeded.¹² She was already the wife of John Skydmore, the elder, a kinsman from Rowlestone and Llancillo, and they were the first of the family to actually live at Burnham. John and his wife Anne Skydmore made a legal settlement in 1496 on themselves and their issue, which did not go unnoticed back at Holme Lacy in Herefordshire. At Hilary Term in 1497 they complained that her eldest brother William, accompanied by Edward Skydmore, had entered Burnham and expelled Anne and her husband with force by men and arms.¹³

John and Anne Skydmore were eventually confirmed in their possession of Burnham by the court, and nothing more is heard about the quarrel with her brothers. At John Skydmore's death on 10 August 1500, seized in fee of the manor of Huntercombe in the parish of Burnham worth 20 marks in the right of his second wife, he left John Skydmore, the younger, as his eldest son and heir. This John was aged 32 and more in 1507, a child of his father's first wife Joyce. He died unmarried

succeeded to the life interest in certain lands and freehold tenements at Holme Lacy which his grandmother had held. He rendered fealty for them at a court held for the manor of Holme Lacy in 1479. Thomas died without issue during his father's lifetime, and the probate of his will was granted at Monmouth on 23 October 1486 to his unnamed widow according to the Consistory Court Act Books at Hereford.

¹¹Philip also had a moiety of certain manors in Essex which had formerly belonging to the Huntercombes. They were sold on 28 November 1571 by John Scudamore (1542-1623) of Holme Lacy to John Holmestead of Great Maplestead in Essex. Holmestead paid £120 which he promised to pay on the font of Temple Church in London at Michaelmas next, and a further £200 at the same place on Michaelmas 1573. It was the family at Holme Lacy who first went back to the spelling Scudamore when it became fashionable in the time of the late Tudors to have Norman ancestors. For the Bullens (who became *Boleyns*) see Keith Spencer, "From Anne to Astor" (*British Heritage*, June/July 1989) 54.

¹²Anne Skydmore, not one of her younger brothers, succeeded to Burnham. Her claim states that Philip Skydmore, the elder, had settled Burnham on John Barre (presumably kin of William Barre, the first husband of Agnes Huntercombe) in tail. How Burnham passed from Philip to Anne Skydmore is left unstated in a *De Banco Roll*, CP 40/939 (printed here later in the Appendix Two), but it appears to have been "*per formam doni*" which the court confirmed. Her brother William (1464-c1520) was the male heir to Philip Skydmore. He had his father's lands in Herefordshire and profited handsomely from them. However Philip's two younger sons Edward and John went away from Holme Lacy (as usual) with little or nothing. (See the manuscript *Stowe 624* printed here later.)

¹³William Skydmore became his father's heir at the death of his elder brother Thomas. He rendered fealty for Philip's lands at a court held for the manor of Holampton in Holme Lacy in April 1489. He married Alice (died 4 June 1558 at Holme Lacy), the daughter of Richard Mynors of Treago, Herefordshire. They were ancestors of Scudamore viscounts at Holme Lacy.

on 18 December 1526 holding Rowlestone in Herefordshire but had no interest in Burnham.¹⁴

It is unfortunate that the manorial records of Burnham do not survive until 1792. Elsewhere there are still occasional glimpses of life in and around Huntercombe to be found during the early years. The abbesses of Burnham were constantly before the courts, not for offences spiritual, but temporal. Other glimpses come through court rolls of other nearby places. A great flood in 1437 was so severe that the court at Eton could not be held and had to be postponed. In 1454, during the reign of Henry VI, the constable of Burnham with Brytwell, one John FitzWalter was removed from that office and John Crytman was elected in his place and sworn.¹⁵ What FitzWalter had done we do not know, but the Archdeaconry courts between 1391 and 1395 uncovered in Burnham “an unchaste woman,” and a local man was charged with adultery but cleared himself. Another, William Surgary, would not keep the Sabbath. These charges reveal a peaceful placid scene with little crime and only an occasional misdemeanor.

In 1507 Margaret Gibson, then the abbess of Burnham, “led an ordinary life of head of her house.” But the times were changing, and in 1521 there was a complaint to the archdeacon when he made a visitation that John Mallet, who had been the vicar of Burnham for 17 years and enjoyed hunting, had kept horses and dogs in his church. Reverend Mallet can not have been totally worldly however, for he was to suffer martyrdom in 1542.

Several interesting matters are revealed in 1521 at this visitation. Elisabeth Woodford, one of the nuns, complained to the archdeacon that “secular women visit the monastery and gossip with the nuns which is not fitting.” If improvement took place it did not last long, for Dame Margaret Mosse was complaining in 1530 “that women from outside come into the enclosures and do no good but bring news of worldly affairs.” It was probably the Skydmore ladies (Anne and her mother Sibyl) were calling frequently to discuss the king’s divorces and other temporal matters.

The Skydmore sons probably attended class at the abbey where the nuns conducted a school.

¹⁴John Skydmore (1475-1526) had Rowlestone in Herefordshire as the heir of his father. At his death on 18 December 1526 Rowlestone (worth £20 by the year, and held from Henry VIII of the Honour of Ewyas Lacy) passed to his half-brother Philip who is called in error *his son*, a confusion set down by the jurors present at his inquest post *mortem*. Llancillo had been given earlier to Philip Skydmore (1489-1544) by his father earlier on 12 June 1521 on the occasion of his marriage to Joan Skydmore of Kentchurch.

¹⁵The Court Baron Rolls of Cippenham [in Burnham] are now at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California. They have not been seen or used for these notes, but do include an undated mention of Richard Scudamore and John Masters, gentlemen, as overseers to Henry, earl of Huntingdon.

In 1434 bishop Gray of Lincoln fixed the age limits, which for girls was up to 14 years, and boys to eight years. In 1521 it was reported that four children (one a boy named Michael Bovington) were attending school at the abbey “and pay nothing for their commons, to the detriment of the convent.” Elisabeth Woodford, who made many of these complaints, was a great friend of Sir Thomas More’s daughter Margaret Roper, and it is likely that she visited the neighboring Huntercombe manor. What is certain is that the great Reformation of the Roman church in England was having an effect in Burnham. The connections of both the manor and the abbey, and their relationship to the Crown, must have made Henry VIII a constant subject of conversation in the Skydmore family. In 1533 the abbess and convent of Burnham conceded to the bishop their right to present a vicar to the church at Burnham. Religious orders had always stood a little apart and looked far more to Rome than did the secular clergy. The local bishops had always been closely allied to the Crown, but the religious houses through their provincials were more closely bound to the Papacy. When Henry VIII gained absolute control in 1534 of everything spiritual this momentous event had an enormous effect on both Burnham Abbey and Huntercombe manor.

The Act of Supremacy in 1534 made the king the supreme head on earth of the Church of England, and it was now treasonable for any Catholic subject to deny it. Margaret Gibson, then the abbess of Burnham, “submitted unwillingly” to the Act but to avoid giving up her convent “being there grown old, she yielded it.” The new order was too much for the aging abbess and she resigned in 1535 shortly after the execution of Sir Thomas More and bishop Fisher. Sir Thomas More was the father of nun Elisabeth Woodford’s friend Margaret More, and the death of these two martyrs was deeply disturbed the small convent at Burnham. Alys Baldwin was elected abbess in 1536 and she refused to sign the second deed of Supremacy. In the same year an act was passed for the suppression of religious houses with an annual income of less than £200. Burnham had only £51 of income by the year, and Dame Alys had no option but to accept a Deed of Dissolution. Burnham, because of its historic links to the Crown, was still allowed to continue for a time. In 1537 the Henry VIII gave a confirmation that the Abbey could carry on “without any suppression or any dissolution or any part or parcel thereof.” The nuns surely felt their prayers had been answered and that their disagreement with Crown would be quietly healed.

However two years later in the summer of 1539 saw the arrival at Burnham of John London, John Godsave, and Philip Lentall, the king’s commissioners. They may very well have enjoyed the hospitality of the manor with Philip Skydmore and his family while they investigated the abbey. In September 1539 Alys Baldwin and nine nuns were forced to sign the Deed of Dissolution in their own chapter house, and were given small pensions in return. Elisabeth Woodford (one of the nine) fled to the Low Countries and continued her vocation at St Monica’s in Louvain until her death in 1572.

Cromwell’s commissioners reported that everything was in good order at the abbey. They owed no debts, and the woods were flourishing with 80 acres of mature trees over 20 years old and still another 80 acres had woods “very old and valuable.” There were 37 servants including 2 priests, 21 *hind* [male laborers], and 14 women servants or lay sisters. The annual value of the land was £51 2sh. 4d., while the bells and lead (a valuable commodity) were valued at £40 16sh. 8d and the moveables £45 17sh. 9d.

Their report gave a picture of a small, well run religious community of nuns who had served the area with prayers, a school, and no doubt attended to their medical problems. But an end had come to a Catholicism in England, and the Skydmores at Huntercombe were certainly devastated at

the loss of the church and life as they knew it. The family did not benefit from the dissolution of the abbey, because they and their cousins at Kentchurch held firmly to the old Catholic faith for generations and suffered greatly for it. In the 19th century builders demolished a wall in the manor house at Burnham which had in it a chapel-like window and a piscina, and during the restoration in 1964 a small false room was demolished which might very well have been a priest's hole. Philip Skydmore would have been in a position to acquire all or part of the abbey's lands, but after the Crown took possession they were leased to William Tyldesley for 21 years. The dissolution led to real economic difficulties for the impoverished laborers at the abbey, and Tyldesley was at first threatened with physical violence.¹⁶

The poor Catholic vicar who kept dogs in the church at Burnham now suffered martyrdom in 1542 for speaking out against the dissolution of monasteries. Henry VIII was the new patron of the living at Burnham, and in 1548 he presented Robert Lister as vicar. Lister was succeeded two years later by Richard Davies, who in turn was forced to resign by the new Queen Mary, a Catholic, because he was married. Mary then appointed David Roberts who was succeeded by Thomas Benson in 1556 and Griffith William in February 1558. However this brief renewed Catholic period was nearly over. In November 1558 Queen Elizabeth, a Protestant, succeeded her half-sister and within the year Richard Davies had been restored (with his wife) to the living of Burnham.¹⁷

It is interesting that so many vicars of Burnham had Welsh names. Richard Davies was clearly a Celt, and the Welsh appointments here, and also as rectors at Beaconsfield, were probably due to Philip Skydmore (1489-1544). Philip had married firstly Joan (1497-1538), the elder daughter of Sir James Skydmore of Kentchurch. Both families remained true to the Roman church, and suffered for their faith far into the following century. However they undoubtedly still brought friends and kinsmen, both clerical and lay, to Buckinghamshire. The regimes did change, and in 1548 John Whitney and Richard Tyldesley presented Thomas Wyghtman to the living at Beaconsfield where this was done "by the concession of Philip Skydmore."

¹⁶His reputation recovered, and Tyldesley's death in 1563 is commemorated by a brass in Burnham Church.

¹⁷Davies was an outstanding figure in the Elizabethan Church. He had been educated at New Inn Hall, Oxford, prior to being the vicar at Burnham. With the accession of Queen Mary he fled to Geneva, where he remained until he was reinstated at Burnham by Elizabeth. Preferment followed quickly. He was consecrated bishop of St Asaph in 1560, and then transferred to St David's the following year. Davies was a member of the Council of Wales and adviser to both archbishop Parker and the great Lord Burghley on Welsh affairs. He was a scholar as well as being an administrator. He helped with the translation of the New Testament into Welsh in 1567, and revised part of the first edition of the Bishop's Bible in 1568.

RECTORS PRESENTED TO THE CHURCH AT BEACONSFIELD, BUCKINGHAM.¹⁸

This list demonstrates how the incumbents named by the Skydmores to the rectory at Beaconsfield (where the right of presentation descended in the same way as Holme Lacy) came largely from their Welsh acquaintances or kinfolk in Herefordshire.

John Dickins was presented 20 June 1434 by GEORGE SCUDAMORE, Esquire [of Holme Lacy, Herefordshire].

Pagan Burghill, LL.B. presented 21 March 1456 by PHILIP SCUDAMORE, Esq. He died on 14 April 1473, a canon of Windsor and had been the last rector of Eton. It may be taken as certain that this Pagan [*Payn*] Burghill was nearly related to Elizabeth Skydmore (died 1476), the daughter of an earlier Payn Burghill, who was the wife of George Skydmore of Holme Lacy.

John Daniel, succeeded Pagan Burghill on his death, and was presented 2 May 1474 by GEORGE DANIEL, Esq.

Richard Caple, presented 6 October 1485 on John Daniel's death by PHILIP SCUDAMORE, Esq. He appointed to be buried here in 1500 and left £40 to the rebuilding of a parsonage house. He was no doubt from How Caple, Herefordshire, and descended from George Caple of that place who had a Skydmore wife. Edward Skydmore was named as his residuary legatee, and confirmed as the executor of Reverend Caple on 26 November 1500.

William Baron, succeeded 5 December 1500 and was presented by EDMUND DUDLEY, Esq. (who had been an unpopular minister of Edward VI) "ex concessions Roberti Woodford." Baron became the bishop of London soon after.

Richard Smith, presented 24 August 1502 by JOHN SCUDAMORE, Esq., on William Baron's resignation. He died 1511.

William de la Bere, presented 11 February 1511 on Smith's death by JOHN SCUDAMORE, Esq. (The de la Bere family and their relationship to the Scudamores has been noticed earlier.)

John ap Harris, presented 26 August 1521 on de la Bere's death by JOHN SCUDAMORE, Esq.

Thomas Packer, LL.B., succeeded August 1523 on ap Harris' resignation on the presentation of JOHN SCUDAMORE, Esq. He resigned in 1525.

Richard Rawson, LL.B., was presented 26 July 1525 by JOHN SCUDAMORE, Esq. Rawson had been one of Henry VIII's chaplains at the Field of the Cloth of Gold at Calais in 1520. He rebuilt the parsonage house at Beaconsfield where his arms were remaining in 1728. He was later canon of Windsor and archdeacon of Essex, and died in 1543.

JOHN SCUDAMORE, was presented 4 December 1543 by PHILIP SCUDAMORE, Esq., on Dr. Rawson's death. He may be the John Scudamore (from Ballingham, Herefordshire) who Rector at Great Sherston, Wilts., on 28 July 1538. He was still rector there on 11 November 1545 when he had

¹⁸This list is taken from George Lipscomb's *The History and Antiquities of the County of Buckingham* (London, 1847-51) III, 194. He took it undoubtedly from the Bishop's Registers, but printed all of the patrons uniformly as *Scudamore*, which has been followed here. However they were invariably known elsewhere as Skydmore in this period.

a dispensation for six months on account of illness, and a priest was found to act as curate in his stead at Great Sherston. [He is the only man of his name known to have been in holy orders at this date, and may have held a double benefice as a gift of Philip Scudamore.]

Thomas Wyghtman was presented on Scudamore's resignation, 25 June 1548, by JOHN WHITNEY and RICHARD TYLDESLEY "*ex concessione, Philippi Scudamore.*"

AN ACCOUNT OF THE BRANCHES OF THE FAMILY WHO CAME OUT OF BURNHAM HUNDRED.

The complete loss of the title deeds at Burnham force us to depend at present on the inquests *post mortem* (which name only the heir in each generation) and a few wills and extracts from the few parish registers that survive early enough to put together a connected pedigree of this family. A part of the younger sons, who came from fathers who were themselves younger sons, probably have long since disappeared into oblivion. This enlarged account of the Burnham family replaces the earlier one published on the *Scudamore/Skidmore Family History* (CD-ROM, 2006).

PHILIP SKYDMORE of Holme Lacy, Herefordshire was born about 1416, a son of George and Elizabeth (Burghill) Skydmore. He settled the manor of Burnham, Buckinghamshire on himself and his wife Joan (*alias* Wenllyan in Welsh), a daughter of an Osborne of London, on 18 January 1442/3. He held in addition to his lands in Herefordshire and Buckinghamshire a moiety of several manors in Essex formerly belonging to the Huntercombes (sold to John Holmestead of Great Maplestead, Essex, on 28 November 1571). He was acting steward of the domains of Archenfield and Goodrich in 1474, and the mayor of Hereford in 1482. He died on 26 December 1488 and left issue by his wife Joan,

1. Thomas, the eldest son. In 1477 he inherited lands and freehold tenements at Holme Lacy after the death in 1476 of his grandmother Elizabeth Scudamore, a daughter and heiress of Payn Burghill of Burghill, Herefordshire.¹⁹ She had a life interest, and he rendered fealty for them at a court held for the manor of Holme Lacy in 1479. Thomas Skydmore died without issue in his father's lifetime and the probate of his will was granted at Monmouth on 23 October 1486 to an unnamed widow.²⁰
2. William, born 1464, eventual heir to his father and older brother. He rendered fealty for his father's lands at a court held for the manor of Holampton in Holme Lacy in April 1489. He married Alice (died 4 June 1558 at Holme Lacy), the daughter of Richard Mynors of Treago, Herefordshire. On 7 March 1536/7 she was left a hoop [ring] of gold in the codicil of the will of her eldest brother Sir Roger Mynors of Treago and Windley Hill, Derbyshire. William Skydmore died about 1520 leaving a large posterity that included the Scudamore viscounts.
3. Edward, of Siddington Langley, Gloucestershire. He probably had a small tenement

¹⁹She also brought to the Skydmores certain lands and rents at Treaddow and Hoarwithy in Hentland, and at Carey in Ballingham, all in Herefordshire.

²⁰*Consistory Court Act Books* at Hereford.

from the Huntercombe estate at Beaconsfield as his abode since he is identified with that place before his marriage. He was named the residuary legatee and the executor of Reverend Richard Caple of Beaconsfield on 26 November 1500, and had an estate at Hardwyck, Gloucestershire in 17 Henry VII (1501-2).²¹ He benefitted from another bequest of 40 shillings in the will of Sir Giles Brydges of Coberley, Gloucestershire dated 20 November 1511.²² He made a useful marriage after 1506 (but by 1511) as the third husband of Isabel, a daughter and coheir of Edmund Langley of Siddington Langley, Gloucestershire. In May 1520 Edward and Isabella had a grant of livery of her lands in the manor of Welcourt in the parish of Ickham, Kent.²³ She was previously a widow, firstly of John Lymbryk and secondly of Henry Kettleby. Isabel Skidmore had a son (and eventual heir) John Kettleby who was born about 1495. On 12 March 1527 this John Ketilby, the stepson of Edward Skydmore, is found as the “Sergeant of the Chaundry” in the king’s household.²⁴ Together with John Skydmore of Holme Lacy (1486-1571) they had a grant of the old Ketilby lordships of Abbots Leigh, Gloucestershire and at Salwarpe and Elmley Lovett in Worcestershire, as well as certain rents and services at *Shortley* (Shottery) “parcel of the Dudley earldom of Warwick.”²⁵ John Skydmore, was prominent at the court of Henry VIII.²⁶ On 27 September 1538 Edward Scudamore purchased much of the goods belonging to the kitchen of the Grey Friars of Stafford after their suppression. The sale at Stafford was held by the command of the same John Skydmore of Holme Lacy, who was now one of Henry VIII’s Auditors and Receivers of the Augmentation Court. Edward’s wife Isabel died on 7 March 1541, aged 66, and her estate passed to her son John Ketilby.

²¹On 24 June 1509 he is called of *Nether Sydington* and (peculiarly) also of Coberly in Gloucestershire, and of Holme Lacy in Herefordshire. (*Pardon Roll*, 1 Henry VIII, found in *Letters and Papers Foreign and Domestic*, volume I, part 1, 245.)

²²Brydges had been a Knight of the Body to Henry VII.

²³Isabella Langley was (with her sister Christian, wife of Roger Wigston) one of the heirs of Jane (a brother of Sir Roger Byton, knight) and the wife of John Langley, their grandfather, to manors and lands in Kent and Shropshire. (P.R.O., C1/568/31).

²⁴The Sergeant of the Chaundry was responsible for the candles and tapers used by the king and the court. He dealt in wax and tallow whose men made their own candles and tallow candles with three clerks who kept accounts of the raw materials they used.

²⁵Shottery, which is now a parish, was then a manor in Stratford-on-Avon where his son Augustine Skydmore (of Long Itchington, Warwickshire) later had kinsmen. These lands had previously belonged to John Langley, the grandfather of Isabella Ketelby..

²⁶He was one the Gentlemen Ushers to Henry VIII for over 30 years where he had access to both the body and (more importantly) the ear of the king. Clearly John Kettleby must have had his place in Henry VIII’s household at the request of John Skydmore, who may have had the promise of some part of the income from the Ketilby lands. It is curious that Edward Skydmore, who did not have the advantage of a bargaining chip, apparently could do nothing to promote a sinecure for himself. John Skydmore was later one of the original Auditors and Receivers in 1536 for the counties of Herefordshire, Staffordshire, and Worcestershire at the dissolution of the monasteries. This was a remunerative office that greatly improved the fortunes of his family at Holme Lacy.

This probably left Edward in reduced circumstances, and he was married soon after Margaret, daughter of Richard Edge *alias* Hawkins of Wellington, Shropshire.²⁷ He was dead in 1545 when the advowson of Preston vicarage (near Cirencester, Gloucestershire) is noted as “lately that of Edward Skydmore.” In 1549 Margaret, identified as “the widow of Edward Skydmore,” together with a Robert *Scudamore* (probably already of Uxbridge, Middlesex) had certain lands in the tenure of the same John *Skudmore* of Holme Lacy. Edward’s posterity descend into obscurity for a time.²⁸ His son Maurice settled at Uxbridge in Middlesex where he was called (late in life), a baker. One of this Maurice’s grandsons, William Scudamore (c.1530-1589), revived this family’s fortunes after he went up to London where he became a prosperous ironmonger. Edward left issue (by an unknown wife or wives), as known,

1. Augustine (probably), a gentleman of Long Itchington.²⁹
2. MAURICE, of Uxbridge, Middlesex, to whom we will return.
4. ANDREW (perhaps), of Chalfont St Peter to whom we will eventually return.
1. ANNE, born 1458, of whom further. She married John Skydmore of Rowlestone, Herefordshire, her distant cousin,

JOHN SKYDMORE, of Rowlestone and Llancillo, Herefordshire, the eldest son of Nicholas Skydmore (living 1456) of Rowlestone, Herefordshire. He had married firstly Joyce [_____] by whom he had a son and heir,

1. John, born 1468 and heir to his father.³⁰ However he presented rectors to the church at Beaconsfield, Burnham from 1502 to 1525, presumably at the concession of his stepmother who was then still living.³¹ He died without issue on 18 December 1526, possessing Rowlestone, worth £20 by the year, from Henry VIII of the honour of Ewyas Lacy, in Herefordshire.

John Skydmore, the elder, now married secondly ANNE SKYDMORE, (born 1458, died 28 February 1527/8), the only known daughter of Philip Skydmore (died 1488) and his wife Wenllyn Osborne of Holme Lacy. Anne brought the ancient Huntercombe manor of Burnham and the advowson of Beaconsfield to her husband presumably as a marriage settlement made by her father. They were forcibly ejected from Burnham in 1496 by her brothers William and Edward Skydmore, but were later confirmed in their possession by the king’s court. John Skydmore died at Burnham on 10 August 1500. It is curious to find that Anne Skydmore, who survived him and did not die until 28 February 1528 was not enumerated in Buckinghamshire in the muster taken of the county in 1522, and even more curious, that she was not taxed in Burnham Hundred two years later when a lay subsidy was taken in 1524. Alas, no complete list of the sons of John Skydmore, the elder (died 1500)

²⁷*Visitation of Shropshire, 1623* (London, Harleian Society) XXVIII,170.

²⁸A John Skydmore is noticed at Siddington Langley on 23 March 1579/80 according to the *Consistory Court Act Books* at Gloucester. His interest is hard to explain unless it was a false claim to the Ketilby manor of Siddington Langley by one of the kinsmen of Maurice Skydmore..

²⁹For the family at Long Itchington see my *Thirty Generation of the Scudamore/Skidmore family* (revised edition, 2006), 219-22 available on the CD-ROM..

³⁰He was aged 32 at his father’s death in 1500.

³¹See earlier for the list of the clergy presented to the church at Beaconsfield by the Skydmores.

has yet been found.³² In addition to John, his heir, who was born 1475, there were at least two half brothers. His younger brother Philip was not born until some 14 years later in 1489, and this leaves a long gap when several siblings must have been born to John's first wife.³³

2. PHILIP, born 1489, and heir to his mother Anne at Burnham, of whom further.
3. Simon (perhaps), who was a witness on 19 September 1518 to the will of Sir Thomas Gray, a priest, who buried in the chancel of St Georges in Buttolfe Lane in London. Nothing more has been learned of him.
4. David, of Burnham, who married and had issue (as known) a son,
 1. Simon Skydmore. He was born in 1526 (and perhaps named for an uncle), and was apprenticed as a son of David Skydmore of Burnham to Bartholomew Clevering, a citizen and goldsmith of London, in 1544. He had married (by 1562) Jane, a daughter of Jasper Edwards. He prospered in a small way and was assessed on £20 in lands at the Lay Subsidy of 1576. He settled at Finchley, Middlesex, where he was a [Catholic] recusant in 1598 and fined £80 pounds for not having attended "any church, chapel or usual place of common prayer since 1590." He died at Finchley on 18 May 1609 aged 83 leaving a will dated three days earlier and proved on 29 May 1609.³⁴ His wife Jane survived him leaving a will dated 7 July 1611 but not proved until 24 April 1621. There are handsome effigies of Simon (in civil dress) and his wife, and embellished with the familiar Skydmore stirrups, on a sepulchral brass in the church at Finchley so he may have conformed later in questions of religion.³⁵ Their only surviving child, a daughter Elizabeth, married Nicholas Luke of Great Paxton, Huntingdonshire, on 16 October 1593 at Finchley by whom she had a son Scudamore Luke and three daughters. She was dead in 1611 when her son Scudamore was heir to Sir Philip Scudamore.. He had issue an only daughter,
 1. Elizabeth. She married at Finchley 16 October 1593 Nicholas Luke of Great Paxton, Huntingdonshire (his second wife) by whom she had a son and three daughters. She was dead in 1611 and her only son,

³²Their cousins at Rowlstone and at Holme Lacy died leaving family archives that have survived down to the present. The title deeds once at Rowlstone (later transferred to Kentchurch Court) were calendared by National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth and this is now available newly digitized, on the *Scudamore/Skidmore Family History* CD-ROM issued in 2006. The enormous collection of the *Duchess of Norfolk Deeds* (named for the last Scudamore heiress at Holme Lacy) are preserved at the National Archives at Kew. Both contain useful material relating to Burnham, noticed here. No doubt a coffer or chest once at Burnham had a somewhat more modest lot of family documents now lost.

³³The birth of Philip Scudamore can be placed with authority in 1489. At the inquest *post mortem* of his grandfather Philip Skydmore of Holme Lacy, on 4 March 1489, the homage of his son-in-law John Skydmore was respited until Christmas "by reason of his [John] having issue by his said wife." Philip was also 40 and more at the death of his mother on 28 February 1528.

³⁴P.C.C., PROB 11/113.

³⁵There is a rubbing of the brass at the British Library, *Add. Mss.* 32,490 DDD21.

Scudamore Luke, was heir to Sir Philip Scudamore.

The second son,

PHILIP SKYDMORE (SCUDAMORE), was born in 1489. He was aged 40 and more at the time of his mother's death, and proved his title to Burnham in 1536. He married firstly (settlement 12 June 1521) his distant cousin Joan (born 1497, died 20 March 1538), the elder daughter of James Scudamore (died 1522) by his wife Joan Baskerville, and with her sister a co-heiress to Kentchurch Court. They had, in addition to Burnham, the manor of Llancillo from his eldest brother John Skydmore (died 1526) by a settlement dated 12 June 1521.³⁶ He had issue by his wife Joan Skydmore,

1. John, born 1521, of Kentchurch, Rowlstone and Llancillo, born 1522. He was educated at Eton and King's College, Cambridge, and married Margaret, daughter of Walter Pollard of Plymouth, Devon and a co-heiress of her brother Sir John Pollard (died 1557) of Nuneham Courtney, Oxfordshire, Speaker of the House of Commons. John Scudamore and his brother-in-law Ralph Chamberlayne were named as co-executors of his father's will in 1544.³⁷ He was Sheriff of Herefordshire in 1565, but he and his family endured much soon after for their adherence to the Catholic faith. He was removed from the bench in Herefordshire and imprisoned at Fleet Prison (and elsewhere) on at least three other occasions. He also forfeited Rowlstone, Llancillo, Howton, and Gwerngenny in Kilpeck to the Crown in 1584, but they were returned some 11 years later after the payment of a heavy fine. He died on 9 July 1593.³⁸
2. James, of Tretire, Herefordshire, born 1525. He was educated at Eton, and admitted 10 August 1543 aged 18 to King's College, Cambridge, B.A. 1544/5 and was living at Bolston Court in Bolston, Herefordshire, on 10 August 1563. He had the manor and advowson of Tretire with Michaelchurch (with 20 messuages, six cottages, four tofts, and divers lands) settled on him by his elder brother John on 9 March 1570/1 (with quitclaim deeds from his younger brothers Christopher and Hugh) which James and his wife Audrey subsequently granted to their sons John and Simon (of English Bicknor, Gloucestershire) on 20 April 1590. His wife was buried 5 February 1594/5 at Tretire, and he was buried there on 28 February 1596/7.
3. Christopher. He was a recusant at Kentchurch in 1592, and was cited (together with his nephew Thomas Scudamore) on 20 September 1599 for not coming to church at Easter of that year.
4. Hugh. He married Elinor ap Price on 13 January 1583/4 at St Martins, Hereford. He was living as late as 23 August 1595 at Welford, Northamptonshire.
1. An unnamed daughter. She had married Ralph Chamberlayne before 1544.

