

Revised 6 January 2006 for CD-ROM

**THE SCUDAMORES OF UPTON SCUDAMORE:  
A KNIGHTLY FAMILY IN  
MEDIEVAL WILTSHIRE, 1086-1382**

**by Warren Skidmore**

**Third edition  
Akron, Ohio ::2006**

**ALSO BY WARREN SKIDMORE**

**Thomas Skidmore (Scudamore), 1605-1684, of Westerleigh, Gloucestershire,  
and Fairfield, Connecticut; his ancestors and his descendants to the  
ninth generation.  
First edition, 1980  
Second edition, 1985**

**The Scudamores of Upton Scudamore, a knightly family in  
medieval Wiltshire, 1086-1382.  
First edition, 1982  
Second edition, 1989**

**Skidmore  
Rickmansworth, England; Delaware; North Carolina and West 1555-1983.  
(with William F. Skidmore)  
1983**

**Thomas Stonestreet of Birchden, Withyham, East Sussex, and of "Birchden"  
in Charles County, Maryland, with his posterity down to the sixth generation.  
First edition, 1983  
Second edition, 1984  
Third edition, 1985**

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### **PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION (2006)**

The changes to this third edition have been largely cosmetic. A few small errors of fact have been silently corrected.. The type sizes for both the text and the footnotes has been increased to 12 point to replace smaller texts that saved money when the two earlier edition of this book were self-published..

I have added an Appendix V about the stone effigies (now on new plinths) in the church at Upton Scudamore, and an abstract on page 97 of a recently found Merbury deed which tends to support a bit of an old Welsh pedigree of the family.

I wrote in 2005 a new long essay *Some Notes on the Scudemmer (Skydmore) family in the 11th to the 14th centuries* for the new CD-ROM of 2006. It is supplemental to the present book and includes a revision of my account found here of the family at Poston in Herefordshire, some notes on the origin of the surname, and the possible (but unproven) connection of the family with that of Malbanc in France..

### **PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION (1989)**

When I sent the manuscript of the first edition of this book off to the printers in April 1982 I felt reasonably certain that there would not be any significant additions made to it in my lifetime. Every likely lead had been pursued at the Public Record Office, the British Museum (now the British Library), the county record offices, and in the published book (notably the several series of the printed chancery rolls). The book went quietly out-of-print in 1987. Only a few typographical errors were noticed and even fewer additions had been reported to me at that time.

Recently there has been a plethora of new finds! Almost every page of this edition has been augmented and revised. Perhaps the most important of the new data is the discovery and excavation of the site of the chapel at Corras in Kentchurch. Ralph [de Scudemmer] may very well have a hand in the building of the chapel there, and beyond doubt either he (or his sons) made a gift of the tithes of the chapel to the abbey at Gloucester in 1100 with the consent (probably encouragement) of Harold de Ewyas.

I had missed identifying the Rainald (never found with a surname) who was

a stepson of Ralph. I now feel certain that he was probably born at Rouen in France, a son of Erkembald fitz Erkembald, and an adult by 1086. He and his stepfather were both tenants of Alfred of Marlborough at the time of the Domesday Book if my conclusion is correct.

Two more chapters (XVI and XVII) have been added to accommodate the Herefordshire family. This branch of the family has now been brought down to the point where they acquired (by 1386) an interest at Kentchurch and began the construction of the fortified tower and the house adjoining which still survive at Kentchurch Court. This, quite coincidentally, is about the same time as the death of Sir Peter Scudamore IV (the last of the family at Upton Scudamore) and we end this account of both branches in the last quarter of the 14th century.

The tentative identification of Alfred of Marlborough with an Alfred *Maubanc* found earlier in Normandy is the work of Bruce Coplestone-Crow who published a monograph on the fief of Alfred de Marlborough in the *Transactions* of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club in 1986. I have used his work to great advantage (as the footnotes to the revised version of the Herefordshire chapters will show) and this book has benefited in innumerable other ways from my correspondence with him.

R. G. Woodman published four essays in 1985 of great interest. *Upton Scudamore* (27 typewritten pages) brought the history of this place down to the arctic winter of 1962/3 when he was resident in the parish at the Old Rectory. He also did a history of *Norton Bavant*, *The Giffards of Fonthill Giffard*, and also *The Barony of Ewyas Harold & the Wiltshire Manors*. All are useful.

John Hunt (now of Pottton, Bedfordshire) has continued to dig in the archives with renewed ferocity now that London is so close. He turned up the two *Inquisitions ad quod damnum* on the chantries at Upton Scudamore that have been added to Appendix I. On a damp day in September 1988 Judy and John Hunt and myself made a pilgrimage to the church at Clifton Reynes, Buckinghamshire, to look at the heraldry on the tomb of Katherine (Scudamore) Reynes and her husband. The shields carved there suggest that her paternal grandmother was a Stokes, another new discovery.

I continue to be greatly indebted to William F. Skidmore of Knoxville, Tennessee, who has turned the present revision into a handsome Times-Roman typeface. We have in progress another book tentatively titled *Thirty generations of the Scudamore/Skidmore family in England and America* and he has put almost 400 pages of this into the computer. A provisional first draft of this book should be available for study later this year.

In this edition I have supplied the reference coordinates from the Ordnance Survey maps. The *one inch* maps are widely available in England through bookstores; large shops usually carry the entire collection. The larger scale maps (1:25,000) are much harder to find. Of these nos. ST 84 (Warminster), SO 42 (Garway), SO 33 (Vowchurch) and SO 32 (Longtown) cover the principal places mentioned in this book. A catalogue may be requested from the Director General, Ordnance Survey, Romsey Road, Maybush, Southampton SO9 4DH. Note that the last (of three) digits of both the *eastings* and *northings* are estimated visually from the maps.

In the interim between editions of this book Linda (Skidmore) Moffatt has founded a Skidmore society and published several issues of a newsletter devoted to this family name throughout the world. The newsletter will be a clearing house for data for the family and anyone with queries or unpublished material is urged to write her at 2 Burley Road, Winchester, Hampshire SO22 6LJ.

Finally, an article by Cynthia Inions on Kentchurch (illustrated with several fine colour photographs by Tim Beddow) which appeared in the March 1989 issue of *Country Homes* must be mentioned. It updates nicely the three-part series on the house and family that appeared in *Country Life* some 23 years ago on the 15th, 22nd and 29th of December 1966.

### THE PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

The Scudamores of Herefordshire and Wiltshire appear to have been Normans (or Bretons) who were in England building castles before the conquest. I have attempted to tell their story as completely as the surviving records allow from the Domesday Book down to the death of the last Scudamore lord of Upton in 1382. It can not be said that my effort is an unqualified success for we have not recovered enough homely detail to make living personalities out of any of them. Primarily it is a history of their lands that comes through loud and clear; the human condition of the tenants eludes us largely.

I have had to resist an inclination to retell the history of England in these pages, and the present book is best read with a textbook history of the period close at hand. I am very fond of Doris Mary Stenton's *English Society in the Early Middle Ages*, an inexpensive Penguin book, which has gone through several editions and is nicely written. Lady Stenton's learning will illuminate almost every page of this essay on the Scudamores and is highly recommended to my readers.

One thing that must certainly set the Scudamores apart from the other knightly families in Wiltshire in this period is the number of their charters that have survived fortuitously down to the present day. In 1364 when the last Sir Peter Scudamore was off to the wars in France he set up a trust in which he mentions a small sealed chest or coffer left in the custody of his wife Joan where he had lodged his last will and also the other muniments of the family. His will is lost to us, but presumably most of the charters once preserved there do survive in three different collections.

The most valuable lot is to be found copied into the Hungerford family cartulary now deposited in the Wiltshire Record Office at Trowbridge. This is probably the appropriate place to acknowledge my appreciation to the staff there who produced it for me and then agreed to oversee the microfilming of it so that I might translate the Upton Scudamore charters at my leisure on this side of the Atlantic. An edition of the whole of the cartulary is in progress (1991) by John L. Kirby of Streatham, London. In addition to the charters, a few feet of fine are recorded there as well as the proceedings in a suit from a plea roll of 1358. The judgement in this case is most important for it effectively ended the dispute with the Bavant family over the possession of Upton Scudamore.

Another batch, almost equally valuable, merged into the Hastings Deeds, has found its way to the Huntington Library at San Marino, California, and again I am indebted to the kindness of Mary L. Robertson, Assistant Curator of British History, who had all of these charters copied for me in 1975. The Hastings Deeds are the original charters and she was also kind enough to have two of the seals attached to the charters photographed for me. Translating these proved to be a bigger challenge since every charter (with an exception or two) was done by a different hand in a different script.

The Brudenell family of Deene Park in Northamptonshire were the eventual heirs of the Scudamore and Reynes families of Upton Scudamore. They also had a collection of Scudamore charters that descended to them with their inheritance. There are still Brudenells at Deene Park but most of their estate records have now been transferred to the Northampton Record Office at Delapre Abbey. P. I. King, the Chief Archivist, told me in 1974 that the charters from Upton Scudamore were not in their custody and they are presumed lost. Fortunately Sir Thomas Brudenell (died 1663) then a baronet, later earl of Cardigan, was an amateur antiquary and copies of a good many of the Scudamore charters were presented to the heralds in 1613 when a visitation was made in Huntingdonshire. This visitation was printed for the Camden Society in 1849 and should be seen by anyone interested in the descent of Upton Scudamore after the death of the last Sir Peter. I suspect that there may have been more charters in the hands of the Brudenells than are excerpted

there, and hopefully they may yet surface somewhere in England.

I have merged the translations of all three lots of these charters into one chronological series for Appendix I of this book. In general only the warranty clauses have been omitted in my readings of them and particular attention has been paid to getting the field names transcribed as accurately as the condition of the original allows. Hopefully this, with the witness-lists, will give this book some larger interest than the usual family history.

It is very curious how soon the feudal institution of primogeniture took over in the family. At the end of the reign of Henry I we find Reginald de Scudemer dividing his inheritance apparently with both of his brothers, but after this time the lands went undivided to the eldest son and heir. The younger sons thereafter are obscure and their posterity frequently disappear completely. The daughters of the family, with two exceptions (Erneberga d'Aunon and Eleanor Percy), are completely unknown to us. Alice Bavant and Katherine Reynes, sole heiresses to Scudamores who produced no surviving male heir, are special cases and can be added to them to make a very short list indeed.

The Scudamores of Wiltshire are not extinct in the male line. The family survived at Compton Chamberlain until the days of James I, first as villeins and later as yeoman. They can be traced in the plea rolls in the medieval period and in their wills and the parish register in the time of the Tudors. Two other branches at least, formerly at Wellow, Somerset, and at Westerleigh, Gloucestershire, are still extant. The family multiplied in Herefordshire, and there are happily still Scudamores at Kentchurch Court. All of these cadets were doubtless of the same blood; the Scudamores are one family where a strong case can be made that all of them (adoptees, bastards and apprentices aside) came out of a common ancestor.

This history should not be thought of as finished. No doubt there are still discoveries to be made. An obvious source is the plea rolls which are so seldom used by the genealogist. I have checked all of these, the *De Banco* rolls (CP 40), the *Curia Regis* rolls (KB 26), and the *Coram Rege* rolls (KG 27), at the Public Record Office where there is any means of access (a very tiny part of the whole only). Many of these have not been cited in the notes as they did not, in fact, tell us anything not previously known. Others were exceedingly valuable as the text will show. Hopefully some day all of the plea rolls will be indexed, an immense undertaking since they are voluminous.

It remains only to thank all of those who have had a hand in the making of this book. Chief among these is Colonel William F. Skidmore (U. S. Army, Retired), of Knoxville, Tennessee, who has fed the entire manuscript of this

book into his Apple computer turning my unbelievably messy copy into presentable camera-ready pages. He has made excellent suggestions at every revision of the manuscript and the idea of providing a glossary, for example, is due entirely to him. He has also used the computer to do an index of personal names and is responsible for the whole of this tedious chore. His wife, Dr. Ellen (Towne) Skidmore, a modern historian by profession, has also read the entire manuscript, and has made a great many valuable suggestions which have been adopted.

My very good friend and colleague Sharon Lane has also read the whole of the computer printouts, both first and final drafts, and caught me out in innumerable misspellings and grammatical errors. If the finished book is reasonably free of this kind of slip it is largely due to her diligence.

Squadron Leader R. G. Woodman, D.S.O., D.F.C., now of Westbury, Wilts., formerly of the Old Rectory, Upton Scudamore, has read the whole of the first draft and made a great many additions and corrections to it. He is a fount of information on the whole of Wiltshire and its history and I have drawn heavily on it. Tim Woodman was also my guide on my first visit to Upton Scudamore pointing out the sites of many of the places associated with the Scudamores, some of them next to invisible now to the untutored eye.

John Hunt of Montrose, Scotland, has also read the first draft of these notes and turned up a good many of the evidences cited at the British Library and at the Public Record Office. He became interested in the family while a student at Oxford (his great grandmother was an Emily Scudamore born in 1833 at Abenhall, Gloucestershire, out of the Kentchurch family) and he had a hand in the making of this book from the very beginning.

The late Commander John Lucas-Scudamore of Kentchurch Court, a man of immense charm and wit, had a inexhaustible supply of reminiscences about the family and his death was a great personal loss. This book might very well have never gotten off the ground except for Jack's continued interest. Among much else I will always be grateful for a copy of Bannister's *Ewias Harold*; Bannister was Jack's old tutor at Oxford and he found a duplicate copy of his book in the library at Kentchurch and made me a gift of it. To his wife Lady Patricia Lucas-Scudamore (herself a descendant of the the Scudamore-Stanhopes formerly of Holme Lacy) I am deeply obligated for her many kindnesses and hospitality at both Kentchurch and in London. She is the author of a small book on the history of the church at Holme Lacy and again has been involved at every step in the compilation of these notes. Without the Lucas-Scudamores I probably would never have been able to get to Poston on a windy afternoon in November, 1970.

All of these people had a hand in producing whatever virtues this book may have, but they are not to be held accountable for its insufficiencies which are the responsibility of the author.

Warren Skidmore.  
December 1989

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

- BOOK OF FEES: *Book of fees, commonly called the Testa de Nevill* (PRO), 3 vols., 1920-31.
- CHARTER ROLL: *Calendar of Charter Rolls* (PRO).
- CLOSE ROLL: *Calendar of Close Rolls* (PRO).
- C. Y. S.: Canterbury and York Society.
- DNB: *Dictionary of National Biography*, Oxford University Press, 22 vols., 1885-1900.
- FINE ROLL: *Calendar of Fine Rolls* (PRO).
- G. E. C.: G. E. C.[okanyne], *The Complete Peerage of the United Kingdom*, London, 12 vols., 1910-59.
- MON. ANGL.: Dugdale, *Monasticon Anglicanum*, 6 vols., in 8, 1817-30.
- PARL. WRITS.: *Parliamentary writs and writs of military summons of Edward I and Edward II*, ed. Sir Francis Palgrave, 1827-34.
- PATENT ROLL: *Calendar of Patent Rolls* (PRO).
- PRO: Public Record Office, Chancery Lane, London.
- PRS: Pipe Roll Society.
- PRS, n. s.: Pipe Roll Society, new series.
- REC. COM.: Publications of the Record Commissioners.
- ROLLS SERIES: *Chronicles and memorials of Great Britain and Ireland during the Middle Ages*. London, 99 vols., 1858-97.
- ROT. PARL.: *Rotuli Parliamentorum*, 6 vols. and index, 1767.
- VCH: Victoria County History.
- W. A. M.: Wiltshire Archaeological magazine.

WRO:

Wiltshire Record Office, County Hall, Trowbridge.

## CHAPTER I

### THE ORIGIN OF THE SCUDAMORE FAMILY: RALPH [DE SCUDEMERE] LIVING 1086 AND 1100.

It was A. G. Bradley who first suggested early in the last century that the Scudamore family probably owed its early prominence in both Herefordshire and Wiltshire to Alfred de Marlborough, a great tenant-in-chief of William the Conqueror in both of these shires at the time of the Domesday Book.<sup>1</sup> While nothing is known of his parentage Alfred was a nephew of Osbern (surnamed *Penecost*) who was one of the colony of King Edward the Confessor's Norman favorites in Herefordshire long before the conquest. Osbern, as J. Horace Round has demonstrated, is the man who probably built the castle at Ewyas Harold in Herefordshire before 1052. Situated at the junction of the routes through the Black Mountains, the castle remained important down to the time of Owen Glendower's death in 1416. It was refortified between 1067 and 1071, and Alfred de Marlborough succeeded his uncle there (and at Osbern's fees at Burghill and Brinsop in Herefordshire) by the time of the Domesday Book in 1086.<sup>2</sup>

Alfred was himself in England before 1086 for he had held Pencombe in Herefordshire in his own right in the time of King Edward the Confessor. He appears to have been a native of Brittany and is probably identical with the Alfred "de Malbeding" (Maubanc) who is mentioned in a number of Norman charters dated between 1069 and 1081.<sup>3</sup> Most of his estates in Wiltshire had belonged before the conquest to one Carlo or Karl, an Anglo-Scandinavian

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<sup>1</sup>A. G. Bradley, *In the march and borderland of Wales* (1905) 34. "The original Scudamore, I believe, came out of Wiltshire, possibly attracted hither by the joint ownership during the early Norman period of manors in both counties by one Alured [Alfred] of Marlborough, a great personage hereabouts." In point of fact it would appear that the Scudamores went from Herefordshire to Wiltshire.

<sup>2</sup>J. Horace Round, *Feudal England* (1964) 252; see also Roy. Comm. of Hist. Mon., *Herefordshire*, III, lv.

<sup>3</sup>Bruce Coplestone-Crow, *The fief of Alfred de Marlborough in Herefordshire in 1086 and its descent in the Norman period*. Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, XLV (1986) 376. He suggests that Alfred may have died in 1086 while the Domesday Book was still in progress (*ibid*, 385). His surname Marlborough is probably a corruption of Malbedeng.

thegn, but none of these was at the important Marlborough in that county.<sup>4</sup>

Within two years of the taking of the Domesday Book Alfred was dead and his fief dismembered. Part of it went to the omnivorous Bernard de Newmarch of Brecknock who died in 1125 and is of no further concern to us, but the greater part including his castle at the mouth of Dore River passed to Harold de Ewyas. Alfred had a daughter Agnes and she and her husband Thurstan de Wigmore (*alias* Thurstan the Fleming) were able to keep those lands which she had held as an undertenant of her father in 1086, but they now owed fealty for them to Harold de Ewyas. Among them was Pencombe which passed eventually to Alfred's grandson Eustace from whom the Whitney family has been deduced in the male line.<sup>5</sup>

The undertenant of most interest to us is a Ralph (never found with a surname) who was born about 1040. He was, beyond doubt, ancestor to the Scudamore family. This Ralph is mentioned five times in the Domesday Book as a tenant of both Alfred de Marlborough and William de Écouis, another great tenant-in-chief of the Conqueror. Ralph is probably the same man who held an unnamed plough of land in the demesne of the castle at Ewyas at the same time in 1086. All of these fees went in or soon after 1086 to Harold de Ewyas and Upton, Fifield and the unnamed plough of land (almost certainly Corras in Kentchurch) were held very early in the next century by Reginald de Scudemer from the honour of Ewyas Harold. From William de Écouis we find that Ralph [de Scudemer] held Poston (in Vowchurch) and Little Hatfield near Leominster in 1086, both places in Herefordshire.

The undertenants in the Domesday Book are almost never found there with a surname, and even the important tenants-in-chief are mentioned only by their given names when they happen to be undertenants themselves of some other honour.<sup>6</sup> J. Horace Round writes about the identification of undertenants and

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<sup>4</sup>See the Victoria County History, *Wiltshire*, II, 100, where there is an exact accounting by hides of Alfred's lands in Wiltshire, Herefordshire, Surrey, Hampshire, and Somerset. All of the manors in Wiltshire held later by the Scudamores had once belonged to Carlo. Send, Surrey, and Shipton Bellinger, Hampshire, both held by Rainald fitz Erkembald, had also belonged to Carlo.

<sup>5</sup>VCH, *Herefs.*, I, 281, 303-4. Pencombe was held by the Whitneys until the 18th century; it is curiously not mentioned by name in the Domesday Book. The Lingen family is also said to descend in the male line from Thurstan de Wigmore in C. J. Robinson's *The castles of Herefordshire and their lords* (1869) 93.

<sup>6</sup>Thus the Alfred with no surname who held extensive lands in Somerset from Eustace, count of Boulogne, can be shown to be Alfred de Marlborough.

their lands that “the best of all proofs of identity is that which is afforded by feudal tenure and genealogical descent, and that is why I consider the returns for Herefordshire hundreds in 1243, printed in the *Testa de Nevill* (62-7) to be the most valuable material that we have for Domesday [place-name] identification.”<sup>7</sup> The reverse is equally true, and the Domesday tenant can sometimes be identified by the descent and tenure of his land as Round himself has repeatedly demonstrated.<sup>8</sup> When we examine the manors held by the Scudamores in 1243 in both Herefordshire and Wiltshire we find that they were all formerly held by Ralph in the Domesday Book.<sup>9</sup>

The caput of the Scudamore fief was Upton Scudamore in Wiltshire, and the family held it beyond any doubt previous to 1120. It was known as Upton “Escudamore” before 1150, and the suffix certainly implies some previous tenancy by the family. It was held by Ralph in 1086:

Ralph holds OPTONE [Upton Scudamore] of Alfred [de Marlborough]. In the time of King Edward it paid geld for 9 hides. There is land for 6 ploughs. Of this there are in demesne 5 hides and there are 2 ploughs and 5 serfs; and there are 9 villeins and 22 bordars with 4 ploughs. There is a mill paying 20 shillings and there are 5 acres of meadow and 30 acres of pasture. The wood[land] is 3 furlongs long and 1 furlong broad. It was worth £8; it is now worth £9.<sup>10</sup>

The subsequent history of Upton Scudamore is well known. In 1166 Godfrey Scudamore held it as one of his five fees from Robert de Ewyas according to the *Red Book of the Exchequer*. Two years later at the aid assessed for the marriage of King Henry II’s daughter we find that Godfrey held his five fees

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<sup>7</sup>VCH, *Herefs.*, I, 303. It is regrettable that Round never turned his full attention to the Scudamore family. He does discuss the origin of the surname and their five fees in Wiltshire in *The Ancestor*, VI, 137. The text of the old *Testa de Nevill* published in 1807 by the Record Commission has now been replaced by the modern *Book of Fees*.

<sup>8</sup>Notably in his translations of the Domesday Book and his notes to them found in the Victoria County Histories.

<sup>9</sup>VCH, *Wilts.*, VIII, 80. K. H. Rogers, the author of the article on Upton Scudamore in this volume, came to the same conclusion about Ralph using only the evidence of the Wiltshire fees. The case for Ralph being the ancestor to the Scudamores is considerably strengthened when you add the Herefordshire records not used by Rogers.