Philip Skydmore married secondly Sibyl, a daughter of Sir Edward Chamberlayne (1480-1543) of Shirburn Castle, Oxfordshire. Phillip made a settlement in 1538 of Burnham for the use of

³⁶His two eldest sons by Joan had been educated at Eton which is hard by Burnham. His heir John Scudamore (1522-1593) is called "of Rowlestone" when he was admitted at King's College, Cambridge, at the age of 17 in 1538. His brother James (1525-1597), on the other hand, is called "of Burnham, Bucks" when he was admitted to the same college at the age of 18 in 1543.

³⁷Leonard Chamberlayne (1504-1561), the eldest son of Sir Edward, was named overseer.

³⁸Or 1 September 1594 according to the inquest *post mortem* of his son Thomas Scudamore.

his two youngest sons Ralf and Philip which he had by his second wife Sibyll, daughter of Sir Edward Chamberlayne (1480-1543) of Shirburn Castle in Oxfordshire. However on 19 July 1544 he altered it, leaving it to his wife for life with a reversion to the two sons he had by her. He died two days later on 21 July 1554 (leaving a will signed the same day) possessed of the united manors of Rowlestone, Llancillo, *and* Burnham to which he had succeeded to Burnham in the right of his mother Anne Skydmore.³⁹ Sibyll remarried promptly, by a licence dated 4 February 1544/5. Her new husband was John Burley of Yangley in Wonesh, Surrey and they were called quickly to do homage for Burnham. The Burleys denied the obligation saying that Ralf Skydmore, the elder son, owned the remainder.⁴⁰ In addition to his sons by his wife Sibyll, he had two unnamed younger daughters who were provided for in his will, but nothing more has been learned of them.

5. Ralph, born about 1541, of Burnham. He was certainly was of age in 1566 and in the full occupation of his inheritance when he sold the advowson of the church at Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, to Thomas Hanford. He entered the service of Sir William Drury (1527-1579), a Catholic neighbor of Hedgerley, Buckinghamshire about the same time, and went with him to Berwick, Scotland where they laid waste the lands of those Scots who had harbored the English rebels.⁴¹ On 17 December 1571 Don Gueran D'Espes, the ambassador in London of Philip II of Spain, wrote to the Spanish king in favor of Ralph Scudamore, "an English Catholic," who had rendered his majesty a great service by furnishing intelligence of what passed in England. Drury and Ralph *Scudeamour* were both handsomely rewarded for their service in Scotland On 29 January 1572 they had a large grant of the lands with a yearly value of £50 12sh. 9d. that had belonged to several of the men now attained of treason.⁴² A few months later, on 12 May 1572, Drury wrote to Lord Burghley that DeCroc, an emissary from the French king, "desires that Ralph Scudamore and a cipher may be sent to him" in Scotland.⁴³ He is last heard of in Morocco where he had gone to collect intelligence about the infidels for the Spanish king. His spying was caught out and Ralph Skydmore was poisoned there in 1579, reputedly by the London merchants there who did not welcome this sort of interference in their lucrative commercial life.⁴⁴ Ralph Skydmore died unmarried and without issue according to the administration on his estate which was granted to his younger brother Philip on 24 March 1580.

³⁹Philip presented John Scudamore, a kinsman, to the rectory of Beaconfield on 4 December 1543 shortly before his death.

⁴⁰In 1546 the Trustees were given a pardon for acquiring the manor without a licence. (*Letters and papers foreign and domestic, Henry VIII* (XXI, part 1) 580.

⁴¹Drury's mother Elizabeth was a daughter of Edward Brudenell of Chalfont St Peter, and was certainly an acquaintance of the Skydmores.

⁴²*Patent roll, 1569-1572, 464.*

⁴³In 1576 Drury and his wife Margaret [Wentworth] alienated Crowell in Oxfordshire, to Ralph Scudamore probably for the purpose of some settlement on themselves.

⁴⁴According to Nevill Barbour's book *Morocco* (Walker & Company, 1965), the Barbary Company was formed for trade with Morocco in 1585, and in one year the Queen's Household alone consumed 18,000 pounds of Moroccan sugar.

3. Philip (Sir), born about 1545, of Burnham and St Bartholomews, Smithfield, London. He is first noticed on 20 April 1564 when at a likely age of about 20 he was admitted to Lincoln's Inn, off Chancery Lane in London, along with many other young men of his station who hoped to improve their fortune by the study of the law. In 1572, having succeeded his elder brother Ralph, he and his first wife Elizabeth leased the Huntercombe manor to his half brother William Burley and settled in London. He was a churchwarden at St Bartholomew-the-Great in 1574 to 1578. Philip Skydmore was again in full possession by 1576 when a lay subsidy of Boveney in Burnham Hundred shows that he was assessed on £20 in goods and for two light horses. There is also a deed of 1579 in the Kentchurch Court Schedule in which Philip Skydmore, still called of Lincoln's Inn, and Thomas Skydmore (1543-1606) of Kentchurch Court gave a grant of land at Llandewy Skyred in Monmouthshire. His first wife Elizabeth Jones died in London on 9 July 1593 survived by her second husband Philip, and three daughters by her first husband Henry Coddenham.⁴⁵ She was buried at the church of St Bartholomew the Great in London where both of her husbands had lived. There is a marble tablet on the east wall of the chantry in the north aisle in the church there with a carved border (and the well-known Scudamore stirrups and a long inscription) dedicated to her memory.⁴⁶ Philip lived in an ancient house over the Smithfield which he "the old decayed and ruyed edifies" when he pulled it down and rebuilt in 1595.⁴⁷

⁴⁵She was a sister of Quinton Jones who had married Margaret Hutchinson at St Stephens Coleman Street on 12 August 1560. The will of Henry Coddenham, gentleman, was signed on 30 August, 11 Elizabeth (1569), and recorded at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury [P.C.C., PROB 11/52] on 25 March 1570. In it he requests that "my brother Quintayne Jones to assist my wife, being myne executrix, for the better p[er]formance and accomplishment of the last will and testament." Richard Martyn and Quintayne Jones, his brother-in-law, were also the two witnesses to Coddenham's will. Jones was buried on 22 March 1576 within the church at St Batholomews-the-Great at the expense (6sh. 8d.) of his new second brother-in-law Skydmore who paid an additional 3sh. 3d. for the ringing of the church bells at the funeral..

⁴⁶See E. A. Webb, *The Records of St. Bartholomew's Priory, Smithfield, and of the Church and Parish of St. Batholomew the Great, West Smithfield* (London, 1921), 269-70, 456. "Hereunder lyeth buried the Bodye/ of Elizabeth Scudamore wife of/ Phillipp Scudamore of Bornham/ in the Countie of Buck Esquier, she/ dyed the 9th of July 1593 and had to her/ former husband Henry Coddenham/ Esquier Auditor of the Mynt by/ whom she had issue Alice married to/ Robert Chamberline of Sherborne/ in the Countie of Oxon Esquier/ Dorothy married to Thomas Piggott of Dodershall in the Countie of Buck/ Esquier Elizabeth, married to William/ Paulett of Winchester Esquier and/ after Richard Fines Knight Lord/ Say and Seale, the said Phillipp Scudamore/ was afterwards knighted and Travellinge beyond the seas/ died at Antwerp in the year 1611 and lyeth buried there in St. Jacobb's Church." The monument was probably put up by her daughter Elizabeth Coddenham (or *Codingham*), the wife firstly of William Paulet, *Marquis of Winchester*, of Ewalden, Somerset, and secondly of Richard Fienes, Lord Saye and Sele. Lady Elizabeth Fienes was buried in the same church near her mother. Curiously this very long and detailed inscription neglects to say anything about Mrs. Coddenham's parentage.

⁴⁷It was badly damaged in a Zeppelin raid in World War I, but has been rebuilt a second.

On 11 June 1597 John Chamberlain (1554-1628) wrote that “Phillip Scudamore is very forward and like to have Mistris Lovell the last Coferer’s widow, to the great dislike of some of his best friends.”⁴⁸ She was Dorothy, the daughter of Michael Greene, and widow of Gregory Lovell, Coferer of the Royal Household from whom she inherited the manor of Oxhey Walround in Watford, Hertfordshire. Chamberlain does not elaborate on Dorothy’s presumed imperfections, but she disappointed Philip and married Sir Robert Cross as her second husband. Scudamore was a great collector of books, and may have squandered a part of his patrimony on them. He was an early benefactor of the great Bodleian Library. On 25 June 1600 Sir Thomas Bodley (1545-1613) wrote to the vice-chancellor of Oxford sending a list of recent donations to the library including “ffrom Mr Phillip Scudamor of London about fifty volumes of which the greatest parties are in folio.” On 4 April 1604 Gilbert Talbot (1552-1616), the earl of Shrewsbury, paid £65 to Tucher Castell for the use of Philip Scudamore probably to repay a loan from Shrewsbury who was a great spendthrift.⁴⁹ Philip was knighted by James I on 23 July 1603 in the Royal Garden at Whitehall immediately before his coronation. Again to what (or perhaps more importantly, to whom) he owed this preferment is unknown. Sir Philip married secondly Ruth, daughter of Griffith Hampden of Great Hampden, Buckinghamshire, and previously the widow of Edward Oglethorpe by whom she had two daughters.⁵⁰ Sometime after succeeding his brother he and his wife Ruth conveyed the reversion of the manor to Sir Marmaduke Darrell, a neighbor from Fulmer, and then on the 7 July 1606 they made a final grant of Huntercombe to Sir Marmaduke for £770. The Skydmore era at Burnham was over, and they retired to London. Sir Philip and his wife agreed to separate soon after. In May 1609 Sir Philip had a licence to travel abroad which he put to use almost immediately. A few weeks later on the 16 June 1609 his servant Tucher Castell wrote to Sir John Scudamore (1542-1623) at Holme Lacy that “my master hath taken his leave at Burnham of all his friends and means not to return thither again [and] hath

⁴⁸John Chamberlain (1554-1628), the writer of this letter, was a son of Richard Chamberlain (died 1563) of Old Jewry in St Olaves, London. His father was an alderman, sheriff, and master of the Ironmongers’ Company. Robert Chamberlain, his eldest son, was almost of age at his father’s death. He also became a master of the Ironmongers’ Company where he was a partner with William Skydmore (c.1530-1589) of London in several ventures. On 22 January 1597 a handsome reward of 1390 crowns was paid to William Skidmore, William Garroway, Robert Chamberlain, and Bartholomew Mattewson for building five ships at their own expense. While this John Chamberlain must have known the ironmonger Skydmore’s family well there is no mention of them in his letters. Most of Chamberlain’s gossip letters were written to Sir Dudley Carleton who took Chamberlain along to Italy when he was appointed ambassador to Venice in 1611.

⁴⁹*A Calendar of the Shrewsbury and Talbot Papers in Lambeth Palace Library and College of Arms*, London, (H.M.S.O., 1966) MS.694, folio 1. This Sir John Scudamore (1542-1623), a friend and kinsman of Philip Skydmore, was a grandson of the John Scudamore (1486-1571) mentioned earlier. Sir John was Shrewsbury’s principal steward and may have arranged the loan.

⁵⁰Ruth Hampden had two famous nephews: John Hampden (1594-1643), the statesman, and Edmund Waller (1606-1687), the poet.

made over all unto my Lady [Ruth Scudamore] excepting one hundred pounds a year or thereabouts of annuities for himself which I think to be very small and taken but forty pounds with him [to Belgium] in money. My Lady is minded to let her house in St. Bartholomew's and lie altogether at Burnham with Mrs. Kingsmill and Mrs. Watkins and others."⁵¹ Sir Philip died at Antwerp (where Catholicism was still the accepted religion) on 24 January 1611, and was buried at St Jacobs there.⁵² While both of his wives left posterity by other husbands, he had no children of his own, and his cousin Scudamore Luke was named his heir. Luke claimed (and obtained) one third of Burnham manor despite the claim of Sir Marmaduke Darrell who was, however, exercising his manorial rights in 1614. Sir Philip Scudamore's long will had been made on 20 November 1610. He had already, at the request of his wife Dame Ruth Scudamore, made a conveyance to Sir Thomas Bodley, Knt. (from the library), Sir John Poyntz, Knt., Henry Finche, Esq., and Walter Wentworth, of leaseholds of Hampton, Oxfordshire as well of two houses in Great St Bartholomews "lately part of the mansion house of Lord Rich" and other goods, plate, and jewels for his wife's benefit.⁵³ He also trusted her to give some token to his special friends, and "to supply his defects in the advancement of her daughter Jane Oglethorpe." To his cousin [nephew] Sir Robert Chamberlaine and his heirs, he left his freehold lands and messuages in Great St Bartholomews to their proper use.⁵⁴ To his servant Tutchter Castell he left £10 to be paid out of the leases held from Lord Rich. He also requested that his young cousin John Scudamore (1579-1616) of Kentchurch pay a debt of £100 to his executor. If he did so promptly within one year, then the amount was to be reduced to £60, and John Scudamore was to be then released from the claim for £100. John's lands at *Rollston*, and *Lancillo* (and all his other lands in Herefordshire) were all to be set free from any further claim.⁵⁵ Sir Robert Chamberlayne was named as his executor, Tutchter Castell was to be the overseer, and the witnesses were Anthony Wither, John Barfoote, and James Greenhough.⁵⁶ At his death nearly six hundred years of a family connection through the female lines of Skydmore and Huntercombe going back to Walter Fitz Otho, the Conqueror's constable of Windsor Castle, came to an end. Lady Ruth Skydmore married thirdly Henry Leigh of Rushall, Staffordshire,

⁵¹P.R.O., *Duchess of Norfolk Deeds*, C115, Box M.18, no. 7520.

⁵²The church is best known as the burial place of the painter Rubens.

⁵³Lady Scudamore held these superior leases on the houses of Lord Bergavenny and Sir Edward Barrett has late as 1642.

⁵⁴Chamberlaine had also been knighted at the coronation of James I. He was buried at St. Bartholomews the Great, where his monument notes that he died between Tripoli and Cyprus on a trip to the Holy Land.

⁵⁵John Scudamore of Kentchurch had recently succeeded his father on 6 May 1606. He took this opportunity to perfect his title, and Rowlstone and Llancillo descended in the same way as Kentchurch until 1922 when they were sold to pay the death duties due at Kentchurch.

⁵⁶P.C.C., Register Wood, folio 49. Chamberlayne proved the will on 3 May 1611, and there were further administrations given to Tutchter Castell on 10 September 1617, and again on 11 January 1618, to distribute the effects left unadministered by the executor.

on 2 July 1616 at Isleworth in Middlesex. Despite her new marriage to Henry Leigh (who died in 1630) she preferred to be known by the title Lady Scudamore until her death. John Chamberlain repeated some news of her in a letter dated 9 August 1617: “Dr. [John] Burgess is leaving his charge here at Bishops-gate and hath accepted [a benefice at Sutton Coldfield] in Warwickshire worth £250 a yeare at least bestowed on him after the commendation of Lady Skidmore who dwells not far off. She is with child by this husband whose name is Lee of Rushall, and now ready to lie downe, after twenty years vacation and more.” Mistress Lee (but known as Lady Scudamore) was delivered of Samuel Leigh, her only son, soon after.⁵⁷ In 1616 she gave Sir Marmaduke a further quit claim for her interest in the manor, and Darrell finally appears then to have entered into full possession of Huntercombe. Castell reported to Sir John Scudamore on 2 October 1619 that “My Lady has let her house in St. Bartholomews. Her sister Lady Saye and she lives as two strangers and so doth all her old acquaintance.”⁵⁸ She survived for many years and did not die until 28 March 1649 in her 73rd year at Croydon, Surrey⁵⁹ She is called “Dame Ruth Scudamore” and noticed as “singularly accomplished” on her monument in Croydon church.⁶⁰

2. A “younger daughter,” remembered but not named in her father’s will.
3. Another younger daughter, also not named.⁶¹

LONDON PEDIGREES, SET DOWN IN 1601 “MSS. STOWE 624” (BRITISH LIBRARY)

When the Skydmore era at Burnham was over in 1606 there were several younger branches of the family that survived in Burnham Hundred and in that small area where Buckinghamshire, Hertfortshire, and Middlesex meet. This manuscript of London pedigrees was compiled in 1601 and copied by John Stowe in 1639. It helps to replace the loss of the deeds once at Burnham, including as it does an extremely useful

⁵⁷For the young Samuel Leigh, and the Leighs of Rushall, see Steffing Shaw, *History of Staffordshire* (1798), II, 69. Henry Leigh, her last husband died in 1630.

⁵⁸P.R.O., *Duchess of Norfolk Deeds*, C115, M.18, no. 7526. There is another letter (M.17, no. 7464) dated 30 April, no year, in which Ruth Scudamor writes to Sir John to thank him for helping her in some difficulty with Tucher Castell. “I canot but let you know that Tucher hath never come at me since I came to the town [London] which is all most a fortnight.” Lady Saye was Elizabeth Coddendam, Sir Philip’s stepdaughter and the widow (secondly) of Richard Fiennes, Lord Saye and Sele (who had died in 1613). Lady Saye, (who was *not* the sister of Dame Ruth), died in 1632. (*Genealogists’ Magazine*, September 1970, 334-5).

⁵⁹She was buried as “My Lady Scudamore” on the 29th at the church of St John the Baptist, Croydon. There was an unidentified Elizabeth Scudamore buried at the same church on 26 May 1639.

⁶⁰Her will, as Ruth *Scudamore*, was proved 26 June 1650 (P.C.C., PROB 11/212).

⁶¹It is possible that one (or both) of these young ladies (who disappear from view) may have gone off to Flanders to enter a convent as did their cousins from Kentchurch.

account of the family of Richard *Skudamore* (1561-1625), an ironmonger of London, his wife, and their four children living in 1601. To this account of Richard's own family is appended what he knew about his distant cousins at Holme Lacy in Herefordshire, and at Uxbridge and Kingsbury in Middlesex. All of these people were descended from the same Philip Skydmore (1416-1488) of Holme Lacy and Burnham who married Joan (alias *Wenllyn* in Welsh), a daughter of an Osborne of London. The original manuscript is set down in three vertical columns. These columns, separated, *and with the original text in bold italics*, is printed here exactly as Stow set it down, together with identifications in regular Roman type.

COLUMN ONE.

- (1) Philip *Skudamore* (1416-1488) = Wenllyn Osborne, of London.
- (2) *Edmond* [correctly Edward] *Skudamore* = Isabel (1495-1561), daughter of Edmund Langley of Siddington Langley, Glos.
- (3) *Morris Skudamore*, a baker of Uxbridge, Mx. = *Margaret d. of [_____] Tedder*. He was buried at Uxbridge on 28 August 1559 leaving a will dated the same day.
- (4) *William Skudamore of London, Ironmonger, 1589* = *Agnes, d. Hen. Mopted*. He held land at Burnham from his kinsman Sir Philip Scudamore (died 1611) of that place.⁶² He was buried on 1 April 1601 at St Nicholas Olave in London.
- (5) *Richard Skudamore* (1561-1625) = *Elizabeth, d. of Rob. Raunces of Bassetbury* [in High Wycombe], *in co. Buck.*, about 1588. He lived for a time at Clewer, Berks., but died at St Mary Magdalena, Bermondsley, before 6 August 1625.
John Skudamore = *Margaret, d. of Thomas Grace of Duffield, co. Derby, on 16 October 1600 at St. Bartholomew the Less in London.*
William Skudamore, died unmarried as is clear from his will..
- (6) *William Skudamore 12 years old 1601.*
Richard 10 years old 1601. He was apprenticed in 1607 to a merchant tailor in London for seven years.
Robert ½ a year old.
Elizabeth 8 years old 1601. She was christened 22 October 1592 at Uxbridge as a daughter of Richard Skidmore.

COLUMN TWO. [All of Holme Lacy, Herefordshire.]

- (1) Philip *Skudamore* (1416-1488) = Wenllyn Osborne, of London.
- (2) *William Skudamore* (1464-1520) = Alice, daughter of Richard Mynors of Treago, Herefs.
- (3) John *Skudamore* (1486-1571) = Sybil, daughter of Watkin Vaughan of Hergest, Herefs.
- (4) [blank, correctly William] *Skudamore* (died 1560) = Ursula, daughter of Sir John Pakington, of Hampton Lovet, Worcs.
- (5) *Sr. John Skudamore* (1542-1623) = (1) Eleanor, daughter of Sir James Croft, and (2) Mary, daughter of Sir John Shelton of Shelton, Norfolk. This Sir John, a Gentleman Pensioner at court, was living in 1601 when the Stow pedigree was set down. However he was probably known to Richard

⁶²See his Inquisition *post mortem* taken at London at the Guildhall on 7 October 1601. It is printed here elsewhere in Appendix Two..

Scudamore (1561-1625) only by reputation. Sir John was the grandfather of the first viscount Scudamore.⁶³

COLUMN THREE.

(1) Philip *Skudamore* (1416-1488) = Wenllyn Osborne.

(2) *John Skudmore*, living at Denham, Buckinghamshire by 1477. He was dead by 1505 when his widow Margaret married Thomas Bannister.

John, his son and heir, was of Denham and at Kingsbury, Middlesex by 1530.

(3) *Erasmus* (born about 1514) of Kingsbury, Mx. = Edith Bulstrode.

John, of Denham.

Richard, of Rickmansworth.

(4) *Thomas*, born about 1548, of Kingsbury, Mx. = (1) Susan [_____], and (2) Frances Boone. He is called “cousin” in the will of William Skydmore (died 1601), the ironmonger of London, noticed above. He died on 10 September 1626 aged 78, and had six sons and five daughters by his second wife according to his monumental inscription in St Andrews church at Kingsbury. He was living in 1601 when the Stow pedigree was recorded, and was doubtless personally known by reputation to Richard Scudamore (1561-1625).

UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX

This family at Uxbridge (out of Burnham) is arbitrarily noticed here firstly since they were the authority for the history set down (in the style of a herald's visitation) by John Stow in 1601. So far as is known this branch is extinct.

EDWARD] SKYDMORE, of Siddington Langley, Gloucestershire (in the right of a second wife Isabel, noticed earlier), was a son of Philip Skydmore (1416-1488) and his wife Wenyllan Osborne. He had at least one son by an earlier first wife, whose name is unknown,

MAURICE SKYDMORE, who had no great prospects. He married Margaret Tedder [Tudor], who survived him, and had settled at Uxbridge probably before 1530. He is mentioned occasionally in the Middlesex Sessions Rolls, lastly on 2 November 1554 when he was called “Maurice Skydmer, baker.” He and a certain John Cooke, a weaver, both of Uxbridge, were bound to insure the appearance of John Tyrell of Chalfont St Peter, a yeoman, at the next session.⁶⁴ He was buried at Uxbridge 28 August 1559 leaving a will dated the same day. He had issue, order uncertain,

1. WILLIAM, an ironmonger of St Nicholas Olave, London, of whom further.
2. Richard of New Windsor, Berkshire. He married on 13 October 1540 at Uxbridge

⁶³For this Sir John see the biography by W. J. Tighe, *Country into court, court into country, John Scudamore of Holme Lacy (c.1542-1623) and his circles*, included in a collection of essays edited by Dale Hoak, *Tudor political culture* (Cambridge University Press, 1995) 157-178. Also very useful is Ian Atherton's *Ambition and failure in Stuart England, the career of John, First Viscount Scudamore* (Manchester University Press, 1999).

⁶⁴*Middlesex Sessions Roll*, bundle 39, no. 12. See also bundle 20, no. 19 where he was bound with George Wright of Langley Marish, Buckinghamshire for the appearance of William Vicars of Harlington, Middlesex, a *gyrdeber*.

Joan [_____] who was buried on 21 August 1567 at New Windsor.⁶⁵ He was the second witness to his father's will in 1559. Richard Skidmore was buried 2 April 1583 at St Vedasts, Foster Lane, London (doubtless while living there with his brother John) when he is called “a poor traveler of Windsor” in the register. The administration of Richard Nells *alias* Scidmore was granted in Berkshire on 13 April 1583 to his son Thomas who had Anthony Battell of Winkfield as his bondsman. He had issue,

1. Roger, baptized 12 October 1541 at Uxbridge. He was buried on 22 February 1567/8 at New Windsor, Berkshire.
2. John, living 1596.
3. Thomas, of Winkfield, Berkshire. He died in 1596 at Staines, Middlesex, leaving a will dated April 16th and proved three days later on the 19th.⁶⁶ He left personalty to his brother John and also to a cousin David Halfacre of Winkfield, and made his sister Joan his residuary legatee and executrix.
 1. Elizabeth, baptized 17 April 1544 at Uxbridge, perhaps buried there on 25 November 1546.
 2. Joan, baptized 13 April 1550, unmarried in 1583. She married [_____] Thornton and was living his widow in 1596 at Staines, Middlesex.
3. Robert. He probably the Robert *Scudamore* who had a grant of certain lands in the gift of John *Skudmore* of Holme Lacy in 1549.⁶⁷ He married firstly Elizabeth Cotterell on 30 September 1550 who was buried 13 November 1574 at Uxbridge, and secondly Julian Brightridge on 9 September 1577. She was buried, his widow, on 19 January 1609/10. He had the grant of a messuage and close called Little Reading at Uxbridge for life by the devise of his brother William. He was buried on 4 June 1609 without the benefit of probate. He had issue christened at Uxbridge,
 1. William, baptized 20 November 1552.
 2. Robert, baptized 21 July 1559.
 3. Thomas, baptized 30 October 1563, buried 13 December 1574.
 4. John, baptized 15 July 1565.
 1. Elizabeth, baptized 27 May 1551.
 2. Agnes, baptized 4 January 1554/5. She married William Hunt on 17 June 1573 at Uxbridge.
 3. Margaret, baptized 15 July 1565 (the same day as her brother John).
4. John, an ironmonger of St Nicholas Olave, London. He married Margaret Meakins on 2 February 1564/5 at St Vedasts, Foster Lane. The administration of his estate was granted on 7 October 1584 to his widow, and shows that he died “beyond the seas.” She married secondly [_____] Clarke and was living in 1603. He had issue,
 1. John. He was called “of Uxbridge” when he married Margaret Atkinson, “a servant to Hugh Woodcock,” on 20 January 1600 at St Margaret Moses, Friday Street, London. He was living in 1603.

⁶⁵Her surname is left blank in the parish register.

⁶⁶P.C.C., register *Drake*, folio 24.

⁶⁷These lands might be traced further in the records of the Augmentation Court, not seen.

2. William, living 1603.

1. Margery (probably), married Richard Clarke on 21 November 1547 at Uxbridge.

The eldest son,

WILLIAM SKIDMORE, an ironmonger in London, was born at Uxbridge about 1530. He had married by 1560 Agnes, a daughter of Henry Mopted, who died before him. They were living with premises in the parish of St Nicholas Olave by 14 July 1554, but he was back at Uxbridge in 1559 when he was first witness to his father's will. William Skydmore acquired two parcels at Kings Mead in Little Totteridge (a hamlet in High Wycombe) in 1582 that were formerly owned by John Dean, William Skydmore had them from his widow Edith and their son Henry Dean. Dean's widow, formerly Edith Bulstrode, had married secondly William's kinsman Erasmus Skydmore of Kingsbury, Middlesex who is noticed elsewhere.⁶⁸ William Skydmore was Master of the Ironmongers' Company in 1593, and in 1565 subscribed 10sh to the company's share of building the Royal Exchange. He held lands at his death in 1601 from his kinsman Sir Philip Scudamore (died 1611) of Burnham, Buckinghamshire. On 19 June 1593 he deposed that John Donne, the poet and son of his good friend John Donne, also an ironmonger, was now of full age of 21 years.⁶⁹ He left goods, chattels, plate, jewels, merchandise, leases, ships, debts, household stuff and ready money worth almost £6000, along with a will dated 5 March 1601. He directed that 12d was to be used to distribute bread every Sunday after divine service to the poor of Uxbridge "where I was born." He died on 27 March 1601 and was buried near his wife Agnes on 1 April within the vault at St Nicholas Olave.⁷⁰ None of his grandsons in London is known to have left surviving issue, and this family is probably extinct in the male line. He left three sons,

1. Richard, his eldest son and heir. He was born in 1561 and admitted to the Middle Temple on 2 November 1580 ("late of New Inn") and noticed as "son of an *yremonger* of London." He married about 1588 Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Raunce of Bassetbury manor in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire who survived him and died before 2 February 1626/7 of the plague. Styled a gentleman, he had lands at Luton Hoo, Bedfordshire, at Prinknash, Gloucestershire and elsewhere.⁷¹ He was living at Clewer, Berkshire in 1624 but the probate on his estate (granted on 6 August 1625 to his widow) called him of St Mary Magdalene, Bermondsey, London. Had issue,

1. William, born 1589.

⁶⁸*Temple Manor Court Rolls, High Wycombe*. Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies, ref. D/BASM/87/1. Elsewhere it is noted that Henry Dean was age 21 in 1582, and made his fine for lands at Totteridge Hutts and Keenes.

⁶⁹William Skidmore and his wife were remembered with £10 in the Donne's will of 6 January 1575/6 for the purchase of mourning rings with "death's heads."

⁷⁰William Skidmore died possessed of lands in several counties as appears from the text of the inquest *post mortem* taken after his death, published elsewhere in Appendix Two.. According to the inquest his annual income (when totaled) amounted to only £10 2sh. 8d., but which translates to £1370 in modern purchasing power.

⁷¹On 3 January 1605/6 he sold the manor house of Dallow (and the lands attached to it) in Luton Hoo, Bedfordshire. The original deed survives at the British Library and has his seal with the familiar Skydmore stirrups. The father of John Milton, the poet, was a scrivener who lived on Bread Street, Cheapside. He wrote a great many deeds for this Richard Skidmore between 1607-13.

2. Richard, born 1591. He was apprenticed for seven years on 7 September 1607 to Peter Spark, a citizen and merchant tailor of St Mary-at-Hill, London.
 3. Robert, born 1600.
 4. John, born about 1604. He was apprenticed on 3 July 1620 to a haberdasher in London for eight years. In 1628 he was a plaintiff in suit about his father's estate in chancery brought against Thomas Pragell, his brother-in-law, who was together with John and William Pragell and Nicholas Harte were named as the defendants.
1. Elizabeth, baptized 22 October 1592 at Uxbridge as a daughter of Richard Skidmore.
 2. Anne, born about 1602. She married Thomas Pragell (a widower aged 42 of West Ham, Essex) by licence on 4 February 1623/4 at St Benets, Paul's Wharf, London.
2. John, last noticed in London as an ironmonger in the parish of St Mary Somerset. He married Margaret, a daughter of Thomas Grace of Duffield, Derbyshire on 16 October 1600 at St Bartholomew-the-Less, London. John Scudamore went off later to Ireland leaving his wife in London according to the several depositions filed in a suit brought in 1624 by Francis Browne, a complainant against John Grace of Duffield.⁷² When Margaret's husband went off to Ireland he left his wife in London with £150 for her maintenance, which she then appears to have entrusted to Browne on 20 May, 17 James I (1619), and died soon after. She lay sick while living at home with her brother John Grace at Duffield, and the night before her death "two years April last" [1622?] expressed the desire that her brother take this sum (and another £44 at her dispose) to support her two youngest children then aged five and four.⁷³ This was done, and the children had been in their uncle's charge for three years in 1624. Thomas Scudamore "another of Margaret' children had also remained with John Grace for one half year last past or thereabouts" in 1624. John Scudamore, who presumably died in Ireland about 1620, left issue (the eldest four christened at St Mary the Virgin Aldermanbury),
 1. Thomas, baptized 16 November 1601. He was called "an ironmonger age 21" when he testified in 1624 at Derby about his mother's financial affairs at Duffield.⁷⁴ In his deposition he also added an apparently extraneous comment that his father also had £700 or £800 owing him "about three years last past" and that he had an apprentice who was "wholly trusted [about 1621?] with his father's estate." Thomas appears to have returned to London soon after and is probably the man of his name who married Mary Foster on 16 August 1625 at

⁷²P.R.O., *Chancery Depositions*, C21/B27/23.. I am indebted to Mrs. Velma Skidmore of Manhattan, Kansas for digitized copies of the testimony entered by several interested parties in this suit. The depositions are undated, but they were collected for judgement on 21 June 1624

⁷³Their ages in 1624 were said to be seven and nine.

⁷⁴The marriages in the Duffield register (beginning in 1598) have been checked, as well as the index to probates, and no Scudamore/Skidmore entries have been noticed. The will of John Grace of Duffield, if found, might give some further account of his two Scudamore wards.

Allhallows London Wall. If this is so then he had two daughter buried at the same church,

1. Sarah, buried 16 November 1626.
 2. Mary, baptized 23 September 1626 and buried two days later at Allhallows.
 2. Sarah, baptized 20 October 1602.
 3. John, baptized 20 April 1604.
 - 4.. James, baptized 31 March 1606. He was entered as an apprentice to the linen drapers company on 6 December 1615 as a young son of “John Scudamore, ironmonger.” There is no record that he was ever admitted a freeman, and he may have died young.
 5. Elizabeth, (christening not found), buried 15 July 1618 at St Mary Somerset as a “daughter of John and *Margaret Scudamore.*”
 6. George, baptized 3 February 1614/5 at St Mary Somerset and buried there six days later as an “infant son of John *Scudamore.*”
 7. William, baptized on 8 March 1615/6 at St. Mary Somerset as a son of John *Skidmore*. He seems to have been the elder of the two children who became a ward of John Grace at Duffield after their mother’s death.
 8. A child, born about 1619, gender unknown, living aged five as a ward of John Grace in 1624.
3. William, a bachelor, died soon after his father and was buried near his parents at St Nicholas Olave. He left a will as William Scudamore, ironmonger, dated 28 July 1603 and proved 12 January 1603/4.⁷⁵ It benefitted his two brothers Richard and John as his heirs, and remembered their wives.

KINGSBURY, MIDDLESEX.

This branch of the Skydmore family once at Burnham, is first noticed at Dedham but was then soon after at Kingsbury. They maintained a close connection with their cousins once at Uxbridge (noticed earlier).

JOHN (I) SKYDMORE, was a son of Philip Skydmore (1416-1488) and his wife Wenyllan Osborne. He was the first of the name to settle at Denham (which is in Buckinghamshire but adjoins Uxbridge in Middlesex), where he purchased a messuage and a burgage on 10 May 1477 from William Dyer of Uxbridge and his wife Alice (who was the widow of John Spore of Denham). On 9 November 1498 the premises of the late William Spore of Denham are described as between that of “John Skydmore on the east and the abbots of St Peters, Westminster on the west, and abutting on the king’s highway on the south, and the lands of the abbots called *Churchefelds* on the north.”⁷⁶ John Skydmore, called a husbandman, alienated these premises to Thomas Barnard of Denham on 10 February 1483. On 31 March 1502 John Skydmore “of Denham” gave a deed to Thomas Jordan

⁷⁵P.C.C., PROB 11/103.

⁷⁶Nottinghamshire Archives, *The Portland of Welbeck (4th Deposit) Deeds and Estate Papers*, ref. DD/4P/3/1.

of the same place of a parcel or meadow at Southmede called *Spertmede*. He was dead before 12 October 1505 when Thomas *Banestar* [Bannister] and Margaret (the widow of John Skydmore) gave a bond in the sum of £10 to John Miklowe to protect him in his possession of certain lands in Denham that were once the property of John Skydmore, deceased. Had issue,

- 1 JOHN (II) SKYDMORE, his heir, of whom further.
2. Thomas. He was born clearly to a devout Catholic family, and was recruited by the abbess Agnes Jordan as a lay brother for Syon Abbey.⁷⁷ In 1535 he called Henry VIII a “molywarppe.... and a robber and pillager of the Commonwealth” according to the testimony of John Hale, the vicar of Isleworth on 20 April 1535. Hale was executed promptly two weeks later on 4 May 1535 at Tyburn for denying the king’s supremacy in matters of religion. Before his execution John Hale also stated that Skydmore told him that Henry Carey (born 4 March 1526) was a bastard son of Henry VIII.: “Mr Skydmore dyd show to me yongge Master Care, saying that he was our suffren lord the Kynge’s son by our suffren lady the Qwyen’s syster, whom the Qwyen’s grace myght not suffer to be yn the cowrte” which was reported to the Council in 10 May 1535.⁷⁸ Thomas Skydmore managed to survive these several dangerous indiscretions. On 1 March 1538/9 he had a lease for 30 years of a pasture called *Millfield* on the River Brent as well as several other pastures and heaths from the abbess Jordan at an annual rent of 40 shillings. The abbey was suppressed in 1559 by an Act of Parliament after the Protestant Queen Elizabeth succeeded the Catholic Philip and Mary, but the community did not completely disperse.⁷⁹ The abbess rented a house at Southlands in Denham and took a part of the nuns there. In September 1540 she gave a note for £3 signed with her own seal to Thomas Skydmore, probably for obligations which he had incurred at Denham on her behalf. On 20 December of the same year Thomas Skydmore was the agent to whom the pensions due the nuns were to be paid. Abbess Jordan died in 1545 and her will directs that the 60 shillings [£30] which she had promised Thomas Skydmore was to be paid to him. He was still living in 1556 when he had a last payment of £10 due him from his annuity at Syon.

The eldest son,

JOHN (II) SKYDMORE, was the first of the name at Kingsbury. On 1 October 1509, John, the son and heir of John Skydmore late of Denham, gave a deed to John Myklowe (and others) of certain premises in Denham which were confirmed to them on 12 February 1509/10. John Skydmore, the younger, then disappears from Denham and is probably the man of his name found

⁷⁷ Agnes Jordan, of Denham, was elected the abbess of the great Syon Abbey in 1520.

⁷⁸ *Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic of the Reign of Henry VIII*, (vol. VIII) no. 567. This was a rumor spread by the supporters of Queen Catherine Parr of Aragon. When the king was accused of having slept with Anne Boleyn, *her mother*, and *her sister* Mary Boleyn (who married William Carey in 1520), the king did admit privately and succinctly “Never with the mother!” See also the article “Mary Boleyn’s Carey children - - offspring of Henry VIII?” to be found in the *Genealogists’ Magazine*, (March 1997), 345-52.

⁷⁹ Augier, George James. *The History and Antiquities of Syon Monastery*, (London, 1840) 98-9, 142.

soon after at Kingsbury.⁸⁰ He was living at Kingsbury at Michelmas in 1530 when he paid £8 to Richard Williams for the right to cut the hedgerows in a parcel called *Half Yards* noticed in a chancery suit.⁸¹ A John and Erasmus Skydmore were constables in Gore Hundred (which included Kingsbury) between 1550 and 1554. He left issue (perhaps with others),

1. John (III) Skydmore. This John Skidmore may have had financial difficulties for his kinsman William Skidmore, *citizen and ironmonger of London*, was admitted on 4 December 1587 to a cottage in *Frogglane*, two acres in *Meanefeild*, and three acres in *Long Foreland* in Denham, paying a fine of 17s 6d. He sent 10sh. to the court and requested that this lease be made for 60 years, and not to himself but instead to John Skydmore, junior.⁸²
1. John (IV) Skidmore.. On 19 April 1595 John Skidmore, *junior*, was admitted to certain customary lands in Coldham Manor after the death of his father John Skidmore.⁸³ Nothing more has been learned at present of this John or his probable posterity.
2. ERASMUS, of whom further.

A younger son,

ERASMUS SKYDMORE, of Kingsbury, born in (or soon after) 1514. He purchased certain premises at Kingsbury at Easter term 1550 from William and Joan Sheperd for 130 silver marks. He married Edith, a daughter of George Bulstrode of Wraysbury, Buckinghamshire.⁸⁴ She was the previously the widow of Henry Deane and the executrix of her former father-in-law John Deane. Erasmus and Edith Skydmore were defendants in a suit brought on 1 June 1570 by William Nelson about three closes formerly belonging to John Deane at Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire.⁸⁵ Erasmus Skydmore was the Yeoman Purveyor of Wheat from the three counties of Buckinghamshire, Sussex, and Kent to Queen Elizabeth for the great royal bakehouse as early as 1577, and was still listed as a member of Her Majesty's Household in 1588. "Old Mrs. [Edith] Skydmore" was living about 1612 at Chilton, Buckinghamshire where she was buried (at a great age) on 5 February 1620/1. He had issue,

1. THOMAS, of whom further.

⁸⁰Sir Clement Scudamore, who died of the plague in 1616 at St Mary Aldermanbury, London owned a mansion called Chalkhills in Kingsbury, a confusion. He was descended from a family named Skiddie from Ireland who took the name Skydmore (and then later Scudamore) after they settled in England. See *The Skiddie (alias Skydmore) family of County Cork, Ireland, Ravenstone, Buckinghamshire, and London. (Occasional Paper, no. 16.)* on the Scudamore/Skidmore website.

⁸¹C1/709/24.

⁸²*Portland of Welbeck Deeds and Papers*, DD/4P/3/3.

⁸³London Metropolitan Archives. *Marcham and Company [Solicitors]*, ref. ACC/0400/050. [Denham Court Rolls, *View of frankpledge and court baron.*]. Coldham Manor is in Hillingdon, a hamlet in Uxbridge.

⁸⁴Edith Skydmore's mother Joan (the wife of George Bulstrode of Wraysbury) was a daughter of Thomas Piggott of Whaddon, Buckinghamshire. Another Thomas Piggott of Dodershall, Buckinghamshire, a kinsman of the same Piggott family, had married Dorothy Coddendam who was a stepdaughter of Sir Philip Scudamore (died 1611) of Burnham.

⁸⁵REQ 2/37/33.

2. HENRY, to whom we will return.
3. John, a yeoman of Lambeth Marsh, Surrey. He had settled there by 1594 when he was taxed in a subsidy taken for Surrey on £3 8d in goods. He was a churchwarden in 1602 (and for many years thereafter), and a surveyor of highways at Lambeth in 1611. His presumptive wife's name is presently unknown but a "Mrs. Scudamore" is remembered on 10 June 1598 in the will of the widow Anne Bittenson of Lambeth. He died without issue and his will dated 20 December 1636 (proved 14 February 1636/7) mentions a good many of his kinsmen: Richard Gill (an apprentice in London); Sarah Gill; his brother Peter Buckmaster (and Buckmaster's grandchildren); John Scudamore, a servant to Sir Thomas Cheeke, Kt., at Havering House in Essex; the "widow Scudamore" of Barnett, Middlesex, and Mullens Maltman of Croydon, Surrey. His co-executor and the residuary legatee was John Scudamore, the Purveyor of Wheat of Kingsbury, who he called a kinsman (and was most likely his nephew).⁸⁶ He was buried in the Leigh Chapel at St Marys, Lambeth. His will directed that £10 be spent "for the enter-tainment of my friends and neighbors after my funeral."
 1. A daughter, married to Peter Buckmaster of Kingsbury. He is called a brother in the will of John Scudamore in 1636.
 2. A daughter, married to Richard Gill, Senior, a yeoman of Kingsbury. Her son Richard was apprenticed on 6 May 1634 to Gilbert Wells, a vintner of London, and was remembered in 1636 in the will of John Scudamore.

The eldest son,

THOMAS SCUDAMORE, of Kingsbury, born 1548. He married firstly Susan [_____], and secondly Frances Boone, by whom he had (according to a brass monumental inscription on the south wall of St Andrews, Kingsbury) six sons and five daughters. He served the Crown (Elizabeth I and then James I) for 47 years.⁸⁷ He is called a cousin in the will of William Skydmore, the ironmonger of London who died in 1601. Thomas Scudamore was died seized of an estate according to the custom of the manor of Edgeware, which descended to his eldest son Henry according to a suit in Chancery brought on 10 July 1633 by his younger son John.⁸⁸ Thomas Scudamore died at Kingsbury 10 September 1626 "aged 78," and left a will of 14 April 1625 that remembered the five survivors of his 11 children. All his "other my goodes chattles, cattles, corne, hay, moveables and household stuff whatsoever unbequeathed" went to his son John Scudamore who was made the sole executor. His brother Henry and his son-in-law Thomas *Gawyne* were overseers, and each of them was to have a "peece of gould of two and twenty shillings." Richard Taylor, a notary, was the only witness.

1. Henry, his eldest son and heir. He married Catherine Jones on 10 November 1610 at Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey. On 28 November 1619 he was the defendant in a suit

⁸⁶P.C.C., PROB 11/173.

⁸⁷He succeeded to his father's office and is called one of Queen Elizabeth's yeoman in 1596.

⁸⁸This was an ancient copyhold farm south of the Kingsbury Road called "Edwins" after the family that had held it in the 13th and 14th centuries. Thomas Scudamore had purchased a part in 1575 from William Norton, and united it with the remaining portion by purchase in 1579 from John Franklin. See *The Victoria County History of Middlesex* (London, 1976) V, 61-71.

brought by Thomas Carley, a silkweaver of London, over the possession of a message called *Lyndrapers* in Hendon, Middlesex. His will is dated 27 April 1636 and was proved on 16 May. Two of his daughters are remembered in the will of their uncle John in 1650.

1. Cicely, born 1607. She married (licence 22 October 1628) Peter Mills of Hendon, Middlesex, a husbandman, and was living in 1650.
2. Susan, unmarried in 1636 when she was the executrix to her father. She was living in 1650.
2. John, of Kingsbury, born 1586. He was aged 40 when he obtained a licence on 21 December 1626 to marry Mary, a daughter of Thomas Marsh of The Hyde, Hendon, Middlesex. The marriage was performed at St Botolph without Aldersgate, London. She died at St Botolph without Aldgate in London but was buried at Kingsbury under a table tomb in the churchyard on 10 December 1669, aged 68, leaving a will dated 6 September and proved on 13 December 1669.⁸⁹ As early as 1636 he had been a longtime Purveyor of Wheat to Charles I. His will (dated 16 September 1650, proved 20 May 1653) mentions a kinswoman Mary Bugbert, a widow, and Anthony Norton as a kinsman.⁹⁰ Their wills show that John and his wife lived in comfortable affluence at Kingsbury. The table-tomb of Mary Scudamore in the churchyard states that she was survived by two daughters Mary and Catherine and by her ten Owen and Blackbury grandchildren. They had issue,
 1. Mary. She married John Owen on 10 September 1649 at St Bartholomew-the-Less, London. He was named the executor of his mother-in-law.
 2. Elizabeth. She married Adam Littleton on 6 March 1655/6 at St Mary Colechurch, London but died before her mother without issue.
 3. Catherine, married Henry Blackbury in 1655 at St Andrew Undershaft, London.
1. Edith. She married Thomas Munn on 22 June 1598 at Flamstead, Hertfordshire and was living in 1625.
2. Hester. She married Thomas Sheperd and was living in 1625.
3. Susan (by his second wife Frances), married Thomas Gawen of Kingsbury. She died in 1607, and is buried in St Andrew's Church there where there is a brass to her memory.

HENRY SCUDAMORE was apprenticed to Thomas Juxon, a merchant tailor, and was admitted as a freeman of London on 4 October 1587. He was living on Newgate Street in the parish of Christchurch, Southwark called a citizen and merchant tailor, when he married his first wife, She was Katherine Hepworth, a spinster of St James Garlickhithe, daughter of John Hepworth of St Dionis Blackchurch, clothworker. according to a licence dated 16 February 1587/8. He was living at Kingsbury when he had a licence dated 23 June 1596 to marry his second wife, Joan [Boltwell], a widow of John Howe. Their marriage was performed on the following day at the church of St Bartholomew-the-Less in London.⁹¹ John Baker and Mercy his wife, Henry Skidmore, and others,

⁸⁹P.C.C., PROB 11/331.

⁹⁰P.C.C., PROB 11/231/332.]

⁹¹She was Joan Boltwell, the widow of John Howe formerly of Gaddesden, Hertfordshire. It

all inhabitants of Hemel Hempstead brought a case in the Court of the Star Chamber against Thomas Taylour, M. A., the vicar at Hemel Hempstead for several libels uttered by Taylour in January and February 1617/8.⁹² Henry Skydmore was taxed there in 1627, living at Boxstead Farm in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire on lands that formerly had belonged to his wife's first husband. He was mentioned in the will of his brother Thomas Scudamore, and his wife Joan may be the "widow Scudamore of Barnett" [Chipping Barnett, Middlesex] who had a legacy in 1636 of 20 shillings in 1636 from the will of John Scudamore of Lambeth Marsh, Surrey. Henry Scudamore had, as known, a son,

1. William. He was apprenticed on 25 January 1613 to William Batcheler, a merchant taylor of Old Fish Street in London, to serve for seven years. Nothing further has been learned of him unless he is the William Skidmore who married Jane Powell on 5 November 1617 at St Mary Somerset in London. He was buried 2 August 1625 at St Mary Aldermary called "a servant to Philip Powell, a draper of Watling Street," who was probably his father-in-law. There was no probate on William's estate, but he seems to have left at least two young orphans for whom places were found (perhaps by their grandfather) in wealthy households where they could hope for advancement.
 1. John Skidmore, born about 1617. He was called a baker of Watford, aged 21, when he had a licence on 4 July 1638 to marry Mathewe [*sic*] Gould of Totteridge, Hertfordshire, a maiden aged 23, at either St Brides church (where his presumptive sister lived) or St Martins Ludgate. Attention is called to the will dated 20 December 1636 of another John Scudamore, a yeoman of Lambeth Marsh, proved on 24 February 1636/7 and transcribed elsewhere. He had no surviving issue, but his will mentions a large number of his kinsmen who were to benefit at his death. A kinsman, perhaps a godson and this John, was a servant in 1636 to Sir Thomas Cheeke, knight, at Havering House in Pyrgo, Essex. He has not been traced further.⁹³
 1. Mary Skidmore was born about 1616 at a unknown place. She was employed at Rickmansworth as a nurse to Lady Anne Carey. Lady Anne did not marry James Hamilton (1616-1659) until 1641 and Mary either came (or remained) at Moor Park in Rickmansworth as a nurse to the Hamilton children.⁹⁴ Anne Carey was the daughter Henry Carey, the second earl of Monmouth, who was born at Denham but was "seated" at Moor Park which he had bought in 1631

is possible that the Howes were related to the Gilbert Howe who took his wife Mary Skidmore (noticed elsewhere) to Ballytrim in Ireland.

⁹²STAC 8/53/7. Henry Skidmore was no stranger to the Star Chamber. He had brought a suit in 1594 (36 Elizabeth I), and then called a merchant taylor of London, against James Mosse and Bartholomew Capple. (STAC 5/S65/13).

⁹³Thomas Cheeke (1589-1659)) was the son of Sir Henry and Frances (Radcliffe) Cheeke, and had married Essex Rich.

⁹⁴James Hamilton was the son of the first viscount Clondeboy (1559-1644) of Bangor and Killyleagh, County Down, in Ireland. He was buried on 29 July 1659 at Bangor, Devon.

from the fourth earl of Pembroke.⁹⁵ Mary Skidmore had married Edward Weaver, a footman in the same household, and was called “a maiden aged 21 of St Bride’s, Fleet Street, London” when she and Weaver (a yeoman and a bachelor aged 24) had a licence to marry from the Bishop of London on 22 August 1637. The Weavers served at Moor Park and also (it is said) near the old Savoy Palace, an area popular with the London gentry of the day. They were there until the death of Lord Clandeboy in 1644 when the young James Hamilton succeeded his father as the first earl of Clanbrassil. Weaver died about the same time, and three of their sons attended the Merchant Taylors School in London. Mary Skidmore had married secondly Gilbert Howe, perhaps a kinsman, by 1652. Howe was also in the service of the Hamilton and they went with him to Killyleagh Castle soon after. The Howes settled in 1657 on a 234 acre estate about two miles west of Ballytrim, where he continued to serve as a rental agent for the countess of Clanbrassil until her death in 1689. Mary Skidmore died on 30 July 1670) leaving a large posterity by both her husbands. Her Weaver descendants continued at Ballytrim until 1932.

1. A daughter (perhaps), married Thomas Barnett. He was born about 1598 (a son of John Barnett of Lambeth, Surrey) and is said to have married an unnamed Scudamore daughter of Kingsbury.

⁹⁵The second earl sold Moor Park in 1652 to Sir Richard Franklin, Bt. He was an associate of John Skidmore (died 1699) of Rickmansworth who had bought Lockhill Wood and other lands at Rickmansworth (worth £650) earlier from Sir Richard. Moor Park (as the Carey’s knew it) was demolished, but survives as a handsome mansion commissioned in 1670 which is now frequently used for weddings and business conferences. It is practically contiguous to Watford parish.

CHALFONT ST PETER, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

This family clearly had its roots in Herefordshire, came out to Burnham, and then settled at Chalfont St Peter which is contiguous to Beaconsfield. This Andrew Skydmore, who appears to have died early, left next to no records of himself. His family was overlooked in the Stowe Ms. so seemingly they were not close to their cousins at Uxbridge. This family still survives in England with DNA that matches the other cadet families from Burnham..

ANDREW SKYDMORE seems to have been a younger son of Philip (1416-1488) Skydmore and his wife Wenyllan Osborne.⁹⁶ There was no earlier Andrew in either Buckinghamshire or Herefordshire, and he did not leave a later namesake after him in either county. He was the first of the name at Chalfont St Peter where he was a churchwarden on 29 October 1505, according to a visitation made of the Burnham deanery by the chapter general to settle a case before the court.⁹⁷ Two undoubted sons of his family (William Skydmore of Chalfont St Peter and John Skydmore of High Wycombe) are clearly united by their relationship in some unknown way to the Shrympton family of High Wycombe who were also associates of the Philip Skydmore who died in 1611.⁹⁸ Andrew Skydmore had issue,

1. WILLIAM, of Chalfont St Giles, of whom further.
2. JOHN, of High Wycombe, to whom we will return.
3. Thomas, perhaps of High Wycombe. He may have died in France in the retinue of Sir Thomas Lovell (1449-1524).⁹⁹ A certain Thomas Skydmore, not certainly identified, was one of the retinue raised by Lovell “for the warres” in France in May 1508. This Thomas may have been from the market town of High Wycombe. Lovell was the steward there, along with several other manors, all administered at the local level by his deputies. Lovell’s stewardships were the foundation of his great military power. In 1508 he had a list made of the followers that he was allowed to retain under a licence from Henry VII. It included the names of 1365 men, of whom at least half are known to have been drawn from the boroughs where he was steward.

The apparent eldest son,

⁹⁶Andrew Skydmore may have been born on 30 November (the feast day of St Andrew) and named for him, a custom perhaps imposed by the clergyman who christened him.

⁹⁷E. M. Elvey (editor), *Courts of the Archdeaconry of Buckingham 1483-1523* (Buckingham Record Society, 1975), ref. 294A. “Andreas Skydmore et Robertus Kebell iconomi ecclesie parochialis de Chalfont sancti Petri contra Willelmum Dossett et Willelmus Saunders in causa detencionis iuri ecclesiastici.”

⁹⁸There was a sequence of William Shrymptons at Totteridge in High Wycombe. A William (1) Shrimpton died in 1462 holding a messuage, curtilage and 23 acres of land (which his eldest son Richard inherited), but he also left a younger son William (2) who died in 1498 (owning two acres of customary lands at Kings Mead). He was the father of William (3) who surrendered two yard lands at Lowdwater at his death in 1532. These notes are from brief abstracts made of the long series of the Temple Manor Court Rolls at the Buckingham Record Office, ref. D/BSAM/87/1.

⁹⁹It seems likely that Thomas was from High Wycombe as he is the only Skydmore found in any manor where Lovell was the steward.

WILLIAM SKYDMORE was assessed on £5 in goods at Chalfont St Giles in 1524 and appears as an “able man” at the same place at a muster taken in 1535. He married Elizabeth [_____] who survived him. He left a will dated 26 March 1549 (proved 18 March 1550 at Aylesbury) which remembers his wife Elizabeth, his four children, and made Christopher Shrympton the overseer of his estate. He had issue,

1. John, eldest son. He married Alice [_____] , who survived him and was buried 15 November 1588 as his widow at Chalfont St Giles. They had a lease for their lives (and after their death to the use of their younger son Thomas) of certain lands at Oldfield and elsewhere in the manor of Ealing, Middlesex from Edmond Grindall, the bishop of London, on 16 May 1560. John Skydmore was buried at Chalfont St Giles on 17 October 1586, but no probate for him has been found. He had issue, with others, a younger son,
 1. Thomas, of Ealing, Middlesex. He married Mary [_____] who survived him and was living his widow on 28 October 1579 at Hanwell, Middlesex. He had issue an only daughter,
 1. Joan, living a minor in 1579.
2. NICHOLAS, of whom further.
 1. Ursula, living 1550.
 2. Alice, living 1550.

The younger son,

NICHOLAS SKYDMORE, of Chalfont St Giles. He was buried there 26 September 1593, without the benefit of probate. His wife may have been the Agnes Skydmore, not otherwise identified, who was buried on 10 April 1584. He is presumed to have had issue, probably with others, a son,

RALPH SKIDMORE (SCUDAMORE), born 1577, a butcher and a constable at Chalfont St Giles. He married Anne Dunton, a spinster, on 25 February 1606/7 at St Albans Abbey. Ralph Scudamore was a petitioner to Archbishop Laud on 15 January 1635/6 on behalf of Thomas Valentine, the rector of Chalfont St Giles, and was living at that place in 27 April 1637 when he gave a deposition that he was then age 60 or thereabouts. He had moved by 11 February 1646/7 to Chenies, Buckinghamshire, when he was given the execution of the nuncupative will of his brother-in-law Ralph Dunton of Chenies. He had issue,

1. John, baptized 2 October 1607. He died young.
2. NICHOLAS, of whom further.
3. JOHN, to whom we will return.
4. RALPH, to whom we will eventually return.
1. Anne (probably). She married John Grimsdale on 27 April 1630 at Chalfont St Giles. The Grimsdales, or their posterity, were Quakers.
2. Elizabeth, baptized 28 December 1610. She was a maiden aged 24 of Rickmansworth when she and John Richardson, a bachelor aged 37 of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, had a licence on 15 August 1633 to marry in the church at Chelsea, Middlesex.
3. Martha, baptized 28 May 1613. She married William *Arnall* [Arnold] at Chalfont St Peter on 30 July 1645, both called “of Chenies” according to the register.