<sup>10</sup>VCH, *Wilts.*, II, 142.

directly from the crown as a tenant-in-chief.<sup>11</sup> The Scudamores continued as *barones* (that is tenants-in-chief) for much of the next 62 years, but their fealty reverted back to the honour of Ewyas Harold in 1230.<sup>12</sup>

Fifield Bavant in Wiltshire was another of the five fees of Godfrey Scudamore in 1166, although it is not identified there by name. It was known as Fifield Scudamore until the death of Sir Peter Scudamore in 1293 when it passed with all the rest of his lands (except Upton Scudamore) to his only daughter and heiress Alice, already the widow of Sir Adam de Bavant. It continued with the Bavants (and took their name) until 1 July 1344 when Roger Bavant II, Alice's grandson, gave it and all the other lands he had from the Scudamore family to King Edward III. Ralph held Fifield in 1086:

Alfred de [Marlborough] himself holds FIFHIDE [Fifield Bavant] and Ralph holds it of him. In the time of King Edward it paid geld for 5 hides. There is land for 4 ploughs. Of this there are in desmesne 3 hides and there is 1 plough and 3 serfs. There are 9 villeins and 6 bordars with 2 ploughs. There are 2 acres of meadow. The pasture is 1/2 league long and 2 furlongs broad. The wood[land] is 1/2 league long and 1/2 furlong broad. It was worth £4; it is now worth 100 shillings. One smith's forge pays 12 pence a year. In Wilton 2 burgesses pay 18 pence.<sup>13</sup>

Norton Bavant in Wiltshire was almost certainly one of Godfrey Scudamore's fees in 1166, but it was probably not held by his predecessors from either Alfred de Marlborough or Harold de Ewyas. No undertenant is mentioned in the Domesday Book as holding NORTONE of Alfred, and he probably kept the profits of the manor for himself.<sup>14</sup> Harold seems to have followed the same practice for the tithes of Norton (alone of the Scudamore fees) are mentioned in his grant to the abbey of St. Peter's, Gloucester, about the year 1120 and Norton was granted to the Scudamores sometime after this date but before 1166.

When we turn to the Domesday Book for Herefordshire we find that life there in 1086 was very different from that of Wiltshire where men ploughed and sowed in peace. All of Herefordshire south and west of the Wye River had

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<sup>11</sup>I. J. Sanders, *English Baronies* (1960) 43. In 1166 Robert de Ewyas had 22 fees, in 1168 only 19. The difference here probably represents the subtraction of the Scudamore fees although the mathematics is not perfect.

<sup>12</sup>Dodsworth, *Collections*, XV, 113; *Close Rolls*, 1227-1231, 330.

<sup>13</sup>VCH, *Wilts.*, II, 142.

<sup>14</sup>*Ibid.*

been repeatedly laid waste by invasions of the Welsh, and the organization of the county is quasi-military in nature. Life revolved about the network of castles which the Normans had constructed along the border. The exposed condition of Alfred de Marlborough's castle at the very edge of the Conqueror's realm made necessary the constant presence within the castle of some part of the knights which owed it fealty. We know from evidence to be presented later that the lord of the castle established a rotation of this duty and that each knight did a certain term in the year with his tenants.<sup>15</sup> This was the essential service which the Scudamores owed for their lands in the middle of the 12th century to the honour of Ewyas, and Reginald Escudamore demanded castle-guard at Ewyas (or a money payment in lieu of this) when he enfeoffed his brother Walter Escudamore with a part of his lands.<sup>16</sup> The same service was required of Godfrey Scudamore when he had a subsequent confirmation of his lands from Robert de Ewyas in the reign of King Stephen.<sup>17</sup>

When we look back to the lands held by Alfred de Marlborough in the Domesday Book we find Ralph enumerated among the nine knights at Ewyas Castle in 1086:

His [Alfred de Marlborough's] five knights [men-at-arms] Richard, Gilbert, William and William and Arnold have 5 ploughs in demesne [of the castle] and 12 bordars and 3 fisheries and 22 acres of meadow.

Two others, William and Ralph, hold land for 2 ploughs [in demesne of the castle.]

Thurstan holds land which renders 19 pence and Warner land worth five shillings. They have 5 bordars.

The castle of Ewyas is worth £10.<sup>18</sup>

This is followed by a list of Alfred's manors in Herefordshire to which must be added two others mentioned elsewhere in the Domesday Book under

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<sup>15</sup>See Sir Frank Stenton's essay on castles and castle-guard in his *First Century of English Feudalism* (1961) 192, where he quotes an incomplete text of the Scudamore charter. It is a pity he had not seen the full text (first printed in the present book) as it proves some of his theories about this institution.

<sup>16</sup>Hist. Mss. Comm., *Hastings*, 78, pt. 1, 232-3. See Appendix I, no. 1.

<sup>17</sup>Mathew Gibson, *View of Door, Home-Lacy, and Hempstead* (1727), 56-7.

<sup>18</sup>VCH, *Herefs.*, I, 337. For the evolution of the castle at Ewyas in the 11th century see the description of Molteton beginning on page 40.

Archenfield Hundred.<sup>19</sup> At all of these it is disappointing not to find the knights mentioned in connection with their lands. A part of them can be identified from later sources. Richard (ancestor of the Torel family) held Brinsop, Gilbert [de Minieres] and William [Picard] were probably the two unnamed men-at-arms at Burghill, while William [de Lestra] and Ralph (ancestor of the Scudamore family) were at Pontrilas and Corras Kentchurch. The land of Thurstan and Warner was probably at Dulas according to convincing evidence presented by Bruce Coplestone-Crow.

Doubtless the reason that the tenants were unnamed is that they had already been accounted for under the far more important castle. J. H. Round, as usual, has a valuable comment on the topic: “Before leaving the subject of castles one should note that at Clifford and at Ewyas Harold we have specially good examples of the practice of Norman barons by which they assigned to their knightly tenants small estates around their own castles. We find this example at Carisbrooke, the chief seat in the Isle Of Wight of earl William fitz Osbern, and at Montacute Castle in Somerset. But it would be hard to find a better instance than that of the nine *milites* [knights] with Norman names at Ewyas Harold unless it is surpassed by the ten *francigenae* [Frenchmen] at what I take to be Belvoir Castle.”<sup>20</sup>

The two ploughs that William and Ralph held of Alfred de Marlborough in the demesne of the castle was at Kentchurch, where the Scudamore family survives (although not continuously) down to the present day. The Domesday book says of it:

Alfred of Marlborough holds ELWISTONE [Kentchurch]. Earl Harold held [it]. On the demesne are 1/2 ploughs, and [there are] a priest and 3 villeins and 4 bordars and 4 serfs with 5 ploughs and give three sheep. It is worth 30 shillings.<sup>21</sup>

Rev. A. T. Bannister in his valuable book on Ewyas Harold has proved that this place is identical with the *Heliston* mentioned in the cartulary of the priory of Ewyas Harold, the Elston Bridge at the south end of the Dore Valley on Saxton’s map of 1577, and the modern Pontrilas in Kentchurch.<sup>22</sup> *Heliston*

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<sup>19</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 318, 337.

<sup>20</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 274.

<sup>21</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 318.

<sup>22</sup>A. T. Bannister, *The History of Ewias Harold* (1902) 129. It is curious to find that Bannister’s identification as early as 1902 was overlooked by the editors of the Victoria County History published in 1906. Here *Elwistone* is wrongly identified as Helvistone Wood in Harewood while Elston Bridge is

was held in the 12th Century by the Poyntington family, and we may be safe in identifying the William at Kentchurch in the Domesday Book with the William “de Lestra” who held Poyntingdon in Somerset, a manor subsequently added to the honour of Ewyas Harold.<sup>23</sup> Pontrilas had a priest, so in the days of the Conqueror it must have extended to the eastern part of the present parish of Kentchurch to embrace Corras. This was anciently known as *Caveros*, a place-name which happily still survives. Corras is first noticed in 1100 when Harold de Ewyas gave the tithes of the chapel there to the monastery of St. Peter’s in Gloucester. Sometime in the same period Reginald Escudamore gave *Kaveros* to his brother Walter and we will return to these sons of Ralph shortly.<sup>24</sup>

The Scudamores held two other fees at Poston (in Vowchurch) and at Little Hatfield near Leominster in Herefordshire. These had never belonged to the honour of Ewyas Harold, and when we return to the Domesday Book we find that both were a part of the lands of William de Écouis, another of William the Conqueror’s tenants-in-chief.<sup>25</sup> The Herefordshire castlery of William de - Écouis is most unexpectedly headed by Caerleon in Wales. Round conjectures that his Herefordshire lands were given to William to support his castle in Monmouthshire before 1070. His fief was later divided, but a precise account of the descent of the barony has not been worked out. William de Écouis (who is called “de Scohies” in the Domesday Book) seems to have been the father of a Nicholas fitz William of Dilwyn living in 1137. Caerleon Castle eventually passed to the Chandos family and was added to their honour of Snodhill. Much of the remainder formed the honour of Dilwyn which took

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identified with *Elnodestune* (a Lacy fee in the Dore Valley) which is now known to have been Chanstone in Vowchurch. This error is also repeated in the *Herefordshire Domesday* (Pipe Roll Society), new series, XXV, 96.

<sup>23</sup>Roger “de Pontonia” held it as one fee from Robert de Ewyas in 1166. This family took their surname from the manor on the Somerset-Dorset border held earlier by William “de Lestra.” See the VCH, *Soms.*, I, 412. Lestre, from which he had his name, is in the department of Manche in Normandy. The Scudamores had no interest in Pontrilas in feudal times; but Colonel Scudamore did acquire Pontrilas Court in 1840 (Bannister, 130).

<sup>24</sup>Hist. Mss. Comm., *Hastings*, pt. 1, 232-3. See Appendix I, no. 1.

<sup>25</sup>Écouis is in the department of Eure in Normandy. For the home of William de Écouis see Lewis C. Lloyd, *The origin of some Anglo-Norman families*, ed. Charles Davis Clay and David C. Douglas (Harl. Soc., 1951) CIII, 39. It is interesting to see how many Herefordshire families were once neighbors in Normandy; Écouis is not far from Mussegros (Muehsegros), Tosny (Tony) and Gamaches (Gamage). Lassy (Lacy) and their tenants from Esketot are also noticed elsewhere.

its name from another manor once belonging to William de Scohies. However the two parcels that interest us seem to have gone in another direction, but together, and in 1243 both Little Hatfield and Poston were in the wardship of the king.<sup>26</sup> In 1086 William de Scohies had an undertenant named Ralph at only two places:

The same William [de Scohies] holds POSTCETENTUNE [Poston] in the valley of Stratelei [Dore], and Ralph holds it of him. Edwin held [it]. There are two hides. On the demesne is 1 plough and [there are] 2 villeins with 1 plough. It was waste. Now [it is worth] 5 shillings.<sup>27</sup>

Entered elsewhere, under Leominster, we find:

The same William [de Scohies] holds HETFELDE [Hatfield] and Ralph holds it of him. Elmer held it. [There is] there half a hide, and on the demesne are 1 plough and 2 serfs. It was worth 65 pence. Now it is worth 8 shillings.<sup>28</sup>

In 1243 Little Hatfield was held by a certain Andrew of that place who held it from Richard Kinnersley who appears to have had it as a marriage portion with his wife Sybil, the only daughter and eventual heiress of a later Walter Scudamore. The Scudamores had Little Hatfield of the old feoffment from Godfrey de Gamage who farmed it from the crown during the minority of the heir of Ralph de Tony.<sup>29</sup> It was rated at only 1/10 of a knight's fee.

Poston was much more important. In 1243 it was rated as a 1/2 fee and it was held in the same way as Little Hatfield, that is from the Scudamores who in turn had it from Gamage of his honour of Boughrood. There are some informative details here, to be noticed fully elsewhere, which show that Godfrey Scudamore of Upton Scudamore is acknowledged as the intermediary between his cousin Walter Scudamore in Herefordshire and the farm of Godfrey de Gamage.<sup>30</sup> The Gamage tenure was doubtless short-lived as Roger

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<sup>26</sup>J. Horace Round, *Studies in peerage and family history* (1901) 188. For Nicholas fitz William, see *Ancient Charters* (PRS 10) 35-8.

<sup>27</sup>VCH, *Herefs.*, I, 335.

<sup>28</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 315.

<sup>29</sup>The Tony family owed their name to Tosny in the department of Eure. The Domesday tenant of the same name was known as Ralph "de Conches" in France. For his connection to Alfred "de Malbeding" see Coplestone-Crow, p. 377.

<sup>30</sup>*Testa de Nevill* (Rec. Comm., 1807) 62.

de Tony came of age in 1256.

There is evidence which joins Poston and Kentchurch together some 14 years after the Domesday Book and which seems to prove beyond any doubt that the Ralph of these places in 1086 are the same man. On 15 July 1100 Gerard, bishop of Hereford, gave a confirmation to Serlo, abbot of St. Peter's in Gloucester, at the dedication of the new church there, of "all those tithes of all the demesne lands of the lord of Ewyas located in the parish of St. Keyne [Kentchurch], and certain tithes from the cultivation of Poston."<sup>31</sup> It is a pity that the name of the original benefactor to St. Peter's is not mentioned in the confirmation, for it was undoubtedly either Ralph (or his sons) since all that Kentchurch and Poston had in common in 1100 was the tenancy of both places (stemming from two different honours) by the Scudamore family.

The site of the chapel at Corras in Kentchurch was located and the surface excavated in the summer of 1988. It was first noticed by Richard Kay (working with Elizabeth Taylor of Kings Cuple, Herefordshire) in Barn Orchard at Great Corras on land farmed by Rowland Watkins. A good deal of the stonework foundation was found in place, much of it below ground level. The turf was removed only to the depth of 15 centimeters by the 20 workers at the site.<sup>32</sup>

The original chapel was very strongly built in the period from 1070 to 1100 in the time of Ralph who may have used it as his manor chapel. It was quite small, only 3.3 meters wide internally. The length can not be estimated accurately as the south side of the chapel is covered by the roots of two apple trees and could not be excavated properly. There was no structural division between the nave and the chapel. The floor was made of stone chips in mortar and the east end was apsidal. "The situation of the Chapel within the bailey of a motte, and the place of the original building with its apsidal east end, are typical of an early Norman manor chapel" according to the authors of the preliminary report. The apse was later replaced with a squared east end, the roof was tiled with stone, and the walls plastered in stages. There was a door

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<sup>31</sup>*Cart. Mon. S. Petri, Glouc.* (Rolls Ser.) I, 251. The Latin text reads: "*concessimus etiam eisdem omnes de omnibus dominicis terris domini de Ewyas sitis in parochia de Sancta Keyna, et decima cujusdem culturae in Postone.*"

<sup>32</sup>Much of this account is taken from a letter from Elizabeth Taylor to John Hunt dated 22 February 1989 and from a preliminary draft by Mary Thomas and Elizabeth Taylor of the final report on the excavation. It will be published in the near future by the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club. The reference coordinates of the dig will be found on the Ordnance Survey maps at 419 249.

near the rear of the nave on the south side. Sometime after 1200 the whole of the church was taken down and rebuilt. The nave was extended westward and the floor levelled and paved with unsquared stone. There was at least one traceried window and one (or more) slender upright columns with octagonal capitals made to take a timber. The final phase of building was the addition of a square tower at the west end probably with a timber top and a belfry. The building was finally deliberately demolished (not casually robbed) about 1350-1400 and all the good stone above ground carried away.<sup>33</sup>

As a chapel belonging to the church of St. Keyne “Corras would not be expected to have had any burials which by right would have belonged to the parish church. However, pieces of two coffin slabs were found indicating that some burials took place. A piece of skull was found in the levelled down area when the north nave wall foundations had been removed, and another small piece of skull was recovered from the northeast corner of the sanctuary” according to the initial report.

There are few other facts which emerge about Ralph [de Scudemer]. He was undoubtedly a Breton or Norman as his Christian name and the names of his three sons testify. He was no doubt in Herefordshire before the conquest coming in the retinue of earl William fitz Osbern. Nothing has been learned of him in France but he may very well have been known there by the name of his birthplace or abode. The name of his wife is unknown, but she had an older son Rainald by her first husband Erkembald fitz Erkembald. Erkembald (who was the son of Erkembald “the sheriff”) was with William fitz Osbern at Rouen about 1067.<sup>34</sup> He doubtless came with the earl to England soon after and died early in the next decade. Rainald was (with his stepfather Ralph) a tenant of Alfred de Marlborough in 1086. Rainald had Send in Surrey and Shipton Bellinger in Hampshire (both held earlier by Carlo) from Alfred, and

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<sup>33</sup>There is some evidence that the church at Garway was also moved in similar circumstances. (See Coplestone-Crow, 381 and note 31.) St. Mary’s, Kentchurch, was completely rebuilt in 1859 on the foundation of an older church and I have not seen any estimate about the age of the original structure. The date of the demolition of the chapel at Corras coincides roughly with the building of the tower with additions at Kentchurch Court. It may have been John Skydmore IV who saw to the destruction of the chapel and appropriated the stone for some part of his house.

<sup>34</sup>For William fitz Osbern (who is not to be confused with Osbern Penecost) see Coplestone-Crow, 378. He was made palatine earl in Herefordshire in 1067 and brought his followers from France to secure the county against the Welsh. It was William fitz Osbern who refortified the castle at Ewyas by 1070 and handed it over to Alfred de Marlborough.

he (or his son Erkembald III) also had Monnington Straddle in Vowchurch and Hardwick in Kentchurch early in the next century. Rainald fitz Erkembald's son and heir Erkembald III (dead 1130) was a witness with his Scudamore cousins about 1120 to the gift of Harold de Ewyas to St. Peter's, Gloucester. The heir of Erkembald III was Beatrice "de Send" who took Rainald's fees to her husband Ruald de Calne (*alias* Ruald Maubanc). Ruald and Godfrey de Scudamore both held five fees of the honour of Ewyas Harold in 1166 making them, numerically at least, equals.<sup>35</sup>

It would be interesting to know the source of the surname which is used early in the 12th century. It first occurs as "de Scudemor" but no place of that name in either England or France has been identified at the proper period. Round dismisses, quite properly, the notion that the name came from the motto "Scutum Amoris (Divini)"; surnames precede family mottoes.<sup>36</sup> Sir J. E. Lloyd, the distinguished historian of Wales and the biographer of Owen Glendower, called attention in 1928 to an early place of the name in Herefordshire. On 25 August 1275 Alan Plogenet, lord of Kilpec, confirmed the gift of five pieces of meadow in Dewchurch which Roger *le Waleys* [the Welshman] had given to the nuns of Aconbury among them places named *Scudemore* and *Little Scudemore*.<sup>37</sup> This place may be identical with the place called *Kudimor* which is mentioned somewhat earlier in a final concord between Robert Walerund and William Walerund and Isobel his wife. It is dated 2 February 1259 and relates to several pieces of land attached to Kilpec manor.<sup>38</sup> When Aconbury Priory was suppressed the grange *Skydmore* is mentioned in the accounts of the bailiff set down at Michaelmas in 1538. The place-name still survives as Scudamore Hill Wood about 1 1/2 miles west of the church in the civil parish of Llanwarne.<sup>39</sup> Lloyd felt that "one need look no further for

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<sup>35</sup>Ruald had died shortly before 1193; his widow Beatrice was living as late as 1209. An excellent account of their posterity is found in *The 1235 Surrey Eyre*, ed. C.A.F. Meekings (Surrey Record Society, XXXI, 238). For his ancestry see Coplestone-Crow, 392; who thinks that Ruald Maubanc may have been a kinsman of Alfred of Marlborough which seems likely.

<sup>36</sup>*The Ancestor*, VI, 137. Actually it seems to have been Sir John Scudamore (1540-1623) of Holme Lacy who adopted his family's punning motto perhaps at the suggestion of John Guillim.

<sup>37</sup>Harl. Chart., 54H.53. Sir J. E. Lloyd's article "The Scudamore Family" is to be found in the *Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies* (Wales University) IV (1928) 166-8.

<sup>38</sup>Matthews, *Hundred of Wormelow, Upper Division*, pt. 2, 45.

<sup>39</sup>The coordinates are 483 278 on the Ordnance Survey maps. The hill is close to the point where Llanwarne, Much Dewchurch and Orcop parishes meet.

the origin of the surname [. . .] no doubt, such a name, if it stood alone, might easily be explained as the result of Scudamore ownership, but, in the light of the charter [of 1275] it is more natural to look upon it as a survival.”

We find it somewhat easier to agree with Lloyd’s final conclusion about the family: “To sum up, the Scudamores first appear in that region of Welsh Herefordshire where the name has been traced in local nomenclature and where they afterwards played so distinguished a part. The Wiltshire connexion, though early, was secondary and due to the position in that county of lords of Ewyas Harold.”

## CHAPTER II

### REGINALD DE SCUDEMER, LORD OF UPTON SCUDAMORE, AND HIS BROTHERS, WALTER AND HUGH.

Reginald “de Scudemer” was probably born soon after 1075. He had succeeded Ralph, the Domesday tenant, at Upton (Scudamore) and elsewhere by 1120 and was beyond any doubt his eldest son. He had married by 1100, perhaps to a daughter of Godfrey Mauduit.<sup>40</sup> The evidence for this is speculative, but it is convincing enough to suggest that the sequence of men named Godfrey Scudamore owe their name to a Mauduit ancestor. Presumably Reginald had stayed in Wiltshire as a young man, perhaps in the lifetime of his father, to manage Upton Scudamore the caput of their honour.

We have already noticed that either Ralph or his sons gave the tithes on the demesne lands in Kentchurch and the tithes from what was cultivated at Poston to the abbey at Gloucester in 1100. The church there was rebuilt with great magnificence, eleven years being spent in the work. The dedication took place on 15 July 1100 at which time the bishop of Hereford laid on the altar a grant of lands, an example followed by many of those present including Harold de Ewyas. Harold endowed for the monks a priory at Ewyas Harold thus introducing to Herefordshire their first community of Benedictines. His gift included the tithes of the church of St. Michael at Ewyas Harold, the chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas within his castle at the same place, the chapel dedicated to St. James at Ewyas, the chapels at St. Keyne (Kentchurch) and Caveros (Corras), the church at Foy with a carucate of land and the tithes of his fishery there, the church at Lydiard [Tregoze] in Wiltshire, the church at

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<sup>40</sup>Gunfrid (surnamed *Mauduit*) held two hides at Dinton from Shaftesbury Abbey in the Domesday Book. He was succeeded there probably by a son Godfrey Mauduit, and by a grandson, Ancelin Mauduit who appears to have held the same two hides in the mid-12th century (VCH, *Wilts.*, VIII, 27, 28). Gunfrid also held five hides at Widhill from Alfred de Marlborough in 1086 (VCH, *Wilts.*, II, 142); by 1243 this had been divided and Thomas Mauduit and Godfrey Escudemor each held 1/4 of a fee in Widhill of Robert de Tregoz of the honor of Ewyas Harold. (*Book of Fees*, 712). Godfrey Mauduit and Ancelin Mauduit are witnesses (Godfrey being the first) to the charter of Reginald Escudemor cited below. It would appear from the subsidy of 1332 that this name was later later corrupted to Moody or Mody. (PRO, 179/196-8).