The eldest surviving son,

1. NICHOLAS SKIDMORE, a butcher of Chalfont St Giles, married Emlin [_____] (who died at Chalfont St Giles, and was buried 4 November 1675 at New Jordans). He had a house and lands held from the manor of Grove Place at Chalfont St Giles. In 1670 he had four fat sheep and other property worth £5 7s. seized to pay the fine owed for attending a Quaker meeting, and was excommunicated and imprisoned in 1671 for refusing to pay tithes and the Easter Offering at Chalfont St Giles. He also witnessed testimonials in 1678 and 1680 for Quakers leaving England to settle at West New Jersey in America. A member of the Upperside Monthly Meeting, he died 9 January 1684/5 and was buried at the Friends' Ground at New Jordans. He had issue (of whom only sons survived him),
 1. Joseph, named residuary legatee of his father's will in 1678.
 2. James, left £50 and personalty in his father's will in 1678.
1. Anne, baptized 15 September 1636. She is perhaps the lady of her name buried 10 May 1658.
 2. Elizabeth, buried 13 February 1638/9 at Chalfont St Giles.
 3. Martha, baptized 22 July 1638, buried 25 March 1638/9.
 4. Elizabeth, She married Robert White, a Quaker of Hedgerly Dean in Farnham Royal, Buckinghamshire, on 2 February 1666/7 at Coleshill, Buckinghamshire. She was dead in 1678 when her daughter Elizabeth White was left a legacy of £20 and personalty in the will of Nicholas Skidmore.

The third son of Ralph Skidmore by his wife Anne Dunton,

JOHN SKIDMORE, baptized 21 February 1615/6 at Chalfont St Giles, married Elizabeth [_____] who was probably the widow Skidmore "the elder" buried 24 March 1665/6 at Chalfont St Giles. He held land in the manor of Grove Place in January 1651, and was buried 10 December 1661 at Chalfont St Giles leaving issue,

1. Ralph, baptized 23 April 1642. He is probably the man of his name who married Joyce Kodroe at the Chapel Royal, St James Westminster, on 3 February 1667/8. He was buried 29 August 1669 at St Margarets, Westminster, London, having had a son,
 1. Ralph, baptized 24 February 1668/9 at St Margarets, Westminster.
2. Henry, of Chalfont St Peter, married Anne Bedford on 4 October 1676 at Chalfont St Giles. He was living at Chalfont St Peter in 1721 and was buried there 24 July 1723. Had issue, all christened at the same place,
 1. William, baptized 7 July 1677. He is perhaps the man of his name who married Catherine Langdon at Hillingdon, Middlesex, on 16 January 1719/20. He was living in 1732 at Hayes, Middlesex, and died a widower there on 2 May 1746. Had issue,
 1. John, living 1732.
 2. George, baptized 19 November 1679.
 3. Henry (a twin), baptized 20 August 1684. He was a maltster of Chalfont St Peter in 1732. He married (licence 14 July 1718) at Northolt, Middlesex, Elizabeth Copeland, who is called of Chalfont St Peter in the register. His will was dated 16 May 1758 and proved on 7 October 1761. He left issue christened at Chalfont St Peter,

1. Richard, baptized 5 May 1719, apprenticed for £10 to Joseph Copeland of Weybridge, Surrey, a butcher, in 1735. He married Anne [_____] and was living in 1758. He had, perhaps with others, a daughter,
 1. Elizabeth, baptized 26 February 1741/2 at Weybridge.
2. Francis, baptized 31 October 1726, buried 20 November 1726.
3. John, baptized 3 January 1727/8, living 1758.
 1. Anne, baptized 9 June 1721, a spinster in 1758 when she was the executrix of her father's will. She is probably the Anne Skidmore who married John Gibbs of Iver at Chalfont St Peter on 18 December 1759.
 2. Elizabeth, baptized 28 July 1722. Probably died before her father.
4. Francis (a twin), baptized 20 August 1684. He was a butcher of St Mary Magdalene, Oxford. He married Catherine Prince in 1709 at Waterperry, Oxfordshire, and was buried on 15 January 1711/2 at St Mary Magdalene, Oxford. His will (proved at Oxford) names his wife Catherine as his executrix and made his uncle Ralph Stevens and his friend Nicholas Franklin of St Mary Magdalene, Oxford, as trustees of his will and of his son Charles. In 1715 the widow Scudamore was a tenant in the Northwest Ward of Oxford "late Mrs. Prince's" at a rent of 6sh 8d. Catherine Scudamore survived her husband by many years and was buried on 7 August 1759 at St Peter-le-Bailey, Oxford. Had issue an only son,
 1. Charles, a baker of 10 Castle Street, Oxford. He is remembered in the will of Martha Skidmore of Chalfont St Giles in 1721 who left him £10 calling him "the son of my late cousin [nephew] Francis Skidmore of Oxford, butcher, deceased." He was also left £40 in the will of his great-uncle Richard Skidmore of Chalfont St Giles dated 1732. Charles Skidmore married Mary West on 26 July 1736, and on Monday 23 October 1769, Charles Scudamore, a scout at Christchurch, Oxford, is mentioned in a newspaper article as having attended a political meeting. He was buried on 10 December 1779 at St Peter-le-Bailey, Oxford. His widow appears to have married [_____] Moreland as her second husband. William Scudamore (and his wife Phebe), probably a grandson, sold their property at 10 Castle Street on 25 June 1811. Had issue, all christened at St Peter-le-Bailey except the two eldest,
 1. James, baptized 16 January 1756/7 at St Thomas, Oxford. [Perhaps buried 7 February 1756/7 at St Peter-le-Bailey as *Joseph Scudamore*.]
 2. Charles, baptized 9 August 1768. He is presumably the man of his name who served on the ship *Admiral Gardner* belonging to the East India Company. He was dead before November 1799 when the admsons on his estate was granted to William Scudamore [a nephew?] as the lawful attorney for Mary Moreland, the mother and next of kin.
 3. John, baptized 27 May 1771. Buried 30 July 1773 at St Peter-le-Bailey.

4. Thomas, baptized 5 June 1775.
 1. Fanny, the eldest daughter, baptized 7 June 1758 at St Thomas, Oxford. Buried 2 March 1761 at St Peter-le-Bailey.
 2. Catherine, baptized 23 October 1760.
 3. Charlotte, baptized 6 April 1762.
 4. Phyllis, baptized 4 July 1764.
 5. *Bidde* [Bridget], baptized 27 August 1764.
 6. Isabella, baptized 16 December 1765. She married James Hanks on 1 May 1793 at St Giles, Oxford.
 7. Rachel, baptized 22 February 1766/7.
 8. Martha, baptized 19 February 1769/70. Buried 23 December 1762 at St Peter-le-Bailey.
 9. Elizabeth, baptized 31 July 1777. Died young.
 10. Dorothy, baptized 31 July 1777. Buried 6 December 1778 at St Peter-le-Bailey.
 11. Elizabeth, baptized 9 January 1778/9.
5. John (a twin), baptized 13 December 1688. He was a carpenter in London in 1721. His will is dated 22 March 1728/9 at Christchurch, Southwark, proved 15 April 1729. It mentions his wife and his two minor children. He married Elizabeth Fisher (her will proved 2 November 1768) on 5 October 1714 at St Benets, Paul's Wharf, London, by whom he had issue,
 1. Thomas, born 1710, of St Olaves, Southwark. He married (licence 2 April 1737) Mary Hall at St Mary Magdalene, Southwark, and she appears to have been living his widow in 1768 on Budge Row, London.
 1. Anne, married Thomas Rodbard in 1739 at St Gregory, London. She was living, his widow, in 1768.
 6. Joseph (a twin), baptized 13 December 1688. He was buried on 24 December 1688 at Chalfont St Giles.
 7. Richard, baptized 12 June 1691. He was a baker and churchwarden at Chalfont St Peter.¹⁰⁰ He married firstly Elizabeth Gutteridge on 5 March 1716/7 at Langley Marish (both from Chalfont according to the register) who was buried 29 March 1723 at Chalfont St Peter. He married secondly Sarah, a daughter of Hamock Hodgkins, on 29 August 1723 at Northolt, Middlesex, and they had their Oaths of Allegiance enrolled in the same year. He was a Petty Constable at the Quarter Sessions of 7 December 1725 and was fined a shilling on 14 July 1726 for higgling without a licence. He was churchwarden in 1729 (and thereafter) at Chalfont St Peter.. His will is dated 10 May 1754 (proved 16 July 1755).¹⁰¹ Had issue by his 1st wife,
 1. Henry, baptized 12 April 1718, buried 3 May 1718.
 2. Richard, baptized 8 February 1722/3, buried 8 May 1723 at Chalfont St

¹⁰⁰Flamoch Shropshire was apprenticed in 1732 to Richard Skidmore, a baker of Chalfont St Giles, for £12.

¹⁰¹P.C.C., PROB 11/817.

Peter.

1. Elizabeth, baptized 9 June 1719. She died before her father.
2. Martha, baptized 11 May 1720. She married [_____] Harper (by whom she had a daughter Sarah).

By his second wife he had issue,

3. William, baptized 28 August 1725. He died before his father without issue.
4. Richard, baptized 2 July 1727, buried 10 July 1727.
3. Constance, baptized 23 June 1724. She married Timothy Hunt, the younger, a maltster of Chalfont St Peter. Skidmore and Hunt were customary tenants of an inn *Wagon and Horses* at Chalfont St Peter. She left a will dated 14 February 1777 which mentions a legacy of £50 left to her daughter Constance by her deceased grandfather Richard Skidmore.
4. Sarah, buried 7 June 1729, an infant.
5. Mary, baptized 5 May 1731, buried 5 July 1731.
6. Edery, baptized 22 February 1733/4. She married William Worley on 16 November 1750 at St George's Chapel, Hanover Square, London.
7. Sarah, baptized 2 November 1735, buried 16 November 1735.
1. Ann, baptized 14 May 1681, only daughter. She married [_____] Clayton of London (by whom she had a daughter Ann) and was living in 1721.
3. Richard, born 2 March 1655/6 [a son of John and Elizabeth Skidmore of Chalfont St Giles]. He signed the Oath of Allegiance in 1723. A carpenter, his will was dated 1 November 1732 (proved 19 January 1733/4) and divided his estate among his many nephews and nieces.¹⁰² He had also acquired on 18 August 1731 a tenement at Beaconsfield which went to his two nephews Henry and Richard (sons of Henry Skidmore, Senior) as residuary legatees. He died unmarried and was buried 14 February 1733/4 at Chalfont St Giles.
4. George, a carpenter of Newmarket, Suffolk. He was buried on 19 October 1678 at St Marys, Newmarket. His administration bond, and an inventory dated 31 December 1678 are found in the Court of the Archdeaconry of Sudbury. The widow Alice Scudamore and Walter Soultter, yeoman, had seen that an inventory totalling £148 5sh was taken on 28 December 1678. His widow Alice married secondly Samuel Bryant on 11 September 1683 at St Marys, Newmarket. Had issue,
 1. George. He was buried on 17 April 1678 at St Marys, Newmarket.
 1. Joyce, baptized 21 November 1673 at St Mary's, Newmarket. She married (licence 8 July 1698) John Gritty at St Marys, Newmarket. She is called a cousin [niece] in the will of Richard Skidmore of 1732.
5. Joseph He was a butcher of Chalfont St Giles, but he also held freehold lands at Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire. He married Mrs. Judith Watts of Watford, a widow, (who married thirdly John Osmond in 1695 by a licence from the Faculty Office) on 24 November 1687 at the Upperside Monthly Meeting (Quaker). He died 15 July 1694 at

¹⁰²P.C.C., PROB 11/663.

Chalfont St Giles leaving a will dated the same day at Ealing, and was buried in the Friend's Ground at New Jordans.¹⁰³ Had issue,

1. Joseph, living in 1721 at Chalfont St Peter and in 1732 at Ealing, Middlesex, where he was called a victualler when he had a lease for 21 years in 1737. He was later called an innholder there. His will was dated 19 October 1754 and proved on 11 March 1755. He married firstly Mary [_____] and had issue,
 1. Joseph, baptized 14 May 1724 at Chalfont St Peter (as the son of Joseph and Mary Skidmore). He was living in 1765 when he was left a bequest in the will of his stepmother.

Joseph Skidmore married secondly (licence 19 December 1738) Mary Hauchet, a widow of Acton, Middlesex, at St Martins Ludgate, London. She survived him, and left a will dated 21 May 1765 (proved 28 November 1768). By her he had two daughters,

1. Mary, dead by 1765. She married [_____] Sheriff, by whom she had a daughter Arabella Spiers.
2. Ann. She married (about 1765-8) Thomas Brown.
 1. Mary, born 12 June 1690.
 2. Elizabeth, born 12 November 1691.
1. Martha, a spinster of Chalfont St Giles, and buried there 3 August 1721. She left a long will dated 1 June 1721 (proved 24 October 1721) remembering most of her kindred then living.
2. Sarah. She married [_____] Howard, by whom she had a son Samuel Howard.

The fourth son of Ralph Skidmore by his wife Anne Dunton,

RALPH SKIDMORE, of Chenies, baptized 30 December 1620 at Chalfont St Giles. He married Sarah [_____] who survived him and was perhaps the widow of her name buried 8 June 1714 at Chenies. He became a Quaker and was cited by the churchwardens at Chenies in 1662 for not coming to church and was cited at the Archdeaconry of Bucks Visitation in 1686 for standing excommunicate. Mr. Skidmore died in 1689 (will dated 27 June, proved 28 September) and the inventory of his estate totaled £148 7sh. Had issue,

1. Charles, the eldest son, baptized 21 May 1655 at Chenies. He was a butcher and married 22 May 1689 Sarah Child. He was a churchwarden in 1690 at Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, and lived at Chipperfield in that parish. He was buried there on 4 September 1694 and his will (probated 30 October 1694) left his entire estate to his wife Sarah.¹⁰⁴
2. RALPH, of whom further.
1. Anne, baptized 9 July 1648, died at Chipperfield, Kings Langley, a spinster, and was buried there a few days before her brother Charles on 10 September 1694. Her will (probated 16 October 1694) left her entire estate to her mother, Sarah Skidmore.¹⁰⁵ She had a base son Ralph, baptized 23 September 1681 at Chenies who probably died young.

¹⁰³P.C.C., PROB 11/994.

¹⁰⁴P.C.C., PROB 11/421.

¹⁰⁵P.C.C., PROB 11/421.

2. Martha, baptized 25 November 1657. She married Michael Biddle of Iver, Buckinghamshire, a husbandman, on 15 December 1691 at New Jordans (her mother being among the witnesses). They were members of the Longford Monthly Meeting and her husband was imprisoned from 4 June 1694 to 1 March 1695/6 in the county gaol at Aylesbury for refusing to pay tithes at Iver.
3. Mary, baptized 21 November 1662. She married Charles Farrer on 4 November 1684 at Kings Langley.
4. Susannah, baptized 23 June 1669. She was living unmarried in 1689.
5. Elizabeth. She had married (by 1689) [_____] Wingfield.
6. Sarah. She married Richard Goodwin on 9 October 1699 at Kings Langley.

The second son,

RALPH SKIDMORE, of Chenies, baptized 13 June 1666. He was a butcher and Petty Constable in the parish. He married Sarah Bally on 9 January 1690/1 at St Georges' Chapel, New Windsor, Berkshire.¹⁰⁶ He was buried 14 July 1734 at Chenies, having had issue,

1. RALPH, of whom further.
2. Robert, baptized 27 October 1698, buried 5 December the same year.
3. A son, baptized 8 January 1703/4, buried three days later.
1. Sarah, baptized 24 November 1693, buried 31 December 1693.
2. Susannah, baptized 8 November 1694.
3. A child, buried 23 October 1697.
4. Mary, baptized 6 October 1699.
5. Sarah, baptized 23 August 1702, buried 16 January 1703/4.

The eldest son,

RALPH SKIDMORE, of Chenies, baptized 17 June 1696. He married firstly Elizabeth Upson at Rickmansworth on 1 February 1719/20. She was buried at Chenies, unnamed, but as the wife of Ralph Skidmore on 30 December 1734. He had issue christened at Chenies,

1. Ralph, baptized 7 December 1720, buried 14 December 1720.
2. Ralph, baptized 29 August 1725.
3. JOHN, of whom further.
1. Elizabeth, baptized 12 May 1733.
2. Mary, baptized 30 December 1734.

Ralph Skidmore married secondly Elizabeth Tomlin at Chenies in 1735 (who was buried there 9 May 1738) by whom he had two daughters christened at Chenies. He married thirdly Sarah Geary at Chenies on 8 August 1739.

3. Sarah, baptized 23 May 1736.
4. Susannah, baptized 23 August 1737.

The third son,

JOHN SKIDMORE, of Chenies, baptized 27 January 1727/8. He married at Chesham Bois, Buckinghamshire, by licence on 8 November 1747 Anne Richardson (baptized at Chenies after her marriage on 6 March 1747/8, buried there on 3 December 1767). He was also buried at Chenies on 5

¹⁰⁶A Sarah Skidmore was recently discharged from the county gaol at Aylesbury on 4 October 1716. Her offence and abode is unstated but she may have been his wife Sarah, presumably a Quaker of Chenies.

May 1794, called an almsman. Had issue christened at Chenies,

1. RALPH, of whom further.
2. Benjamin, baptized 14 August 1763, and buried 25 August 1763.
1. Hannah, baptized 6 May 1750 (rather unusual in that only Ann Skidmore is recorded as the parent in the Parish Register). She was buried 24 September 1751, an infant.
2. Elizabeth, baptized 15 March 1751/2. She married John Bowler at Chenies on 10 February 1782.
3. Jemima, baptized 15 June 1755.
4. Charlotte, baptized 3 August 1760. She is probably the Charlotte Skidmore who married William Culvoras at Chesham, Buckinghamshire, on 5 November 1787.

The elder son,

RALPH SKIDMORE, of Chenies, baptized 10 July 1757. He married at Chenies on 5 May 1778 Ann Harding (buried there 30 May 1799). He was listed as a labourer in the returns of the *Posse Comitatus* of 1798, and was buried at Chenies on 12 February 1829. Had issue, all christened there (with the apparent exception of their daughter Susan),

1. JOHN, of whom further.
2. William, born 1788, baptized 12 April 1789. He married Mary _____, and they were living in 1841 on New Road in Gravesend, Kent. In 1851 he was laborer there, and stated that he was born at Chenies. He died in 1856, and his wife Mary in 1859.
1. Susan, buried 2 January 1789 at Chenies.
2. Jemima, born 1781 baptized 12 April 1789 aged eight. She married 13 January 1802 at Chenies, Thomas Cripps who was probably originally from Harmonsworth, Middlesex (as appears from the examination made of him for settlement at Chenies in 1802).
3. Charlotte, baptized 19 May 1793. She married Thomas Sherfield, a husbandman of Sarratt, Hertfordshire. They were living in 1820 at Abbots Langley, Hertfordshire.
4. Maria, baptized 24 June 1804. She too was baptized at a later age than usual, about five years after her mother's death. This is evident as she married John Grover (1789-_____) on 21 May 1814 at Chenies. She was an almswoman at Chenies in 1861 and died in 1870, aged 80 (in the Amersham Registration District).

The elder son,

JOHN SKIDMORE, of Northchurch, Hertfordshire, born 1785, baptized at Chenies 12 April 1789. He was an agricultural labourer at Flaunden, Hertfordshire, but had married Mary Childs, a strawplaiter of Albury, Hertfordshire, at Latimer in Buckinghamshire on 12 January 1810. She was born there in 1790, and was buried at Northchurch on 25 February 1843). Mr. Scudamore died at Northchurch on 9 November 1848, having had issue (christened at Northchurch),

1. WILLIAM, of whom further.
2. Moses, born 1815 at Flaunden, baptized 28 September 1823. A general and farm labourer he married at Northchurch 24 December 1840 Elizabeth (buried there 5 October 1876, aged 59), a daughter of John Mills. They lived on Bell Lane in Northchurch where he died in 1875 aged 62, apparently without issue.
3. Aaron, born 1817 at Northchurch, baptized 28 September 1823 aged six and died there in 1899. A farm labourer, he married in 1843 Mary Wallington, a strawplaiter, in 1843 and lived at Dudswell in Northchurch where she died in 1891 aged 84.. He was in an almshouse in 1891, and died in 1899 aged 85. He had issue,

1. Joseph, born 1852. He was living in 1881 at 3 Albion Place, Tring, with his wife Ann S. _____, a strawplaiter, who was born in 1860 at Tring. They were living in 1891 at Duckmore Lane in Tring, but had removed by 1888 to Fleet Road, Hampstead, London. There in 1901. Had issue,
 1. John F., aged five months in 1881.
 2. Frederick T., born 1882/3. A carpenter.
 3. Henry W., born 1898/9 at Hampstead.
 4. Sarah, born 1879/80. Not found in 1901.
 5. Emily, born 1884/5. Not found in 1901.
 6. Alice, born 1886/7. Not found in 1901.
 7. Elizabeth, bor 1888. Not found in 1901.
 8. Florence M., born 1890. Not found in 1901.
 9. Lily, born 1893/4.
1. Mary, born 1844.
4. Daniel, born 25 September 1821 at Northchurch, baptized 28 September 1823. He was a domerstic servant in 1851, and was living with his brother Moses in 1861. He was buried there on 11 October 1868.
1. Mary Ann, born 16 August (baptized 19 September) 1824. She married Philip Temple (1811-1854) in 1842. They were living in 1851 in Cinnamon Street, Tower Hamlets, Middlesex. She died there in 1855.
2. Phoebe, baptized 15 August 1830. She was buried at Northchurch 23 February 1833, an infant.

The eldest son,

WILLIAM SKIDMORE, born 1813 at Flaunden, baptized 28 November 1823 aged ten. A farm laborer, he married Maria, a daughter of Joseph Brandom on 15 February 1836 at Northchurch. She was baptized at Northchurch on 29 July 1813 and buried there in 1893. Mr. Skidmore was living in 1881 in New Road, Northchurch. He died in 1895 aged 84. Had issue,

1. STEPHEN, of whom further.
2. George, born 1847. Living at home in 1861.
3. Daniel, born 1849. He was killed by an express train on 17 May 1857 and was buried at Northchurch on 20 May.
1. Thirza, baptized 17 June 1838, and buried 28 December 1843.
2. Sarah, born 1840, and buried 4 April 1844.
3. Mary, born 1844, a strawplaiter. Living at home in 1871.
4. Elizabeth, born 1852. She married firstly James Dollimore from Northamptonshire in 1872; he was buried at Northchurch 14 July 1878 aged 24 years. She was living with her parents, a widow, in 1881. She married secondly George Sutton, a water bailiff of Water End, Great Gaddesden, Hertfordshire.
5. Emma, born 1857. She was a domestic servant in 1881 at Belmont Lodge, Little Stanmore, Middlesex. She died in 1939 at Edgware, Middlesex.

The eldest son,

STEPHEN SKIDMORE, baptized 8 May 1836. A farm laborer and later a bricklayer he is also said to have been a lay preacher (probably at the Baptist Chapel at Northchurch). He married Fanny, the daughter of John Keen, a strawplaiter, on 16 November 1875 at Northchurch. She was born 2

December 1836 at Wigginton, and they lived at New Rodd in Northchurch in 1881. They were both buried there in 1900. Had issue (christened at Northchurch),

1. William John, a bricklayer, born 14 June 1879, died whilst working as a part-time gardener at Northwood, Middlesex, 5 January 1960 and buried at Northchurch. He married 7 September 1901 at Down Hatherly, Gloucestershire, Fanny Elizabeth, a daughter of George Henry Woodward; she was born 26 November 1878 at Lydbrook, West Dean, Gloucestershire, and was buried at Northchurch on 10 May 1967. Had issue,
 1. George William, born 1902.
 2. Ernest Stephen, born 1906.
 1. Ada Fanny, born 1903.
 2. Marjorie Grace Emily, born 1908.
1. Sarah Ann, born 1876. She was a mantle machinist before her marriage to Arthur Pratt in 1901 at Bourne End Church, Northchurch. She died about 1965.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

This family is first noticed in 1515 at High Wycombe, then the most important market town in the southern part of Buckinghamshire. It drew a large contingent of young men with no great prospects, this John (and perhaps a brother Thomas) among them. There are no known living descendants in the male line in either England or out of Maryland in America of this family once at High Wycombe.

JOHN SKYDMORE, a copyholder at High Wycombe, was born about 1485 a presumptive younger son of Andrew Skidmore of Chalfont St Peter (and a grandson of Philip Skydmore (1416-1488) and his wife Wenyllan Osborne. He had settled at High Wycombe by 1515 when he had a lease for certain lands there dated 7 Henry VIII from Edward Wellesburne, Master of the Hospital of St John in High Wycombe. Only two Skydmores are found in Buckinghamshire in 1522 and 1524. This John Skydmore was at High Wycombe, and his elder brother William Skydmore was at Chalfont St Peter. John Skydmore had £15 in goods at "The Princes holde off Wicombe" which he held from Henry VIII.¹⁰⁷ He was assessed on £10 in goods in 1524 while his brother William Skydmore had only £5 in goods at Chalfont St Peter. He married Joan [_____], who died his widow at High Wycombe in 1549 leaving a will dated 4 August and proved on 1 October at Beaconsfield. Her will mentions with others a Katherine Skydmore, widow; Agnes Iver (and her two children); Robert Wellis (and his four children); Cicely Buckles; Edmond Littlepage (nominated her overseer) and John and Joan Littlepage (perhaps two of Edmond's children); and Anthony Shrympton.¹⁰⁸ A part, very possibly all, of these were probably related in some unexpressed way to the widow Skydmore. An inventory of her goods totaled £26 11s. 10d. She had issue, perhaps with other daughters,

¹⁰⁷*The Certificates of Muster for Buckinghamshire in 1522* (London, Her Majesty's Stationery Office.1973) 273. The "Prince's" land, so-called, was now held by the prince turned Henry VIII.

¹⁰⁸William Shrimpton of Totteridge in High Wycombe, who was noticed earlier as a possible kinsman of the Skydmores, paid 16sh. 4d. in rent to the prior of St Johns Hospital in 1506..

1. GILES, of whom further.
1. Agnes (perhaps), married [_____] Iver who may have been dead in 1549].
2. A daughter (perhaps), married Robert Wellis.
3. A daughter (perhaps), married Edmond Littlepage.¹⁰⁹
4. Alice. She was still unmarried in 1549 when she was left money and personalty in the will of her mother. She later married Richard Blunt, who became a substantial chandler of Berkhamsted St Peter, Hertfordshire and was called a brother by Giles Skidmore in 1569. Blunt died in 1578 leaving a will that provided handsomely for his wife, his four sons, two daughters, and a granddaughter. He also remembered Richard Skidmore “my godson one Ewe and a lambe to his use within three yeares’ after my decease.”¹¹⁰

The only son,

GILES SKIDMORE, a husbandman of High Wycombe, was the executor and residuary legatee of his mother in 1549. He had a wife Sybil, who made John Sexton (called a kinsman) an overseer of her will, and left personalty to a young Thomas Sherfield, still another kinsman, on the day of his marriage. Giles was the only Skidmore living in Buckinghamshire in the muster of the county taken in June 1569. On 23 April 1552 he is noticed as a churchwarden at High Wycombe. *Jells* Skidmore and William Culverhouse of Penn were named as overseers of the estate of William Hearne of Penn on 5 December 1562. He was buried in the churchyard at High Wycombe, leaving a will dated 8 May 1569 and proved on 22 April 1572. Sybil Skidmore survived her husband and died at the same place (will dated 29 October 1580, proved 7 October 1584). She remembers a daughter-in-law Margaret Skidmore (probably the wife of her son William) and two grandchildren Sybil and Phebe Skidmore. Giles and his wife left issue (of whom three sons and three daughters were living in 1580),

1. WILLIAM, eldest son, of whom further.
2. Richard, a merchant taylor in London.¹¹¹ He was born about 1560, and had a house in High Wycombe in the occupation of John Harding by the terms of his father’s will of 1569, and personalty in his mother’s will. Richard Blunt of Berhampstead St Peter, his uncle and godfather, remembered him in 1578 with a bequest of a ewe and a lamb. He took an interest in the welfare of his nephews, and was the overseer of the will of his nephew John Skidmore in 1608 and the master of his nephew Jeremiah Skidmore when Jeremiah became his apprentice in 1611.¹¹² He and his wife Mary were both living in

¹⁰⁹Edmond Littlepage left a will (not seen) at Chipping Wycombe in 1566.

¹¹⁰P.C.C., PROB 11/60. His godson Richard Skidmore was the father of Edward Skidmore, noticed shortly, who has emigrated to Anne Arundel County, Maryland by 1657. Edward Skidmore acquired soon after a plantation called *Bluntwell* from another Richard Blunt, doubtless a cousin. Richard Blunt, the grandfather, was ambitious for his sons. His son William Blunt was to be apprenticed to an unstated craft. His executor was his son John, and he was to find “meat, drink and apparel at Oxford” for his brother Arthur Blunt, while his overseers were to later to find Arthur a place with a counselor or lawyer. His son Richard Blunt was to have an income of £70 to be paid twice a year. The parish register at Berkhamsted St Peter (not seen) begins in 1538.

¹¹¹Richard Scudamore, had a redemption [on payment of a fee?] on 13 October 1600 at the Merchant Taylors’ Hall in London.

¹¹²In 1611 he is called “a merchant taylor at London Stone,” just across the Thames in the center of the city.

1619, probably at St Olaves, Southwark. They had issue, perhaps with others,

1. Thomas. He was apprenticed in 1608 to the Drapers' Company in London. He married Mary, a sister of William Barnard. Thomas and his wife both died without issue at St Olaves, Southwark, in June 1619. His will, dated 7 June and proved 14 June, made contingent bequests to his parents and his *youngest* brother Edward Scudamore effective only "If my wife (who lieth sick) die before me."¹¹³ She was ill at the time of her husband's death undoubtedly of the same complaint, and died a few days after him leaving a nuncupative will.¹¹⁴
2. Edward, youngest son. He was left 40sh in the will of his brother Thomas in 1619, and was apprenticed about 1629 to Timothy Richbell, a grocer of St Olaves, Southwark.¹¹⁵ It is not presently known if he was admitted as a freeman and citizen of London, but he was probably living at Southwark in 1635.¹¹⁶ By 1657 he was in Anne Arundel County, Maryland where he demanded 500 acres for transporting himself, his wife [Mary], his son Edward, and a servant Jonathan Neale to America.¹¹⁷ He prospered as a tobacco planter and died in Cecil County, Maryland leaving a long will dated 28 July 1675 which remembered his second wife Alice Smyth and his four children.¹¹⁸
1. Anne. She married William Tolson (c.1620-1676), a planter of Cecil County, Maryland.¹¹⁹ Edward Skidmore left a mourning ring to Tolson in his will, as well as 400 pounds of tobacco (which then served as a kind of currency) to Thomas Francis who had married Ruth Tolson, the only known child of his sister. Anne Tolson survived her husband briefly, and died in Cecil County on 27 February 1678.
3. John, a minor in 1569. He died before his mother without issue, and is likely the John Skidmore buried on 1 September 1578 at Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. He is called "a servant" in the parish register and had probably been apprenticed as a Chandler to his uncle Richard Blunt.

¹¹³The wording suggests that Thomas may have other brothers who are presently unknown.

¹¹⁴Their wills are both recorded at P.C.C., register *Peter*, folios 108 and 113.

¹¹⁵Timothy Richbell married Sarah Edwards in 1605 at St Olaves. He was a son of William Richbell, a yeoman of Southborough in Bromley, Kent. He had a brother William Richbell, a citizen and merchant taylor of London.

¹¹⁶The records of the Grocers' Company (not seen) survived the great fire of 1666 and are now deposited at the Guildhall Library in London.

¹¹⁷*Maryland Land Patents*, Liber 4, 55. His marriage to his first wife Mary and the christening of their eldest son Edward (born in the 1650s) was probably once registered in one of the churches in London lost in the great fire of 1666.

¹¹⁸He was dead by 15 June 1678 when an inventory was made of the estate. *Inventories and Accounts*, Liber 5, 25-26. A extended account of his family, long extinct in the male line, can be found as *Occasional Paper*, no. 22 on the Scudamore-Skidmore website.

¹¹⁹As Edward Skidmore did not prove transportation of his sister Anne to America it must be assumed that she and Tolson had married in England. She appears to have been born after the death of her eldest brother Thomas and is not remembered in his will.

4. Rowland, of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, born 1553. He was a minor in 1569 and matriculated at Trinity College, Oxford, on 12 December 1572 aged 19, and granted a degree as Bachelor of Arts in 1576. The name of his first wife is unknown, but he married secondly Margery Clarke (the widow of Walter Treadway of Amersham) on 5 November 1604 at Amersham. No probate has been found, but he had issue, perhaps with others, a son,
 1. Jeremiah, a merchant taylor of St Margaret Lothbury, London. He was apprenticed on 3 June 1611 to his uncle Richard Skydmore of London Stone, a merchant taylor, for eight years and admitted as a freeman on 22 March 1619/20. He died a young man in that parish, and the administration of his estate was granted on 30 March 1625 to his widow Joan, by whom he had a daughter,
 1. Sarah. She was baptized on 10 February 1622/3 at St Margaret Lothbury, London.

[There is considerable ambiguity about the daughters of Giles Skidmore. It would seem that Joan and Maud may have firstly married men named Cooke and Adkinson, and then secondly to men named Harding and Gold who were both living in 1580.]

1. Joan, born by 1549.
2. Maud, born by 1549.
3. A daughter, living 1580, married Thomas Harding (by whom she had a daughter Sybil Harding and other children).
4. A daughter, living 1580, married [John?] Gold [of Bovingdon, Hertfordshire?] by whom she had a stepson Thomas Gold and her own children Giles and Sybil Gold.
5. A daughter, married [_____] Adkinson, by whom she had children James and Phebe Adkinson.
6. A daughter, married [_____] Cooke, by whom she had a son Giles Cooke.
7. Cicely, born after 1649, married Peter Jordan after 1580. She was living in 1619 at St Olaves, Southwark with a daughter Deborah Jordan (who had been baptized 22 September 1611 at St Mary Whitechapel, in Stepney).

The eldest son,

WILLIAM SCUDAMORE, born about 1560, of St Swithin, London. He married Margaret Fellowes on 5 May 1560 at St Mary, Marlborough, Wiltshire. He was living in 1608 when he was the executor of his son John. He and his wife were dead in 1638 when the following particulars of their family are taken largely from the will of his son-in-law Reverend Richard Crispe of St Leonards in the parish of Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire.¹²⁰ He had issue, order uncertain,

1. WILLIAM, of whom further
2. John, of St Swithin, London. He died unmarried. His will proved 9 November 1608 remembers (with others) his kinsmen named Adkinson and Harding [from High Wycombe], a part of his brothers and sisters, as well as an unidentified kinswoman Elizabeth Povie to whom he left two angels in gold. His uncle Richard Skidmore and Edward Warnold were named as overseers.

¹²⁰P.C.C., register *Lee*, folio 94. An earlier Richard Crispe had been a witness in 1544 to the will of Philip Skydmore of Burnham.

2. Nathaniel, of Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey. He married Mary [_____] (who was buried 5 December 1652 at Kingston-on-Thames). He was left 40 shillings in the will of his brother-in-law Richard Crispe about 1638. He had issue,
 1. Nathaniel, baptized 3 June 1627, died young.
 2. Nathaniel, baptized 10 February 1630/1.
 3. William, baptized 24 February 1632/3, buried 10 October 1634.
 4. Samuel, baptized 25 October 1635.
 1. Mary, baptized 26 July 1629.
 2. Hannah, baptized 19 August 1638, buried 19 September 1638.
4. Levi. He was left all of his brother John's wearing apparel in 1608, together with a chest formerly belonging to their brother William. He married Marie [_____] , and they were each left a legacy of £5 each by Richard Crispe in 1638. They had issue,
 1. Samuel, left £5 by Reverend Crispe.
 2. Levi, a younger son, left £2 by Crispe..
 1. Mary. She married Edward Styles (by licence) on 10 July 1636 at Little Missenden and was already his widow in 1638. She was left 40 shillings in Crispe's will.
 1. Anna. She was left three religious books in the will of her brother John in 1608.
 2. Phebe. She married Reverend Richard Crispe of St Leonards, a hamlet in Aston Clinton, Buckinghamshire. His will is undated but was proved 30 August 1638 by his wife Phebe Crispe, the executrix, who was to have all his freehold land in the county of Bedfordshire.¹²¹ He also remembered several of his wife's kinfolk (noticed here).
 3. Martha. She married Levi Gibbs, a husbandman who died in 1636 at High Wycombe. She was left £5 in Crispe's will, and her children Sarah, Martha, Levi, Mary, Samuel, and Rachel Gibbs were each left 40 shillings by Rev. Crispe when 21 or at their marriage.
 4. Another daughter [Sybil?].

A son, probably the eldest,

WILLIAM SCUDAMORE, styled a gentleman of St Swithin, London, married [_____] Austen and left issue, perhaps with others, a son,

SAMUEL SCUDAMORE (REVEREND), born 1610. He matriculated 4 November 1631 at New Inn Hall, Oxford, and was granted a degree as a Bachelor of Arts on 20 June 1634. He was the vicar of Epsom, Surrey, in 1637. He later brought a suit in chancery about certain lands in Marlborough, Wiltshire and married 21 May 1638 at Maresfield, Sussex, Alice Burton of Bourne (whose administration was granted in 1648). He was the rector of Byfleet, Surrey, on 27 December 1645, but was ejected as a nonconformist before 25 September 1662 when his successor was instituted.,. In 1648 Reverend Scudamore was one of the administrators of John Austen of London identified as "a maternal cousin." He died at Chertsey, Surrey, and the administration on his estate was granted to his son Richard at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 20 February 1671/2. He had issue,

1. Richard, a sailmaker of the parish of St John Wapping, in London. He married [_____] Mussell, and died in August 1696. His will left a mortgaged estate at

¹²¹The witnesses to Crispe's will were John Vernon and William Grange.

Marlborough, Wiltshire owned presumably by descent from his great grandfather.¹²² He had issue,

1. Thomas, who succeeded to the freehold estate at Marlborough, Wiltshire.
1. Mary. She died unmarried 18 December 1720 at St Mary Whitechapel in Stepney, London leaving a long will remembering many of her kinfolk.
2. John, living 1696.
1. Elizabeth (Bethia). She married (licence 25 October 1676) Joseph Hitchcock, a yeoman of Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. They were living in 1679 at St Mary Whitechapel in Stepney. She was living in 1720.
2. Alice, a spinster of St Catherine Coleman, London. Her will (proved 21 May 1717) mentions many of her kin.¹²³ She was buried in the Bunhill Burying Ground.
3. A daughter. [The will of Mary Scudamore, who died in 1720, mentions her aunt Williamson, perhaps this lady.]

RICKMANSWORTH, HERTFORDSHIRE

This family is said to have been at Rickmansworth as early as 1555.¹²⁴ Of all of the branches of the family that came out of Burnham, the Rickmansworth family survives in the greatest numbers both in England and America.

RICHARD SKIDMORE, the first of the name at Rickmansworth, was a younger son of Erasmus Skydmore of Kingsbury and a great-grandson of Philip Skydmore (1416-1488) and his wife Wenyllan Osborne. He is probably the Richard Scudamore who was an overseer in 1573 with John Masters, called gentlemen, for Henry Hastings (c.1535-1595), the third earl of Huntington, at Huntington's manor of Cippenham in Burnham.¹²⁵ He appears to be, for want of any other man of the name of his time and place, the Richard Skidmore called "of Hertfordshire" who married Catherine, a daughter of Richard Willoughby of Grendon, Northamptonshire.¹²⁶ He was buried at Rickmansworth on 23 June 1582, and

¹²²P.C.C., PROB 11/433. His will was dated 8 August, and proved two weeks later on 22 August 1696..

¹²³P.C.C., PROB 11/538.

¹²⁴This according to a vellum pedigree of the family set down soon after 1802. It descended to Peter Hastings Emmott Skidmore who died at Bath in 1992. The evidence for this statement, if so, now seems to be lost.

¹²⁵*Court Baron Roll for Cippenham*, 13 Elizabeth I, now at the Huntington Library, San Marino, California. Cippenham is one of five districts called *liberties* that are a part of Burnham.

¹²⁶*Visitation of Nottinghamshire, 1569 and 1618* (London, Harleian Society) IV, 147-8. Unfortunately this pedigree is woefully short of dates. However Catherine Willoughby had a great-nephew Philip Willoughby who was "16 yere old in 1618" and a better identification of her husband remains to be found. Probably only coincidentally Sir Philip Scudamore of Burnham entered into a suit after 1603 against Sir Edward Philips about Grendon manor. Sir Philip became bond to Thomas Piggot the younger [his stepson-in-law] of Doddershall, for a debt of £300 that Piggot owed to Dorothy Offley of London. Piggot died intestate, but his father (the elder Thomas) honoured the debt and conveyed the manor of Grendon jointly to Sir Edward, "Sergeant-at-Law to his highness," and to

presumably left issue, order uncertain,

1. HENRY, of whom further.
2. GEORGE, to whom we will later return.
3. THOMAS, to whom we will eventually return.
1. Bridget (perhaps). She married John Surman on 2 June 1600 at Chalfont St Giles. She died soon after as Bridget, wife of John Surman, was buried there on 20 February 1601/2.

The eldest son,

HENRY SKIDMORE, a chandler of Rickmansworth, was born about 1570, presumably the son of Richard and Catherine (Willoughby) Skidmore. He is mentioned only once at Chalfont St Giles where his daughter Katherine (perhaps named for her grandmother) was buried on 22 January 1595. He lived thereafter at Rickmansworth where he was a tallow chandler, making and selling candles. This trade was clearly profitable for he left descendants who succeeded him in the family business in the village for several generations. The largest and most informative document about Henry Skidmore that survives is his will dated 8 February 1637. He styles himself a chandler of Rickmansworth and leaves the messuage where he lived there, together with all it's garden and appurtenances, to his wife Susan for the term of her life. After her death it was to pass to his son Abraham. Henry Skidmore held this property freehold, and not by copyhold.¹²⁷ To his younger son Henry Skidmore (and Henry's son Henry and daughter Elizabeth), he left 12d each. To his daughter Anne, the wife of Thomas Pepper, he also left 12d. Ann Pepper was approaching middle age in 1636 for she had five children (Thomas, James, John, Susan, and Michael Pepper) who were also left 12d each by their grandfather. His wife Susan was given the residue of his estate and she was appointed sole executrix. John Oyle and John Gibb were named as overseers of the will, and Gibb and John Fetherley were the two witnesses to it. Presumably Henry Skidmore was in good health when the will was signed for it was not probated until 16 March 1649.¹²⁸ Henry Skidmore's will was not proved at the local probate registry at St Albans. His widow had died in the interval between the signing and the probate without taking execution, and Abraham Skidmore, now the largest benefactor of the will, elected to take it to the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, a superior court, where it was duly recorded.¹²⁹ Abraham Skidmore was appointed administrator and no doubt paid the legacies and entered into his father's estate at Rickmansworth. He had issue,

1. Abraham, the eldest son, of Rickmansworth. He married firstly (licence 27 February 1636/7) Joan Dancer, and secondly (by 1659) Ann [_____] who was buried on 25 June 1671 at Rickmansworth. He was buried on 13 September 1689 at Rickmansworth and is described as an "ancient [free]holder" in the parish register. No probate has been

Richard Piggot, gentleman. Richard alienated his half for £900, but Sir Edward retained his moiety and refused to satisfy the debt. [Most of Sir Edward's reply is badly mutilated and illegible.] *National Archives*, C3.291/8.

¹²⁷Copyhold was a less desirable way of holding land. It was never permanent and the lease required specified renewals.

¹²⁸It must be remembered, however, that much of the period between the signing and probate of his will was occupied with the Civil War and most of England's institutions were either disrupted or ceased to function altogether.

¹²⁹P.C.C., PROB 11/207. (Register *Fairfax*, folio 27).

found for him but he left issue,

1. Henry, who emigrated in 1668 to Pocomoke, Somerset County, Maryland, as a servant to James Weedon of London. He and his brother later went by 1671 with Weedon to Rehobeth Bay in Sussex County, Delaware. He left a large posterity in several southern states in America.¹³⁰
2. Thomas, born about 1654, who went at the same time as his elder brother to Maryland. He acquired a plantation of 400 acres on the south side of Murder Creek in Mispillion Hundred, Kent County, Delaware, which he called *Rickmansworth* for his former home back in England. He left descendants, who still survive, in Monmouth County, New Jersey (up the Atlantic seaboard) and elsewhere.
3. Abraham, baptized April 1659, buried 2 October 1660 at Rickmansworth.
4. Abraham, baptized 13 April 1662, buried 25 June 1671 at Rickmansworth.
1. Sarah. She married Roger Brewer on 14 September 1676 at Rickmansworth. She was buried there on 16 April 1678.
2. HENRY, of whom further.
 1. Katherine. She was buried, an infant, on 22 January 1594/5 at Chalfont St Giles.¹³¹
 2. Ann. She married (licence 1 January 1623) to Thomas Pepper of Rickmansworth, and was living there, his widow, on 11 April 1658.

The second son,

HENRY SKIDMORE, a tallow chandler of Rickmansworth. He was buried at that place on 29 December 1664. An inventory of his estate was taken on 18 January 1664/5, and the administration of his goods was given on the day following to his son John Skidmore. The name of his first wife is unknown, but she was buried as the wife of Henry Skidmore, *Senior* on 16 May 1660. He married secondly on 25 February 1660/1 Mary Ansell, who was buried as his widow on 2 May 1684. She had died intestate and the administration on her estate was given on 26 May 1684 to Thomas Collins, a nephew “on the father’s side” according to her probate. He had issue,

1. Henry, the eldest son, a tallow chandler of Rickmansworth. He married firstly 4 December 1656, Sarah (who was buried 14 September 1657), the daughter of John Gibb, a yeoman of Heronsgate, and secondly on 22 December 1658 Prudence (buried 15 May 1666), the daughter of Thomas Davy of Rickmansworth. He was buried 18 October 1666 leaving a will dated two days earlier mentioning his two surviving daughters, his uncle Abraham Skidmore and his brother-in-law George Wingfield. Had issue,
 1. Sarah, baptized 3 September 1657, buried 5 September 1657.
 2. Prudence, baptized 17 November 1659. She married Thomas Kingston on 27 March 1679 at St James, Duke Place in London.

¹³⁰For an expansive account of this branch see *The Skidmore Family of Rickmansworth, Herefordshire, and of Rickmansworth Plantation in Kent County, Delaware, with an account of their descendants in New Jersey, North Carolina, Tennessee, and the West* (Fourth edition, 2004) by Warren and William F. Skidmore. A revision of the book will be found on the *Scudamore/Skidmore Family History*, published as a CD-ROM in 2006.

¹³¹She may have been a namesake of Catherine Willoughby, a possible grandmother.

3. Elizabeth, baptized 11 March 1663/4, buried 25 May 1666.
4. Susan, baptized 15 May 1666. She married (licence 6 June 1688) John Page, of Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex.
2. JOHN, the second son, of whom further.
 1. Elizabeth, married George Wingfield on 28 March 1666 at St James, Dukes Place, London.
 2. Susannah. She married firstly [_____] Partridge, and secondly Reverend Benjamin Keach (1640-1704), a somewhat abrasive Baptist clergyman of London.¹³² She and her four daughters by Keach were left £5 each in the will of her brother John Skidmore in 1699. She died in 1727.

The second son,

JOHN SKIDMORE was born after 1636 at Rickmansworth, the son of Henry Skidmore (died 1664). The name of his first wife is unknown (the marriage is not found in the register at St Mary, Rickmansworth), but he married secondly Hannah Ayer at the parish of St Mary Aldermanbury, London, on 12 November 1668. On the occasion of his second marriage he is called "a widower of Rickmansworth" and his wife was "of the same parish" in the London register. He was buried on 14 December 1699 in the church or churchyard of St Mary in Rickmansworth. His wife Hannah survived until 18 December 1716; she was buried aged 60 in the graveyard attached to the Quaker Meeting House at Chorleywood in Rickmansworth. John Skidmore is usually styled a mercer, but he was also a tallow chandler at Rickmansworth as his father and grandfather had been before him.¹³³ He coined his own copper halfpenny bearing his name and the date 1666 at Rickmansworth. The token also has the arms of the mercers on the obverse. The two different dies from which the obverses were struck survived in the hands of the late Peter Emmott Skidmore of Bath. These dies have passed to the eldest son in each generation since the death of the original coiner. John Skidmore prospered at Rickmansworth and invested the profits of his trade in land. He purchased Lockhill Wood (and other lands in the parish) from Sir Richard Franklin, Bt., for £640 and brought a suit in chancery on 28 July 1680 when it was alleged (in error it seems) that Franklin's marriage settlement on his wife compromised Skidmore's title. John Skidmore also owned a fine property called Basing House in Rickmansworth which he leased for £40 per annum to William Penn (who went soon after to America to found the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.). It is not clear whether John Skidmore was a Friend or not. Quakers were fined heavily during his lifetime for not attending service or taking communion at the local established parish church. Most of them did not, and choose not to advertise their persuasion. However, John Skidmore was buried at the church in Rickmansworth which suggests that he may have conformed in matters of religion to that extent. There is no doubt at all about the faith of his wife and children for when his will was proved on 26 February 1700 his son Joseph was identified in the probate as "one of the dissenters commonly called Quakers." He had issue,

1. JOHN, the elder son.
2. JOSEPH, the second son, of whom further.
 1. Hannah, married John Neale, Junior, a mercer of Watford, at Watford on 29 June 1693.

¹³²See the *New Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* for a his portrait and a life of Rev. Keach.

¹³³He is called a *tallow chandler* in 1695 on the marriage bond of his son, a *shopkeeper* in the parish register at his death in 1699, and finally a *mercier* in his will

- She died at Watford, a widow, on 27 January 1708 and was buried at Chorleywood.
2. Mary, married Thomas Harris (died 1707), a flourman of Rickmansworth, on 21 August 1701 at Watford.

The eldest son,

JOHN SKIDMORE, a tallow chandler and mercer, was born in 1675 at Rickmansworth, the eldest son of John and Hannah (Ayer) Skidmore. He married firstly Mary, the daughter of Benjamin Ware of Rickmansworth, on 17 June 1695 St Andrew Holborn in London. She was buried 9 August 1700 at the meeting house at Chorleywood, and he married secondly Ann, the daughter of [_____] Buswell of Newbold, Warwickshire by a licence granted on 26 September 1704 from the Vicar General. She survived John Skidmore and married Edward Chapman as her second husband at Watford in 1736. She was living as late as 1751. John Skidmore was a constable at Rickmansworth in 1700 and is said to have held the Swan Inn there in 1702. He was called a grocer at Rickmansworth in 1720 where he died in 1727. His will is dated 26 July 1727 and was proved on 17 January 1727/8 by Benjamin Skidmore, his son and executor. His sons John, Henry, and Joseph disappear from Rickmansworth. He had issue by his first wife (including twins, stillborn, buried 28 January 1698),.

1. John, the eldest son. He was living in 1727. John Skidmore inherited *Cornerhouse Farm*, two copyhold cottages, a meadow called *Garrett's Mead* (with its barn and outbuildings), and *Round Mead* in Rickmansworth under the terms of his father's will dated 26 July 1727. He was living in 1727 but nothing more is known of him. He perhaps settled elsewhere before his father's death, since his brother Benjamin was named his executor.
1. Hannah, born about 1697 She married Josiah Stamper of Watford and Moor Farm, Rickmansworth, in 1717. She died on 11 August 1783, aged 86, and was buried at Rickmansworth on the 17th.
(by second wife)
2. BENJAMIN, baptized 27 September 1705, of whom further.
3. Henry, baptized 19 April 1707. He was living in 1727.
4. Buswell, baptized 2 August 1708, buried 28 December 1708 at Rickmansworth.
5. Buswell, baptized 29 November 1709. He was apprenticed on 6 April 1725 to John Ellison of the Vintners' Company in London. He survived his father and was buried back at Rickmansworth on 27 June 1733.
6. Joseph, baptized 6 November 1713. He was apprenticed on 7 May 1729 in London to Thomas Brown of the Dyers' Company. in London.¹³⁴
2. Ann, baptized 2 July 1711, buried 12 October 1711 at Rickmansworth.
3. Ann, baptized 29 September 1712, buried 2 July 1713 at Rickmansworth.
4. Ann, baptized 20 September 1716, buried 25 August 1719 at Rickmansworth.
5. Elizabeth, baptized 19 July 1719, buried 1 September 1719 at Rickmansworth.
6. Elizabeth. She was baptized 27 December 1722 and buried on 19 February 1723 at Rickmansworth.
7. Mary. She was remembered in her father's will and was buried 9 June 1732 at Rickmansworth.

¹³⁴He became a successful dyer and was living on 1 May 1745 when Richard Shellard of Bedfordshire was apprenticed to him.

JOSEPH SKIDMORE, a maltster at Rickmansworth, was the second son of John and Hannah (Ayer) Skidmore. He was probably the first of this family to become “one of the dissenters commonly called Quakers,” and is noticed in the minutes of the Monthly Meeting in 1703 as having gone briefly to Ireland. He and his first wife Elizabeth were married (as a members of the Society of Friends) at Watford on 10 April 1707 She was the daughter of William Greenhill, and died on 9 June 1715 aged 33. Joseph Skidmore married secondly Martha Treadway, the mother of his youngest daughter. His will was dated 31 March 1738, but was not proved until 30 December 1746. He was a maltster at Rickmansworth and a devout Quaker. He was the author of *Primitive Simplicity Demonstrated* and several other printed Quaker tracts, all of them now extremely rare. He had issue by his wife,

1. Joseph, born 25 July 1713.
1. Elizabeth, born 14 January 1707/8. She was living unmarried in 1738.
2. Mary, born 12 August 1710. She married Austin Tolley on 18 May 1732 at St Benets, Paul’s Wharf, London, where they are both called of Rickmansworth in the register.
3. Susannah, born 4 June 1715. She died in 1717 “aged 12 months.”
(by second wife)
4. Martha. She married Roger King of Watford and left issue.

BENJAMIN SKIDMORE, a shop keeper at Rickmansworth, was baptized 27 September 1705 at St Mary Rickmansworth, the second son of John Skidmore by his wife Ann Buswell. He married by licence Sarah Holt on 11 November 1736 at St Giles without Cripplegate, London who survived him and was buried at Rickmansworth on 16 August 1785. Benjamin Skidmore was buried there on 3 May 1751. He inherited two brick dwellings on the High Street in Rickmansworth (one being the dwelling of his father), the freehold coppice called *Lockhill Wood*, and two freehold closes at *Town End* from his father in 1727. He collected the land tax at Rickmansworth in 1742-3. His will dated 24 April 1751 (and proved 1 February 1755) mentions only his wife Sarah, his eldest son Benjamin, and a daughter Elizabeth Jeffries.¹³⁵ It provided for (but unfortunately did not name) his other minor children. He had issue,

1. Benjamin, baptized 27 December 1737 at Rickmansworth, the eldest son and heir of Benjamin and Sarah (Holt) Skidmore. He was a minor at his father’s death and is said to have “sold his estate and went to America where he married, his descendants still living” according to a vellum pedigree of this family. Nothing more is known of him.
1. Mary, baptized 5 July 1739.
2. Sarah, baptized 9 October 1740.
3. Hannah, baptized 3 August 1742. She probably was the child buried as *Anne* Skidmore on 22 August 1742.
4. Anne, baptized 29 September 1743 and buried 7 May 1744.
5. Anne, baptized 13 May 1745. She married Thomas Tibbals (died 1805), a bachelor, 24 October 1767 at Rickmansworth, and was buried there on 2 June 1811, age 67.
6. Elizabeth, baptized 28 July 1750. She married Thomas Jefferies, a bachelor, on 8 August 1787 at Rickmansworth. He married secondly at Rickmansworth in 1822 (at the age of 80) a distant cousin Jemima, a daughter of Ralph Skidmore of Chenies,

¹³⁵P.C.C., PROB 11/793.

Buckinghamshire.

JOSEPH SKIDMORE, a maltster at Rickmansworth, was born there on 25 July 1713 the son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Greenhill) Skidmore. He married 22 January 1766 Elizabeth, a daughter and heiress of Thomas Emmott, who died 17 March 1795 aged 57. He died 5 April 1784 aged 71 and they are both buried at Chorleywood.¹³⁶ Joseph Skidmore was a prosperous maltster at Rickmansworth as his father had been before him. His wife was a considerable heiress who inherited the manor of Micklefield Hall in Rickmansworth from her father, with a reversion after her death to her son Emmott Skidmore.¹³⁷ Elizabeth Skidmore was admitted to certain of her husband's copyhold lands at a Court Baron held on 30 March 1785 for Rickmansworth. She was living in the Old Manor House of Rickmansworth in 1789 according to a court roll which survives at the Hertfordshire Record Office. He had issue,

- 1 Emmott, eldest son and heir, born 4 November 1771. He was a coal merchant at Frogmore Wharf at Batchworth in Rickmansworth according to the 1811 London directory. A bachelor, his will ordered that the wharf be sold to pay the legacies to his nieces, nephews and servants mentioned in his will. It named his nephew Edmund Lucas (a Quaker and a coal merchant at 54 Milbank Street, Westminster) his sole executor. He died 28 May 1837 aged 66 and is said to have been the last person buried at Chorleywood. In addition to the charitable bequests made in his will Emmott Skidmore notes that "I speak or write not boastingly but I have given away since I attained the age of 21 years £10,000 and feel no cause for regret."¹³⁸ He also specified that his executor was to distribute his charities between the poor "whether of the Church of England or Dissenters shewing no partiality (I never did) equally in the town and several Hamlets of the said Parish [Rickmansworth]."¹³⁹
- 2 JOSEPH, of whom further.
 1. Elizabeth, born 13 April 1767. She married William Howson, a woolstapler of St Albans, Hertfordshire, on 11 May 1785 at Chorleywood. She was buried at Chorleywood and left no issue.
 2. Mary, born 10 August 1768. She married John Morris, a brewer of Amptill, Bedfordshire, at Hemel Hempstead on 26 April 1792. She died 25 September 1811 and was buried on 1 October at Chorleywood.
 3. Ann, born 23 June 1770. She married firstly 7 May 1794 at Chorleywood to Joseph Hull (died 18 March 1795 aged 38) of Uxbridge, Middlesex, by whom she had no issue, and secondly on 23 August 1796 at the Monthly Meeting of Uxbridge and Staines to William Lucas (1770-1834), a flourman, and lived at 18 Milbank Street,

¹³⁶His will was proved on 22 April 1784. (P.C.C., PROB 11/1116.)