Allington also in Wiltshire, and the church at Burnham in Somerset. At all of these places Harold de Ewyas gave everything on which Christians owed tithes to include his mills and eels.

Several of the men of Harold de Ewyas followed him to the altar with lesser gifts, and the Scudemers gave the tithes of Kentchurch and Poston. All of these gifts were done *sine carta* and we know the particulars only from later ecclesiastical confirmations. Our first record of Reginald de Scudemer and his brothers, and indeed the first mention of the surname, comes from a confirmation made by Harold of his gift about 1120 shortly before his death.<sup>41</sup> Again the gift was laid on the altar at Gloucester, but there was later a written confirmation done before Bernard, bishop of the Welsh diocese of St. David's.<sup>42</sup> His bishopric would be made the poorer by the endowment to St. Peter's, although the new priory would be in his domain.

Bernard's confirmation was made before a great meeting of the chapter at Ewyas. It was witnessed by 51 men, clerical and lay, in a highly structured order. First among these was Robert de Ewyas, Harold's heir, who added his confirmation in the presence of his parents and his brothers Roger, John, Alexander and William.<sup>43</sup>

The rest of the witness list represents the establishment in the environs of the castle and priory at Ewyas Harold. Harold's sons are followed by 14 clerics: three archdeacons, two deans, a chaplain, three priests, the bishop's clerk, and two canons of Hereford. The lay persons number 32 men, four of them named de Scudemer. In the matter of status Reginald de Scudemer (and his brothers Walter and Hugh) rank fifth, following Robert de Bampton, Hugh de Kilpec, Hugh de Caples, and Walklin de Somerford.<sup>44</sup> The first two of these are, like

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<sup>41</sup>*Cart. Mon. S. Petri, Glouc.* (Rolls Ser.) I, 251. Harold de Ewyas was born in 1052 and was living in 1120. See G. E. C., *Complete Peerage*, XII, i, 413, where his date of death is said to be unknown.

<sup>42</sup>Bernard was consecrated bishop of St. David's in 1115; this confirmation can not have been before that date. His assent was important since the gift was to a house outside the diocese.

<sup>43</sup>Robert Ewyas I, the heir of Harold, will be met frequently in these notes. He was living in 1147 when he founded Dore Abbey. Alexander Ewyas, his brother, had a son Godfrey "de Teffont" who held land of the new feoffment from his uncle (or cousin) Robert Ewyas in 1166. Godfrey's lands were at Teffont Ewyas and Swallowcliffe in Wiltshire. See the *Reg. of St. Osmund*, Salisbury (Rolls Ser.) I, 342, 348.

<sup>44</sup>Robert de Bampton was Robert de Douai, lord of Bampton in Devon, and son of Walter de Douai a Domesday tenant-in-chief; he held Burnham and

Harold himself, great tenants-in-chief of the king. The Scudemers are followed by men of smaller influence and fewer possessions: Eustace de Pencombe, Helbodo (and his brother Baldwin), Erkembald [fitz Rainald], Robert de Bacton, and Godfrey de Scudemer.<sup>45</sup> The position of Godfrey de Scudemer is a curious one; he was probably just of age and the heir of Reginald. He testifies, not with his father and uncles, but well down on the list with lesser men. After him come Walter de Fraxino and Roger the Welshman; they are followed finally by a number of local men from Gloucestershire who need not concern us here.<sup>46</sup>

Soon after, Reginald Escudemor granted to his brother Walter for his homage and service a part of their father's lands (including a third of Upton) in both Herefordshire and Wiltshire.<sup>47</sup> These will be noticed in greater detail when we

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Brean in Somerset from Harold. Hugh de Kilpeck was a son of William fitz Norman, a Domesday tenant-in-chief in Herefordshire. He was soon after a benefactor of St. Peter's himself; in 1134 he gave the church at Kilpeck and the chapel of Our Lady in his castle at the same place to the abbey. Walklin de Somerford was perhaps a son of Siward, an Englishman, who held Great Somerford in Wiltshire from Alfred in 1086.

<sup>45</sup>Eustace de Pencombe (*alias* Whitney) was a grandson of Alfred de Marlborough; he and his mother were also benefactors of St. Peter's. Erkenbald was a son of Rainald fitz Erkembald; he was undoubtedly a half cousin of the Scudamores noticed earlier. Robert de Bacton was a son of Gilbert "de Esketot" who held Bacton from Roger de Lacy in 1086. He was ancestor of the Scotot family in Herefordshire; the name is from Esketot (now Ectot) in the department of Calvados. The Lacy family were from Lassy (about 18 kilometers south of Ectot) and the two families were doubtless known to one another in France. See Lloyd, *Anglo-Norman families*, 39.

<sup>46</sup>His name suggests that Walter de Fraxino held Ashe Ingen in Herefordshire from Robert de Ewyas. Roger the Welshman we have already met as a benefactor of Aconbury Priory. Compare Doris M. Stenton, *English Society in the Early Middle Ages* (1962) 68-9, where she examines a charter from William de Anesye (Dauntsey) to his son in the early 12th century with a list of 36 names.

<sup>47</sup>As the Latin text of this charter has not appeared in print it seems useful to append it here: "Sciatis his qui sunt et qui futuri quod ego Reginaldus Escudemor dedi et concessi et hac presenti carta mea confirmavi Waltero Escudemor fratri/ meo pro homagio et servicio suo Kaueros cum omnibus pertinenciis suis et terciam partem de Upton cum omnibus pertinenciis suis et unam mesuagium in villa de/ Ewias habendum et tenendum de me heredibus meis sibi et heredibus suis libere quiete bene et in pace in perpetuum faciendo inde annuatim wardam in Ewias/ vel reddere unam marcam . Hiis testibus

turn to the Scudamores at Poston. The witness list to this charter is made up of Wiltshire men and it was undoubtedly attested at Upton Scudamore. Several of the men who testify to it are Reginald's kinsmen: Godfrey Mauduit, who heads the list, was perhaps his father-in-law; Mathew Escudemor was probably a younger son; Rainald is identified as a "son of his mother" and was therefore a half brother of Reginald Escudemor. The two Giffards were from the family that gave their name to Fonthill Giffard, and were perhaps both kinsmen and tenants of Reginald.<sup>48</sup> Ancelin is likely to have been a son of Godfrey Mauduit, and if so a brother-in-law to Reginald Escudemor.<sup>49</sup> Little is known of Arnold Marshal, Roger fitz Alan, or Walter de Kennett.<sup>50</sup>

The Scudamores are said to have a house at Upton Scudamore immediately adjoining the church on the west. It stood in a field called Court Furlong and a considerable ruin could still be seen in the early 18th century. The site is now covered by a modern cattle shed.<sup>51</sup> Since we find Reginald de Scudemor mostly in Wiltshire we know that this was his principal residence, although he probably spent intervals when summoned in Herefordshire at Ewyas Castle.

Walter de Scudemor, perhaps the second son, was ancestor to the family in Herefordshire and will be noticed when we turn to the Scudamores at Poston. Hugh de Scudemor was also a Herefordshire man. He would seem to have been the youngest of the sons of Ralph de Scudemor, since he is mentioned last among the brothers who testify to the grant by Harold de Ewyas about the year 1120.

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Godefrido Maudut . Matheo Escudemor . Reinaldo filio matris sue Warnero Giffard . Waltero Giffard . Waltero de Kenete . Ernaldo Marescall . Ancelino Maudut . Rogero filio Alain et multis aliis." The original is now in the Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

<sup>48</sup>See J. H. Round, *Giffard of Fonthill Giffard (The Ancestor, VI, 137)*. The same Walter Giffard held a fee of Godfrey de Scudamore in 1166; it was probably Fifield (Bavant) which is close to Fonthill Giffard. No other mention has been found of Warner Giffard.

<sup>49</sup>Anselin Mauduit held a sixth part of a fee from Shaftesbury Abbey in 1166 at Dinton, Wiltshire and at Tarrant Hinton, Dorset.

<sup>50</sup>Roger fitz Alan may have been ancestor to the fitz Alans of Clun who appear to have been overlords of Norridge in Upton Scudamore. Walter de Kennett presumably held West Kennett from Robert de Ewyas.

<sup>51</sup>When this cow shed was built several years ago the ruins of some ancient building were found in excavating for the foundation. These were quickly covered over and work continued on the new structure, according to R. G. Woodman. The tenants of the manor would have assembled here on court days. The coordinates are 864 477 on the Ordnance Survey maps.

Our only other mention of a Hugh occurs at what would seem to be an impossibly late date for the two men to be identical. In the Pipe Roll for 1167 under “New pleas and agreements made through Alan de Neville” we find that Hugh de Scudimor and Hugh fitz Orild render an account for half a mark, which they paid into the king’s treasury “and they are quit.”<sup>52</sup> We have no further particulars except that both men are likely to have been Herefordshire personages since their debt to crown was paid to the sheriff there. Even if Hugh, adult by 1120, was a much younger brother of Reginald he would have been an old man in 1167 by 12th century standards. However not so old as to rule out the possibility.

The fact that Reginald gave to his brother Walter only a *third* of Upton Scudamore suggests that Hugh was still living at the end of Henry I’s reign (1135) and that Hugh either had or would have the remaining third. Elsewhere we will present such evidence as exists suggesting that a third of Upton Scudamore went eventually to the Park family.

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<sup>52</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1167 (PRS 11) 71. Alan de Neville was judge of the exchequer in 1165 and thereafter. For Neville see the *DNB*, XIV, 243.

## CHAPTER III

### GODFREY DE SCUDAMORE I (?DEAD 1148) AND SIR GODFREY DE SCUDAMORE II (DEAD 1196), LORDS OF UPTON SCUDAMORE, AND MATTHEW DE SCUDAMORE (LIVING 1175).

The two Godfrey de Scudamores must be considered together, for we have no evidence at present to determine when the elder man died. They are almost exact contemporaries of their overlords, Robert de Ewyas I and Robert de Ewyas II. Robert I, like Godfrey I, was an adult in 1120 and is known to have been living in 1147 when he founded Dore Abbey; which man was alive in 1166 is unknown. Robert II seems to have survived Godfrey II by at least two years; he died in 1198.

About the year 1148 one of the Roberts confirmed to one of the Godfreys the entire village of Upton Scudamore, in return for service annually at the castle of Ewyas Harold. Probably this charter was stimulated by the death of one of these four men; it is possible to develop a scenario in which Robert Ewyas I died immediately after founding Dore Abbey in 1147, and Robert II, his heir, spent the months following confirming that which had been customary in his father's lifetime. Or it is possible that Godfrey II sought a new confirmation of Upton Scudamore after the death of his father; we probably will never know. What is certain is that the text of this charter supplies the best account yet found to illuminate the institution of castle-guard in feudal England:

To all his men French, English, and Welsh, and his friends, and to all persons to whom this writing may be seen or heard, Robert Ewyas sends greetings. Know that I have given, granted and by this writing confirmed, to Godfrey Escudemor and his heirs for his homage and service and for a white war-horse all the vill' of Upton Escudemor and its pertinencies, to have and to hold freely and quietly, well and in peace, and fully, all woods, plains, meadows, pastures, ways, paths, waters, mills, with the keeping of hunting dogs for hares, foxes, wild cats, badgers, and wolves throughout the county of Wiltshire so that he will see his hunting more pleasing, with all the liberties and free customs in which I, Robert, am vested and well seised, doing thereafter by service of one knight's fee at the castle of Ewyas, to keep guard at the castle beginning at the Purification of the Blessed Mary lasting until the Invention of the Cross in May at his own cost except that the lord

will properly provide sufficient firewood, straw and water during the said term with his hunting in the whole of our demesne during the aforesaid ward, and if he does not do guard then he will owe half a mark by the year and do the royal service that pertains. These being witnesses: Earl Patrick [d'Evereux] and Countess Isabel, Warin de Lusors, William fitz John, Richard de Camvil[le], Richard fitz Gilbert, Alexander de Lynesey, Henry de Pom[er]o,<sup>53</sup> Philip de Hulm, Gerard Giffard *page de campo*, William de Caple, Guy fitz Te[s]con *page*, Henry Mautravers, and Hugh de Frennes, Vinfred fitz William, Michell chaplain, William Contevele, William Symenel and others.<sup>54</sup>

Purification is February 2nd and the Invention of the Cross is May 3rd, so it seems that the Scudamores were to do guard for the months of February, March, and April, or a quarter of the year. This agrees well enough with what we know of the honour of Ewyas; in 1166 Robert Ewyas had 22 fees and the Scudamores held five of them from him. Ruald de Calne had another five and presumably he was responsible for another quarter of the year. The remaining six months must have been divided among the lesser tenants.

The witness list is most helpful, as always, in dating the charter. Patrick d'Evereux was created the earl of Salisbury sometime after 1141.<sup>55</sup> He and Warin de Lusors and Richard de Camville were “new” men of King Stephen and never far from his side; Camville alone witnessed at least 63 known charters of the king. We can infer from this that the charter is likely to have been made at some time during the latter part of King Stephen's reign and doubtless when his entourage was in Wiltshire. Richard fitz Gilbert [de Clare] is beyond doubt the man who succeeded his father in 1148 as the earl of Pembroke and is best remembered now as “Strongbow” in Ireland. His place on the list, which was structured in the order of rank, suggests that his father was still living.<sup>56</sup> Gerard Giffard was the son and heir of Robert Giffard II of

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<sup>53</sup>Henry de Pomeroy, lord of Berry Pomeroy, Devon.

<sup>54</sup>The Latin text of this charter is to be found in the *Hungerford Cartulary*, fol. 111. It is extremely curious that Mathew Gibson, the first historian of the Scudamore family, printed a very truncated version of the charter (now lost) in his *View of the Ancient and Present State of the Churches of Door, Home-Lacy, and Hempstead* (1727) 56-7. He certainly did not use the Hungerford Cartulary since the other evidences there were unknown to him.

<sup>55</sup>Patrick d'Evereux was created earl of Salisbury after 1141 but before 31 October 1147. See R. H. C. Davis, *King Stephen* (1967) 136. Evreux is in the department of Eure.

<sup>56</sup>Gilbert fitz Gilbert, earl of Pembroke, was loyal to Stephen until 1147

Fonthill Giffard; his younger brother Walter was ancestor of the Giffards of Chillington who are noticed elsewhere.<sup>57</sup> There is nothing in the career of Warin de Lusors to assist in the dating, but it may be mentioned that he held the manor of Compton Chamberlain in Wiltshire at this date--a place which will figure in these notes subsequently. William fitz John may have been the man who was more prominent later as one of Henry II's justices. All of this puts the date of the charter in the area of 1147 or 1148. It might also be noted that Upton was already known as Upton *Escudemor*; so clearly the family had been there for some time previously.

Written charters become a little more common in the latter part of the 12th century; previous to this most conveyancing of land had been done *sine carta* which kept the courts busy adjudicating disputes for generations to come. Sir Godfrey is found occasionally now on the witness list of deeds of his neighbors in Wiltshire. Sometime before 1166 Joce de Dinan gave three hides of land that the king [Henry II] had given to him at Westbury in Wiltshire to Philip Marmion who was to render thereafter the service of a third of a knight for it. Sir Godfrey Escudemor was a witness.<sup>58</sup>

The great survey of 1166 copied into the *Red Book of the Exchequer* was the first to be taken of the whole of England since the Domesday Book of some 80 years earlier. The honour of Ewyas is mentioned under both Wiltshire and Herefordshire, both of which show that Godfrey was the largest undertenant of the honour in Wiltshire. Under that county we find:

Godfrey de Scudemore holds from Robert de Weias four knight's fees of the ancient feoffment, and of the new he holds one knight's fee in the keeping of two knights; and of the ancient fees there are two feoffees, to wit, Waler' de Scodimore and Waler' de Giffard. And he makes another of his demesne. And the same

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when he rebelled but was reconciled to the king before his death in 1148. Richard fitz Gilbert (ca. 1130-1176) first signs as "count of Pembroke" on 7 November 1153. (Davis, *King Stephen*, 136; *DNB*, IV, 390.)

<sup>57</sup>R. G. Woodman, *Giffard of Fonthill Giffard* (Westbury, Wilts., 1985) 9-10.

<sup>58</sup>*Close Roll*, 1272-9, 346. These three hides became the manor of Bremeridge. Bremeridge Farm, three miles southwest of Westbury still survives. The witnesses were Sir Arnulf de Glanville, Sir Robert Treget, Sir Godfrey de Escudemore, William Walding, William Dauntsey [de Aneseye], Walter de Leigh [Lya], Savaraic de Penleigh [Penlyge], Colswen de Leigh [Lye], and Hervey, then clerk of Joce. Joce de Dinan died about 1166. See *VCH, Wilts.*, VIII, 154, 157.

Godfrey concerning this service has attorned to king's hand for judgment in the king's court; let the king make his plea thereupon.<sup>59</sup>

The return of the honour belonging to Robert de Ewyas under Herefordshire is somewhat different. Here Godfrey *Escudor* holds four old fees (created before 1135) but his one "new" fee (created after 1135) is overlooked, possibly because it may have been Norton in Wiltshire.

It was to find how many knights (or their hired substitutes) that could be mustered in time of war that prompted Henry II to order the survey. The land which supported the knights is mentioned only incidentally. The five fees which Godfrey held were probably at Upton Scudamore (this would have been the demesne), at Fifield and at Norton. One of the old fees was certainly Corras in Kentchurch, and this was the fee held by his kinsman Walter de *Scodimore* of Poston. Fifield (Bavant) was probably held by Walter Giffard as we have seen.<sup>60</sup> He is probably the Walter Giffard who at one time held

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<sup>59</sup>*Red Book of the Exchequer* (Rolls Ser.) I, 245. It is curious to find that on 22 October 1371 Sir Peter Scudamore, the last of his name at Upton Scudamore, had a writ directed to the treasurer and the barons of the exchequer directing them to search the *Red Book of the Exchequer* to ascertain the particulars of the knights' fees held by Godfrey de Scudamore in 1166. What use Sir Peter made of this information when it was returned to him does not appear. (*Wilts. inq. p. m.*, 1327-1377, 311.)

<sup>60</sup>As J. H. Round points out "Waler" would be *Waleram* rather than *Walterus*, but Walter is probably meant. Walter Giffard had apparently held his fee for some time; he, or another man of the name, had been a witness to the grant of Reginald de Scudamore. The Giffards took the same arms as the Scudamore (three stirrups, or) differenced by a change in colour of the shield from *gules* (Scudamore) to *azure* (Giffard) and the stirrups canted. It is a matter of record that a knight often took his lord's arms for his own, but differenced. Thus the arms of the Giffards of Chillington are assumed to have come from Walter Giffard (the knight to Scudamore) and father of Peter Giffard who was the first of his name at Chillington in Staffordshire. Chillington is still held (1989) by the Giffards and Peter Richard de Longueville Giffard of Chillington is the 28th in succession there. (His sister Diane was created Baroness Airey of Abington following the assassination of her husband, Airey Neave, by the Irish Republican Army.) Walter Giffard's younger brother Robert (uncle of Peter Giffard) married a de Warenne heiress with extensive estates in Devon. The Devon Giffards are currently represented by the earl of Halsbury, Fellow of the Royal Society, scientist and parliamentarian. See J. H. Round, "Giffard of Fonthill Giffard" in *The Ancestor*, VI,

land at Norridge in Upton Scudamore and he is also likely to have been a kinsman of Godfrey de Scudamore.<sup>61</sup> The fifth fee, of the old feoffment, we can not identify unless Upton or Corras was rated as two fees. He had some smaller pieces of land from the honour, but none was large enough to be rated alone as a knight's fee. A highly conjectural case might be made that the fifth fee was *Molteston* in Ewyas Harold. If this should be so the Godfrey *Escudor* might be identical with the Godfrey *de Maningtone* [de Monnington] who held "1 knight of the fee of my castle" from Robert de Ewyas in 1166. However there is nothing to show that the Scudamores held Molteston as early as 1135 and it would be curious to find the same man listed with two surnames in the same place unless the return of Henry II for the honour was compiled from two different scraps of vellum. A description of Molteston in Ewyas Harold will be found later when we consider Sir Peter Scudamore II (died 1293).

The *Red Book of the Exchequer* notes in 1166 that these fees were in dispute and that a judgement was to be given by the king. We may never find any record of what was the quarrel between Robert and Godfrey, but the verdict is certain.<sup>62</sup> In the Pipe Roll of 1168 we find that Godfrey de Scudamore paid into the treasury five marks for his five fees due as a tenant-in-chief at the aid assessed at the marriage of the king's eldest daughter "because Robert de Ewias is not willing to accept his homage."<sup>63</sup>

From 1168 until at least 1172 Godfrey de Scudamore held his five fees directly from Henry II as a barony. In 1172 he paid £4 scutage (assessed at £1 on the fee) as one of those knights who did not go over in person with the king to Ireland.<sup>64</sup> In the year following the Exchequer had caught the fact that he had only paid for his old fees, and that he still owed 20 shillings for his new

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<sup>61</sup>In 1205 the king confirmed to the abbot of Waverly in Surrey a virgate of land in Norridge and certain lands in Corsley given them by Walter Giffard. (*Rot. chart* [Rec. Com.] 161). Thomas de Cormeilles acknowledged that he owed rent to the abbot for these lands seven years later. (PRO, CP25 (1)/250/3/40).

<sup>62</sup>R. G. Woodman thinks that when Stephen was king "he required Sarum Castle to be manned by certain Wiltshire knights in time of war and the Scudamores were among those chosen. They were granted plots of land in the castle precincts for this service." Presumably they were then reluctant to also do guard at Ewyas and this led to difficulties. See his *Upton Scudamore* (Westbury, Wilts., 1985) 4.

<sup>63</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1168 (PRS 12) 160.

<sup>64</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1172 (PRS 18) 127.

fee (which he did not pay until 1176).<sup>65</sup> Since scutage was collected only from the barons (or tenants-in-chief) we can be certain that he was holding his lands directly from the king as late as 1172. But sometime between this date and before 1 July 1175 Hugh de Lacy was put by Henry II as the intermediary between Robert de Ewyas and Godfrey de Scudamore, probably a compromise that was acceptable to both parties. Our evidence for this comes from the Memoranda Roll of 6 Henry III (1222) where it would appear that the Godfrey de Scudamore III of that day had petitioned to end the Lacy interference between himself and Henry III:

Wiltshire. Notification to the bishop of Durham, William Brewer and Mathew fitz Herbert that the king had received the service from five fees of Robert de Ewyas which Godfrey de Escudemore held because Robert de Ewyas did not wish to receive homage from the said Godfrey for the fees, but later at the petition of Reginald, earl of Cornwall, and of Hugh de Lacy, the said Robert received homage from Hugh, and the king has given back to him [Godfrey III] his fief and his scutage on the aforesaid five fees.<sup>66</sup>

The petition of Reginald of Cornwall, a bastard son of Henry I, must have been before his death on 1 July 1175.<sup>67</sup> How long the Lacy interest survived in the Scudamore fees is uncertain; Hugh de Lacy, lord of Meath, was assassinated on 28 July 1186 at Durrow in Ireland.<sup>68</sup>

In 1173 the Pipe Roll notes that Godfrey de Scudimor owes 100 shillings because he was not willing to defend himself in the king's court where he was accused.<sup>69</sup> We hear no more of this matter, nor do we find out what the offense was. In the same year we find Godfrey and Mathew Scudmor as witnesses to a charter of Walter de Chalk to be noticed shortly.