¹³⁷Robert Clutterbuck, *The History of Hertfordshire* (The hundreds of Cashio and Dacorum, 1815) I, 201.

¹³⁸P.C.C., PROB 11/884. It styles him a coal merchant, and was proved on 1 September 2837.

¹³⁹A fine portrait of Emmott Skidmore in an oval frame has recently been loaned to the Museum for Three Rivers in Rickmansworth. It is dated 1826 and shows him fashionably dressed in a long tail coat, a silk top hat, and carrying a neatly folded umbrella under his right arm.

Westminster, London. She died 17 September 1836 "aged 66" at Wandsworth Common and she and her husband are buried at Burnhill Fields Cemetery in London. Edmund Lucas, her son and heir-at-law was admitted as a tenant to certain lands at Rickmansworth held by his mother on 29 March 1837 under the terms of the will of her father.

4. Susannah, born 1772. She married 16 February 1804 at Chorleywood William Ashby (1768-1832), a mealman of Staines, Middlesex who also owned Ashby's Brewery at Staines, Middlesex. She died in 1858 leaving a son Skidmore Ashby (1810-1882) and several other children.

The second son,

JOSEPH SKIDMORE, JUNIOR was born 1 May 1773 at Rickmansworth, the son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Emmott) Skidmore. He is called a maltster and brickmaker at Rickmansworth in the 1811 directory of London. His first wife is unknown. He married secondly Jane Lemon of Kewstoke, Somerset (born 1780, died 5 January 1858) on 31 March 1814 at St George, Bloomsbury She survived him. He owned three pubs in the High Street, Rickmansworth, and supplied them with beer from his own malthouse and brewery at Mill End. *The Swan* was one of the oldest and most popular public houses in the town; it was lost by forfeiture in 1832 and was demolished in 1964. *The Bell* remained in the family and was put up to auction by his grandson Joseph Spenser Skidmore on 6 March 1912. *The George* was close by on the High Street; Joseph Skidmore had it by the devise of his father's will dated 18 March 1784. Joseph Skidmore closed down his brewhouse in 1820 and *The Swan* was seized by the lord of Rickmansworth manor as he had failed to apply at the manorial court for a licence to alienate the brewery. It was regained after his death by his heirs. He lived in the Old Manor House on the High Street and his widow was still there in 1839. [It has since been torn down and the site is occupied by the Midland Bank in Rickmansworth. His eldest two children were baptized at St Mary Rickmansworth, but the births of his younger children are found entered in the records of the Longford Monthly Meeting. Joseph Skidmore died 13 May 1835, aged 63, and they are both buried at Chorleywood.¹⁴⁰ He had by his first wife,

1. Jane, born 1813. She married James Johnson (1811-1877) at St Martin-in-the-Fields, London on 9 December 1850. He was a widower, a linen draper, and a distributor of stamps and licences at Watford. She was living in 1891 at the Manor House, Rickmansworth, and died there in 1893 aged 81.
(by second wife)
2. Elizabeth, baptized 23 October 1814. She married William Smith, a prosperous farmer in 1851 employing 17 labourers. He died in July 1883. She was living in 1881 at Liddington, Rutland with her son William Smith, and in 1891 at Woodbine Villas, Rickmansworth.
3. THOMAS EMMOTT, of whom further.
4. JOSEPH, the second son, of whom further.
5. John, born 29 March 1822. He died 22 March 1823 aged 11 months and was buried at Chorleywood
6. Susannah, born 19 July 1817. She was living at home in 1841, and later married Edmund Dennis. She was his widow in 1871 and died in 1873 at Watford.

¹⁴⁰P.C.C., PROB 11/1850. His will was proved 20 July 1835.

7. Sophia, born 25 October 1818. She was at home in 1841, and married Thomas Brown Weedon (1819-1904). She died 9 December 1904 aged 84 at Wycombe.
8. Mary Ann, born 26 September 1824. She was living at home in 1841, but later married William Rowell. She died in 1856.
9. Charlotte, born 21 February 1826. She was living at home in 1841, but married John Parkhouse. She died in 1904 at Rickmansworth, aged 78.

The eldest son,

THOMAS EMMOTT SKIDMORE was christened 30 May 1816 at Rickmansworth, the son of Joseph and Jane (Lemon) Skidmore. He married 31 December 1840 at St Marys Rickmansworth, Ellen, daughter of Christopher Brown of London. She was born 9 January 1805 and died 21 August 1892 aged 88. He was killed 15 April 1899 aged 83 in a railway accident at Portland Station near Weymouth, Dorset, and is buried at Rickmansworth. He succeeded on the death of his uncle Emmott Skidmore in 1837 to Micklefield Hall which he sold in 1844 to Thomas Clutterbuck. He lived in 1861 in the High Street in Rickmansworth, but was living in 1890 (when he and his wife celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary) at the Highlands, Croxley Green, in the town. He moved after the death of his wife to Weymouth, Dorset. He had issue,

1. THOMAS EMMOTT (MAJOR), to whom we will return.
1. Ellen Jane, born 19 March 1843. She married John Campbell (born 1848) of Strachur and Ardgarten, Argyllshire, on 20 July 1876 at Croxley Green and had issue. She was living in 1891 at 3 Allesley Road, Coventry, a widow.

The second son,

JOSEPH SKIDMORE was born 11 September 1820 the son of Joseph and Jane (Lemon) Skidmore. He married firstly on 2 June 1851 (while living on Judd Street at St Pancras, London) to Elizabeth, a daughter of Thomas Horwood in 1851, and secondly to Catherine Spenser (who died 12 February 1867 and is buried at St Mary Rickmansworth) in 1859; and thirdly (by licence on 3 July 1880 at London in the Islington Registration District) to Mary Billington (born 1835 at Campton in Amptill, Bedfordshire) in the Islington Registration District, who had been his housekeeper. He lived at Mill End Farm (also known earlier as Weedon Hall) in Rickmansworth for the last 60 years of his life dying there on 29 July 1914, aged 94, leaving issue by his first wife,

1. Elizabeth Jane Reed, born 1852 at Cleve, Somerset. She married firstly John Morris (died 1880) of Ampthill, Bedfordshire, and secondly William Smith (died 1885), a first cousin, at Rickmansworth of Micklefield, Rickmansworth in 1874. She died on 6 October 1935.
(by second wife)
1. Joseph Spenser, born 1865. He was a student, aged 15, in the Bancroft Boys School at Hitchin, Hertfordshire in 1881. He married Mary Harris in 1901 at Staines, Middlesex, and was a bank manager at Sunninghill, Berkshire.
2. Catherine, born 1861. A governess, she never married. She was a companion in 1901 at Cheltenham, Gloucestershire and is buried at Rickmansworth.
3. Emily, born 20 January 1863. She was also a spinster and was living in 1901 with her sister Elizabeth Smith at Micklefield. She is buried at Rickmansworth.
(by third wife)

2. William, born 11 August 1876.¹⁴¹ He married Fanny Smith of Reading and was bailiff for Mr. Wilde of Shepherds Farm. Left issue 16 children surnamed Skidmore of whom 14 were living in 1983.
4. Amy, born 2 July 1878. She died unmarried at Rickmansworth after 1947.
5. Mary, born 4 February 1881. She was living at home in 1901.
6. Sophia, born 2 March 1883. She married Arthur Pallett who owned the Springwell Mineral Water Factory in Rickmansworth.
7. Helen (Nell), born 28 May 1887. She married Frederick Stevens, a coachman.

MAJOR THOMAS EMMOTT SKIDMORE was born 22 May 1846 at Englefield Green, Surrey, the son of Thomas Emmott and Ellen (Brown) Skidmore. He married on 18 March 1880 at St Saviors Bath, Maud Mary (who died in 1918 at Micklefield, Penn Lea Road, Bath), a daughter of George Clarke Smith of Grove Lodge, Lambridge, Bath. He died 22 January 1897 at Newtown, Montgomeryshire. His widow and their four children were living in 1901 on Avon Mill Lane, Bristol. Thomas Emmott Skidmore was a brewer and was an officer in the Cheshire Yeomanry rising to the rank of Major on 14 April 1882. He was a Freemason belonging to the Rose and Thistle Lodge No. 158 at Wigan where he was Provincial Grand Sword Bearer. Had issue,

1. Thomas Emmott, born 23 May 1883 at Northwich. He served as a Sergeant in Prince Albert's own Somerset Volunteers (Territorial Army) and was sent to South Africa in the Boer War. He went to China in 1904 as Chief Engineer for the British-American Tobacco Company and lived at Tjiensin, Cheefoo, Hankow and Shanghai. He married Dorothy Mary, a daughter of George Guy (and a first cousin), in 1911 at Aylmer, Elgin County, Ontario. He returned to England in 1938 (when war in China seemed certain) and died in 1954 at Bath.
1. Mary Ellen, born 18 March 1881 at Northwich, Cheshire. She never married.
2. Hilda Maud, born 27 April 1885. She married Charles Henrywood.
3. Cecily Georgina Margaret, born 9 May 1888. She never married.

It is now necessary to finally return to,

GEORGE SKIDMORE, an innholder of Watford, Hertfordshire, was born about 1575 a probable son of Richard and Catherine (Willoughby) Skidmore of Rickmansworth. He married Elizabeth Beeson on 13 October 1597 at Chenies in Buckinghamshires, presumably the bride's parish. The young couple was living at Rickmansworth in 1600 when he signed the Bishop's Transcript for that year as a sideman of the parish. He had removed by 16 March 1610 to Watford (which adjoins Rickmansworth) where he was assessed 3sh on £3 in goods. In 1625 George Skidmore of Watford subscribed £10 on a forced loan to King Charles. He prospered at Watford where he owned two inns, the George and the White Hart. His will is undated but a codicil was added on 4 April 1648 (witnessed by John Andrews and Nicholas Coulbourne) and disposed of his inns as well as a great deal of other lands and houses in Watford. His wife Elizabeth (who was provided for in his undated will) was buried at Watford on 23 December 1647 and George Skidmore followed her in death on 27 April

¹⁴¹This William Skidmore and his sister Amy were born before their parents married, and were thought to be Billingtons adopted by Joseph Skidmore. However a DNA sample has proved that they were, in fact, his biological children.

1648. His will and codicil were proved on 6 November 1648 at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury by George Hunt, his grandson and executor.¹⁴² George Skidmore had two daughters both of whom died before him; Elizabeth married Philip Hunt of Watford, and another unnamed daughter married Dr. Edmund Staunton, D. D., an Oxford scholar who was rector at Watford and Rickmansworth, and later at Kingston-on-Thomas, Surrey where he died on 14 July 1671 aged 71. His first wife is said to have married *Mr. Scudamore* of Watford “who did not live long and by whom he had an only daughter.”¹⁴³ Dr. Staunton’s daughter was named Elizabeth and she is provided for in George Skidmore's will. He also had another granddaughter Elizabeth (presumably a daughter of Philip Hunt) who is also remembered at the same time.

It is now necessary to return, at last, to,

THOMAS SKIDMORE, born about 1580, who was a probable son of Richard and Catherine (Willoughby) of Rickmansworth. He married Margaret [_____] at a place and date presently unknown, but lived at Ruislip in Middlesex (which adjoins both Rickmansworth and Watford). His will (dated 9 September 1645) named his wife as his executrix and provided legacies for his two daughters and his grandchildren. The legacies were to be paid from the rents and profits of his customary cottage, meadow and woods in Ruislip which he settled on the same day on William Vernon, gentleman, probably to see that his legacies were paid. His will was proved at St Albans (in Hertfordshire) on 12 March 1646. The witnesses to his will were John Andrewes (who witnessed the codicil to the will of George Skidmore two years later), William Vernon, and Nicholas Chapman. He left issue, two daughters,

1. Mary. She married John *Belche* [Balch] and her children were left £8 to be paid to them within three years after their grandfather's death.
2. Sarah. She married and her children by an unknown husband were left a similar legacy of £3 by their grandfather.

APPENDIX ONE. A SELECTION OF NOTES ABOUT UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS.

London was a great magnet that pulled in ambitious young men (and conversely many wastrels) looking for greater opportunities than could be found back in their country parishes. Included here are possible descendants of the Burnham family who apprenticed to London companies, or others who took a talent to a neighboring community in the small area where Middlesex, Buckinghamshire, and Hertfordshire adjoin. It is also curious how many local personages eloped to London (a trip taking less than half a day), were married, and then promptly returned home. Many of the people listed in this selection are probably not from the Burnham family, but sorting them out correctly is an enormous chore for another day.

AMERSHAM.

¹⁴²P.C.C., PROB 11/206.

¹⁴³She was dead by July 1629 when he married Mary Balthorp of Bushey, Hertfordshire as his second wife.

Marriage.

Anna Skidmore & Cornelius Hill. 9 October 1582.

BUCKLEBURY, BERKSHIRE.

Joane, a daughter of William Small of Bucklebury, married [_____] Skidmore. She was left five shillings on 7 May 1614 in the will of Peter Small of Bucklebury (who calls William Small his cousin).

Berks Wills, *Register L*, page 523.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

Marriage

Richard Skidmore & Rebecca West. 1699. [See Willesden, Middlesex.]

CHALFONT ST GILES.

Baptism.

Alice Skidmore, baptized 29 November 1539 at Chalfont St Peter.

Marriages.

Thomas Skidmore & Joan Babbe, 21 October 1584 at Chalfont St Giles. [He may have been dead by 8 July 1593 when a Joan Skidmore, not identified as a widow, married Thomas Clarke. The wills, if any, for Thomas and Joan Clarke might be helpful.]

Joan Skidmore & Thomas Clarke. 8 July 1593.

Edward Skidmore married Ethel [_____]. She was buried on 18 January 1603/4 at Chalfont St Giles, and he is presumably the Edward Skidmore who survived there until 14 October 1623.

Ann Skidmore & William Grimsdale. 27 April 1630.

Henry Skidmore & Ann Bedford. 4 October 1676.

Burials.

Agnes Skidmore. 4 April 1584.

Katherine, daughter of Henry Skidmore. 22 January 1594/5. This Henry Skidmore is mentioned only once at Chalfont St Giles and may be the tallow chandler from Rickmansworth.

CHALFONT ST PETER.

Baptisms.

Joseph Skidmore and Anne Burroughs had a baseborn son William baptized at Chalfont St Peter on 3 September 1718 probably buried there on 5 October 1723. The same Joseph Skidmore (presumably) had another son Joseph baptized on 3 September 1718 who may be the Joseph buried there on 9 June 1725.

Marriages.

Thomas Skydmore & Agnes Francis. They had a daughter Alice baptized 29 November 1539 at Chalfont St Peter. His wife may be the Agnes Skidmore buried on 4 April 1584 at Chalfont St Giles.

Martha Skidmore & William Arnall. 30 July 1645 "both of Chenies."

Ann Skidmore & John Gibbs "of Iver," 18 December 1759.

CHENIES, BUCKINGHAM. Marriages.

Maria Skidmore & John Cooper. 21 May 1814.

CHESHAM.

Marriage.

Charlotte Skidmore & William Culvoras. 5 November 1788.

CHIPPING BARNETT, MIDDLESEX.

A "widow Scudamore" was there in 1636, perhaps from Kingsbury.

CHRIST CHURCH, SURREY.

Probates.

John Skidmore, carpenter. Will proved 15 April 1729. PROB 11/629.

Elizabeth Skidmore, widow. Will proved 22 November 1768. PROB 11/944.

DENHAM, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Probate.

Richard Skidmore *alias* Wingfield, of Denham. The administration on his estate was granted 17 September 1714 to Amy Bradley of Chalfont St Peter, the principal creditor, who gave bond with Silvester Proud of the same place, carrier, and Arthur Hodgkins, Jr., Aylesbury, gentleman, in the sum of £50.

EDGWARE, MIDDLESEX. Richard Scudamore of Edgware married Elizabeth, a sister of Thomas Lane, a yeoman of South Mimms, Middlesex. Scudamore was the executor of Lane, whose will was proved on 28 January 1652 (P.C.C., PROB 11/220). Lane remembers three of his sister's children: Henry Scudamore (who had daughters Alice and Elizabeth), Edward Scudamore, and their sister Sarah Scudamore who had married [_____] Platt, by whom she had a son Thomas Platt. All of these people seem to disappear from Middlesex. They may be related to the *Skiddie* family which I have noticed on the Scudamore/Skidmore website (*Occasional Papers*, no. 16).

FINSBURY DIVISION, MIDDLESEX.

Stephen Skidmore, a "rope-dancer of a "lowlier calling," was cited 22 April, 32 Charles II [1680] as a [Catholic] recusant. His wife Rose was presented as a "suspected "papist" on 3 January, 30 Charles II (1679), and William Perkins, gardener, and Richard Price, cooper, were both bound in the sum of £20 for her appearance at the Middlesex Sessions. Rose Scudamore appeared on the 13th and was discharged after producing a certificate that she had taken the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

FLORENCE, ITALY.

An extract from a letter written by Sir Dudley Carleton (the ambassador to Venice) to William Trumbull on 2 August 1611: "At Florence, at a supper of our countrymen, one Cartwright was slain in a sudden quarrel at the [table] board. Sir John Hamden, a bankrupt knight, for having an old quarrel with him, is condemned to the galleys; Skidmore, a swaggering captain, for giving the blow, to the gallows." Sir John Hamden, of Sussex, was knighted by James I at the Tower on 14 March 1604, and is called later a pensioner of the king. In 1613 he was caught on a pirate ship (possibly the galley to which he had been sentenced) and offered the feeble defense that he was only a passenger!

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL, MIDDLESEX.

Marriages.

William Skydmore of Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex, apparently had three wives: firstly Elizabeth Cannon whom he married on 25 November 1560 and by whom he apparently had a son Henry baptized on 20 May 1565. She was buried on 14 January 1571. He married secondly (by a licence from the Faculty Office on 1 January 1572/3) Agnes Norris who was buried at Harrow-on-the-Hill on 3 October 1574. He married thirdly Joan Turner on 5 December 1575 of whom nothing else is known. His burial is not found at Harrow, but an Annis (Agnes) Skydmore, perhaps a daughter, was buried there on 2 January 1598.

Burials.

Mrs. Mary Scudamore was buried on 19 May 1706 at Harrow-on-the-Hill.

John Scudamore, an infant, was buried there on 15 January 1764.

HAYES, MIDDLESEX.

Marriage.

Jonathan Skidmore & Sarah Tailor. 3 October 1755.

Probate.

John Skidmore, yeoman. Will proved 30 September 1767. PROB 11/833.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTFORDSHIRE.

Marriage.

John Scudamore & Hannah Baldwin, a widow, 12 September 1638.

HENDON, MIDDLESEX

William Skidmore, a collier, was cited on 1 April 1555 for keeping a victualling house without a licence at Hendon.

Henry Skidmore and his wife Mary (late widow of William Giff), held land in the manor of Hendon on 27 August 1657.

HERTFORDSHIRE. (PARISH NOT GIVEN)

Marriages.

Sarah Scudamore & James Goodwin. 1799.

Jemima Skidmore & Thomas Jeffery. 1822.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAM.

Marriages.

Levi Scudamore & Ann Macock. 26 May 1690.

Other.

Samuel Skidmore had right of common at High Wycombe, 18 Charles II (1666).

Probate.

Samuel Skidmore, a mariner belonging to His Majesty's ship *Advice*, from High Wycombe, proved 24 May 1695. PROB 11/425.

KINGSTON-ON THAMES, MIDDLESEX.

Baptism.

Mary, daughter of Peter Skidmore, 25 February 1640.

LONDON. Cheap Ward.

In 1558, William Skidmore, steals a purse.

LONDON. CARPENTERS' COMPANY.

Thomas Skydmore, an apprentice in 1511 to the Carpenters' Company.

LONDON. DRAPERS' COMPANY.

Thomas Scudamore, an apprenticed in 1608 to the Drapers' Company. Living 1617.

LONDON. HOLY TRINITY MINORIES.

William *Skedimore*, citizen and haberdasher, married Anne Toller in 1646 at Holy Trinity Minories. He was dead in 1663 when his son Stephen, was apprenticed on 17 June 1663 to Nicholas Pragell, a draper. [Perhaps from the ironmonger family.]

LONDON. ROLLS CHAPEL REGISTER, WESTMINSTER.

Marriage.

Joseph Skidmore of Christ Church, Middlesex & Hannah Prior of St George the Martyr. Licence 3 June 1737. [The date suggests that he may have been from Rickmansworth, the Joseph apprenticed on 7 May 1727 to the Dyers' Company.]

LONDON. ST BARTHOLOMEW-THE-LESS. [This church served a "Royalist, non-juring, Tory High Church, and Jacobite" constituency in London and the surrounding area.]

Marriage.

Mary Scudamore & Anthony Stevens. 16 December 1649.

LONDON. ST GEORGES WESTMINSTER. (HANOVER SQUARE)

Marriage.

Joshua Skidmore & Catherine Mann, married 1772.

Probate.

Joshua Skidmore, tailor. Will proved 6 April 1793. PROB 11/1231.

James Scudamore, merchant tailor. Will proved 13 June 1656. PROB 11/256.

LONDON. ST GILES CRIPPLEGATE.

William Scudamore, a haberdasher, was living in the parish of St Giles Cripplegate as early as 1604. He had a son named Humphrey Scudamore baptized on 1 September 1611 (presumably died an infant) and a second Humphrey baptized on 12 September 1613. He also had daughters Alice, baptized 23 December 1604; Anne, baptized 25 January 1606/7; and Katherine, baptized 12 September 1613. [He may have been from Herefordshire.]

LONDON. ST MARGARETS, WESTMINSTER.

Ralph Skidmore, bricklayer, and John Skidmore, carpenter. Cited (with a great many others) on 10 March 26, Charles II, [1674] “for not going to church, chapel or any usual place of common prayer.” [Possibly Quakers from Rickmansworth.]

LONDON. ST MARTINS-IN-THE-FIELDS.

Resident.

Giffin, Mr. Scudamore’s man, buried.

Marriages.

William Scudamore & Isabella Wilson, 29 July 1588.

William Scudamore & Phebe Goodenough on 24 September 1799. They are presumably the couple who sold the premises at 10 Castle Street, Oxford, on 25 June 1811, and had children christened at St Martin-in-the-Fields,

1. William, baptized 14 August 1803.
2. Charles, baptized 9 June 1805.
3. Thomas, baptized 10 July 1808.
1. Phyllis, baptized 1 July 1810.

Richard Scudamore, gentleman, was assaulted and killed at St Martin-in-the-Field (where he was buried on 15 April 1612), by John Smyth of London and Oswaldkirk, Yorkshire. [Middlesex Sessions, 10 James I].

LONDON. ST MARY-AT-HILL.

Marriage.

James Skidmore & Elizabeth Smith. 23 May 1623.

LONDON. ST MARY-LE-BOW.

Henry Skidmore, a grocer, late of London, a grocer. In 1598 he and Thomas Page of London, grocer, sued Jerham Suger and Thomas Turner of London, also grocers, to obtain some relief from the penalty of certain bonds and a statement of account. Bridget Skidmore married Thomas Page on 8 October 1592 at St Mary-le-Bow, London, and was no doubt nearly related (perhaps a sister) of Henry Skidmore.

LONDON. [City and Liberties of Westminster]

18 March 1649/50. William Scudamore, *marchant*, and Richard Bibby, taylor, both of Westminster,

bound in the sum of ten pounds each, with John Teague of Whitechapell, yeoman, in the sum of twenty pounds, for Teague's appearance at the next Sessions of the Peace; "to ansvere an endictment against him, being a hawker and seller of scandalous and seditious pamphlettes &c." [See Whitechapell, Middlesex.]

NEW WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE.

Marriage.

Frances [sic] Skydmore & Ann Stoke. 8 July 1571.

Burials.

Joane Skydmore. 21 August 1567.

Alice Skydmore. 5 October 1567.

Roger Skydmore. 22 February 1568.

John Skydmore. 21 May 1574.

John Skidmore. 9 September 1579.

Margery Skydmore. 9 December 1581.

Umfrey Skidmore. 20 January 1583.

Margaret Skydmore 9 June 1598.

Agnes Skudamore, widow. 20 January 1618.

[There are no other entries until 1708.]

NEWINGTON, SURREY.

James Skidmore. Will proved 3 December 1726. PROB 11/612.

QUAINTON, BUCKINGHAM.

Marriage.

Elizabeth Skidmore & Michael Austiss. 1689.

RICKMANSWORTH, HERTFORDSHIRE

Baptism.

Charlotte Skidmore, the bastard of Anne Smith. 31 January 1779.

Burials.

Elizabeth Skidmore died 13 July 1682, and John Skidmore died 4 May 1684; are both buried at Chorleywood. They are said to have been children of John Skidmore by his wife Mary (died 9 August 1700) but the dates are incompatible with what is known of this couple

Hanna Skidmore, buried 1781. at Rickmansworth.

SOUTH MIMMS, MIDDLESEX. [See Edgware.]

SOUTHWARK, ST SAVIOURS.

Marriage.

Elizabeth Skudamore & Feliz Hunt, by licence in 1621.

TRING, HERTFORDSHIRE.

Marriage.

Thomas Skidmore & Ann Watkins. 1752.

UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.

Marriages.

Margery Skidmore & Richard Clark. 1547.

Robert Skidmore & Elizabeth Cotterel. 1550.

Agnes Skidmore & William Hunt. 1573.

Elizabeth Skydmore & Robert Moorecroft. 5 September 1574.

Robert Skidmore & Julian Brightridge. 1577.

Burials.

Elizabeth Skidmore. 25 November 1546.

Elizabeth Skidmore. 17 December 1557.

WATFORD. Moor Manor.

John Skidmore and James Warburton witnesses on 2 March 1694 to a bond for £60 by John Branch of Wingfield, Berkshire, and his brother William Branch, given for Henry Tredway of Watford. [Title deeds, Moor Hall, Rickmansworth.]

WATLINGTON, OXFORDSHIRE.

“Item in manibus magistru Skydmore xxj s.” Noticed in a visitation of the church there in 1517 or 1520. [This was probably Philip Skydmore (1489-1544), a son-in-law of Sir Edward Chamberlayne, who had an estate at Watlington.]

WHITECHAPEL, MIDDLESEX.

William Scudamore ,of Mallfellow *alias* Whitechapel, a salter. He married Margaret, daughter of William Frisingfield, (a painter and stainer). They gave a deed in 1640 to John Olibeare and Richard Cooke.

Resident.

Stephen Scudamore, gent., of Welclose in Whitechapel.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

Marriage.

Richard Skidmore & Rebecca West. 4 June 1699 (licence). [The ceremony performed at Bushey, Hertfordshire.]

Burials.

Rebecca Skidmore, wife of Richard. 12 October 1700.

Richard Skidmore, 5 April 1725.

WOOLWICH, KENT.

Burial.

Elizabeth Scudamore, at St Mary Magdalene.

APPENDIX TWO. DOCUMENTS.

Inquisition post mortem of Philip Skydemore (P.R.O. E 149/115)

Bucks. Inquisition taken at Burnham, Bucks., on 15 February 7 Henry V [1420], before Thomas Monington, escheator in the said county, pursuant of a writ directed by the king, and before William Cook, Henry Cobbe, Thomas Bailly, Richard atte Lee, Thomas Carter, Walter atte Lee, John atte Hythe, William Alsyn, Henry Busket, William Coombe, John Hall and John Aldrych. Who say on oath that Philip Skydemore on the day he died held for life and by the law of England, after the death of Agnes lately his wife, of the king in chief a third part of two parts of the manor of Burnham, with appurtenances, in the said County, and the advowsons of the churches of Bekenesfeld and Eton in the same county, and, together with Richard Lovell and William Rous, the presentations of the same [churches] in turn as on former occasions when they shall become vacant, by service valued at 1/2 a knight's fee. And also the same third part of two parts, 16 acres of meadow in the Wardenship of Eton are annexed to part of the said manor of Burnham at fee farm, rendering annually 27 shillings to the

castle of Wyndessore for all services. And they say that the said third part of two parts of the said manor is worth per annum above all charges, 20 shillings. And they say that the said church of Bekenesfeld is worth per annum above all charges, 100 shillings; and that the said church of Eton is worth per annum above all charges 5 marks. And the said third part of two parts of the aforesaid 16 acres of meadow is of no value per annum above all charges. And they say finally that the said Agnes held the estate to herself and her heirs on the day that she died of the said third part of the said two parts of the said manor, churches and meadow. And that the said Philip died on Saturday next after the feast of St Nicholas last [9 December 1419]. And that George, son of the said Philip and Agnes, is next heir to them, the said Philip and Agnes, and is aged 30 years and more. And that the said Philip held no other lands or tenements in the said county of the king in chief on the day he died either in demesne or in services. In witness whereof seals are affixed etc.

Rental list of Burnham Abbey. Rents due George Skydmore from his manor of Huntercombes, ca. 1430.