In 1185 the Pipe Roll under Gloucestershire lists a debt of a half mark which Godfrey de Scudemor owed in Herefordshire *in Wales* for his pledge for one Burricus ("pro plevina Burrica").<sup>70</sup> At the same time Alfred de Walton owed

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<sup>65</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1173 (PRS 19) 100. See also the Pipe Rolls for 1174, 1175, and 1176.

<sup>66</sup>*Memoranda Roll* 1222 (6 Hen. III).

<sup>67</sup>*DNB*, XVI, 865.

<sup>68</sup>*Ibid.*, XI, 375.

<sup>69</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1175 (PHS 22) 104. Entered under "new pleas and agreements made through Thomas Basset and William de Lanvaley."

<sup>70</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1185 (PRS 34) 148. See also the Pipe Rolls for every year between 1186 and 1194. Presumably this *burcas* (a boor) was a tenant of

the same sum for the same pledge. The Pipe Roll for the previous year does not enlighten us, and we learn nothing else about the debt. Possibly it is related to the entry immediately above it in the roll where one Richard Bule is likewise indebted for half a mark for “bad forest keeping.” Both Scudamore and Walton refused to pay and the sum was carried forth in every Pipe Roll through 1194. In 1194 the clerks in the exchequer marked the debt with a cross (+), their symbol that there was little hope of collecting the sum, and in 1195 it has disappeared.<sup>71</sup>

When Sir Godfrey died is uncertain. He was living in 1190 when his name appears on the Pipe Roll with those who owed for the Welsh scutage, but the entry on the roll of 1194 is not positive evidence that he was then living.<sup>72</sup> He had been succeeded by his son Peter by 1196.

Godfrey de Escudemore is said by the herald John Guillim to have worn a *cross pattee fitchy* on his shield. This was in the time of Henry II and the authority is given as an unspecified Harleian manuscript.<sup>73</sup> In more recent times the heraldic cross of the family has been used to decorate the church at Upton Scudamore along with their more familiar stirrups.

Godfrey had at least two children. Peter was his heir and will be noticed next. A daughter Erneberga married Fulk d’ Aunon; she was buried before 1217 at the priory of Bath.<sup>74</sup> Another son is likely to have been the Sir James Scudamore, a clerk, who would have had to come out of a substantial family to have found the place that he did at court; he, too, will be noticed subsequently.

One other Scudamore in the 12th century remains to be disposed of. Mathew de Scudamore was a witness to the grant of a third of Upton Scudamore to

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Scudamore in Herefordshire.

<sup>71</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1194 (PRS, n. s. 5) 233.

<sup>72</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1190 (PRS, n. s. 1) 122.

<sup>73</sup>John Guillim (1565-1621) was a native of the city of Hereford. Soon after leaving Oxford University he was made a member of the College of Arms in London. He published his *A display of heraldrie* in 1610 and was later Rouge Croix Pursuivant at arms. Sir John Scudamore of Holme Lacy appears to have employed him to do a pedigree of his family where Guillim grafted the Thomas Scudamore who married Clarice de Ewyas in Herefordshire onto the Upton Scudamore family where he did not belong.

<sup>74</sup>The name Aunon is from Aunon-le-Faucon in the department of Orne. For Erneberga d’Aunon see *Feet of fine for Somerset, 1196-1307*, ed. Emanuel Green (Somerset Rec. Soc., vi, 1892) 29.

Walter de Scudamore. He appears to have been a younger son of Reginald, although we have yet to find some documentary evidence of this. The only other mention of him occurs in 1175 when he and Godfrey de *Sudmore* (presumably his nephew) appear on a notification witnessed at Marlborough, Wilts., before Henry II that Walter de Chalk had given to the canons of St. Mary de Voto in Cherbourg the lands at Montfarville in Normandy which he had received in marriage with his wife Beatrix, and to which her brother Ralph fitz William assents.<sup>75</sup>

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<sup>75</sup>J. H. Round, *Docs. preserved in France*, 336. The other witnesses in addition to the king and his son Henry, are William fitz Adelin, Maurice de Croun, Ralph fitz Stephen, Godfrey de Sudmor [*sic*], Richard Musard, William fitz Walter, Walter Malduit, William Brewer, Walter de Coustances, Master Stephen, Mathew de Scudmor [*sic*], Maurice the chaplain, Gilbert de Sumerford, and Godfrey Malduit. Walter “de Chalk” was the son of Gerard who gave his name to Gurston (anciently *Gerardstone*) in Broad Chalk which he held in 1166. Walter had by his wife Beatrix a daughter Maud (his eventual heiress) wife of Robert de Maskarel. R. G. Woodman suggests that Gerard and Walter “de Chalk” are really the Giffards already noticed, which seems likely. If this is so he is a different Walter from the man who was the ancestor to the Giffards of Chillington (note 7).

## CHAPTER IV

### SIR PETER DE SCUDAMORE I, LORD OF UPTON SCUDAMORE (DEAD 1220)

We know more about Peter de Scudamore than we do any of his predecessors. This may be due partly to his own vigor, but perhaps is owed in equal measure to the series of chancery rolls which begin during his lifetime early in the reign of King John.

Our earliest mention of Peter seems to be his appearance as a witness to an undated charter (before 1192) wherein Hugh de Punchard and Margaret his wife grant to William Brewer all their land at Milford, Devon, for the service of a third of a knight, part of the payment to be used to make two of the sisters of Brewer's wife nuns at the Benedictine nunnery at Polsloe, Devon.<sup>76</sup> We will hear more of William Brewer (died 1226) who went forth from Devon to become one of the most trusted advisors of Kings Richard, John and Henry III.<sup>77</sup> As Peter de Scudimor appears well down on a long list of witnesses to this charter we may take it that he had not yet succeeded his father at Upton Scudamore. We would like to know more of Scudamore's relationship with Brewer; possibly Peter had married Brewer's sister and owed much of his advancement to this connection.

He appears as a witness to another undated charter, between 1194 and 1199, for Pernel Bluet (wife of William de Felcham) who gave all of her land at Bradley in Hampshire held from Thomas, son of William de Salmonville, to the Benedictine nunnery at Kingston St. Michael in Wiltshire.<sup>78</sup> He attests to this as Peter de Scudamore and his name immediately follows after that of William Brewer once again.

On 23 February 1195/6 Robert de Ewyas II for his salvation and that of his wife Pernel [*Petronilla*] and his daughter Sibil, and the souls of his father and mother and his ancestors, gave the churches, tithes and other pertinencies of St. Michael's and St. James' in Ewyas, St. Keyne's at Kentchurch, St. Mary's

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<sup>76</sup>Duchy of Lancaster, *Cartae miscellaneae*. PRO, List and indexes, supplementary series, V, ii, no. 127.

<sup>77</sup>William Brewer is spoken of as the founder of Polsloe. His wife was Beatrice de Valle. See the new edition of the *DNB*.

<sup>78</sup>*Mon. Angl.*, IV, 399. This Bradley was the place in Hampshire.

at Foy and at Eaton [Tregose], All Saints at Lydiard [Tregoze] and St. Andrew's at Burnham, which his father Robert and his grandfather Harold of Ewyas had previously granted, to the abbey of St. Peter's in Gloucester for the benefit of the priory at Ewyas Harold. We can be certain that his father Godfrey de Scudamore was dead by this date, for Peter de Scudemore stands second only to William [de Vere], bishop of Hereford, in the list of witnesses.<sup>79</sup>

The earliest mention of Peter de Scudemor in the chancery rolls is in 1196 when ameracements (for hunting and "foolish talk" among other offenses) in Hampshire by Oger fitz Oger, Hugh Wacher and Peter de Scudemor are noted in the Chancellor's Roll. They were probably justices of jail-delivery there. It seems likely that Peter also served in Wiltshire at the same time for Oger, Hugh "and their associates" (unnamed) are mentioned under Wiltshire in the same roll.<sup>80</sup>

While Richard was still king of England, Peter was named sheriff of Somerset and Dorset at Easter 1197 by John, count of Mortain, the king's brother and soon after his successor. King John had the whole of Somerset and Dorset (and four other counties) as a part his fief during Richard's lifetime, and his prerogatives included the naming of the sheriffs. Peter succeeded William de Keynes who had served for the first half of the year (from Michaelmas to Easter). As Peter de Schidimor he accounted for his half year at Michaelmas 1197.<sup>81</sup> He was reappointed for the full year of 1198, and once again for the first half of the year from Michaelmas to Easter 1199 when he was succeeded by Robert Belet.<sup>82</sup>

References to Peter are abundant in 1199 and 1200 stemming in large part from his duties as sheriff. In Wiltshire, Wandrille de Courcelles and Godfrey de St. Martin have a date assigned to them, Easter in 15 days (3 April 1199), in the king's court on a plea of land. On the same day Henry de Carville, Ralph de Scoville, Fulk d'Aunon, and Peter de Scudemor, knights, are to select 12 [men] to come to the same court.<sup>83</sup> Aunon and Scudemor were

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<sup>79</sup>*Cart. Mon. S. Petri, Glouc.* (Rolls Ser.) I, 288.

<sup>80</sup>*Chancellor's Roll* (8 Ric. I) (PRS, n.s. 7) 66.

<sup>81</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1197 (PRS, n.s. 8) 130.

<sup>82</sup>*Pipe Roll* (PRS, n.s. 9) 215; *Pipe Roll* 1199 (PRS, n.s. 10) 230-2, 240.

<sup>83</sup>*Curia Regis Rolls*, I, 108. Roll 51, mem 8d. Wandrille de Courcelles has been claimed (in error) as ancestor to the Churchill family. See J. H. Round, *The origins of the Churchills*, in *Family Origins* 37. Wandrille's ancestor, Roger de Courcelles, held the manor of Fisherton-de-la-Mere in Warminster Hundred. Wandrille tried to repossess himself of it in 1194-5 but was

brothers-in-law by this date (Fulk had married Erneberga de Scudamore) as we learn from other sources.

In 1200 Peter de Schidimor owes six marks to the exchequer for having [hunting] dogs for hares and foxes.<sup>84</sup> This he refused to pay, and the debt is carried forth in every Pipe Roll from 1201 through 1209 when at last the sum seems to have been collected.

The Memoranda Roll of 1 John gives the sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, Peter de Scidimor, an order that he may distrain William de Wrotham so that he may pay the 15 marks due from the great honour of Dunster in Somerset.<sup>85</sup> This Mohun barony of 41 fees was in the hands of the king because of the death of William de Mohun in 1193 and the minority of his heir who did not come of age until 1206.<sup>86</sup> In the same roll, under London and Middlesex, Peter de Scudimor who was sheriff of Dorset renders £4 12sh 4d from the land of William de Mohun which had been pledged to Aaron, a Jew of Lincoln.<sup>87</sup> The amount was £500. Aaron of Lincoln had been the second wealthiest man in England (next only to the king), and his death in 1186 had brought to the crown an enormous number of notes from his money-lending business which were still being collected. From the same roll of 1 John we get some more personal news of Peter de Scudemor for he was now trying to avoid paying 200 marks from his two years as sheriff from the increment of the counties. The increment had been an anti-inflationary measure which had been tacked on to the fixed farm of the county; it produced a greater return to the exchequer but made it more difficult for the sheriff to make an honest profit on his fixed farm. In the Memoranda Roll we find that “Peter says that when he received the counties [as sheriff] he declared that he would not pay any profit from the increment because he was unwilling to do so.” His suit was placed before the archiepiscopal court and the justiciar where he testified that he had never consented to pay the increment, but had always declared against it.<sup>88</sup> He was eventually acquitted by the judgement of the barons, but the

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unsuccessful, and was still pursuing his claim in 1201. Godfrey de St. Martin held Fisherton in 1193/4.

<sup>84</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1200 (PRS, n.s. 12) 197. Also similar entries every year from 1201 to 1209.

<sup>85</sup>*Memoranda Roll* (1 John) (PRS, n.s. 21) 67.

<sup>86</sup>*DNB*, XIII, 559.

<sup>87</sup>*Memoranda Roll* (1 John) (PRS, n.s. 21) 71.

<sup>88</sup>*Memoranda Roll* (1 John) (PRS, n.s. 21) 65; *Pipe Roll* 1200 (PRS, n.s. 12) 93. See also similar entries in the Pipe Rolls for 1201 and 1202. The increment had been set at 50 marks for his first half year; 100 marks for his full year; and another 50 marks for his last half year. Peter testified that he had

matter can not have been immediately settled as his debt of 10 marks is carried forth in the Pipe Rolls of 1201 and 1202.

In 1202 we find an entry in the Pipe Roll relating to the third scutage of King Richard taken in the eighth year of his reign (1196-7). Godfrey Escudimor's four fees from Robert de Ewyas are quit (*i.e.*, nothing further is owed, the debt discharged) "by the king's writ." It seems from this that Peter was able to satisfy King John and the exchequer that his father had held nothing in chief of the king.<sup>89</sup> In the same year we find Peter de Schidimor paying into the treasury in one tally £1 16sh 10d which he had levied on the chattels of five malefactors and fugitives in Somerset and Dorset.<sup>90</sup> Presumably this was forthcoming from a tour as a justice of jail-delivery in these counties.

In the Pipe Roll of 1204 Richard Gernun agreed to pay the king 600 marks to have Joan, the younger daughter of Hugh de Morville (died 1202), in marriage. She was the co-heiress to the barony of Burgh-by-Sands in Cumberland. Peter de Scidimor had guaranteed 40 marks of the 600 which Gernun had promised.<sup>91</sup> The interest we have in this is that Gernun was William Brewer's nephew, and perhaps by this fact also related to Peter de Scudamore in some unknown way.

On 9 September 1204 the sheriff of Somerset and Dorset was ordered together with William Marshall (the earl of Pembroke), taking with them Robert Belet, Peter de Scudemor and Godfrey St. Martin, to go to the manor of Sturminster in Dorset and to declare to all the free tenants and all other men of the manor that they were to obey the earl as their lord and do him the homage and service owed by their fees as the count of Meulan, their former lord, had ordered them to do by his letters.<sup>92</sup>

In 1206 Peter de Scudimor paid into the treasury 10 marks which had been amerced against him in Somerset and Dorset for his handling of certain cases as a justice of jail delivery. It would appear that certain men appealed of

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never consented to pay the increment but had always declared against it. He was permitted to fine with the chief justiciar for 10 marks that the increment would not be demanded of him, and he was acquitted thereof by judgement of the barons. See Madox, *Hist. & antiq. of the exchequer*, I, 202; II, 226.

<sup>89</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1202 (PRS, n.s. 15) 128.

<sup>90</sup>*Ibid.*, 95.

<sup>91</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1204 (PRS, n. s. 18) 144. See Sanders, *English Baronies*, 23-4.

<sup>92</sup>*Rot. claus.*, (Rec. Com.) I, 7; *Rot. pat.* (Rec. Com.) 45. William Marshall had married Isabel, daughter and heiress of Richard Fitz Gilbert [de Clare] (died 1176), earl of Pembroke.

manslaughter had appeared before Peter and he had dismissed them by their pledges without warrant from either the king or the justiciar, and for other transgressions. At the same time Robert Belet was amerced 20sh for the same offenses.<sup>93</sup> In the same year the county court in Wiltshire was to account for £100 for false judgments, for which Godfrey St. Martin and Peter de Scudimor ought to answer. They paid into the treasury £56, but were still owing £44 which was carried forward.<sup>94</sup> At Easter 1208 the county court still owed £36 (for which Peter de Scudimor and Godfrey St. Martin ought to answer), but Godfrey came and swore that he paid all of this the day after Holy Trinity.<sup>95</sup>

At Michaelmas 1207 a writ went out from the king to Peter de Scudemore and Reginald de Clifton (but these names are then cancelled) and then to William Brewer, Hubert de Burgh and Richard de London (interlined above Scudemore and Clifton) to privately remind them that they are to be at the exchequer at Easter in 15 days to answer for the arrearages which are demanded for the socage of Mohun.<sup>96</sup> The Pipe Roll of the same year, under London and Middlesex, shows the sum owing to have been £19 5sh 9d; Peter de Schidimor paid 51sh 6d by his hand, leaving a balance of £16 14sh 3d of which Peter owes 11sh 6d.<sup>97</sup> This debt of 11sh 6d is carried forth in the Pipe Rolls through 1211 sometimes under Wiltshire and sometimes under London and Middlesex (and in some years in both), but we never find any particulars. Presumably it was some personal obligation stemming from the time when the Mohun barony was in the king's hands.

King John issued an order on 1 October 1207 to the Constable of Bristol to deliver to "our beloved and faithful" Peter de Scudimor a tun of wine as a special mark of royal favor.<sup>98</sup>

In 1208 the sheriff of Somerset and Dorset appointed a day for arrearages for Peter de Scudimor to account for his old debt of six marks, apparently the same six marks which he owed for keeping hunting dogs. Peter appeared and paid.<sup>99</sup>

Peter de Shidimor was amerced 20 marks by the justices itinerant at their

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<sup>93</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1206 (PRS, n.s. 20) 134.

<sup>94</sup>*Ibid.*, 186.

<sup>95</sup>*Memoranda Roll* (10 John) (PRS, n.s. 31) 27.

<sup>96</sup>*Ibid.*, 53.

<sup>97</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1207 (PHS, n.s. 22) 51.

<sup>98</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 92. A tun was somewhat less than 250 gallons.

<sup>99</sup>*Memoranda Roll*, (10 John) (PRS, n.s. 31) 39.

autumn 1210 sitting in Somerset and Dorset, for some unnamed offense. But in the year following, the Pipe Roll shows that he was pardoned of this fine by writ of the king.<sup>100</sup>

In 1211 the cloudy status of the Scudamore fees appears once again. In the scutage for Wales (at two marks on the fee) Peter de Schidimor owed 10 marks for his five fees which had belonged to Robert de Ewyas.<sup>101</sup> In the year following the Pipe Roll shows that he was pardoned of these 10 marks by writ of the king “because they were of the barony belonging to Robert de Ewyas which should answer for them.”<sup>102</sup>

The Close Rolls under the date of 21 June 1213 has an order for William de Wrotham, now archdeacon of Taunton, “to deliver to Godfrey de St. Martin and Peter de Eskidmore [. . .]” but the entry is left unfinished by the clerk, and we can not hazard a guess as to the import of it.<sup>103</sup>

On 31 August 1213 Peter de Skidemore, Godfrey St. Martin and Henry fitz Aucher were named to make an inquiry in the bishopric of Salisbury concerning the loss and damage to the church and clergy during the period of discord between the king and the English clergy.<sup>104</sup> Any work that they may have done executing this commission probably went for naught, as King John eventually compounded with the pope for a fixed sum.

In 1213 a roll was prepared of the forest of Treville in Herefordshire of the lands assarted there. The monks at Dore Abbey say that they hold Agnes’ meadow containing 7 1/2 acres near the Dore River from Peter de Skidemore of the honour of Ewyas Harold.<sup>105</sup>

On 19 September 1214 William de Neville was ordered to meet and to view with Peter de Skidemor and Godfrey St. [Martin . . .], but the rest of this

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<sup>100</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1210 (PRS, n.s. 26) 58; *Pipe Roll* 1211 (PRS, n.s. 28) 167.

<sup>101</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1211 (PRS, n.s. 28) 169.

<sup>102</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1212 (PRS, n.s. 30) 151.

<sup>103</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 136.

<sup>104</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 164.

<sup>105</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 165. Agnes’ Meadow must have been in the present parish of Abbey Dore. About a third of the parish of Treville (which adjoins) was still a virgin oak forest at the beginning of the 20th century. It may suggested, most tentatively, that Agnes may have been the Agnes de Ewyas noticed elsewhere as the widow of Richard fitz Arthur.

entry in the Close Roll is defective and can not be read.<sup>106</sup>

In 1214 we find Peter de Scidimor accounting for £20 16sh for Walter de Pavely. Peter paid £8 3sh 4d and then a further payment of 20sh, but the king then pardoned the remaining balance of £11 12sh 8d by a writ in the marshal of the exchequer's *forel*.<sup>107</sup> In the scutage for Poitevin in the same year Peter de Scidimore was assessed at £10 for his five fees which were Robert de Ewyas' "but whereof he is quit because he holds nothing of the king in chief, but of the honour of Ewyas."<sup>108</sup>

On 7 February 1214/5 Peter Escudemor, Hugh de Neville, Thomas de Samford, and Henry fitz Aucher were witness to a grant by King John at Marlborough Castle to Walter de Dunstanville of a market and fair at his manor of Heytesbury, Wilts.<sup>109</sup> Marlborough was a favorite castle of the king; Neville was constable there.

Peter de Skidemor, Hugh de Braose, Roger de Derneford, and Thomas de Cormeilles were named by the king as justices on 17 June 1215 to meet together with the sheriff of Wiltshire at an agreed day and place to hold court to give judgement to Robin, brother of Petipas. The appealed had been denied judgment of the death of a certain man (unnamed) because the justices itinerant could not hold court during the papal interdict.<sup>110</sup> This is the last entry to be found in the rolls where Peter was still in favor with the king; he joined the baronial opposition to King John soon after.

On 31 July 1216 an order went out from the king to Peter de Maulay, the sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, to take all of the land of Peter de Skidemore near Corfe Castle in Dorset and deliver it to William Scissor [Cisori] and to Roger, master of the king's son Richard, on the condition that the corn now in the ground there be placed in Corfe Castle.<sup>111</sup> The Scudamore land near Corfe Castle was at Bradle in Church Knowle which later descended to the Bavant family.<sup>112</sup> On 1 September 1216 Thomas de Samford, constable of

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<sup>106</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 212.

<sup>107</sup>*Pipe Roll* 1214 (PRS, n.s. 35) 41.

<sup>108</sup>*Ibid.*, 43.

<sup>109</sup>*Rot. chart.*, (Rec. Com.) 205.

<sup>110</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 214.

<sup>111</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 279.

<sup>112</sup>Bradle Farm still survives at Church Knowle in Dorset. We do not know how Peter came by his land at Bradle. It may have been a royal grant to sustain him while he was sheriff of the county.

Devizes Castle, was ordered to take all of the lands of Peter de Skydemore in Norton, Upton and Fifield and deliver them to Godeshal de Maghelin who was to have them during the king's pleasure.<sup>113</sup> This is the earliest record of the Scudamores at Norton Bavant.

The death of King John made possible a compromise peace and the restoration of the rebels. Norton and Upton were returned to Peter by a writ of *de convernis* on 15 March 1217, and all his lands in the bailiwick of the sheriff of Somerset and Dorset on 25 March 1217 by a writ of *de reversis* returning to the same service owed in the time of King John.<sup>114</sup> This is the last mention found of Peter de Scudamore; his son Godfrey had succeeded him by 1220.

It remains to consider one undated benefaction of Peter. He gave the Cistercians at Stanley Abbey near Chippenham, Wilts., five strips of his ploughland as well as a roadway for their carts across his other lands at Godswell in Chapmanlade, west of his Upton Scudamore estates.<sup>115</sup>

He appears as a witness to another Ewyas charter of indeterminate date, but probably from early in the reign of Henry III. In this Agnes de Ewias, late the wife of Richard fitz Arthur, grants to the monks at Farleigh Priory the rent of 20 shillings derived out of her corn-mill at Pensford in her manor of Belluton (now in Stanton Drew) in Somerset.<sup>116</sup> The witnesses include Peter de Scudemore, William de Morville, and William Ewias (perhaps the man of his name who was a brother of Robert de Ewyas II and a monk at Dore Abbey). The descent of the manor of Belluton has not been studied but at the time of the Domesday Book it was held by Alfred [de Marlborough] from Eustace, count of Boulogne.<sup>117</sup>

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<sup>113</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 285.

<sup>114</sup>For Norton and Fifield, see *Rot. claus.*, I, 300. For his lands in Somerset and Dorset, *ibid.*, I, 303. During the month of March 1217 over a hundred barons and knights (mostly from the counties of Wilts., Berks., Dorset and Somerset) deserted the French prince's cause. See Sidney Painter, *William Marshal* (1933) 212, where he has counted the writs of *de reversis* appearing in the *Rot. claus.*, 299-304.

<sup>115</sup>W. A. M., XV, 259; VCH, *Wilts.*, VIII, 161.

<sup>116</sup>*Cat. ancient deeds*, I, 249. Farleigh priory is now at Monkton Farleigh, Wilts.

<sup>117</sup>VCH, *Soms.*, I, 440

## CHAPTER V

### JAMES DE SCUDAMORE, CLERK, (LIVING 1220)

There are compelling reasons for thinking that this man, a contemporary of Peter de Scudamore, was his brother. James de Scudamore was a priest in holy orders, and in an age when only the clergy could read and write the secular business of the realm had to be recorded by them. All that we know of this James is incidental to his office of Clerk of the Chamber to King John, and after John's death at the court held in the name of young Henry III. Nothing of his personal life intrudes, and we hear nothing there of his family.

The best reason for thinking James de Scudamore was from Upton Scudamore is the fact that his royal office was undoubtedly purchased. The way to ecclesiastical preferment was through service in the king's official family, and offerings of 500 marks to the king were not unusual to place an ambitious priest at court.<sup>118</sup>

When we first hear of James de Escudemor, clerk (on Wednesday, 29 October 1214) he seems already to have been well established in the trust of the king. He is given an urgent order to meet by all means at Barking in Essex with the papal legate [Nicholas de Tusculum] on the day following unless the legate may be by chance delayed.<sup>119</sup> James was apparently already in the possession of the abbey at Barking at this period (although the grant to him seemingly is lost) for on 17 April 1215 the king notifies James de Skidemor, clerk, that he has committed the custody of the abbey to William, bishop of Lincoln, during pleasure. James is ordered to remove his servants from the abbey, and to hand it over either to the bishop, or to any official of the bishop bearing letters patent.<sup>120</sup> On 10 May 1215 the king orders the bishop to give to James de Skidmore, "our clerk", £9 from the income from Barking Abbey to sustain him in the royal service.<sup>121</sup> The sheriff of Surrey is ordered on 6 November 1215 to deliver to James de Skidamore, our clerk, the lands which were

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<sup>118</sup>Hugh de Verli gave Henry II 500 marks that his son might be "in protectione Regis ut clericus suus."

<sup>119</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 175. Nicholas de Tusculum was still legate in June 1214. Pandulph, his successor, did not return to England until 1215.

<sup>120</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 195.

<sup>121</sup>This from a defective entry in a fragment of a Close Roll which survives for 16 John. (PRS, n.s. 31) 133.

Gilbert de Baseville's, with their pertinencies, in Worplesdon, Surrey.<sup>122</sup> Probably the income from these lands were intended to sustain James in the royal service as well.

On 16 November 1215 the king ordered James de Skidemor and the provost of Canterbury to have made without delay two good wheels to bear a cart at the king's expense and to send them with all speed to the court. They were to account for the cost by the testimony of free men to the exchequer.<sup>123</sup>

Nicholas de Limesey, Alfred de Dene and James de Skidemore, clerk, were named on 9 November 1217 to travel and assess the tallage due in the royal demesne in the counties of Kent, Sussex, Surrey, and Hampshire, beginning their itinerary at Canterbury eight days after the morrow of St. Martin (20 November).<sup>124</sup>

On 8 May 1218 James de Skidemor had a writ to the treasury to pay him 40s for his expenses in going to the lord legate (Gualo) as the king's messenger.<sup>125</sup>

Sometime before 4 February 1218/9 James de Skidemore had made the first of several trips north to Durham to enter into negotiations to try to persuade Philip de Ulecot (who had stood high in the esteem of King John but did not have the confidence of Pandulph) to surrender certain lands which had been given into his custody by the late king. On this date he had two marks for his expenses, and a writ to the exchequer for a further five marks for another trip on 2 May 1219.<sup>126</sup> On his third trip he carried with him letters patent dated 27 April 1219 in the name of the new king ordering Ulecot to give James de Skidemore full seisin of the lands of Roger Bertram and those lately belonging to Eustace de Vescy.<sup>127</sup> Roger Bertrand (died 1242) of Northumberland had joined the northern barons in the advance on London in 1215 and King John had confiscated his lands. After a fine of £100 and many years of litigation he was on the point of recovering them, for James de Skidemor was ordered to deliver them to him once he had possession from Ulecot.<sup>128</sup> Eustace de Vescy, prominent among the barons who had wrung the great charter from

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<sup>122</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 234-5. On 10 May 1217 these same lands were given to William Bluet (*ibid.*, I, 308.)

<sup>123</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 240.

<sup>124</sup>*Pat. Roll*, 1216-25, 170-1.

<sup>125</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 361.

<sup>126</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 389, 391. For Philip de Ulecot (died 1220) see *DNB*, XX, 18.

<sup>127</sup>*Pat. Roll*, 1216-25, 192.

<sup>128</sup>For Roger de Bertram (died 1242) of Northumberland, see *DNB*, II, 413.

King John, had been killed by an arrow through the head at the fruitless storming of Barnard Castle in 1216, and his lands confiscated and given to Ulecot.<sup>129</sup> When James de Skidemor was successful in recovering the Vescy lands he was to give them into the custody of the king's uncle William, earl of Salisbury. He appears to have his expenses of five marks for this trip by a writ sent to the treasury dated 22 June 1219.<sup>130</sup>

He made at least one more trip north on the business with Ulecot, bringing back with him an undated letter from Robert de Vieuxpont to Hubert de Burgh, the justiciar. This letter, which seemingly dates from August 1219, asks de Burgh to attend to what Sir James de Scuidemor will tell him of affairs in the north as they relate to the earl of Salisbury and Vieuxpont's nephew Roger de Bertram in Northumberland and elsewhere. He asks particularly for letters to the sheriffs of Yorkshire and Cumberland (Vieuxpont himself) ordering Robert de Ros to give up the arms and provisions in Carlisle Castle which were there when he received the castle from the bailiff of Hugh de Neville.<sup>131</sup> Robert de Ros (died 1227), of Yorkshire, held Carlisle Castle for the barons and continued his resistance even after the death of John. The execution of these matters were left to other men, for we hear no more of James in the north of England.

On 12 February 1219/20 James de Escudemor had a writ for 20sh going as the king's messenger to Pandulph, the papal legate, who was at this date the effective ruler of England.<sup>132</sup> This is the last mention of James in the chancery rolls, and it seems likely that he died soon after or perhaps retired into a monastery.

On 14 November 1224 Hubert de Burgh justiciar, gives a receipt for £48 for the tallage of Bristol received from Sampson, a Jew of Canterbury and another 100sh received from Muriel, a Jewess of Canterbury, both from the hand of James de Scudemore, clerk.<sup>133</sup> Both of these accounts date back to 1217 and

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<sup>129</sup>For Eustace de Vescy see *DNB*, XX, 286.

<sup>130</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 394.

<sup>131</sup>Shirley, *Royal and other historical letters* (Rolls ser.) I, 38. For Robert de Vieuxpont or Vipont (died 1228), who was sheriff of Cumberland and a justice itinerant for Northumberland and Yorkshire in 1219, see *DNB*, XX, 304. Robert de Ros (died 1227) had held Carlisle Castle for the barons and continued his resistance even after the death of John. See *DNB*, XVII, 216.

<sup>132</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 411.

<sup>133</sup>*Rot. claus.*, II, 7. A similar receipt occurs in the Memoranda Roll of 3 Henry III (1219). All of this receipting was necessary because while Sampson owed for tallage in Bristol he was accounting for it in Canterbury. It is curious

while this entry does not mention James as deceased there is no reason why such a routine entry should make any particular comment on the collector.

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to find in the Memoranda Roll that James is called *Joscelin* de Scudemor. Elsewhere we find in the same roll that Jame [*sic*] de Scudemor, clerk, took in hand two marks owing for *scutage* by Nicholas de Verdun for his fees at Thorp in Suffolk.

## CHAPTER VI

### SIR GODFREY SCUDAMORE III, LORD OF UPTON SCUDAMORE (DIED 1266)

Godfrey's birth can not have been far from 1195. Peter de Scudamore, his father, was living on 25 March 1217 but died soon after. Godfrey had succeeded at Upton Scudamore by 1220, and soon became one of the more affluent and influential knights in Wiltshire.

In 1220 it is rather surprising to find in the Memoranda Roll that he is paying scutage as a tenant-in-chief. Godfrey de Squidamor declares on his oath to the marshal of the exchequer that he paid 10 marks for the five fees of the honour of Ewyas which Peter de Squidemor held, and Roger de Clifford has the 10 marks, as the said Godfrey says.<sup>134</sup> Elsewhere in the same roll we find an order to the sheriff of Wiltshire that Godfrey de Escudemor has made sufficient security by his hand to the exchequer of the 10 marks due from his five fees for the first scutage of the king. And by reason of this the sheriff may not distrain Godfrey until he [the sheriff] may have another mandate.<sup>135</sup> In 1222 an order was sent to the sheriff of Wiltshire notifying him that Godfrey de Scudamor had in respect of the scutage of Bytham until after Michaelmas.<sup>136</sup> In this same Memoranda Roll we have also seen that this Godfrey had moved to end any possible interference by the Lacys between himself and honour of Ewyas.<sup>137</sup> Whether the heirs of Hugh de Lacy felt that they still had some hereditary right in this matter is unknown.

He had lost all of his lands in Wiltshire in this period, for on 18 October 1222 the sheriff had an order to give full seisin without delay to Godfrey de Scudemor of his lands in Norton, Upton and Fifield which had been taken from him previously by the king's command because of Godfrey's trespasses

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<sup>134</sup>*Memoranda Roll*, 4 Hen. III (1220).

<sup>135</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>136</sup>*Memoranda Roll*, 6 Hen. III (1222). The scutage of Bytham was occasioned by the rebellion of William, count of Aumale. Late in 1220 he was ordered to surrender Bytham Castle in Lincolnshire which he refused to do. He stood the siege there and the great council granted a special scutage to meet the expenses of the campaign.

<sup>137</sup>*Ibid.*

in the royal forest.<sup>138</sup>

It can not have been too long after this date when he married Maud, the daughter of Elis Giffard (died 1248) by his first wife.<sup>139</sup> Maud appears to have brought to her husband certain Giffard lands at Tytherton Lucas in Wiltshire as a *maritagium*.

At Winton on the Monday after the octave of the close of Easter (9 April) 1228 Godfrey de Scudamore purchased certain lands at Marshwood from Adam fitz Baldwin.<sup>140</sup>

On 27 July 1229 Walter de Dunstanville, Robert Mauduit, Elis Giffard and Godfrey de Scudemore were appointed justices to hold a court on an action of *novel disseisin* brought by Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford, against Ela, countess of Salisbury, regarding a tenement at North Newnton, Wilts., and to hold this court at Wilton on the octave of the feast of the Assumption (22 August 1229).<sup>141</sup>

Any right that the Scudamores might have to consider their five fees as a barony was ended effectively and for all time on 19 April 1230 when the king gave them back the honour of Ewyas Harold:

The king grants to Roger de Clifford [at his request] the lands which the ancestors of Godfrey de Escudemor held by custom from the ancestors of Sibil, wife of said Roger, until the ancestors of the said Godfrey by their own wish made homage to the ancestors of the king of England, but for the future Godfrey and his heirs are to hold them from Roger and Sibil and the heirs of Sibil. And it is ordered that the barons of the exchequer enroll this, and as for arrearages, which might be demanded from Godfrey [by the king] for service for the aforesaid lands, he is

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<sup>138</sup>*Rot. claus.*, I, 513. Upton Scudamore and Norton Bavant were both included in Selwood Forest.

<sup>139</sup>*Coll. Topog. & Gen.*, VIII, 129-30. Elis Giffard, of Brimpsfield, Glos., married firstly Isolda Musard.

<sup>140</sup>*Cal. of feet of fine relating to Wiltshire 1195-1272*, comp. E. A. Fry, (1930) 20. Cited hereafter as *FF Wilts.*, 1195-1272. Marshwood in the combined estates of Dinton and Teffont Magna was once rated at 100 acres. (*Survey of the Lands of William, first earl of Pembroke* [Rox. Club, 1909] i, 230. Marshwood grounds still survives in Teffont Magna.

<sup>141</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1225-32, 300.

quit.<sup>142</sup>

The motive for this is not hard to find. Roger de Clifford had paid £1000 before 1220 to the king to marry the wealthy widow who was the heiress to the honour of Ewyas and he was anxious to recoup a part of his expenses.<sup>143</sup> Roger de Clifford of Tenbury died in 1231. The ambiguity that had existed since 1168 about these particular fees was now settled, and the Scudamores paid homage thereafter for them to Sibil de Ewyas (and after her death in 1236 to her Tregoz heirs).<sup>144</sup>

On the feast of St. Michael in 15 days (14 September) 1230 Ralph fitz William relinquished his right to certain lands in Norridge and Upton to Godfrey de Scudimor and to William le Bastard and Alice his wife (who seems to have been previously the widow of Thomas de Cormeilles).<sup>145</sup> Godfrey de Scydmore and William le Bastard gave one mark for a license for final concord with Ralph fitz William in a plea of land according to a case in the king's court.<sup>146</sup> We will hear more of this land at Norridge elsewhere.

In 1236 Robert Tregoz rendered an account into the treasury for £16 6sh 8d for his fees and those of Godfrey de Scudemor due as an aid at the marriage of Isabel, sister of the king, to Frederick II, emperor of the Romans.

Godfrey was three times a justice of jail-delivery between 1241 and 1245.<sup>147</sup> In the same period Godfrey de Skudemor was first among the witnesses to an undated charter of John de Vernon of Horningsham, Wilts., and his wife Hawise who gave all their lands at Selwood and elsewhere to the priory at Longleat.<sup>148</sup>

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<sup>142</sup>*Close Roll*, 1227-31, 330.

<sup>143</sup>*Rot. oblatis*, 525.

<sup>144</sup>Robert de Tregoz, her first husband, had been keeper of Salisbury Castle in 1189/90 and keeper of the king's house at Clarendon. He was sheriff of Wiltshire in 1191, and had the custody during the minority of the Mauduit heir of the royal manor and hundred of Warminster in 1191/2. He had the custody of the castle again in 1197-9 and died in 1213/4. The name is from Troisgots in the department of Manche in France.

<sup>145</sup>*FF Wilts.*, 1195-1272, 21.

<sup>146</sup>*Curia Regis Roll*.

<sup>147</sup>*Crown pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre*, 1249. (Wilts. Arch. & Nat. Hist. Soc., XVI [1960]) 144.

<sup>148</sup>*Sarum charters and documents* (Rolls Ser.) 234.

At the Easter term of the King's Bench, 1243, Agnes who was the wife of Henry Husee brought a suit against Godfrey de Skidemore for four acres of land, an assart at Norridge in Upton Scudamore, which she claimed was attached to her husband's manor of Stapleford.<sup>149</sup>

The *Testa de Nevill* set down in 1243 is the first great survey of the land taken since the Domesday Book. To this account of the Scudamore properties we have added some notes on the subsequent descent of Sir Godfrey's fees from an extent of the lands of Roger Bavent taken on 5 July 1362 and a settlement made by Ralph Reynes on 30 March 1422; both of these men were eventually heirs to different parts of the Scudamore estates of 1243. In Wiltshire Sir Godfrey is noticed as holding:<sup>150</sup>

Upton Scudamore, two fees held from Robert Tregoz of the honour of Ewyas Harold. [This passed to the Reynes family.] Simon de Park is found holding a third of a fee at Upton Scudamore from Godfrey Scudamore. Norton [Bavent], two fees held from Tregoz as above. [Passed to the Bavent family.]

Fifield, one fee held from Tregoz as above. [Passed to the Bavent family.]

Widhill, in Cricklade, a quarter of a fee held from Tregoz as above. [It passed to the Bavent family and was rated as a toft, eight acres of land and two acres of meadow in 1362.]

Tytherton Lucas and Kellaways. Two fees held jointly with Elis Kellaways from Elis Giffard.<sup>151</sup> [Tytherton was held by Sir Peter Scudamore in 1370 and by Sir Robert Corbet (who married his widow) in 1412.]

Chalke and Hilcott in Alvediston [the "Trow" lands], two parts of a half fee held jointly with Henry Champflower from the abbess of Wilton. [Passed to the Bavent family and rated as a messuage and 57 acres of land in 1362.]

Bilhay, in West Tisbury, one tenth of a fee held from Godfrey de Bilhay who held it from the abbess of St. Edwards in Shaftesbury.

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<sup>149</sup>PRO, KB26/128 or 129, m. 16 a. d.

<sup>150</sup>*Book of Fees*, 712, 717, 725, 733, 734, 746, 1226 (for Wiltshire).

<sup>151</sup>For the distinction between Tytherton Kellaways and Tytherton Lucas see *The place-names of Wiltshire* (E. P-N. S.), 1939, 91, 99.

[Passed to the Bavent family.]

In Herefordshire Sir Godfrey held the following:

Poston, in Vowchurch, 1/2 fee held from the honour of Castle Maud. [Passed to the Bavent family.]

Parva Hatfield, 1/10 fee held from the honour of Castle Maud.<sup>152</sup>

The return from Herefordshire does not list Corras since the survey omitted Archenfield Hundred; it was then rated as a part of Wales and outside the scope of *Testa de Nevill*.<sup>153</sup> Molteton in Ewyas Harold (if it was held this early) is also missing for the same reason. Also curiously missing are his lands in Dorset.

In the forest eyre of Wiltshire taken in 1246 Sir Godfrey suffered the heaviest amercement in the county of 50 marks for his trespasses.<sup>154</sup>

He was a witness to an undated charter relating to lands in Gussage All Saints in Dorset which can be placed in or after 1249, since William Tinhead, another of the witnesses, is identified as sheriff and he is known to have held that office as early as 1249.<sup>155</sup>

Sir Godfrey served as sheriff of Somerset and Dorset from 28 April 1249 to 26 November 1249, his service there being a stopgap measure owing to the last illness of Huge de Vivona who preceded him. He did not account into the treasury and was succeeded by Bartholomew Petch. During his brief term he was responsible for the preparations for the eyres held by Roger de Thurkelby

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<sup>152</sup>*Book of Fees*, 799, 811, 813 (for Herefordshire).

<sup>153</sup>Archenfield Hundred did not come under English law or pay taxes to the crown, and for this reason is seldom found mentioned in the records. According to Elizabeth Taylor, who has checked the early perambulations of Irchenfield, the boundary came up the Monnow River to just north of Corras, then up a brook which runs just by the present Kentchurch Court, past Bannut Tree Farm and on to Bagwy Llydiart. Thus the present court is within Archenfield while the church at Kentchurch is outside its boundaries. At the time of the Domesday Book, however, Pontrilas was within Archenfield while Ewyas Harold was not. By the 15th century Wormelow Hundred had succeeded Archenfield and the boundaries were much the same.

<sup>154</sup>*Crown pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre*, 1249, 144.

<sup>155</sup>*Charter Roll*, 1257-1300, 229. William de Tinhead was named sheriff of Wiltshire at Easter 1249 and served until 29 April 1255.

in these counties in July 1249.<sup>156</sup>

At Wilton on the octave of Trinity (7 June) 1249 he and his wife exchanged lands with Henry de Bath.<sup>157</sup> Godfrey and Maud surrendered lands at Up Lambourne in Berkshire of 2 1/2 virgates, receiving land worth 40sh at an annual rent of 18sh at Hardenhuish in Wiltshire in return. This Hardenhuish land descended to the Street family (their eventual heirs) who held it in 1422.

At some unknown date (but by 1250) certain lands in Bratton, Wilts., held from the Dauntsey serjeanty were alienated by Richard Dauntsey (another son-in-law of Elis Giffard) to Godfrey Scudamore.<sup>158</sup> On 12 June 1251 the king ordered the barons of the exchequer to distraint Godfrey de Escudemor and Ralph de Baskerville of Wiltshire, who had been appointed sureties after the death of Richard Dauntsey, to see that certain debts owed by Dauntsey to the crown were repaid. Also to be distrained was Walter de Avenbury of Herefordshire to whom the king had sold the custody of Dauntsey's lands and his heir Richard, then a boy of 12. Similar letters were issued to Mabel, the widow of Richard Dauntsey; she was a sister of Maud, wife of Sir Godfrey Scudamore.<sup>159</sup>

The king notified all of his tenants in the cities, towns, and royal demesnes in the county of Wiltshire on 28 April 1252 that Godfrey de Skydemor, and Galfrid le Chamberlain of Compton Chamberlain, were appointed to assess

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<sup>156</sup>*Crown pleas of Wiltshire Eyre*, 1249, 144.

<sup>157</sup>*FF Wilts.*, 1195-1272, 67. For Henry de Bath (died 1260) see *DNB*, I, 1322. Also the *Crown pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre*, 1249, 129, where there are notes from an unpublished biography.

<sup>158</sup>*Book of Fees*, 1178, 1226. The name Dauntsey (Dansey or d'Anesey) is from Ainsy in the department of Calvados in Normandy. Richard Dauntsey held the serjeanty in 1242 in chief by service in the king's army. In 1250 Godfrey de Escudemore held one virgate and one acre worth 6sh 6d by the year from the Dauntsey serjeanty at Bratton, Wilts. In 1840 the title apportionments for Bratton show a field called *Scudamores*; a note says that it is known as *Skidamers* by the locals.