“Abbess of Burnham	5 s. 6d.	
Manor of Stanwell		26s. 8d.
Manor of Poyle ¹⁴⁴	4s. 8d.	
William Boys Harande	3s. 10d.	
Robert Hechton	3s. 10d.	
Richard Rokeby for lands once belonging to John Lewyn	2s.	
Robert atte Felde for lands at Brokenhende		3s. 2d.
John Alderygge	4d.	
Walter Aleyne for lands once Hoppers	4d.	
John Petche for land called Cokeslonde	10s. 1d.	
The same for lands called Pynkenys	6d.	
John den de la leuce for hidage	1s. 6d.	
William Woderd for 1 lessuge next to the Church of Bekenesfelde	6d.	
Henry Busket for land once belonging William atte Wode	2s. 0d.	
Sum	65s. 1d.	
Farm of the same Manor Lands called Abaldys	10s.	
nothing here because the Abbess has it with the farm.		
John Lee for Stompehill	2s.	
The same for a close which John Gregory held	10d.	
John Lewis for lands called Sagars	2s.	
William Walter for le Stompelese	1s. 4d.	
John Hill senior for Stompehawe	1s. 4d.	
Sum	7sh. 6d.	
Total Sum	72s. 6d.”	

Inquisition post mortem of George Skidmore, esquire. (P.R.O. E 149/172).

Bucks. Inquisition taken at Burnham, Bucks., on Friday the penultimate day of June, 20 Henry

¹⁴⁴There is still a Poyle Farm and Poyle Road in Burnham, and Stomphill remains, but the modern land values have risen astronomically.

VI [29 June 1442], before John Derham, escheator in the said county, etc.; under oath of William atte Yeate, Richard Rokby, William Garston, William Gardener, John le Wyn, John Stapill, Edward Knyght, John Hille senior, John Lee, John Combe, Thomas Edward, John Morelond, Thomas Smyth, Richard Robard, and John Hetheton junior. Who say that George Skidmore, esquire, was seized in his demesne as of fee on the day that he died of 2 parts of the manor of Burnham, with appurtenances, in the said county, and of the advowson of the church of Bekennesfeld in the same county. And that the said two parts of the whole third part of the said manor, with appurtenances, and of the said advowson, are held of the king by service of 1/2 knight's fee. And they also say that of the same two parts, one is assessed at no value per annum above all charges, one dove-cot is worth per annum, 20 pence; one grove of wood is of no value per annum above all charges; 806 acres of wood and 1/2 acre of arable land are worth per annum, 2 pence; 12 acres of meadow are worth 12 pence; 12 acres of pasture are worth 2 pence; 8 acres of wood are of no value beyond charges in the large timber; and 20 shillings is rendered for the issues of several lands, tenements and holdings. Payment is made at the feasts of the Annunciation of Blessed Mary the Virgin and of St Michael, in equal portions. And they say that the said George Skidmore died on Wednesday next after the feast of St Matthias, apostle, 20 Henry VI [28 February 1442]. And they say that Philip Skidmore is his son and next heir and is aged 26 years and more. And finally they say that George held no land of the king or anyone else in the said county on the day that he died. In witness whereof etc.

Patent Rolls, (1441-6) 146.

January 18th 1443. Licence for 40 shillings paid into the hanaper for Philip Skidmore esquire to enfeof John Barre, knight, William Andew, clerk, and John Cantreselly and their heirs of two parts of the manor of Burnham and the advowson of the church of Bekennesfeld, in the county of Buckingham, held in chief, and of the remainder of the third part after the death of Margaret Poppeham who holds the same for life, and for them to re-enfeof the said Philip and Wenllyan, his wife, in tail.

Duchess of Norfolk Deeds, P.R.O., G8/ No. 3605.

15 December, 12 Henry VII (1496). John Skydmore of Bolston (correctly, Rolston), gent., and Anne, his wife, daughter of Philip Scudamore, Esq., to William Scudamore of Hollandton [in Holme Lacy]. The manor of Burnham, the church of Bikynffield and all other lands, etc., which sometime were the said Philip Scudamore's in Burnham and Bikynffield in the county of Buckinghamshire, the manors of Hosdon, Coxton, and Dynes in the county of Essex, and all other lands whereof the s^d Philip Scudamore was seized and possessed in Hosdon, Coxton, and Dynes, Much Mupultrestret, Hydyngham Sibeale, Hydybgham Castle in the county of Essex. Copy of award.

Feet of Fine, P.R.O. CP 25 (1)/22/127.

Bucks. This is a final agreement made in the king's court at Westminster in the Octave of St John Baptist 12 Henry VII [1 July 1497] before Thomas Bryans, William Danvers, John Vavasour and Thomas Wode, justices, and others, loyal subjects of the king, present there. Between Robert Woodford querent, and John Scutamore and Anne, his wife, deforciant, concerning one acre of land with appurtenances in Burnham, and of the advowson of the church of Bekynsfeld; concerning which full agreement has been reached between them in the same Court. That is to say that the said John and Anne recognize the said land, with appurtenances, and the said advowson to be the right of the said

Robert, and as that which the said Robert holds of the gift of the said John and Anne. And that the reversion and quitclaim of the said John and Anne and of the heirs of the said Anne belong to the said Robert and his heirs forever. And furthermore the said John and Anne agree that on behalf of themselves and the heirs of the said Anne they will warrant against all people the said Robert in the said land, with appurtenances, and the said advowson forever. And for this recognition of reversion, quitclaim, warrant, fine and agreement the said Robert pays the said John and Anne £6 sterling. (Latin.)

De Banco Roll. (P.R.O. CP 40/939).

Bucks. William Skydmore, of Holanton in the parish of Ham Lacy in the county of Hereford, gentleman, Edward Skydmore, lately of Ham Lacy in the said county, gentleman, John David Morgan Gough, lately of Holanton in the parish of Ham Lacy in the said county, yeoman, and Thomas Jankyn, lately of Ham Lacy in the said county, yeoman, were seized answerable both to the king and to John Skydmore and Anne, his wife, concerning a plea relative to a Statute of Parliament drawn up in the 8th year of king Henry VI [1429-30] which declared, among other matters that if any person should be ejected forcibly and dispossessed of his lands and tenements, or peacefully expelled and afterwards forcibly excluded, or be made the subject of false enfeoffment, breach of succession, or false claim to title and right of entry in any ways, then a warrant against the title of the disseisor or a writ of trespass against fraudulent legal action can be brought by the party defending their interests by sworn statement or in other ways, and restitution for the injury incurred can be awarded as is fully set out in the said Statute.

The said William [Skydmore], Edward [Skydmore], John David Morgan Gough, and Thomas [Jankin] are charged with having entered the manor of Burnham, belonging to the said John Skydmore and Anne, with appurtenances in Burnham, with men and arms and forcibly expelled and dispersed them in contempt of the king and of John and Anne Skydmore, and caused damage in defiance of the said Statute and contrary to the king's peace.

Wherefore, John Skydmore and Anne, through Richard Copcote, their attorney, complained that the said William, Edward, John David Morgan Gough, and Thomas, had forcibly entered the said manor on the feast of the Annunciation of Blessed Mary in the 11th year of the present king's reign [25 March 1496] with men and arms, that is with 20 men armed as for war with staves and knives, and had expelled John Skydmore and Anne by force in contempt of the king and of John and Anne and against the said Statute, and had committed damage to the value of £100.

And the said William, Edward, John David Morgan Gough, and Thomas, through John Halle their attorney, came and defended the circumstances of their action. The said Edward and Thomas stated that, so far as the above-mentioned matters regarding trespass and right of entry were concerned, it was William Skydmore and John David Morgan Gough who came with armed men, and the entering of two thirds of the said manor, with appurtenances, was by no means a crafty action as alleged by John Skydmore and Anne, the plaintiffs in the action of trespass, for it was John and Anne who were guilty of wrongful trespass and right of entry. The said William and John David Morgan Gough maintained that their action was justified because in time past right of entry into the manor was made the subject of a fine raised in the court of king Edward III, that is in the Octave of Holy Trinity in the 3rd year of that king's reign [25 June 1329] before William de Herle and his companions then justices of the king's Bench. The parties to this fine were John, son of Thomas de Huntercombe, and Cristiana, his wife, plaintiffs, and Alan de Aston, vicar of Burnham, and Adam de Aylyngton, parson

of Aston, defendants.

[William Skydmore, by his attorney, then recites (at considerable length) the descent of the title from the Huntercombes to the Skydmore family which does not need to be repeated here. His attorney then continues:]

And afterwards Philip [Skydmore, his father] died rightly seized of such an estate, after whose death that residue, with appurtenances, descended to the said William [Skydmore] as son and heir of the said Philip. By which cause the said William entered into that residue, with appurtenances, before the said time, etc., and was thereof seized in his demesne as of fee tail by the said form of a fine and partition as the said William and John David Morgan Gough have alleged above, and not on such terms as the enfeoffment of the said John Barre by John Skydmore and Anne. They therefore ask for a reversal of the petition of indemnity and the prevention of the said John Skydmore and Anne from succeeding in their action.

And the said John Skydmore and Anne, as they had at first stated, said that the said Philip enfeoffed the said John Barre of the said residue of the said manor, with appurtenances, to hold to the said John Barre and his heirs forever, according to the above-stated allegation.

And the said William and John David Morgan Gough similarly.

These proceedings were convened on the Octave of St Hillary in the 12th year [20 January 1497], etc. (Latin.)

[Also parcel of the same suit is CP 40/938, an accusation of William Skydmore. It adds a few details. William and his wife Alice, and John Skydmore and his wife Anne, were all in court when the case was heard. The court eventually confirmed the possession of Burnham to John Skydmore in the right of his wife Anne Skydmore.]

Inquest post mortem of John Skydmore, esquire. (P.R.O. E 150/5/21).

Bucks. Indented Inquisition taken at Aylesbury in the county [of Buckingham] on Thursday in the feast of St Martin, Bishop, 23 Henry VII [11 November 1507], before Thomas Grove, Escheator to the king in the said county, by reason of his office and under oath of John Hyggyns, Robert Mounteign, Thomas Hache, William Robyns, John Smerte, Richard Bagnale, John Malet, Richard House, William Peerse, Richard Fisser of Renshaw, Thomas Kyngham, Richard Shefford, Thomas Grene and Richard Stratford, who say, under oath, that JOHN SKYDMORE, esquire, died seized in his demesne as of fee of the manor of Huntercombe, with appurtenances, in the parish of Burnham in the county of Buckingham. They also say that the said manor, with its appurtenances, is held of the king in chief, but by what service the jurors say they are ignorant. The said manor, with appurtenances, is worth, per annum in all issues, clear, 20 marks in rents. The jurors also say that the said JOHN died on 10th August, 15 Henry VII [1500], and that JOHN SKIDMORE is his son and next heir and is aged 32 years and more. And that the said JOHN SKIDMORE, the son, has taken all the issues and profits to himself since the death of his father up until the day this inquest was held and continues to do so. Finally, the jurors say that the said JOHN SKYDMORE, the father, did not hold any other property of the king or of any other people in demesne, reversions, or services on the day he died. In witness whereof the Escheator and jurors append their seals on the day and at the place above written. (Latin)

The Certificates for Muster for Buckinghamshire, 1522.

The Prince's holde, parcel off wicombe:

John Skydmore, no land, but the value of his goods £15 0sh 0d.

Chalfonnte St. Egidii

Wm. Skydmore, value of his goods £6 13sh 4d.

Burnam cum membris

[blank] Skydmore. value of his land and tenements, £10 0sh 0d. [No goods, which suggests that he was not then a resident.

Lay Subsidy for Buckinghamshire, 1524.

Chalfont St Giles

William Skydmore, taxed on £5.

Wycombe Magna

John Skydmore, £10.

Burnham

No Skydmore taxed.

Abstract of the will of Philip Scudamore, of Burnham, Bucks., esquire, made 19th July, 1544.

To be buried in the parish church of Burnham. Leaves to the mother church of Oxon 4 pence, and to the high altar of Burnham 12 pence.

To Leonard Chamberlayn, esquire, and Raufe Chamberlayn “my son in lawe,” the rents and profits of the manor of *Rolston* in the County of Hereford to the value of ten marks sterling over and above the costs and charges of gathering and levying the same in order to pay his debts and for the exhibition [maintenance] and succour of his children for a period of ten years from his testator's death.

His son, John Scudamour to make Leonard and Raufe Chamberleyn a sufficient grant of the manor of Rowlestone by writing ensealed for the use aforesaid with a clause of distress for the non-payment of the ten marks yearly.

He declares that he is bound by recognisance with Sir Edward Chamberleyn, knight, and Leonard Chamberleyn in a sum of two hundred marks to leave at the time of his death one hundred marks in goods and chattles for the preferments, exhibition, and living of his own children by Sibill, his wife. The sum of one hundred marks is to be delivered to such persons as Sir Edward Chamberlayn and Leonard Chamberleyn shall appoint, as was agreed in indentures between himself and Sir Edward and Leonard Chamberleyns dated 4th August, 30 Henry VIII [1538].

He leaves to his sons, Raufe and Philip, and to his two younger daughters all his other goods and chattles towards their exhibition.

His wife Sibill, is to gather the goods and chattles “unto the comyng home of the forsayd Leonard Chamberleyn and then to deliver them to him.”

He leaves the manor of Burnham, otherwise called Hunterscombe Manor, and all other lands belonging to him in Burnham, to his wife Sibill, [together with] the advowson of the church of *Bekynffelde* to his wife for life, with remainder to his heirs male, and for default of male heirs to his right heirs.

The evidences and writings concerning his estate are to be handed over by his wife to his son John, upon John making a reasonable request, if these concern his [John's] estate.¹⁴⁵

The evidences concerning the advowson of *Bekynffelde* and the property in Burnham are to be

¹⁴⁵All of these evidences and writings concerning Burnham mentioned in the will of Philip Scudamore in 1544 seem now to be totally lost.

put into indifferent keeping by the consent and assent of his wife and son. His wife is to have in her custody all such writings concerning her own estate, with remainder to the testator's male heirs.

His son John, and his son-in-law Raufe Chamberleyn, are to be executors and Leonard Chamberleyn is to be overseer.

He did “revoke and annull all other former wills and testaments heretofore made fforasmuche as one other will by me made and subscribed in the forenoone of this present day was enbessilled from me.”

Witnessed by Robert Kyng, Richard Hetheley, Edmunds Heyster, John Hughes, Richard Crispe, and Richard Leverych.

[His will was recorded at the P.C.C., in Register “Pynning,” folio 29, but no act of probate is shown. It was brought into the same court on 5 March 1550/1, proved by Raufe Chamberleyn and John Scudamore, and recorded again in Register “Bucke,” folio 7, and probate granted.]

Inquest post mortem of Philip Skydmore, esquire, of Burnham, co. Buckingham. (P.R.O. C 142/71/121.) Writ of *Diem Clausit Extremum* issued to the Escheator in Buckinghamshire on 1 September 1544.

Bucks. Indented Inquisition taken at Burnham in the county of Buckingham on the 29th day of October, 36 Henry VIII, [1544] before Thomas Spencer, esquire, escheator to the king in the said county, by virtue of the king's writ *diem clausit extremum* after the death of PHILIP SKYDMORE, esquire, directed to the same escheator by the oaths of Thomas Woodford, esquire, Ambrose Alderyge, Robert Waller, gent., Thomas Eyer, Thomas Ryding, Thomas Widmor, John Raunce, Robert Bovington, John Ives, Thomas Pusay, William Loveroy, Robert Chowne, John Wyld of the Welche and Nicholas Alye, gent. Who say, under oath, that the aforesaid PHILIP SKYDMORE (Scudamore) in the said writ issued after his death was Seized of and in the manor of Burnham, otherwise called Undercombes, with appurtenances, in the said county, and of and in 1 messuage, 500 acres of land, 120 acres of meadows, 100 acres of pasture, 40 acres of woodland, and £6 rents, with their appurtenances. in East Burnham and Westburneham in the said county of Bucks. And of and in the advowson of the church of Bekensfeld in the same county. It is evident that he was seized of the said manor, messuage, land, meadows, pastures, woods and rents in his demesne as of fee, and of the advowson as of fee and right, by a certain charter of his, dated 19th July, 36 Henry VIII, sworn as evidence in this inquest, which shows that he granted by this charter to Leonard Chamberlen, Ralph Chamberlen esquires, Thomas Woodford and Richard Crispe gentlemen, the aforesaid manor, with appurtenances, and all and Singular the said messuage, lands, tenements, woods and rents, and the aforesaid advowson, with their appurtenances, by name of his manor of Burnham *alias* Hundercombes with their members and appurtenances in Burnham in the said county of Buckinghamshire; and all and singular his other lands and tenements, rents, reversions and services, leases, meadows, pastures, woods and underwoods and the aforesaid advowson of the church of Bekensfeld in said county of Buckinghamshire. To have and to hold the aforesaid manor, messuage, lands and tenements, and other premises, with their appurtenances, to the said Leonard Chamberlen, Ralph Chamberlen, Thomas Woodford and Richard Crispe, their heirs and assigns, forever, to the use of the said PHILIP SKYDMORE and SIBIL, his wife and male heirs of the bodies of the said PHILIP and SIBIL lawfully begotten; and in default of such issues to the use of the right heirs of the said PHILIP SKYDMORE for ever. By virtue of which enfoeffment the said Leonard Chamberlen, Ralph Chamberlen, Thomas

Woodford and Richard Crispe were clearly seized of the said manor, messuage, lands, meadows, pastures, woods and rents, with appurtenances, in their demesne as of fee and right to the above said several use in the above-mentioned indentured charter. Thus so specified and declared to their several uses in the aforesaid form to be thus seized, the said Philip SKYDMORE and the said SIBIL, lately his wife, on the authority of a certain Act of Uses in Parliament [held before] the said lord king at London on the 3rd day of November in the 21st year of our king [1529] and afterwards adjourned to Westminster and continued in disuse through prerogation until the 4th day of February in the 27th year of our king [1535] and then held among other declarations, were then immediately allowed to be seized of the said manor and other all and singular premises, with appurtenances. The said PHILIP was thus clearly seized in his demesne as of fee, and in the said form entailed clearly to himself and his heirs male of his body by the said SIBIL lawfully begotten, and to his said late wife, SIBIL, in her demesne. And [this estate] is to remain freehold to the right heirs of the said Philip for ever. And the jury further say, under oath, that the said PHILIP and SIBIL, lately his wife, were so seized of the said manor and other premises, with appurtenances, in the said form. Then the said PHILIP died so seized of the said manor and other premises with appurtenances in his demesne as of fee entailed to himself in the form aforesaid, and to the heirs male of his body lawfully begotten by the aforesaid SIBIL, namely RALPH SKYDMORE, and PHILIP SKYDMORE, who are living and are in full life. And the said SIBIL lives and holds the said manor and other premises, with appurtenances, and thence was and now is sole seized in her demesne as of free tenement for the term of her life by right of free tenure in survivorship, and remaining, after the death of the said SIBILL to the said heirs male of the body of the said Philip and the said SIBIL lawfully begotten. And in default of such issue, and after the death of the same SIBIL, [the estate] is to remain to the right heirs of the said PHILIP for ever.

And the jury further say, under oath, that the said manor of Burnham alias Huntercombes, with its members and appurtenances, and all and singular the other lands, tenements, rents, reversions and services, meadows, pastures, woods and under-woods, and the advowson of the said church of Bekensfeld in the said county of Buckingham, are held of the lord king in chief by service of half of one knight's fee; and that it is worth per annum in all outgoing, above all charges, 50 shillings. And the jury further say, under oath, that the said Philip did not hold any other manors or tenements in the said county of Buckingham, of the lord king, neither any other lordship nor service on the day he died. And that the said PHILIP died on the 21st day of July in the 36th year of our lord king [1544]. And that JOHN SKYDMORE is his son and next heir and is aged 22 years and more. In which deed of witness, etc., etc.

Delivery to the Court made on 30th October (1544) by Thomas Spencer, the escheator.

(Latin)

**Inquest post mortem of Philip Scudamore, esquire. [No abode given, but taken at Hereford.]
P.R.O. C142/71/98.**

Indentured Inquisition taken at Hereford on 3rd November, 36 Henry VIII [1544] before Richard Warnecombe esquire, the king's escheator in the said county, by virtue of the king's writ "diem clausit extremum" directed to the said escheator to convene an inquest after the death of PHILIP SCUDAMORE esquire by the oath of Richard Unet gent., John Chamberleyn gent., John Hope junior, James Clerk of Bodenham, John Jansye of Stretton, Edmund Eme, James Ravenhyll, Bartholomew Newton gent., Thomas Webbe, Richard Blount gent., Richard Heyward gent., Thomas Sawyer of Frome Castle, and John Monnington of Shelwyk. Who say, under oath, that long before the

death of the said Philip, a certain James Baskerville esquire, Thomas Baskerville, John Delahay and Thomas ap Harry of Poston were seized of and in the manor of Llancyllowe, with appurtenances, in the aforesaid county, and of and in 20 messuages, 300 acres of land, 40 acres of meadow, demesne as of fee. The which manor and other premises the aforesaid had by gift and enfeoffment of JOHN SCUDAMORE esquire, father of the aforesaid PHILIP. And [PHILIP] himself was so seized by his charter bearing the date of the 12th of June [1521] granted and by that charter indeed confirmed in the said manor of Llansyllowe with appurtenances, and all other premises within the lordship of Ewiaslacy in the Marches of Wales, and all lands, tenements, leases, meadows, pastures, rents and services, with appurtenances, in Llansyllowe aforesaid to the said PHILIP SCUDAMORE in the name of PHILIP SCUDAMORE, son and heir of JOHN SCUDAMORE, of Rolston, and Joan, wife of the aforesaid PHILIP.

To have and to hold the said manor and other singular premises to the said PHILIP and JOAN, his wife, and to the lawful heirs of their bodies, the remainder, in default of such heirs, to the right heirs of the said JOHN SCUDAMORE forever. By virtue of which gift and concession PHILIP and JOAN were seized of that manor and other premises, with their appurtenances, in their demesne as of fee tail. And the said JOHN SCUDAMORE died seized of such an estate, and the said PHILIP and JOAN survived him. And afterwards the said PHILIP and JOAN had issue JOHN SCUDAMORE, who is now living, and afterwards the said JOAN died and the said PHILIP survived her and held to himself the said manor of Llansillowe and other premises, with appurtenances, and was thus sole seized in his demesne as of fee tail to his own use, and to the heirs of the bodies of himself and the said JOAN lawfully begotten by right of joint tenant in survivorship, with remainder in default of such issue to the same PHILIP and his heirs forever. And that the said PHILIP died seized of such an estate, after which the said manor of Llansillowe descends to the said JOHN SCUDAMORE, the son, as son and heir of the said bodies of the said PHILIP and JOAN lawfully begotten.

And the jury further say that the said PHILIP on the day that he died was seized of and in the manor of Rolston, with appurtenances, in the said County in his demesne as of fee. And tat he died of such an estate, and that after his death the said manor, with appurtenances, descends to the said JOHN SCUDAMORE, the son, as son and heir of the said PHILIP.

And the jury also say, under oath, that the said PHILIP and JOAN, his wife, were seized, in right of the said Joan, of and in the manors of Howton and Gwernegenny, with appurtenances, in the said County, in their desmesne as of fee, and in the middle part of the manors of Kenchurch, Kevenbagh, Llanhaythoke, Bredwardyn and Grove, with their appurtenances, in the said County, and of and in 40 messuages, 1000 acres of meadow, 300 acres of pasture, 200 acres of woodland, 100 acres of fields and moorland, with appurtenances, in Kenchurch, Kevenbagh, Llanhaythoke, Bredwardyn and Grove, with their appurtenances, in the said county, and of and in 40 messuages, 100 acres of meadow, 300 acres of pasture, 200 acres of woodland, 100 acres of fields and moorland, with appurtenances, in Kenchurch, Kevenbagh, Llanhaythoke, Cawrose and Grismont in the Marches of Wales adjacent to the said County, in their demesne as of fee. And thus so seized to themselves the sazid PHILIP and JOAN had issue the said JOHN, their son. And the said JOAN died seized of such an estate, and the said PHILIP survived her and held to himself the aforesaid manors of Howton and the middle parts of the said manors Kenchurch, Kevenbagh, Llanhaythoke, Bredwardyn and Grove, and the said messuages, lands, tenements, and other premises in Kenchurch, Kevenbagh, Llanhaythoke, Cawrose and Grismont, with their appurtenances, as holding thence bythe law of England. The reversion of the said manor of Howton and the middle parts of the said manors

Kenchurch, Kevenbagh, Llanhaythoke, Bredwardyn and Grove, with their appurtenances, and also of the said messuages, lands, tenementes and other appurtenances, in Kenchurch, Kevenbagh, Llanhaythoke, Cawrose and Grismont, descend to the said JOHN SCUDAMORE, his son and heir apparent.

And the jury say that the said manors of Rolston and Llansyllowe are held of the lord king as of his honour of Ewiaslacy in the Marches of Wales, by service of one knight's fee, and are worth per annum, in all outgoinges, above all charges, £20.

And that the manor of Kenchurch and other premises in Kenchurch are held of [blank], lord of Burgevenny, as of his castle and lordship of Ewiasharold, by 1/4 of a one knight's fee; the which Henry, lord of Burgevenny, is under age and is in the wardship of the king. And the value per annum is £6.

And that the said manors of Llanhaythoke and Gwene Genny, and other premises in Llanhaythoke aforesaid, are held of the heirs of Thomas, lately Earl of Ormund, as of his manor of Kylpeck by 1/6 part of one knight's fee, and is worth per annum £10.

And that the manor of Bredwardyn is held of the lord king, as of his honour of Brecon Castle, which said honour is due to the king because of the death of Edward, lately Duke of Buckingham, attainted for high treason, and is worth per annum £10.

And that the said manor of Howton, with appurtenances, is held of the heirs of Simon Mylburne esquire by 1/2 of one knight's fee, and is worth £10.

And that the 20 acres of meadow and pasture in Grismonde aforesaid, parcel of the premises, are held of the lord king as of his castle of Grismonde aforesaid, part of the Duchy of Lancaster, by fealty and rent of one red rose at the feast of St John the Baptist by a single annual payment, if demanded, and is worth, per annum in all outgoinges, above all charges, 20sh.

And that 1 messuage and 200 acres of land, meadow and pasture, with appurtenances, in Cawrose aforesaid, parcel of the premises held of Francis, Earl of Salop [Shrewsbury] by service unknown.

And the jury say that neither the said PHILIP nor the said JOAN, his wife, held and other manors or tenements, tenures or any other holdings in demesne, rents or services in the said County on the days they died.

And that the said PHILIP died on the 3rd day of August last [1544].

And that the said JOAN died on the 20th day of March in the 29th year of our lord king [1539].

And that the said JOHN SCUDAMORE, the son, is the son and heir of the said PHILIP AND JOAN, and is aged, at the day of making this inquisition, 23 years and more.

In which deed of witness, etc., etc.

By me Richard Warncombe, escheator. (Latin).

The will of Jone Skydmore, widow [of John Skydmore], of Chepping Wycombe, Bucks. Dated. 4 August, 3 Edward VI (1549)

Sick in body. To be buried in the churchyard of Wycombe.

To daughter Alice, 20s. in ready money, 10 sheep, a quarter of barley, my best gown and my best kirtell with a petticote.

To Robert Wellis, a sheep and a lamb.

To the four children of the said Wellis, a lamb each.

To Katheryne Skydmore, widow, 2sh. in rnomey.

To Agnes Iver, 12d., and a ewe with a lamb.
To the two children of the said Agnes, a lamb each.
To William Skydmore, 6sh. 8d.
To Jone Skydmore, 6sh. 8d., and a pair of sheets.
To Mawde Skydmore, 6sh. 8d.
To Cessely Bucler [Buckler], a ewe and a lamb.¹⁴⁶
To Jone Sexten, my goddaughter, a lamb.
To the poor people, 3sh. 4d., to be distributed among them.
To Jone Witnall, a lamb.
To each of my godchildren [not named], 4d.
To the poor men's box, 20d.
To Jone Skydmore, before mentioned, a bullock.
To John Lytelpage, an ewe and a lamb.
To Anthony Shrympton, a lamb.
To Jone Edmondis, my goddaughter, a lamb.
To Alice Wellis, my goddaughter, before mentioned, a cow.
To Jone Litlepage, a lame [sic].
Residue of goods to Giles Skidmore, my son, who is to be sole executor.
Overseer: Edmond Lytelpage who is to have 6sh. 8d. for his painstaking.
Witnesses: Thomas Sexten, John Garlicke, William Hawes, and others [not named].
Proved 1 October 1549 at Beaconsfield.
Inventory, £26.11s.10d.

The will of William Skidmore of Chalfont St Giles, Bucks. Dated 16 March 1549/50.

To be buried in the churchyard of St Giles.
To son Nicholas, a sheep.
To daughters Ursula and Alis, a sheep each and to Alis also a pewter platter.
Residue to wife Elizabeth.
Wife Elizabeth and son John to be executors, the said John to have 20d. for his labors.
Son John to have the farm after my decease and my wife Elizabeth to have the iii part with him during her life.
I will that John my son shall sow out of his own charges for his mother's half an acre of wheat and one acre of barley indifferently at the discretion of Christopher Shrympton or the churchwardens for the times being.
I make Christopher Shrympton overseer, taking 4s. 4d. for his pains.¹⁴⁷
Witnesses: John Pakynton, curat, Robert Butt(er)fi lde, Christopher Shrympton, Thomas Redyng, and others (not named).
Proved at Aylesbury, 18 March 1549/50.
Inventory, £10.11s.6d.

¹⁴⁶She was a widow at Wycombe in 1522 with £1 in land and £3 in goods.

¹⁴⁷He may be the Christopher Shrympton, a husbandman of West Wycombe, who left a will (not seen) probated in 1582.

The will of Gyles Skydmore of Wycombe, Bucks., husbandman. Dated 8 May 1569.

Sick in body. To be buried in the churchyard at Wycombe.

To the mother church of Lincoln, 2d.

To the poor people of Wycombe, 6sh. 8d., to be bestowed at my burial.

To the poor people of Penn, 3s. 4d.

To my wife Sybble my 2 houses in Wycombe keeping them well repaired during the term of her life and after her decease my house in Wycombe to John Skydmore, my son, and to his heirs and assigns. My other house in the parish of Wycombe in the occupation of John Hardinge after the decease of my wife to Richard Skydmore, my son, and to his heirs and assigns.

My house at Penn to William Skydmore, my son, and to his heirs and assigns.

To Rowland Skydmore, my son, £6 of lawful money to be paid at the age of 21 years. I give him also one flock bed, two paors of sheets, two blankets, one good coverlet with a bolster and a pillow.

To my son John £6.13s.4d. of lawful money to be paid at the age of 21 years. I also give to him 10 sheep to be delivered within four years after my decease. I also give to him one flock bed, 2 Pairs of sheets, two blankets, one coverlet with a bolster and a pillow. I also give to him one brass pot, one kettle, two pewter platters, two pewter dishes, and two saucers to be delivered at the age of 21 years.

To Richard Skydmore, my son, a bullock of two years. I also give to him 5 sheep to be delivered within 6 years of my decease. I also give to him one flock bed, 2 pairs of sheets, two blankets, one coverlet with a bolster and a pillow.

To Cesselye, my daughter, £3.6sh.8d., to be delivered at the age of 21 years or at the day of her marriage. I give to her a heveford and 6 sheep. I also give to her one flock bed, two pairs of sheets, two blankets, one coverlet with a bolster and a pillow. I also give to her one brass pot, one kettle, two pewter platters, two pewter dishes, and 2 saucers to be delivered at the day of her marriage.

To Giles Sexton, a lamb.

To Richard Sexton, a lamb.

To each of brother Richard Blunte's children, 12d.

To my son William all my leases and indenturehold land, and I will that my wife shall go in half in occupying the same as long as she keepeth herself unmarried.

Residue to Sybble, my wife, and William, my son, who are to serve as executors and to pay my debts and legaacies and to bring up my children.

They are to keep my son Rowland at school until such time as he may get his living by learning.

Overseers: Richard Blunte, of Barkhampstead [Hertfordshire], John Gold, of Bovington [Hertfordshire], and they are to have for their pains each 6sh.8d.

Witnesses: John Shrympton, Thomas Myles.

Proved 22 April 1572.

Lay Subsidy for Buckinghamshire, 18 Elizabeth [1576]

Burnum Hundred, Boveney.

Philip Scudamore, Armiger [Gentleman]. In goods, £20, 2 lyght horse.

No Skydmore was taxed.

The will of Sibell Skidmore, widow [of Giles Skidmore], of Chepping Wycombe, Bucks. Dated 29 October 1580.

To the poor people of Wycombe, 10sh.

To the poor people of Pen, 5sh.

I will and bequeath three of my Worster coats to be divided among three poor women who my executor and overseers shall see most needy.

I give to my three daughters the rest of my wearing apparel as well as linen and wollen to be equally divided.

To my daughter [Joan?] Gold, a quarter of malt and 20sh. in money. [Perhaps the wife of John Gold of Bovington?]

To my daughter Gold's children, two sheep each to be delivered within one year of my decease at the discretion of my overseers.

To Giles Gold, my daughter's son, a bullock.

To Sibell Gold, my daughter's daughter, a pair of sheets and half a quarter of malt.

To Thomas Gold, "my daughter's son-in-law" [stepson], two sheep.

To my daughter [Maude?] Harding, a quarter of malt and 20sh. in money. [Perhaps the wife of Thomas Hareding?]

To my daughter Harding's children, each of them, two sheep.

To Giles Cooke, my daughter's son, a bullock of three years.

To Sibell Harding, my daughter's daughter, a pair of sheets and a half a quarter of malt, and a little coffer.

To Cicilye, my daughter, one young cow, one brass pan, and 20s. in money.

To James Adkinson, my daughter's son, 20sh.

To Phebe Adkinson, 10sh.

To Rowland Skiddmore, my son, one flock bed, one "maltreave," two blankets, one coverlet, one bolster, and two pillows. I also give to him my lesser coffer, six pair of sheets, one table cloth, four table napkins, two pillow beares, one fine and one coarse. Also to him my lesser brasse pot, one caldron, one kettle, my spice mortar, my little spit; my dripping pan, and two candle-sticks, with a round table and a long table.

I give to him one horse to be delivered when my overseers shall find convenient. I give to him one cow and 12 sheep to be delivered within one year after my decease.

To my son Rowland, five quarters of wheat and five quarters of malt. Also to him £6.13sh.4d. of ready money within five years of my decease.

To Richard Skidmore, my son, one feather bed, one coverlet, two blankets, two bolsters, one pillow, 6 pair of sheets, one pillowbere, one towell, one table cloth, and a fine sheet. Also to him one brass pot, one posset, a chafing dish, a great spit, and three candlesticks. Also to him one cow to be delivered within one year after my decease. Also to him one coffer with two locks. Also to him two quarters of wheat and two quarters of malt. Also to him 12 sheep within three years of my decease at the discretion of my overseers. Also to him £6.6sh.4d. in ready money to be paid within two years.

To my son William Skidmore's children, every one of them, two sheep.

To Sibell Skidmore, my son's daughter, a pair of sheets, one little basin of pewter, and a flower pot.

To Phebe Skidmore, one little basin.

All the rest of pewter to Rowland and Richard Skidmore, my sons, to be equally divided by my overseers.

To Margaret Skidmore, my daughter-in-law, 20sh.

To Thomas Sherfeild, my kinsman, two bushels of wheat and two bushels of malt and 20sh. in money to be delivered at the day of his marriage.

To William Fryer, my servant, a lamb.

To each of my servants who shall be dwelling at my house at my departure, 12d.

Residue to William Skidmore, my son, who is to be full executor.

Thomas Harding, my son-in-law, and John Sexton, my kinsman, to be overseers, and to have 6sh.8d. each for their pains.

No witnesses.

Proved 7 October 1584.

Will of William Skydmore, the elder, citizen and ironmonger of the City of London, made 5 March 1600/1. Prerogative Court of Canterbury, (Register Woodhall, folio 25) PROB 11/97.

His body to be buried in the church of St Nicholas Olave, London, near to the wife Agnes Skidmore, and within the vault of made for his late master Mr. Thomas Lewyn.

His goods and chattles, plate, jewels, merchandise, leases, ships, debts, household stuff and ready money to be divided into two equal parts “according to the laudable custom of the City of London.”

One of the two equal parts to be equally divided between his two sons Richard Skidmore and John Skidmore.

Custom leaves the other half to me to dispose. [His personal bequests then follow:]

To the parson of St Nicholas Olave for a funeral sermon, ten shillings.

To each of the 12 poor men attending the funeral three yards of broadcloth at five shillings a yard.

To Margaret Clarke “who was sometime wief to my late brother John Skidmore” three yards of broadcloth at twelve shillings a yard to make her a gown.

To William Romyne, son and heir of William Romyne, ironmonger, sometime his servant, five pounds to be paid on his reaching the age of 21.

To Robert East “sometime my partner” his Seal ring of gold¹⁴⁸ and to his mistress East, his wife, a gold ring.

To each of his apprentices a black cloak at ten shillings a yard and twenty shillings in money.

To Margaret Willis, his maid servant, a black gown at ten shillings a yard and three pounds in money.

To John Skidmore, his son, a gold ring of the value of three pounds and a gown of broadcloth at fifteen shillings a yard.

To the Company of Ironmongers of London “a great large Turkey carpet wrought with flowers.”

To the poor prisoners of Newgate twenty shillings.

To the Compter of in Wood Street, the Compter in the Poultry, and the Compter in Southwark ten shillings each.

To his executor the remainder of the testator’s portion.

His brother Robert Skidmore to have for life the house at Uxbridge, Middlesex, in which he lives for a yearly rent of twelve pence, on condition that he keeps the house in repair, does not intermeddle with the house of Gregory Hoarebettell in Uxbridge, except by permission of John Skidmore and does not alienate the house.

¹⁴⁸A curious bequest. On 3 January 1605/6 his son Richard Skidmore attached his seal with the familiar Scudamore stirrups to a deed per done with this ring or another.

Leaves to his son John the house occupied by Gregory Hoarebettell and the reversion of Robert Skidmore's house on condition that he gives every Sunday twelve pence in bread to the poor in the Chapelry of St Margaret, Uxbridge in the parish of Hillingdon "where I was born."

His executor is to find George Grove, the testator's servant, in meat and drink and apparel for life. Richard Skidmore is appointed executor and Thomas Farmer of the Middle Temple, London, esquire, and the testator's cousin Thomas Skidmore of Kingsbury, Middlesex, are appointed as overseers and are to have £5 divided between them.

Witnesses: Robert East, William Tapp, Thomas Janson and Roger Dutton. Also Alexander Goulstone, scrivener, and John Snellings, scrivener.

[Proved 1 April 1601 by Thomas Ward, Public Notary, on behalf of Richard Skidmore, executor.]

Inquest post mortem of William Skidmore, Citizen and Ironmonger. (Series 2, vol 271, no. 162.)

Inquisition taken at the Guildhall, 7 October, 43 Elizabeth [1601], before William Rider, Mayor and escheator, after the death of William Skidmore, late citizen and ironmonger of London, by the oath of William Crowch, Hugh Ingram, John Jeninges, Robert Durant, George Holman, Cuthbert Lee, Andrew Feild, Humphrey Hooper, Michael Crowche, Edward Catcher, Thomas Pulford, Richard Crayford, William Abbott, Alexander Asehurst, Hugh Sharratt, Martin Lumley, George Gunbye, and William Downinge, who say that,

William Skidmore long before his death was seized in his demesne as of fee 4 messuages and 1 alley commonly called le George alley, and 10 messuages being in the said alley, and 1 garden thereto adjacent lying in the parish of St Buttolph without Bisshopsgate, London, which he lately purchased of a certain Christopher Campion; 1 messuage and certain lands thereto belonging, containing 40 acres more or less, situate in the parish or hamlet of Burneham in co. Bucks, now or late in the tenure of William Churche, maltman; 2 messuages and 1 close of pasture containing 1 acre, lying in the vill of Uxbridge in co. Middlesex, now in the tenure of Robert Skidmore and John Butt; 2 acres of meadow in Denham in the county of Buckingham, in a certain meadow there called Southmeade; the moiety of 1 messuage in Uxbridge; the moiety of 1 close of land called little Readinge; the moiety of 1 acre and a half of land in Great Readinge lying in the parish of Hillingdon in co. Middlesex, 3 1/2 acres of free land lying in Southall in the parish of Norwood in co. Middlesex, late in the tenure of John Bysouth; the moiety of 1 messuage lately called a kitchen, with an orchard thereto adjacent in Chartsey in co. Surrey, late in the tenure of William Wright, formerly [blank] Tuckers; the moiety of 1 messuage with 1 orchard and garden lying at the back of the said messuage, now or late in the tenure of Clement Leeche and Richard Browne, lying in Okeingham [Wokingham] in co. Berks.

So seized, the said William Skidmore, by deed dated 14 February, 39 Elizabeth [1597], made between himself of the one part, and Robert Chamberlaine and Robert Cutt, citizens and ironmongers of London, of the other part, in consideration of the natural benevolence, love and favor which he bore towards Richard, John and William Skidmore his sons, and for their better relief and maintenance, and to that intent that all the said premises above mentioned should remain in his "stocke and Consanguinitye," granted for him and his heirs that they would be seised of all the said premises to the use of him the said William Skidmore the father for the term of his natural life, and after his decease, then as the said premises in Burneham to the use of the said Richard Skidmore and the heirs male of his body; for default to the use of the said John Skidmore and the heirs male of his body; for default, then to the use of the right heirs of the said William Skidmore the father for ever. As to the premises

within the parish of St Buttolph without Bisshopsgate to the use of Philip and Thomas Skidmore¹⁴⁹ and their heirs during the natural life of the said William Skidmore, the son, upon trust nevertheless that the said Philip and Thomas shall suffer the said William to take to his own proper the use the rents and profits of the said premises without any interruption, and after the death of the said William Skidmore the son, then to the use successively in tail male of the 1st to his 5th and every other son, one after another “Seynioritie”; for default, to the use of the said John Skidmore and the heirs male of his body; for default, to the use of the said Richard Skidmore and the heirs male of his body; and for default to the use of the right heirs of the said William Skidmore the father for ever. As to all the premises in tje several villis, hamlets or fields of Uxbridge, Denham, Hillingdon, Norwood, Southall, Chertseye and Wokingham, and to the use of the said John Skidmore and the heirs male of his body, for default, for default, to the use pf the said William the son and the heirs male of his body; for default, to the use of the said Richard Skidmore and the heirs male of the said William Skidmore the father for ever: on the condition that if the said William Skidmore the father at any time during his life shall pay or offer to the said Robert Chamberlaine and Rober Cutt 1 pair of gloves of the value of 6d., or 6d. in money with signification of his intent that the said indenture and all the covenants and uses therein contained shall cease and and determine, that then and at all times after such pay and offer the said indenture and all things therein contained shall be void and of no effect; by virtue whereof and by force of the Statute of Uses the said William Skidmore the father was seised of all the premises in his demesne as of free tenement for his life, with remainders as above. The said William Skidmore the father never paid or offered the said gloves or money.

The said William Skidmore long before his death was likewise seised in his demesne as of fee of 1 tenement lying in New Windsor in co. Berks, in the tenure of [blank] Webb; 1 messuage in Wendover in co. Bucks, late in the tenure of Thomas Binninge; 1 cottage or tenement call le ffordge in the parish of Denham in co. Bucks; the other moiety of the said close of land call littled Readinge and of the said acre and a half of land in Greate Reading, lying in the parish of Hillingdon in co. Middlesex; the other moiety of the said messuage called a kitchen with the orchard there adjacent to Churtsey in co. Surrey; and the moiety of the said messuage, garden and orchard lying at the back of the said messuage in Wokingham.

The said 4 messuages, the alley called le George alley the 10 messuages in the said alley and the said garden thereto adjacent lying in the parish of St Buttolph without Bisshopsgate are held of the Queen in chief by knight’s service, but by what part of a knight’s fee the jurors know not, and are worth per annum, clear, £3. The premises in Burnhame are held of divers persons, as follows: the said messuage with certain lands, parcel of the said lands in Burneham of Philip Skidmore, esq., as of his manor of Undercombes in co. Bucks. by fealty and the yearly rent of 7s.; and certain other lands there called Bollithorpe of Henry Manfeild, esq., as of his manor called Burnehams manor in the said county of Bucks by fealty and the yearly rent of 2s. The residue of the lands in Burneham is held of the Queen as of her manor of Burneham Abbeye in the said county in free socage by fealty and the yearly rent of 10s.3d.; all of the said premises in Burneham are worth per annum, clear, £3 6s. 8d. The two messuages and 1 close of pasture in Uxbridge are held of the Earl of Derby as of his manor of Colham by fealty and the rent of 20d., and are worth per annum, clear, 12d.¹⁵⁰ The said 2 acres of meadow in

¹⁴⁹Philip and Thomas Skidmore were presumably kinsmen, but can not be identified. They are not remembered in his will.

¹⁵⁰On 19 April 1595 John Skidmore was admitted on the death of his father John Skidmore to

Denham lying in the meadow called Southmeade are held of the manor of Denham in co. Bucks, late of George Peckham, knight, by fealty, and are worth per annum, clear, 10s. The said messuage in Uxbridge, the close of land called little Readinge and the acre and a half of land in greate Reading in the parish of Hillington are held of the borough of Uxbridge in free burgage and are worth per annum, clear, 20s. The 3 1/2 acres of land in Southall in the parish of Norwood are held of Dudley Northe, Lord Northe, as of his manor of Heese in co. Middlesex by fealty only, and are worth, per annum, clear 5s. The messuage called a kitchen and the orchard thereto adjacent in Churtseye are held of Francis Wolley, esq., as of his manor of Hallplace in socage by fealty, and the yearly rent of 8d., and are worth per annum, clear, 10s. The premises in Wokingham are held of the Queen as of her manor of Sunningse in co. Berks. in free socage, by fealty and the yearly rent of 8d., and are worth per annum, clear, 13s. 4d. The tenement in New Windsor in co. Berks is held of the borough of New Windsor, and is worth per annum, clear, 10s. The tenement in Wendover in co. Bucks is held of the borough of Wendover in burgage by fealty only, and is worth per annum, clear, 10s. The cottage called le fforge in Denham in co. Bucks by fealty, and is worth per annum, clear, 6s. 8d.

William Skidmore the father died at London, 27 March last past; the said Richard Skidmore is his son and next heir and was then aged 40 years and upwards: he is still in full life at London.

Will of Sir Philip Scudamore, Knight. Prerogative Court of Canterbury, (Register 49 Wood) PROB 11/117.

Dated 20 November 1610.

Has heretofore at the request of Dame Ruth Scudamore, testator's wife, made a conveyance to Sir Thomas Bodley, Knight, Sir John Poyntz, Knight, Henry Finch, Esquire, and Walter Wentwood, Esquire, of the lease of Hampton, Oxfordshire, two leases in Great St Bartholomew of two houses late part of the mansion house of the Lord Rich, and of divers other goods, plate, jewells, etc., for the benefit of said wife and by this will confirms the same, but trusts she will give some to her and his special friends, and to supply testator's defects in the advancement of her daughter Jane Oglethorpe.

To cousin Sir Robert Chamberlain, knight, and to his heirs all freehold lands, messuages, etc., within the parish of St Bartholomew in West Smithfield, London, to their proper use.

To servant Tutchter Castell £10 out of leases held from Lord Rich.

Cousin John Scudamore of Keynechurch, Esquire, is to pay to the testator's executor £100, but if within one year he pay to Sir Robert Chamberlain £60, he is to be released from the said £100 and his lands of Rollston, Lancillo, and all other lands in Herefordshire shall be set free from any claim for the same.

Executor Sir Robert Chamberlane, Overseer Tutchter Castell. Witnesses: Anthony Wither, John Barfoote, and James Greenhough.

Proved 3 May 1611 by Sir Robert Chambnerlayne. Further administrations were granted on 10 September 1617 and 20 January 1618 to Tutchter Castell of the effects left unadministered by the executor.

Inquest post mortem of Sir Philip Scudamore, knight. (P.R.O. C 142/322, No. 144. Wards 7/36. No. 270.)

certain customary lands in Colham Manor, Hillingdon, Uxbridge. [Court roll, View of frankpledge and court baron.]

Bucks. Indented Inquisition taken at Chipping Wickham in the county of Buckingham, 20 September 9 James (England), 45 James (Scotland), A.D. 1611, before Edward Moore, esquire, escheator in the county of Bucks., pursuant of a writ *diem clausit extremum* issued from his Court of Chancery after the death of Philip Scudamore, knight, lately deceased, and directed by the escheator under oath, of William Shrimpton,¹⁵¹ Richard Fryer, William Eyre, Thomas Taylor, Robert Byscoe, Daniel Redforde, William Moore, George Bates, Thomas Butterfeild, Robert Gibbons, Thomas Redinge, John Salter, Richard Grimsdall, George Grimsdall, Matthew Dignam, Henry Honner, Edmund Salter, Thomas Jo--ter, and Robert Helfer, proven and loyal men of the said county. Who say under oath that the said Philip Scudamore, knight, before his death was known to have been seized in his demesne as of fee of and in the manor of Burnham alias Huntercombes, with all its rightful members and with all its appurtenances, in the said county of Bucks., as also of several other lands, tenements, and hereditaments situated and existing in separate parishes, hamlets and fields of Burnham, Dorney and Becensfeild in the said county of Bucks. And that the same Philip Scudamore, being thereof so seized of the said manor, with appurtenances, king James by Letters Patent dated 1 April 4 James (England) 39 James (Scotland) addressed to the same Philip and Lady Ruth Scudamore, then wife of the said Philip, granted a licence of alienation of the said manor and said other promises, with appurtenances, to one Marmaduc Darell, knight, and his heirs for ever. And also that by the same Letters Patent the king similarly granted that the said licence to the said Marmaduc Darell, knight, for implementation of alienation should not be allowed to take effect during the lives of the said Philip and Ruth, or whichever one of them should live longest, as is shown clearly in evidence to the Jurors as being in accordance with the record set out in the Letters Patent. By virtue of which licence the said Philip Scudamore, named in this writ, afterwards made an Indenture, dated 7 July 4 James (England), 39 (Scotland), between himself, the said Philip Scudamore, knight, on the one part, and the said Marmaduc Darell, knight, on the other part, for and in consideration of the sum of £770 of good and legal English money duly paid to the said Philip Scudamore by the said Marmaduc Darell, for which he granted, alienated, bargained and sold to the said Marmaduc Darell, his heirs and assigns, the whole of the manor of Burnham *alias* Huntercombes, with appurtenances, and all and singular other messuages, lands, tenements, rents, reversions and hereditaments whatsoever with appurtenances, belonging to the said Philip Scudamore situated and existing in several parishes, hamlets or fields of Burnham, Dorney and Becensfeild, or other places in the said county of Bucks. To have and to hold to the said Marmaduc and also all and singular premises, with appurtenances, to the said Marmaduc Darell, his heirs and assigns, for the sole and proper use of the said Marmaduc and his heirs and assigns forever, according to the record of the said Indenture, within six months then next ensuing following the (second) statute by reason of enrolled custom *infra sex menses tunc proxime sequentes secumdem statutum debito modo irrotulato* as the Jurors clearly show as evidence during the taking of

¹⁵¹This William Shrimpton may very well have been related to Sir Philip Scudamore in some unknown way. Shrimpton, left a will in 1637, which style him a gentleman of Beaconfield. The long will of Joan Skydmore who died at High Wycombe in 1549 (will dated 4 August, proved 1 October at Beaconsfield) remembers Anthony Shrympton with a lamb, while the will of William Skydmore (dated 16 March 1549/50, and proved promptly two days later at Aylesbury) makes Christopher Shrympton his overseer. Joan Skydmore was the widow of the John Skydmore (noticed earlier) who was assessed at High Wycombe in 1524. Both of these families came out of Burnham and left posterity that survived for several generations in and about London.

this Inquest. And furthermore the Jurors say under oath that afterwards (that is to say) in the Trinity Term next then following the date of the aforesaid Letters Patent of the said licence of alienation, a certain fine was raised by reason of custom and it was levied following the course of the common law of England concerning the said manor and other premises between the said parties, the tenor of the which fine is here recorded as follows, viz:-

This is a final agreement made in the king's Court at Westminster three weeks after Holy Trinity Sunday in 4 James (England), 39 (Scotland), before Edward Cokes, Thomas Walmesley, Peter Warburton, William Danyell, Thomas Coventrye, justices, and other of the king's loyal subjects there present, between Marmaduc Darell, knight, querent, and Philip Scudamore, knight, and Ruth, his wife, deforciant, concerning the manor of Burnham *alias* Huntercombe, with appurtenances, and of 4 messuages, 1 dovecote, 4 gardens, 300 acres of land, 400 acres of meadow, 500 acres of pasture, 20 acres of woods, 20 acres of furze and heath, and 30 shillings rents, with appurtenances, in Burnham, Boveney, and Bekensfeild, concerning which, this plea was caused to be raised between them in the same Court, namely that the said Philip and Ruth recognise the said manor and tenements, with appurtenances, to be the right of the said Marmaduc by reason that the said Marmaduc had the same by gift of the said Philip and Ruth. And that the reversion and quitclaim of the said Philip and Ruth and their heirs are to be transferred to the said Marmaduc and his heirs for ever. And furthermore the said Philip and Ruth grant on behalf of themselves and their heirs that they will warrant the said Marmaduc and his heirs in the said manor and tenements, with appurtenances, against the said Philip and Ruth and heirs of the said Philip for ever. And for this recognition, reversion, quitclaim, warranty, fine and agreement, the same Marmaduc granted to the same Philip and Ruth the said manor and tenements with appurtenances, and rendering to them in the same Courts to have and to hold of the chief lords of that fee by service which belongs to the said Marmaduc, and also of the tenements thereto belonging, for the whole of the lifetime of the said Philip and Ruth or whichever of them should live the longest, according to a chirograph taken of the same fine and shown clearly as evidence to the jurors at this Inquest.

By virtue of which and by force of the Statute of 27 Henry VIII concerning Uses in Conveyance of Possessions the aforesaid Philip Soudamore named in this writ and Lady Ruth, his wife, were seized of the said manor, with appurtenances, and so continued in their demesne as of freehold for life or for the life of the one who should live longest, and thus so to remain seized for life as before-mentioned. And the said Philip Scudamore, being thus so seized for the term of his life, died on 24 January last previous to the taking of this Inquest, A.D. 1610. And that one Scudamore Luckes, gentleman, according to informations is next of kin and heir to the said Philip Scudamore, named in this writ, that is; son and heir of one Anne [sic] Luke,¹⁵² deceased, lately wife of one Nicholas Luke, daughter and heir of one Simon Scudamore, son and heir of one David Scudamores uncle (on the male side) of the said Philip Scudamore, knight, named in this writ.

And that the said Scudamore Lucke, at the time this Inquest was taken and at the time of the death of the said Philip Scudamore, was aged 22 years and more. And that the said Philip Scudamore, named in this writ, holds of king James in chief by knight service, but by what part of a knight's fee the jurors are ignorant. And that the value, per annum, in all issues, clear, is £10.

And that the said Philip Scudamore, named in this writ, holds no other lands, tenements or hereditaments, in chief or in service of the king in the county of Bucks., on the day that he died,

¹⁵²This was an error; Mrs. Luke was named Elizabeth.

otherwise than that which has been noted by the jurors and above-written.

In witness whereof etc.¹⁵³

The will of George Skidmore [of Wotton Underwood, Bucks.]¹⁵⁴ Dated 26 April 1611.

To son George, 5sh.

To son Thomas, the bed whereon I do now lie with all the furniture belonging to be delivered after the death of my wife, and a colt of year old of bay color, and a cutted tailed heifer color black.

To daughter Anne, £6.6s.8d. when wife finds herself able.

To daughter Jane, £6.6s.8d.

Residue to wife Elizabeth who is to be executrix.

Overseers: John Lovell, Henry Perkins.

Witnesses: John Lovell, Henry Perkins.

Proved 7 June 1611.

The will of Thomas Skidmore, of Wotton Underwood, Bucks., husbandman. Dated 10 October 1625.

Sick in body.

To son George Skidmore, 20 nobles of lawfull English money at the age of 20 years to be paid by my executor.

To daughter Elizabeth Skidmore., 20 nobles at the age of 18.

Residue to wife Annis Skidmore, and she is to be whole executor.

I desire my neighbors Thomas Collye and John Lovell to be my overseers.

Witnesses: Thomas Collye [Cowley], John Lovell.

Probated 9 January 1625. [1625/6]

The will of John Scudamore of Lambeth Marsh, Surrey, yeoman. Dated 20 December 1636. Prerogative Court of Canterbury, (Register Goare, folio 34) PROB 11/173.

To be buried in Leighs Chapell in the parish of Lambeth.

To the poor people of the said parish 50 dozen of bread to be distributed on the day of my funeral.

To the curate of the said parish, 20sh. to preach my funeral sermon.

To my brother Peter Buckmaster, £5 and my best suit of apparel [and other personal property].

To kinsman Richard Gill, apprenticed to Mr. Welles in Crutchett Fryers, London, £10.

To kinswoman, Sarah Gill, the like sum of £10, a feather bed [and other personal property, described].

To kinsman John Scudamore, servant to Sir Thomas Cheeke, Knt., at Havering House in Essex, 40s.

To the widow Scudamore of Barnett [Chipping Barnet, Middlesex], 20sh.

¹⁵³The writ of *Diem Clausit Extremum* was issued to the Escheator in Bucks on 17 June 1611 and delivery to the Court made on 12 November 1611. The signatures of the jurors are appended.

¹⁵⁴His residence and occupation are unstated, but he was undoubtedly of Wotton Underwood, as the will of his son Thomas (died 1625) shows. They are probably not related to the Burnham family. He may be the George *Scudamore* who was living in 1573 at Ludgershall, Bucks. On 11 December 1575 William Knighte was presented to the church at Ludgershall with George Scudamore and others as witnesses. Proximately suggests that this George Scudamore may have been a Skiddie from Ireland, a family noticed in my *Occasional Papers* on the family website.

To the grandchildren of my brother Buckmaster, £5.
To kinsman Mullen Maltman of Croydon, 10sh.¹⁵⁵
To John Scudamore of Kingsbury being one of the King's Purveyors for his Majesty's Wheat, £20.
To Mr. Dendey, a bailiff in Croydon, 20sh.
To Richard Mosse, a poor boy I now keep, £3 6sh. 5d.
To my man Anthony Foster a cloak for his wife to wear.
To John Carrington of Lambeth Marsh, 10sh.
To the entertainment of my friends and neighbors after my funeral, £10.
Residue to my loving friend Edmund Morgan, Esq., of Lambeth, and kinsman John Scudamore of Kingsbury, to be equally divided between them. They are to serve as executors.
Witnesses. John Norton, John Carrington, "script in Chancery Lane."
[Proved 24 February 1636/7.]

¹⁵⁵This bequest to Maltman was apparently an afterthought. It was interlined here in a very tiny hand.