<sup>159</sup>*Close Roll*, 1247-51, 545. Richard Dauntsey, the elder, died in 1250 [*Wilts. Inq. p. m.* 1242/1326 (Index lib.) 11]. Richard Dauntsey the younger, died about 1266 and the custody of his heir Giles and the serjeanty was given to William d' Aete who was pardoned from paying the 10 marks (at which the serjeanty was rated) granting that he might receive the 10 marks from Godfrey de Skydemore and 24 other tenants of the serjeanty, on 22 April 1267. Skydemore was recently dead, although this is left unstated. See *Patent Roll*, 1266-72, 86; *Wiltshire Notes & Queries*, II, 360; *VCH, Wilts.*, VIII, 152-3.

and collect the tallage in the county together with the sheriff.<sup>160</sup>

At the Wiltshire eyre in 1249 a writ of *novel disseisin* was brought by William le Fevere [the Smith] who claimed that Godfrey de Eskidimor, Absalom de Norton, Richard Skarlet, and Peter Skarlet had unjustly disseised him of a half acre of land and a certain heath in Rodhurst. Only Sir Godfrey appeared at the court and answered for all of them.<sup>161</sup> The jurors found that he alone had disseised William who recovered his seisin of the land and heath and Godfrey and all of the others were amerced. Three years later the same William le Fevere of Norton acknowledged on 5 May 1252 that he held a free tenement of 64 arable acres and 300 acres of pasture from Godfrey Scudamore in Rodburst and Norton [Bavant] by rent and ward of Ewyas Castle.<sup>162</sup> His land was in a completely detached part of Norton; it was later called *Butler's Coombe* and was located near Warminster Common.

On 11 July 1253 the king ordered the barons of the exchequer to find out from the scutage rolls of the exchequer if they had scutage for Robert de Tregoz in the last crossing of the king in Gascony for which Godfrey de Squidemor, his knight, is now distrained, and if Godfrey should now be wholly released from paying.<sup>163</sup>

Godfrey de Escudemor together with Giles de Erdington were ordered by the queen and council on 5 February 1253/4 to make an inquest into the contention arising between the abbott of Glastonbury and Henry de Cerne, the bailiff of the bishop of Bath and Wales, and others.<sup>164</sup>

About the year 1257 Godfrey de Scudemore was a witness to a grant by William Mauduit and his wife Eva of Warminster of the advowson and glebe-land of the church of Warminster to the dean and chapter of Salisbury.<sup>165</sup>

On 4 August 1258 letters patent were sent to four knights of every shire

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<sup>160</sup>*Close Roll*, 1251-3, 212. Galfrid le Chamberlain and Nicholas Haversham held the manor of Compton Chamberlain in 1242 from the heirs of William Brewer. It had been held earlier by Warner de Lusors. See *FF Wilts.*, 1195-1272, 22, 28, 60.

<sup>161</sup>*Civil pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre*, 1249, 104.

<sup>162</sup>*FF Wilts.*, 1195-1272, 45.

<sup>163</sup>*Close Roll*, 1251-3, 389. The scutage rolls were derived from the office of the earl Marshal, and listed the names of the men who had served in person during the campaign or had paid a fine in lieu of service.

<sup>164</sup>*Close Roll*, 1253-4, 113.

<sup>165</sup>*Sarum charters and documents* (Rolls ser.) 329-30.

commissioning them to inquire into all transgressions and injuries committed by the sheriffs, justices, bailiffs or other persons within the county pursuant to an ordinance passed in Parliament at Oxford. Those named for Wiltshire were Henry Husee, Godfrey Scudamore, William Husee of Kingston, and Richard de Zeals. Their inquisition, signed with their own seals and the seals of the jurors, was to be delivered to the council at Westminster eight days after Michaelmas.<sup>166</sup>

Sir Godfrey was appointed sheriff in Wiltshire at the same Michaelmas Parliament on 3 November 1258 to succeed John Vernon, and ordered to come with all speed in person to the exchequer to receive the keeping of the castle and the county.<sup>167</sup> He was to have a fixed allowance of £20 and served until Christmas 1259 when he was succeeded by Vernon. Once again his account proved to be short £16 8sh 3d and no allowance was made to him.<sup>168</sup>

On 26 June 1260 he and Thomas Trevet were named assessors of the king's tallage in the cities, boroughs and royal demesnes in five counties (Somerset, Devon, Wiltshire, Dorset, and Hampshire).<sup>169</sup> Their work apparently began immediately for on 18 August 1260 the king pardoned Nicholas St. Maur of the tallage collected on his manor at Poulton (near Cricklade in Wiltshire) which the king had given St. Maur for a term of 11 years for an annual rent of £20. To sustain Nicholas in the service of the crown the king now excused him from the rent for the first year and the tallage already assessed by Scudemor and Trevet.<sup>170</sup>

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<sup>166</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1247-58, 646.

<sup>167</sup>*Ibid.*, 655.

<sup>168</sup>The account kept by him from Christmas 1258 to Christmas 1259 is the first complete one surviving for a sheriff in Wiltshire. (PRO, E. 370/6/13). For a discussion see *Crown Pleas of the Wiltshire Eyre*, 1249, 144. His account was short £16 8sh 3d at an audit (*Pipe Roll*, 44 Henry III, m. 13d.) and no allowance was made for him.

<sup>169</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1258-66, 76. For Thomas Trevet (died 1283) see *DNB*, XIX, 1161.

<sup>170</sup>*Close Roll*, 1259-61, 89. There were other appeals on the assessments made by Scudamore and Trevet. The treasurer had an order on 18 August 1260 to send estreats of the tallage assessed against Adam de Chesterston by Thomas Trevet and Galfrid [*sic*] de Escudemor. (*Close Roll*, 1259-61, 198). In 49 Henry III we have a case before the courts in which it is reported that the assessors set upon the town of *Shafton* (Shaftesbury) and had taxed John Fish at 15 marks whereas his goods were hardly sufficient to pay the same. The barons of the exchequer were ordered to consider the case and to moderate the tallage according to John's ability to pay. (Madox, *Hist. of the exchequer*, I,

At Westminster, Easter in 15 days (25 March) 1262, Godfrey de Escudemor granted to John de Clavill and Margery his wife certain lands in Chalke and rents at Fifield and Norton [Bavant].<sup>171</sup>

At some unknown date, but perhaps in this period, Sir Godfrey purchased certain woods in Norridge in Upton Scudamore from Hubert Husee of Stapleford.<sup>172</sup> Doubtless this was the same lands in contention with Agnes Husee in 1243; they were joined to Upton Scudamore and descended thereafter in the same way.<sup>173</sup>

On 18 March 1264, at the very beginning of the barons' war, Sir Godfrey de Escudemor was summoned to be present in person with his horses, men and arms at Oxford on the 30 March.<sup>174</sup> Whether he responded to this summoning of the feudal host is unknown, for even the size of the army which moved out of Woodstock on 3 April to lay siege and take the castle at Northampton held by the barons is conjectural. Sir Peter Scudamore, Godfrey's son, would appear to have been at the beginning of the revolt on the side of the barons.

Whatever may have been the sympathies of Sir Godfrey he was one of the "four most discreet knights" of Wiltshire chosen by the assent of the whole county to be at London on 22 June 1264 to treat with Henry III, his prelates and his great men in Parliament about the business of the kingdom.<sup>175</sup> This summons reflected the part that the landed gentry had taken in the movement, and is sometimes considered as the first sitting of the House of Commons as it is presently constituted.

Sir Godfrey was still living on 12 April 1266, in more settled times, when the barons of the exchequer had an order to pay him the £20 dating to his year as sheriff of Wiltshire to which he was entitled by custom for his expenses from

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742).

<sup>171</sup>*FF Wilts.*, 1195-1272, 54.

<sup>172</sup>*Visitation of Hunts*, (Camb. Soc., 1st ser., XLIII) 82. In 1235 the forester of Selwood was ordered not to molest the men of Hubert Husee for enclosing Norridge Wood (*Close Roll*, 1274-7, 88). Godfrey de Scudamore must have made his purchase after that date.

<sup>173</sup>Norridge was a part of the royal manor and hundred of Warminster in the Domesday Book. The view of Norridge Wood from Upton Scudamore is much the same now as it was in Sir Godfrey's time with the isolated Cley Hill rising beyond. It is now a game wood.

<sup>174</sup>*Close Roll*, 1261-4, 380.

<sup>175</sup>The prisoners taken at Northampton on 7 April 1264 were also to be produced at this Parliament.

the profits of the county.<sup>176</sup> But he was dead a few months later. On 12 October 1266 the Close rolls note that his accounts as sheriff were still short 16 8sh 3d, and the new sheriff was ordered to accept sufficient security from the executors of the last testament of Godfrey de Escudemor for this debt owed to the crown on the day that he died, or else allow free administration of his estate to an official of the exchequer to execute the testament.<sup>177</sup> The older of the two effigies (now newly mounted on plinths inside the church) is thought to be a representation of Sir Godfrey.<sup>178</sup>

Presumably some compromise was reached for £15 was allocated to Godfrey de Escudemor on 20 January 1267 for keeping the county for three parts of the 43rd year and the first quarter of the 44th year of the king's reign.<sup>179</sup>

Presumably Lady Maud survived her husband. She is mentioned once (perhaps in her widowhood) in connection with her land at Tytherton Lucas; John de Gardino gave the abbey at Malmesbury a tenement in the vill' of Tytherton as well as the gift of a halfpenny's rent, it being the same half penny which was taken annually by custom from Lady Maud *Deschiedemore*. She died on 12 June, the year unknown, and was buried in the friary of St. Francis in Salisbury. Mass was said at the friary thereafter in her memory on every June 12th, the anniversary of her death.<sup>180</sup>

Sir Godfrey had at least four sons. Sir Peter (died 1293) was his heir. Documentary evidence proves that Elis and Simon Scudamore, both of whom appear to have died fairly young, were also his sons. Circumstances suggest that John de Scudamore, parson of Norton Bavant in 1261, was still another son. All will be noticed subsequently.

According to the best received opinion (for which see Appendix V) the older of the two military effigies in the church at Upton Scudamore is likely to be a representation of this Godfrey de Scudamore III..

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<sup>176</sup>*Close Roll*, 1264-8, 187.

<sup>177</sup>*Ibid.*, 215.

<sup>178</sup>See Appendix V.

<sup>179</sup>*Liberate Roll*, 1260-7, 257.

<sup>180</sup>As we know from the obit in William Worcestre's *Itineraries* (1969), 51.

## CHAPTER VII

### SIR PETER SCUDAMORE II, LORD OF UPTON SCUDAMORE (DIED 1293)

Sir Peter was perhaps born as early as 1225. We hear of him first at the time of the barons' war when he was attached to the household of his uncle Sir John Giffard of Brimpsfield, Glos.<sup>181</sup> Giffard belonged to the baronial party in 1263 at the beginning of the strife. He ravaged the lands of Roger Mortimer and later in the same year was one of the barons who captured the alien bishop of Hereford, attacked Sir Mathew de Besil at Gloucester and afterwards besieged Prince Edward there in March 1264. In April, while governor of Kenilworth, he attacked Warwick Castle and captured its earl and countess. On 14 May 1264 Giffard was taken prisoner at the battle of Lewes, and subsequently changed sides going over to the king with the earl of Gloucester and others. Giffard was in the king's army at the battle of Evesham on 4 August 1265 and for his services there was pardoned by Henry III for having been an adherent of Simon de Montfort.<sup>182</sup> Whether Sir Peter Scudamor was in the company of Sir John Giffard on any or all of these occasions is unknown, but it is clear from the terms of his three subsequent pardons from Henry III that his career and shifting allegiances during the civil war were closely parallel to that of his uncle.<sup>183</sup> That he was near the end of the war in the king's camp is certain for as Peter Escudimor he was given the custody of all the lands and tenements of the rebels Richard de Gussich, William Fossard and William Hakert. These lands and tenements were valued at £30.<sup>184</sup> As Sir Peter de Scidemor he is mentioned at Michaelmas in 1265 as still holding the lands of Robert de Chilthorne at Chilthorne-Faket in

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<sup>181</sup>John Giffard (1232-1299) was a much younger half-brother of Maud Scudamore by Elis Giffard's second wife Alice Mautravers. See G. E. C., *Complete Peerage*, V, 639.

<sup>182</sup>*DNB*, VII, 1174.

<sup>183</sup>Sir Peter Scudamore was pardoned on 26 April 1268 of having been of the household and fellowship of Sir John Giffard (*Patent Roll*, 1266-72, 222). He had a further pardon on 18 October 1269 after the testimony of John Giffard for having been an adherent of the earl of Gloucester. (*Patent Roll*, 1266-72, 378.).

<sup>184</sup>*Terrae rebellium datae fidelibus, temp. Henry III.*

Somerset, another rebel, which had not been restored to Robert.<sup>185</sup> On 3 April 1266 John Giffard and others obtained a safe conduct for Geoffrey de Wraxall to come to court to treat of peace for his trespasses against the king at the time of the disturbances in the realm, and 8 September 1266 the king at the instance of William Belet and Peter de Scudemor granted Wraxall a pardon.<sup>186</sup> On the same day Peter Squydemor was a witness at Kenilworth Castle to an inspeximus of Henry III to the abbey of St. Mary's in York.<sup>187</sup>

Sir Peter had succeeded his father on 12 October 1266. In the same year, on 27 December 1266, he had a royal license to hunt with his own dogs, the hare, the fox, the badger and the cat in the forests of Dorset, Wiltshire, Somerset and Hampshire, and on 12 February 1267 a life exemption from juries, assizes, or recognitions, and from being made sheriff against his will.<sup>188</sup>

On 2 March 1267 Peter de Escudimor was a witness to a charter of the king at Cambridge who granted Ramsey Abbey a market and fair at Ramsey.<sup>189</sup> Two days later Henry III gave to Peter and his heirs a similar license for a weekly market on Thursdays at Upton Escudamor as well as a yearly fair there on the vigil and the morrow of the feast of the nativity of the Blessed Virgin. At the same time he had a further grant of a weekly market on Fridays and an annual fair on the vigil and morrow of Martinmas at his manor of Fifield Escudamore.<sup>190</sup> There was probably considerable traffic through the village of Upton Scudamore in this period; an important road entered the parish on the west at Thoulstone and for centuries connected Bristol, Bath and Frome with Warminster, Salisbury and Southampton to the south.

At Wilton, 15 days before Purification (18 January) 1268, Peter de Schidemor had a messuage in Wilton (one of two that had been attached to Fifield Bavant from the time of the Domesday Book) from William "le Bottiller."<sup>191</sup> Sometime in this period he acquired also the advowson of the church of St. Michael's on West Street in Wilton.<sup>192</sup>

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<sup>185</sup>*Inq. Misc.*, I, 267.

<sup>186</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1258-66, 636.

<sup>187</sup>Francis Drake, *Eboracum; or the history and antiquities of the city of York* (1736), 605.

<sup>188</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1266-72, 21, 35.

<sup>189</sup>*Cart. Mon. de Rameseia* (Rolls ser.), II, 295.

<sup>190</sup>*Charter Roll*, 1257-1300, 73.

<sup>191</sup>*FF Wilts.*, 1195-1272, 58.

<sup>192</sup>In 1298 the advowson of St. Michael's was vested in his daughter Alice de Bavant, and passed from the Bavants to the priory of Dartford.

On 24 March 1268 Sir Peter was the defendant in a suit brought by Thomas Corbet relating to the manor of Silverton, Devon, tried before the king's court sitting at Westminster. Involved were Corbet's goods and chattels which Peter Scudamore denied taking. However the jury felt differently and maintained that he had come to Corbet's manor and had taken away oxen, cattle, horses and corn. Sir Peter was ordered to pay Thomas Corbet £40 and was amerced.<sup>193</sup>

At Bath, on the morrow of the Sunday after Easter (16 April)1268, Peter de Skydemore acquired from Jocelin "le Tannur" and Benedicta his wife four acres of land and another half acre, two acres of meadow, and 9 1/2 acres of wood at Rodden, Somerset.<sup>194</sup> These lands descended to the Reynes family who still held them in 1422.<sup>195</sup>

On 19 October 1268 Sir John Tregoz and his mother, Julian, reached an agreement on the lands which were to be set off from the honour of Ewyas Harold as her dower following the death of her husband Robert Tregoz. As a part of the settlement it was agreed that an extent would be made of all the lands. Sir John Tregoz nominated either Sir Peter Escudemor or Richard Pigg to take the extent, while Julian Tregoz nominated either Thomas de Molington or William de Monekekot.<sup>196</sup> Of the four names placed before them the court picked that of Molington.

Peter de Escudimor and Richard de Worcester were assigned on 13 December 1269 to assess and collect a subsidy of a twentieth in Wiltshire.<sup>197</sup>

He had the last of his pardons dating from the time of the barons' war on 9 February 1270. Peter de Scudimor, on the testimony of John Giffard, had the remission of the king's indignation and rancour because of the things he did on the occasion of the dissension between the king and Simon de Montfort,

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<sup>193</sup>*Abbrev. Plac.* (Rec. Com., 1811), 176.

<sup>194</sup>*Feet of Fine for Somerset, 1196-1307*, ed. Emanuel Green (Somerset Rec. Soc., vi, 1892) 219.

<sup>195</sup>This poses a difficulty, unless Sir Peter granted them to his brother Simon or his nephew Walter by a deed now lost. In May 1423 Sir John Reynes, Knt., held a fishing mill with closes adjoining at Rodden. (Hist. Mss. Com., *Hastings* I, 346).

<sup>196</sup>*Close Roll, 1264-8, 488-9*. Richard Pyg was named sheriff of Wiltshire on 27 December 1274.

<sup>197</sup>*Close Roll, 1268-72, 245*. Peter de Escudemore had seven marks for his expenses as a taxor and collector of a twentieth in Wiltshire on 14 March 1272. (*Cal. Liberate Rolls, 1267-72, 208*).

earl of Leicester.<sup>198</sup>

On 23 August 1270 the king pardoned Peter de Escudemore the 100sh which he had been fined for his default by Richard de Middleton and his fellow justices on their last itinerary into Northamptonshire.<sup>199</sup> On 17 April 1271 John de Cheverell, Ralph de Gorges, and Peter de Escudamor acknowledged that they owed to Luke de Lukes and Adam de Stratton 60 marks to be paid at the feast of All Saints next, or to be levied in default of payment on their lands and chattels in Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire.<sup>200</sup>

As a special mark of the king's favor the keeper of Groveley Forest was ordered on 15 December 1271 to give Peter de Escudemore one roebuck as the gift of the king.<sup>201</sup>

In 1273 John Tregoz (who had inherited the honour of Ewyas Harold) planned on taking an extent of his manor of Ewyas Harold using a jury of twelve free and lawful men of Herefordshire. Peter Scudamore, Richard the constable of Ewyas, together with all the men of the land of Ewyas opposed the jury by force and by arms saying that "they would rather die than the manor of Ewyas should be extended."<sup>202</sup> Peter de Scudamore's interest in all of this is not hard to find for his lands at Molteton were part of the manor of Ewyas Harold and would have been surveyed with it.

Molteton, which was reckoned as a half a fee worth 20sh by the year in 1301, was held by the Scudamores of Wiltshire and by the Bavant family after them.<sup>203</sup> It is not known when Molteton was acquired by the family. It differs from their other land in Herefordshire in that it was *not* granted to their cousins at Poston; the Upton family apparently kept the income from Molteton for themselves.

According to Bruce Coplestone-Crow, who has a book in preparation on the place names of Herefordshire, Molteton had been joined to the Monnington in Ewyas Harold by 1071. There were three Monningtons in Herefordshire in the Domesday Book, two of them held by Alfred de Marlborough. Monnington [on Wye] was held by Ralph de Tony and is of no further interest

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<sup>198</sup> *Patent Roll*, 1266-72, 378.

<sup>199</sup> *Close Roll*, 1278-72, 221.

<sup>200</sup> *Ibid.*, 406.

<sup>201</sup> *Ibid.*, 447.

<sup>202</sup> *Calendar of Ancient Correspondence concerning Wales*, ed. J. Gronwy Edwards (1935) 38-9.

<sup>203</sup> Bannister, *Ewias Harold* (1902) 113.

to us. Monnington [Straddle] in Vowchurch, held by Alfred, has been mentioned earlier. The third Monnington has long since disappeared from the map, but it contained five carucates and was enumerated under Alfred's castle at Ewyas Harold in the Domesday Book.<sup>204</sup> This Monnington lay on both sides of Dulas Brook in Ewyas Harold and Moltleston was the part of it on the southwest side of the brook. It had been settled by the English before about 1050, but not held long enough for the land to have been hidated. It was taken over by Osbern Penecost who built his castle there (the motte and inner bailey only) on a site near the population center of Moltleston. The later village of Ewyas Harold stands on the other [northeastern] side of Dulas Brook.

Between 1055 and 1066 the castle and the economy of the surrounding area was destroyed by the Welsh. From 1067 to 1071 it was taken over by the Normans and earl William fitz Osbern rebuilt the castle adding an outer bailey to house the borough. Moltleston and Monnington were amalgamated to form the new Ewyas castlery. This was delivered by William fitz Osbern to Alfred de Marlborough and is described in the Domesday Book:

The King himself granted him [Alfred of Marlborough] the lands which Earl William, who had refortified the castle, had given him; that is, 5 carucates of land *in that place* [Moltleston] and 5 other carucates at Monnington.<sup>205</sup>

Elsewhere it has been suggested (most tentatively) that Moltleston might have been acquired by 1135 by the Scudamores of Wiltshire, and that the Godfrey "de Monnington" who held it in 1166 might be identical with the Godfrey de Scudamore II of Upton Scudamore. If this should be so we have a period of just over 100 years (1166 to 1273) when nothing is known about the Scudamore tenure of Moltleston. It bears repeating that the Scudamores of Poston who held that place and Corras in Kentchurch as tenants of their cousins in Wiltshire apparently had nothing to do with Moltleston in Ewyas Harold.

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<sup>204</sup>I am indebted to Bruce Coplestone-Crow, who was apparently the first to recognize that there were two Monningtons in the fief of Alfred of Marlborough, for this information. He has also defined the borders of Moltleston which was bounded on the south and west by the present parishes of Rowlestone and Dulas.

<sup>205</sup>Domesday Book, *Herefordshire*, ed. Frank & Caroline Thorn, Chichester, 1983, 19,1. It should be noticed that J. H. Round in his earlier translation (VCH, *Herefs.*, I, 337) confused the Monnington *there* (i.e., at the castle) with the Monnington in Vowchurch.

Molteston also had a dependent manor at North Nibley in Gloucestershire. According to an inquisition taken on 13 December 1373 at Ewyas Harold *Nebbule* was held by Michael le Hunter of Sir Roger Bavant, but by what service the jurors did not know. In 1639 it was an ancient capital messuage with 58 acres of land called Huntscourt after its owners for many generations. It was held as early as the reign of Henry II by the honour of Berkeley where it was rated as a tenth of a fee. There is nothing to suggest that the Scudamores ever had an interest there, and we do not know how they or the Bavants came by it.<sup>206</sup>

On 26 July 1281 Peter Scudemor (by his attorney Walter Fouke) entered into a suit against Reginald de la Chambre, his tenant at Molteston, in a plea of land before the Welsh Assizes then sitting at Montgomery. But the bailiff of John Tregoz came and appears to have had the matter transferred to his lord's court at Ewyas Harold and we hear nothing more of the case or the judgement.<sup>207</sup>

At the Hilary term of 1276 the court sitting at the chapter house at Westminster awarded to Peter Bolmere the seisin of certain common lands in Upton Scudamore and Peter Scuydemore was amerced. Peter Bolymere was rector of Norridge in 1306 and again in 1311 but we have no clue as to the nature of his suit.<sup>208</sup> At the same term Sir Peter was the successful plaintiff in a suit about 42 1/2 acres in Upton, Norridge, and Thoulstone, and Walter Park, his tenant, was in mercy.<sup>209</sup>

As Peter *de Escude* he was a commissioner together with William de Brayboef on 25 October 1279 to inquire into a dispute between the abbot of Glastonbury and Bogo de Knoville. The abbot had prevented Knoville, who had the wardship of Warin Mauduit, from rebuilding the gallows at Warminster which had lately been blown down by the wind.<sup>210</sup>

In 1280 Sir Peter was imprisoned at Old Salisbury for his trespasses in the royal forests in Somerset and Dorset and for which he was bailed. The sheriff of Wiltshire was ordered 13 April 1280 to have Peter de Esquidemor before the king in Parliament after Easter.<sup>211</sup>

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<sup>206</sup>John Smyth [of Nibley], *The Berkeley Manuscripts* (1885), III, 284.

<sup>207</sup>*Welsh Assize Roll*, 1277-84, (1940), 331.

<sup>208</sup>*Abbrev. Plac.*, (1811), 189. For Peter Bolymer, see VCH, *Wilts.*, VIII, 88.

<sup>209</sup>*Ibid.*, 189.

<sup>210</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1272-81, 348. Thomas Mauduit, his father, died about 1271 while abroad in the Holy Land with Prince Edward. See VCH, *Wilts.*, VIII, 97.

<sup>211</sup>*Close Roll*, 1279-88, 11, 15. His 12 mainpernors were William de Dun,

On 5 March 1283 Peter de Scudemor was a commissioner to assess certain places at Iham in East Sussex and to rent them to the barons and good men of Winchelsea.<sup>212</sup>

On 4 November 1283 Imbert Guidonis had letters nominating Peter Escudemor and Nicholas Malemeyns his attorneys for two years.<sup>213</sup> Later in the same month on 20 November 1283 Robert Absalom released all his lands in Upton and Norton (once held by Thomas and Peter Absalom) to Sir Peter Escudemor.<sup>214</sup>

The Statute of Winchester had been enacted in 1285. It made explicit provisions for the conserving of the peace, and two knights of every shire were designated to enforce its articles. On 20 January 1287 Peter de Escudmore and Peter de la Stane were appointed the first keepers of the peace in Wiltshire.<sup>215</sup> On 3 July 1287 Sir Peter Skidmore and three others were appointed to view the castle, manor, and park at Devizes and the forests at Chippenham and Melksham which were being turned over to a new constable.<sup>216</sup> This was done on Saturday the 19th and the viewers returned a satisfactory inventory of the munitions and furnishings there including 36 keys to the various doors of the castle.<sup>217</sup>

In 1289 Peter Scudamore and others held vacant plots in Salisbury Castle and owed castle-guard service for them in time of war.<sup>218</sup> This had stemmed from

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Stephen le Droeyes, William Auvrey, Richard de Langport, John de Mere, John de Cromhale, David Durand, John de Upton, Walter Lillebon, William de Percy, Peter fitz Warin, and Richard Sculy.

<sup>212</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1281-92, 59.

<sup>213</sup>*Ibid.*, 85.

<sup>214</sup>Hist. Ms. Com., *Hastings*, I, 223. Sometime after this date Peter Escudemore granted a messuage, a virgate of land, together with a further eight acres (once held by Thomas Absalom) in Norton to Robert Hereman who was to pay 3sh yearly for all services including ward at the castle of Ewyas Harold and doing suit at Peter's court at Norton. Sir Robert de Vernon is a witness to both charters.

<sup>215</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1281-92, 265.

<sup>216</sup>*Ibid.*, 265, 270.

<sup>217</sup>*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1242-1327 (Index lib.), 172.

<sup>218</sup>VCH, *Wilts.*, VI, 54. Peter de la Stane, Nicholas de Havershan, William de Woodfaude, Henry Daubeny, John Gilbert, William de Durnford, and Walter de Pavely were the associates of Scudamore. This is from J. I. 1/1011 mem. 63 at the PRO.

an inquest of 1274-5 which declared that the tenants-in-chief of the king ought to keep the castle.<sup>219</sup> Scudamore, it is assumed, was providing the service owed by the honour of Ewyas Harold.

In an inquest taken 14 February 1292 at Salisbury after the death of Peter Spillman the jurors found that Spillman held a hide of land at Chalke worth 20sh a year from Sir Peter Skudemor.<sup>220</sup>

Some time after 17 October 1289 and shortly before his death Sir Peter granted “to my nephew Walter Eskudemore for his service” the whole of his manor of Upton Scudamore together with his lands at Norridge and Thoulstone, his woods at Clear Wood, and his woods at Norridge “which Godfrey Eskudemore, my father, had from Hubert Husee of Stapleford.”<sup>221</sup> The charter is undated but Richard de Cumbe, the first of the witnesses, is identified as sheriff of Wiltshire.<sup>222</sup> Presumably his motive was to leave a male of the family in possession of Upton Scudamore. Alice Bavant, Sir Peter's only child, does not seem to have assented to her father's gift and put her objection on record as early as 1294 in an effort to regain Upton Scudamore.

Sir Peter de Escudemor was dead by 8 May 1293 when the escheator was ordered to take his lands into the king's hands as a tenant-in-chief.<sup>223</sup> He was slain by the hand of Richard de Bath, but what provoked the attack on Sir Peter does not appear.<sup>224</sup>

An inquest into the Wiltshire lands of Peter Scudamore was taken at Tisbury on 29 May 1293 by 24 jurors drawn from the hundreds of Warminster, Dunworth and Chalke where his largest holdings were. They found that he held no land directly from the king as a tenant-in-chief. He held Norton worth

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<sup>219</sup>*Rot. Hund.*, (Rec. Com.), ii, 268.

<sup>220</sup>*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1242-1327 (Index lib.) 191. Spillman left as co-heiresses, Maud, aged about 30, wife of John de Grimsted, and Katherine, aged about 25 who had married Richard Testwood.

<sup>221</sup>*Visitation of Hunt.*, (Camden Soc., 1st ser., XLIII) 82. This is the earliest of the deeds which descended to Sir Thomas Brudenell, Bt., and were in 1613 at Deene Park, Northants. Brudenell was made earl of Cardigan in 1661. Clear Wood had been enclosed from a part of Selwood Forest by the time of the Domesday Book according to R. G. Woodman.

<sup>222</sup>Combe was sheriff from 17 October 1289 to 2 August 1293.

<sup>223</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1272-1307, 321.

<sup>224</sup>Some five years later, on 3 December 1298, Richard son of Olive de Bath had a full pardon for the death of Peter *de Skidemorehopton* because Richard had done good service in Scotland. (*Patent Roll*, 1292-1301, 387.)

£40 from John de Tregoz for which he paid 17sh 3 1/2d by the year for the ward of Ewyas Castle. Fifield (also held from Tregoz) was worth £10 and for this he paid 11sh for the ward of the castle.

He also had a tenement in Trowe held, as it was in his father's time, from the abbess of Wilton. It was worth 40sh and he paid the abbess 10sh annually. His Bilhay lands were now held from Sir Eustace de Hatch at 4sh 2d. Further, the jurors found that Alice de Bavant, daughter of Peter de Escudamor, was his next heir and she was of full age.<sup>225</sup>

There was no *inquest post mortem* taken of the lands of Sir Peter Scudamore in Somerset, Dorset or Hereford since it was seemingly apparent to the escheators in these counties that he held nothing there as a tenant-in-chief. On 17 January 1303 his land at Bradle in Church Knowle, Dorset, was held by William de Gouiz and Roger de Haselden of the [Bavant] heirs of Peter Skydemor, but it returned nothing as it was then in the hands of the king. His other land in Dorset, at Ash in Stourpaine, was held in 1303 by Eudo de Acton, John de Taychesse and their associates of the heirs of Peter de Skydemor.<sup>226</sup>

Mabel, the wife of Sir Peter Scudamore, also survived him. She is apparently the same wife who is identified before 1280 as a kinswoman of Henry de Woolavington. Woolavington, a justice itinerant, was scheduled to hear a plea in Wiltshire between Julia Giffard, the abbess of Wilton, and Peter de Scudimore and his impartiality was questioned by Walter Giffard, archbishop of York and a brother of the abbess, since Mabel de Scudimore was a kinswoman in some unexplained way to Woolavington.<sup>227</sup> On 21 September 1293 Mabel, late the wife of Peter Escudemor by reason of her debility nominated Henry le Venur and Guy de Mortimer her attorneys for the term of two years.<sup>228</sup> The appointment was no doubt motivated by a suit brought by Walter Scudamore, her late husband's nephew, and the new lord of Upton Scudamore. On the day following, 22 September 1293, Walter appeared

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<sup>225</sup>*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1242-1327, 194. Alice de Bavant is transcribed here as Alice de *Beaumont* in error.

<sup>226</sup>*Feudal Aids*, II, 37. Ash in Stourpaine is called half a little fee (*di. f. parvum*). It disappears after this date. Bradle went with the other Scudamore lands to the nuns at Dartford. It should not have been in the hands of the king in 1303 since Roger Bavant had come of age.

<sup>227</sup>*Ancient Correspondence*, VII, 219. Archbishop Giffard died in 1279. He and Maud Scudamore were both great grandchildren of Elis Giffard II, so he was a kinsman to Sir Peter Scudamore as well.

<sup>228</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1292-1301, 36.

before the king seeking to recover his lands at Stockton, Wilts., which had been taken for his default by Mabel Scudamore.<sup>229</sup> How long she survived after this date is unknown.

Alice Scudamore was already the widow of Sir Adam de Bavant at the time of her father's death.<sup>230</sup> She lived on for another seven years and had died shortly before 14 October 1300 when a writ of *diem clausit extremum* was given in Wiltshire after her death. All of her lands went to her son Roger, subsequently Baron Bavant, who was still a minor.<sup>231</sup>

Alice de Bavant had died within a few weeks of Sir John de Tregoz, lord of the honour of Ewyas Harold.<sup>232</sup> An extent of certain of the Tregoz lands was taken in Wiltshire on 25 October 1300, but it did not include any of the Scudamore fees.<sup>233</sup> At the *inquest post mortem* taken on 27 June 1301 the jurors found that Walter de Eskydemour held Upton Skydemour as two and a half fees belonging to the castle of Ewyas Harold and worth 50sh per annum. Norton and Fifield were rated together as three fees; they were in the wardship of the king by reason of the minority of Roger de Bavant and worth 60sh per annum.<sup>234</sup>

In Herefordshire an extent of Tregoz's lands was taken on 18 and 20 October 1300. At St. Keyne [Kentchurch], a dependent manor of the Ewyas Harold, we have a remarkably full account of the seven free tenants and the 20 customary tenants living there with their names and the rents and services due from them.<sup>235</sup> The *inquest post mortem* was taken on Tregoz's lands in Herefordshire on 20 June 1301. Moltleston, which Reginald "de Moltleston" had held of Tregoz as half a knight's fee, was worth in all issues 20sh per annum. Reginald de Moltleston is doubtless identical with the Reginald "de la Chamber" who held Moltleston earlier from Sir Peter Scudamore. On the day that Sir John de Tregoz died Moltleston was in his escheat having been forfeited "through felony committed by the said Reginald."<sup>236</sup> No mention is

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<sup>229</sup>*Close Roll*, 1288-96, 327.

<sup>230</sup>G. E. C., *Complete Peerage*, II, 33. He had died on 11 November 1292.

<sup>231</sup>There was no resultant *inquest post mortem* since she was not a tenant-in-chief.

<sup>232</sup>Tregoz died 21 August 1300. See Bannister, *Ewias Harold*, 35.

<sup>233</sup>*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1242-1327, 254-5. His family was from Bavant in the department of Calvados.

<sup>234</sup>*Ibid.*, 253-4.

<sup>235</sup>Bannister, *Ewias Harold*, 120-2.

<sup>236</sup>*Ibid.*, 113. A Philip de Moltleston was one of the customary tenants at St.

made in the Herefordshire inquest of Roger de Bavant I, probably since he was still a minor. He was not to prove his age and enter on lands for another three months.<sup>237</sup> His son Roger II, afflicted with both marital and financial problems, gave Moltteston and all of the lands he had inherited from his Scudamore grandmother in Wiltshire to King Edward III on 1 July 1344.<sup>238</sup> We will return to the unhappy Bavant family later.

The lands of John de Tregoz were divided among his two coheirs on 21 December 1301.<sup>239</sup> John de la Warr, the son and heir of Clarissa de Tregoz (the elder daughter now dead), had the larger portion of the Herefordshire lands. The manor and castle of Ewyas Harold (including Moltteston) and its dependent manor at Kentchurch were assigned to him. Sybil, the wife of William Grandison and the younger daughter of John de Tregoz, was allotted the major portion of her father's lands in Wiltshire including Upton Scudamore, Norton, and Fifield. Thus the fees which the Scudamores had held of the honour of Ewyas Harold from the time of the Domesday Book down to Sir Peter Scudamore from the same overlords were now divided and went in separate ways.

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Keyne at the time of the extent in the previous October.

<sup>237</sup>Roger Bavant proved his age on 6 October 1301. He was born 22 March 1280.

<sup>238</sup>*Cat. of Ancient Deeds*, V, 222 (Ref. 11962).

<sup>239</sup>Bannister, *Ewias Harold*, 36.

## CHAPTER VIII

### ELIS, SIMON, AND JOHN SCUDAMORE, THREE YOUNGER SONS OF SIR GODFREY SCUDAMORE III.

That Elis Scudamore, born perhaps as early as 1230, was a younger son of Sir Godfrey Scudamore is proved by a charter in the Hungerford family cartulary in the Wiltshire Record Office. Even without this positive evidence his parentage might be inferred, for his distinctive Christian name no doubt came from his maternal grandfather Elis Giffard.

Elis Scudamore had his father's lands at Tytherton Lucas some 20 miles nearly due north of Upton Scudamore during the lifetime of Sir Godfrey. The cartulary of the abbey of St. Aldhelm at Malmesbury, Wilts., has a number of incidental references to three generations of Scudamores at Tytherton Lucas in Chippenham Hundred, even though the family were never benefactors of the abbey themselves.

Sir Godfrey (died 1266) held Tytherton [Lucas] and Kellaways jointly with Elis Kellaways as two fees in 1242 from his father-in-law Elis Giffard.<sup>240</sup> Godfrey de Scudemore was one of 12 jurors in an assize held to decide a plea concerning half a hide of land at Fowlswick in Chippenham between Peter Burrell and Alice, the daughter and heir of Thomas Crok.<sup>241</sup> John de Gardino, of Tytherton, by an undated charter gave to the abbot and monks at Malmesbury several crofts in Tytherton, one of a half acre adjoining the land of Godfrey de Escudemor. The same John de Gardino later gave the abbey a tenement in the vill' of Tytherton as well as the gift of a halfpenny's rent, "it being the same halfpenny which was taken as rent annually by custom from Lady Maud Deschiedemore."<sup>242</sup>

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<sup>240</sup>Elis Kellaways I was a brother-in-law of Elis Giffard (died 1248); he married Berta Giffard.

<sup>241</sup>*Malmesbury Registry* (Rolls Ser.), II, 206-8. Elis Kellaways and Simon de Park are familiar names among the other jurors. Peter Burrell held Langley [Burrell] in 1242 from the earl of Salisbury; it is midway between Hardenhuish and Tytherton Lucas. Fowlswick Farm survives as a place-name about two miles north of Chippenham on the road to Malmesbury.

<sup>242</sup>*Ibid.*, 134-5. The Malmesbury cartulary is woefully short of dates but these benefactions were during the time of abbot William de Colerne who ruled from 1260 to 1296. When this messuage and crofts, the gifts of John de

By an undated charter, but about 1260, John Burrell of Fowlswick of Chippenham granted to Elis Escudemor “son of G[odfrey] Escudemor” an acre of land in the east field of Langley [Burrell] between the land of Walter Galwey and William de Cruce for the annual rent of a pair of gloves at Easter.<sup>243</sup>

Later we learn that William Kellaway, son of Sir Elis Kellaway II, gave to Malmesbury Abbey several fields in Tytherton in free alms. One of these of an acre was bounded on the east by the land of Elis Escudemore; another called *la Brechede acre* in Fuwelmere was between the land of Ralph de Baynton and Elis Escudamore; and a third of 2 1/2 acres was between the land of Elis Eskudemore and Richard Clerk.<sup>244</sup>

Such evidence as we have suggests that perhaps Elis Scudamore died without surviving issue. Tytherton Lucas is not enumerated among the possessions of Sir Peter Scudamore II at his death in 1293, but at some subsequent date it seems to have been joined once again to Upton Scudamore and was in the tenure of Sir Peter Scudamore IV at his death in 1382.

Simon Scudamore is a much more shadowy man and we would not even know his name except for a suit found in the plea rolls brought in 1348 by his great-grandson Walter Scudamore, lord of Upton Scudamore.<sup>245</sup> It may be suggested that Simon Scudamore had his father’s lands at Hardenhuish, Wilts., although we have no record proving his abode at this place or elsewhere. However if

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Gardino, were let to John de Baynton by abbot William [presumably abbot William de Badmenton (died 1324) who was the successor to William de Colerne in 1296] one of the fields at *la Muche* was next to the land of Walter Eskudemor, and another of an acre in *Stanedelf* is described as adjoining the land of the same Walter Eskudemor. This Walter Eskudemor must be the man who died in 1318, lord of Upton Scudamore, and a nephew of Elis Scudamore. (Ibid., II, 335-6).

<sup>243</sup>WRO, Hungerford family cartulary fol. 113. A fuller abstract of this charter will be found in Appendix 1, no. 8. Aubrey gives a brief abstract in his *Collections*, 73. John Burrell was a brother of Peter Burrell, perhaps a second man of that name (*Malmesbury Registry*, II, 210). Sir Richard Colt Hoare misreads this charter [*Modern Wiltshire* (Warminster) 54] making Elis the son and heir of Godfrey Scudamore who was dead by 1196. He then invents some engaging nonsense to account for the succession of Sir Peter Scudamore I by sending Elis off to the Holy Land with Richard Coeur de Lion having first enfeoffed his younger brother Peter in his estates.

<sup>244</sup>*Malmesbury Registry*, II, 144-5.

<sup>245</sup>PRO, CP 40/354 mem. 288d.

this is so then Simon was clearly dead before 11 September 1291 when Walter de Scudemore, presumably the man of his name who was his son and heir, is mentioned as holding half a carucate of land at Hardenhuish from John de Bath.<sup>246</sup> If Walter Scudamore, the son and heir, is the same man who was a customary tenant at Compton Chamberlain in 1274 then Simon Scudamore may have also left two younger sons Robert and Richard Skidemore.<sup>247</sup>

John was parson of the church at Norton [Bavant]. Again our entire knowledge of him is from a case recorded in the plea rolls. This suit had its roots in a lease, already noticed, made by Godfrey Scudamore to William le Fevere [the Smith] on 5 May 1252 of a free tenement of 64 arable acres and 300 acres of pasture in Rodburst and Norton by the rent and ward of Ewyas Castle.<sup>248</sup> At the Michaelmas term of 1261 Smith brought a suit against John de Scudemore, parson of the church at Norton, asking that John allow him the right of common pasture in Norton. The case was heard on 3 November 1261, but John did not come to court, and the sheriff was ordered to produce any records which he might have so that a judgement could be made on the octave of Purification next.<sup>249</sup> We have learned nothing more of the matter, although the determination in the case is likely to be on record in the roll of the court sitting at the Hilary term of 1262. There is nothing to show the relationship between Sir Godfrey and the parson of Norton, but they are likely to have been father and son. That William the Smith brought suit against John Scudamore suggests that John was both parson and *lord* of Norton Bavant. It is possible to predicate a lost deed from Sir Godfrey and Maud to their son John of Norton (or some part of it) to sustain him in his ministry, with a reversion to the right heirs of Godfrey on John's death.

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<sup>246</sup>*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1242-1327, 185. This is the same land which Sir Godfrey and Maud acquired by exchange with Henry de Bath (died 1260) in 1249. John de Bath was his son and heir (*DNB*, I, 1322).

<sup>247</sup>*Ibid.*, 92. Still another Walter *Sodemer*, a confusion, paid 4 1/2d rent at Purton, Wiltshire, to the abbey at Malmesbury at Michaelmas 1284. (*Malmesbury Registry*, II, 158-61) In the subsidy of 1332 an Alice de *Sondemer* was assessed at Purton which would seem to indicate that the Walter there in 1284 was not a Scudamore.

<sup>248</sup>*FF Wilts.*, 1192-1272, 45.

<sup>249</sup>*PRO*, KB 26/171 mem. 42.

## CHAPTER IX

### SIR WALTER SCUDAMORE I, LORD OF UPTON SCUDAMORE (DIED 1318).

This Walter Scudamore can have had no great prospects at the time of his birth about 1250. His father Simon presumably had only a small estate at Hardenhuish, perhaps not even this, to maintain his family. Yet by the time of his death Walter had become one of the wealthier knights in Wiltshire and enjoyed the confidence of both the crown and the county. It is tempting to identify him with a Walter Skydemore who was a customary tenant on 17 March 1274 (probably during his father's lifetime) at Compton Chamberlayne when an *inquest post mortem* was taken after the death of Nicholas de Haversham. This Walter held a half a virgate of land from Haversham for which he paid 6sh 8d by the year and owed works worth 2sh 7 3/4d. At the same time a Robert and a Richard Skidemore also held half-virgates each by the same terms and services as Walter.<sup>250</sup> He owed his first great rise in stature to his uncle Peter who, having no male heir, gave him Upton Scudamore shortly before his death to the detriment of his only daughter Alice. Walter Scudamore acquired shortly thereafter several manors apparently by purchase or inheritance.

On 22 September 1293 Walter de Eskydemor came before the king to recover his lands at Stockton, Wilts., which had been taken into the king's hands for his default against Mabel, late the wife of Peter de Eskidmor.<sup>251</sup> We do not know how or when the Scudamores came by their lands at Stockton; presumably they had belonged to his uncle Peter previously although we have no evidence of this. In the 16th century there was an estate there known as *Giffards*. It had belonged previously to Robert Giffard of Fonthill and next to Robert Mauduit who married one of his daughters. Still later it was held by Alice, widow of another Robert Mauduit, and sister-in-law of Sir John Mauduit. It is probably the fee held in the 1280's by Sir Henry de Stawell, and Walter Scudamore may have been related to some one of these people. Walter had entered on the estate, freely held, in 1290.<sup>252</sup> His lands at Stockton were held from the cathedral priory at Winchester (who still had them at the dissolution) and Sir John Inge, co-patron of the church at Fonthill, held them

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<sup>250</sup>*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1242-1327, 92.

<sup>251</sup>*Close Roll* 1288-96, 327.

<sup>252</sup>*VCH, Wilts.*, XI, 216.

for a time from the Scudamores.<sup>253</sup> They were extensive enough to be styled a manor in 1364 by Peter Scudamore IV who succeeded to it, and was sold in 1416 by Thomas Reynes to John Osborne.

On 30 May 1294 Alice, the widow of Robert Mauduit (met just above at Stockton), granted to Walter Escudemor 160 acres and 10 acres of land, eight acres of meadow and eight acres of pasture at Upton Scudamore, and at the same time Walter granted to Alice two messuages, one carucate of land, four acres of meadow, four acres of pasture, and £50 in rents at Stockton, Upton, Norridge, Thoulstone, Chalcot and Chapmanslade for the term of her life. Walter was also to pay her an annual pension of £20, half at Michaelmas and half at Easter. The copy of this transaction recorded in the feet of fine is endorsed with the notation that Alice, widow of Adam de Bavant, “puts in her claim.”<sup>254</sup> The dispute over the possession of Upton Scudamore was to drag on over the next 60 years and was not effectively ended until 1358 when John Bavant gave a quitclaim to a later Walter Scudamore for the Bavant interest in the manor.

The import of the fine to Alice Mauduit is not perfectly clear, but perhaps it was a kind of trust to enable him to satisfy the claim (her dower interest, perhaps) which Mabel Scudamore had against Stockton and other lands belonging to her husband. The debt owed to Alice Mauduit was apparently paid by 23 June 1306 when she released Walter de Scudemore from any further payments of her pension.<sup>255</sup>

By an undated charter Robert Hereman of Norton Escudemore granted to Walter Escudemore, lord of Upton, all the tenement and lands in the vill’ and fields which Hereman had previously held from Sir Peter Escudemore.<sup>256</sup> It

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<sup>253</sup>*Mun. Dean & Chapter, Winton*, ct. roll 1290-1.

<sup>254</sup>*FF Wilts.*, 1272-1327, ed. R. B. Pugh (1939) 39. Chapmanslade and Chalcot are now in Dilton parish.

<sup>255</sup>*Hungerford Cart.*, fol. 113. A full abstract appears in Appendix I, no. 17. R. G. Woodman suggests that Alice Mauduit’s 186 acres may be a missing third of Upton Scudamore which had descended in some unknown way to the Mauduit family. It could conceivably represent the third which went to Walter Scudemor of Herefordshire; a Robert Mauduit was constable at Ewyas in the 13th century [See *An ecclesiastical miscellany* (Bristol & Glouc. Arch. Soc.) 43].

<sup>256</sup>*Visit of Hunts.*, 82. See Appendix I, no. 16. It is interesting to compare the witnesses here with the names (and ages) of the men present at the christening of John, the son and heir of Thomas Mauduit, in 1309 (*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1327-77, 85).

probably dates from early in the reign of Edward II or before. He also acquired the family lands at Tytherton Lucas in some unknown way; they seem to have reverted to the lordship of Upton Scudamore after the death of Elis Scudamore without issue sometime after 1293. Presumably this was before 1295 for Walter Skydemore's name appears on 18 June 1295 as a tenant, in both Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, of Sir John Giffard (died 1299), his great uncle, when Walter was excused from paying the levy of a tenth until 1 August as he was then serving in the king's war in Wales. The Wiltshire lands must have been at Tytherton Lucas; Skydemore also held a messuage at Stonehouse in Gloucestershire from Giffard which descended to his heirs.

On 30 March 1298 he was summoned from Wiltshire to attend the king in person to perform military service against the Scots, and to muster with his horses and arms on Whitsunday (25 May) at York.<sup>257</sup> He was summoned again to Scotland in 1301 with orders to muster at Berwick-upon-Tweed on 24 June.<sup>258</sup> He was presumably abroad from the county when the *inquest post mortem* was taken on 27 June 1301 of the lands which John de Tregoz held in Wiltshire. The jurors found that Walter Eskydemour held 2 1/2 fees of Tregoz at Upton Scudamore belonging to the castle of Ewyas Harold worth 50sh per annum, and that he also held 3 fees in Norton and Fifield worth 60sh which were then in the wardship of the king by reason of the minority of his kinsman, Roger Bavant.<sup>259</sup> He was back safe in Wiltshire on 20 December 1301 when he presented Roger de Lye, clerk, to the church at Upton Skydemor.<sup>260</sup>

Walter Scudamore was among those knighted at the "great knighting" at Westminster Abbey on Whitsunday (22 May) 1306. The king knighted Edward, the prince of Wales privately; the prince then came out into the abbey and knighted 267 of his companions. A particularly splendid feast followed at which the king swore to avenge the murder that had opened the rebellion of Robert Bruce in Scotland.<sup>261</sup>

On the octave of Martinmas (18 November) 1306 Walter Escudemor (by John Percy in his place) purchased a messuage and a carucate of land in East Knoyle, Wilts., from Thomas and Agnes Baldwin for £40.<sup>262</sup> It was a large

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<sup>257</sup>*Close Roll*, 26 Edw. I, mem. 12.

<sup>258</sup>*Parl. Writs.*, (1830).

<sup>259</sup>*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1242-1327, 253-4.

<sup>260</sup>*Reg. of Bishop Simon de Gandavo*, 607.

<sup>261</sup>For a description see Stenton, *English Society in the Middle Ages* (4th ed., 1965) 99. Roger Bavant I, his cousin, was knighted at the same time.

<sup>262</sup>*FF Wilts.*, 1272-1327, 57. It was held earlier by Osbert Baldwin and

enough holding to be styled the manor of Upton Knoyle later in the century and it descended in the same way as Upton Scudamore.

At some unknown date Walter Escudamor and his wife Margery acquired a messuage and one acre of land at Clewer in Berkshire from Sir Richard Sifrewast.<sup>263</sup> It descended to his grandson, another Sir Walter Scudamore, and at Easter term of 1348 he sued William atte Oke (who seems to have been his tenant there) when Oak resisted enclosing the tenement.

On 7 March 1307 an inquest was taken in Wiltshire to see if it would damage the king if Nicholas St. Maur assigned his manor of Poulton (near Cricklade) and his lands in some five other counties to Walter de Skydemor “so that Walter may re-enfeoff the said Nicholas and Eva his wife.”<sup>264</sup>

He was given custody during the king’s pleasure of Mere Castle (held in dower by Queen Margaret) on 12 March 1308.<sup>265</sup> Four days later he was given the custody of Sherborne Castle with an order to the tenants there to be intendant to him as constable, and on the following day (17 March 1308) commissioned as sheriff of Somerset and Dorset.<sup>266</sup> He was sheriff of Somerset and Dorset for a second term on 21 May 1311, serving until 14 January 1313 when he had an order to deliver the counties and the keeping of Sherborne Castle to John de Chidioc, his successor.<sup>267</sup>

On 28 November 1311 he was named a justice for a commission of oyer and terminer to inquire into the charge that certain persons were appropriating goods washed ashore from the wreck of a Spanish ship near Abbotsbury, Dorset.<sup>268</sup> The commission sat first at Dorchester on 17 January 1311/2 where

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assessed as two hides. See VCH, *Wilts.*, XI, 87.

<sup>263</sup>*PRO*, CP 40/354 mem. 288d. For the Sifrewast family at Clewer see the VCH, *Berks.*, III, 72-3.

<sup>264</sup>*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1242-1327, 345. For St. Maur see G. E. C., *Complete Peerage*, xi, 358. His wife was formerly Eva de Meysey of Hampton Meysey, Glos. This settlement by St. Maur was a legal fiction to perfect his title to his lands; frequently the feoffees were kinsman although this is not known to be the case here.

<sup>265</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1307-13, 52. This grant was vacated and surrendered soon after, and was almost certainly made here in error for *Sherborne Castle*.

<sup>266</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1307-1319, 18. This term as sheriff ended on 2 December 1309 when he was replaced by Richard de Cheselden.

<sup>267</sup>*Ibid.*, 118, 160.

<sup>268</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1307-13, 422.

it was found by the jury of 12 that the local citizens had indeed broken into the chests carried in by the tide and had taken away goods and money to the value of £2000.<sup>269</sup>

He and John Bentle were given a safe conduct on 13 October 1312 until Martinmas next to conduct Elizabeth, wife of Robert Bruce, earl of Carrick, to Shaftesbury.<sup>270</sup> She had been captured in 1306 soon after the rebellion of her husband, and was held prisoner until after the defeat at Bannockburn in 1314. During her long captivity she seems to have been treated with consideration; the account of Walter de Scudemore, late sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, dated 1 July 1313, lists £12 which he paid for the expenses of Elizabeth Bruce and her retinue of ladies for 12 weeks at 20sh per week.<sup>271</sup>

He is mentioned as keeper of the Templars' late lands in Somerset and Dorset on 29 March 1313 (the order had been suppressed in 1308), when he had a writ to pay John de Drokensford, bishop of Bath and Wells, the arrears of the bishop's wages as keeper for the maintenance of four Templars lately assigned to do penance in certain monasteries.<sup>272</sup> He ceded this office to John de Chidiok on 16 April 1313, perhaps as he was intending to go overseas.<sup>273</sup> He had letters of protection on 3 May 1313 as one of the party of Robert fitz Payn who was on the point of going abroad with the king.<sup>274</sup>

On 23 October 1313 Walter de Skydemor acknowledged that he owed 10 marks to John de Gouiz to be levied in default of payment on his chattels in

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<sup>269</sup>*Select cases concerning the law merchant*, ed. Hubert Hall (Selden Soc., 1934, vol. 47) 137-40.

<sup>270</sup>*Patent Rolls*, 1307-13, 500.

<sup>271</sup>*Cal. of Docs. Rel. to Scotland*, 1307-57, 63. Another sizable expense shown in his final account was the keeping of Scottish prisoners at Corfe Castle and elsewhere.

<sup>272</sup>*Close Roll*, 1307-13. The Templars were William de Warwick, Richard Engaigne, Richard de Colyngham and William Craucombe; the bishop was to have 4d each daily for their maintenance. Elsewhere we find the abbot of Glastonbury receipting for £4 12sh paid by Walter Escudamour for the board of William de Warwick for 276 days.

<sup>273</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1307-19, 168.

<sup>274</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1307-13, 581. This might be Sir Walter's son Walter. In May 1313 Edward II and his queen, accompanied by a magnificent court, crossed the channel and attended the festivities given on Whitsunday by Philip the Fair at Paris. Sir Walter Scudamore or his son was presumably among the entourage.

the county of Wiltshire.<sup>275</sup>

On 30 June 1314, after the defeat at Bannockburn, he was summoned once again for service against the Scots and was to muster at Newcastle-upon-Tyne on 15 August.<sup>276</sup>

He was party to a suit with Richard de Barbeflet on 31 March 1315 concerning the possession of several tenements at South Wells (and elsewhere) in Romsey, Hampshire. This dispute was ended by an agreement date 11 May 1315 in which Barbeflet released Sir Walter, John and Peter Escudemore and others of any further action for trespass on these lands.<sup>277</sup>

Sir Walter had the custody of the manor at Chettiscombe, Devon, on 18 October 1315 when the king decided to assign it to his brother Edmund of Woodstock.<sup>278</sup>

In the *Nomina Villarum* (which was ordered taken by Parliament sitting at Lincoln to assist in taking the military levies) Walter Skydemore was certified on 5 March 1316 as lord of Upton Skydemore and as one of the lords of Tytherton.<sup>279</sup> In the levy which resulted, he was an assessor and collector in both Somerset and Dorset on 8 June 1316 of a subsidy of a fifteenth granted at Lincoln for the hosting of the war in Scotland.<sup>280</sup>

He was named one of the two conservators of the peace in both counties on 14 June 1316, but was removed from office on 22 July 1317 as he was unable to act “being specially employed on the king’s service elsewhere.”<sup>281</sup>

In 10 Edward II (1316/7) Walter Escudemore granted a place of land in Upton and two other acres of arable land to William Styward (son of Nicholas

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<sup>275</sup>*Close Roll*, 1313-8, 78.

<sup>276</sup>*Parl. Writs*, (1830).

<sup>277</sup>*Hist. Ms. Com., Hastings*, I, 217-8. See Appendix I, no. 22.

<sup>278</sup>*Chancery Warrants*, I, 340. See also William Harding, *Hist. Memoirs of Tiverton* (1845) 4.

<sup>279</sup>The lords at Tytherton were John Kellaway, William Percehay and John Turpin in addition to Skydemore. Walter Gascelyn was lord of Norridge and Thoulstone (in Upton Scudamore), and Roger Bavant was lord of Norton and Fifield.

<sup>280</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1313-7, 474.

<sup>281</sup>*Ibid.*, 482. He served in Somerset with John Bello Campo and in Dorset with Robert fitz Payn (who died in office).

Styward) and Alice his wife, and Peter their son.<sup>282</sup>

On 22 November 1317 he was a justice in Dorset specially charged with suppressing illegal meetings and confederacies.<sup>283</sup>

Sir Walter died in the summer 1318. He was living on the octave of St. John the Baptist (1 July) when he made the largest and most important land purchase of his lifetime. For £100 he had from Nicholas Malemayns two messuages, 108 acres of land, six acres of meadow, and pasturage for eight oxen, two bulls, eight cattle, 25 pigs, and 200 sheep, as well as 13sh 4d in rent at Warminster and Bishopstrow.<sup>284</sup> Several additions were made by his son and grandson to the lands there and in 1372 the estate was known as the manor of Warminster Scudamore. Sir Walter was dead before 11 September 1318.

He left a last testament, now unfortunately lost to us. In 13 Edward II (1319/20) John de Scudemore, clerk, the executor of Sir Walter, was cited by the king's court for detaining 40 marks due from his father's estate to John de Craule. His death not noticed immediately by the clerks at Westminster; on 8 June 1319 a writ was addressed to Sir Walter Scudamore commanding him to cause all estreats of the rolls of himself and his associates, justices of assizes, oyer and terminer of gaol delivery, to be delivered to the exchequer.<sup>285</sup>

Nothing is known of Margery, the wife of Sir Walter, beyond her name which is mentioned only in the suit of 1348 after her death. He was survived by at least four children: John, a priest; Peter, his heir; Walter, living in 1334 and probably in 1346; and Eleanor, the first wife of Sir Henry Percy of Great Chalfield, Wilts.<sup>286</sup>

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<sup>282</sup>*Visit of Hunts.*, See Appendix I, no. 23.

<sup>283</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1317-21, 96.

<sup>284</sup>*Cal. of Ancient Deeds*, v, 506 (no. 13410). As Sir Walter died soon after, it was done again by Peter, his son and heir, on the morrow of St. Martin's, 12 Edward II. See also Appendix I, no. 27.

<sup>285</sup>*Parl. Writs*, (1830). There were similar writs to 157 others. Another writ went out to him under the date of 5 June 1320 on the same subject.

<sup>286</sup>*Bristol & Glouc. Arch. Soc.*, xxiii, 206. The Percys had one daughter, Beatrice, a minor in 1359, who left issue by her third husband Robert Beverly. The Beverlys pressed a claim in 1431 for the possession of Great Chalfield against the posterity of Sir Henry's second wife, Constance. See VCH, *Wilts.*, VII, 60.

## CHAPTER X

### SIR PETER SCUDAMORE III, LORD OF UPTON SCUDAMORE (DEAD 1342).

Peter, the son and heir of Sir Walter Scudamore, was born in the general area of 1280. As Peter de Skydemor he is first noticed on 20 February 1314 as one of the company of Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, who had letters of protection until Whitsunday next going beyond the seas in the train of Queen Isabella on an embassy concerning Gascony.<sup>287</sup> This mission was of brief duration for the earl was killed later in the same year at Bannockburn (24 June 1314) while leading a fierce attack on the Scots.<sup>288</sup> Whether Peter Scudamore was still attached to his retinue in Scotland on that day is unknown.

On 11 May 1315 he was released, together with his father and his brother John, from any threat of action for trespass at Wells in Hampshire. He had succeeded his father by 11 September 1318 when Margery le Jonge, daughter of William le Jonge of Upton Knoyle, Wilts., granted a place of land there to Peter, “son and heir of Sir Walter Escudemore.”<sup>289</sup>

He gave homage for his 3 1/2 fees at Upton Scudamore as the son and heir of Walter de Skydemore on the Saturday next after All Saints (4 November) 1318 to William Grandison, lord of Ewyas Harold.<sup>290</sup> Peter de Escudemor as patron presented Roger Martel, clerk, to the church at Upton Scudamore on 29 September 1320. Earlier in the same year he had successfully defended his right to the advowson of the chapel at Thoulstone (which was annexed to the church at Upton) in an action brought by his cousin Roger Bavant.<sup>291</sup>

Ingelram Berenger complained that Peter Skydemore (and several others) had trespassed on his manors of Ebbesborne [Wake], Alvediston and Bridmore in

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<sup>287</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1313-7, 86.

<sup>288</sup>G. E. C., *Complete Peerage*, V, 714.

<sup>289</sup>*Cat. Ancient Deeds*, V, 152. (A. 11487).

<sup>290</sup>Hoare, *Modern Wiltshire* (Warminster Hundred) 59.

<sup>291</sup>*Ibid.*, 57. There was a chapel at Thoulstone as early as the reign of Edward I. Chapel Close, which adjoins Thoulstone Farm on the south, could have been the site. This close became a part of Upton glebe.

Wiltshire, and *Hugheton* and Ashmore in Dorset, and had led away Berenger's beasts and carried away his goods. On 1 June 1322 a commission of oyer and terminer was made to determine the truth of these charges.<sup>292</sup>

Peter Scudamore and his younger brother Walter took an active part in the earl of Hereford's confederacy against the Despencers in 1321. They were probably in the party of men led by Sir John Giffard, their kinsman, who ravaged the lands of the Despencers in May and June of that year. On 20 August 1321 Peter and Walter had pardons of all their felonies as followers of Sir John Giffard, and for their actions between 1 March and 19 August 1321 against both the Despencers, father and son.<sup>293</sup> Their pardons were based on the testimony of Baron Giffard who was also pardoned at the same time.

Hostilities broke out again in December 1321, and on the 26th the king ordered that Giffard's castle at Brimpsfield, Glos., be demolished. Peter Scudamore continued as a follower of Giffard and may have been taken prisoner with him at Boroughbridge on 17 March 1322. Giffard was tried and promptly hanged at Gloucester for his treason. Peter de Skydemore managed, narrowly, to avoid paying this penalty. He had a fresh pardon on 11 July 1322 as an adherent of Thomas, earl of Lancaster, and the barons of the late rebellion, and having paid a fine of 200 marks his life was saved. On 30 July 1322 Peter de Skidemore found mainperners in Adam de Somerville of Northumberland, Thomas West of Oxford, Nicholas de Appelby of Yorkshire, and William de Righthorn of Surrey who gave bond for Peter's good behavior "wherefore the king ordered his body delivered from prison."<sup>294</sup>

Roger Bavant I petitioned the crown while Peter Escudemor was in prison and his estates confiscated asking that this forfeiture should not prejudice the Bavant right to them.<sup>295</sup>

His lands were not restored to him until the year following; on 22 June 1323 Roger de Hungerford, keeper of the late rebels' lands in Wiltshire, and Robert de Ashton who had the same office in Gloucestershire, had orders to deliver his lands to Peter de Skidmore.<sup>296</sup>

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<sup>292</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1321-4. The other men were John Strugg, John Mautravers, Nicholas de Percy, William de Whitefield and Edmund de Plescy.

<sup>293</sup>*Ibid.*, 19.

<sup>294</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1319-27, 157; *Patent Roll*, 1321-4, 302.

<sup>295</sup>*Rotuli Parliamentorum*, I, 408a.

<sup>296</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1319-27, 215. Peter Skydemor's lands at Stonehouse, Glos., held from Giffard, were in the king's hands in 16 and 17 Edward II (PRO, Ministers' accounts, bundle 1147, no. 12). They were recovered and in 1364

On 24 August 1323 he gave a lease to Thomas Warston and Alice Dansy of Norton Skidemor for the term of their lives all his lands and tenements at Norton Bavant which Sir Walter, his father, had acquired from Robert Hereman. Also included was another 13 acres of arable land which Sir Walter had recovered by writ warranty in the king's court from Lady Alice de Bavant; together they were let at an annual rent of 40sh. The original of this charter survives at the Huntington Library in California and bears a fine little seal with the arms (a stirrup with the leathers) of Sir Peter Scudamore.<sup>297</sup>

He was summoned as a man-of-arms from Wiltshire to a meeting at Westminster on 9 May 1324 to treat and advise the Great Council.<sup>298</sup>

John Kellaways swore on 6 June 1324 that Tytherton [Lucas] in Wiltshire had been held as one knight's fee by John Kellaways and Walter Skydemour from John Giffard of Brimpsfield, but that it was now and had been for three years in the custody of the king by reason of Giffard's treason. Kellaways had been found to represent the senior line of the Giffards and to be the heir of Baron Giffard, but his claim was effectively disposed of and he died a relatively poor man, a verderer in the forest of Chippenham, on 10 September 1336.<sup>299</sup> At some subsequent date the Scudamore interest at Tytherton Lucas was recovered and was held in the next generation by Walter Eskedemour and William Kellaways.<sup>300</sup>

On 7 January 1325 he was summoned to perform personal military service at Guienne in France, having obtained his pardon on the condition of serving the king in his wars. It would appear that Peter Scudamore ignored this summons for he was indicted as the king's enemy and put in exigent soon after. He was not freed of this outlawry until 23 March 1326 when a writ of *supersedeas*

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were held by Thomas Drew from Sir Peter Scudamore IV.

<sup>297</sup>Hist. Mss. Com., *Hastings*, I, 223. See Appendix I, no. 33.

<sup>298</sup>*Parl. Writs*, (1830). The given name is missing but it must be Sir Peter. The transcript of this roll was made in the reign of James I when the original was already much injured.

<sup>299</sup>*Feudal Aids.*, V, 219. Both Kellaways and Skydmour were descended from Giffard daughters, the Skydmour connection being a generation later. The Scudamore representation was vested in Roger Bavant. See G. E. C., *Complete Peerage*, V, 649. The Bavants also tried to claim the Giffard lands but they were unsuccessful as they were only of the half blood.

<sup>300</sup>*Ibid.*, 232. It was held still later by Sir Peter Scudamore IV. In 1412 it was held by Sir Robert Corbet who had married the widow of this Peter Scudamore.

was issued.<sup>301</sup>

On 23 July 1326 Peter de Skydemore presented Walter de Fulborn, a priest, to the church at Upton.<sup>302</sup>

A lay subsidy survives for Wiltshire taken in 1327; it was a tax of a fifteenth on certain personal movable property. Peter Skydemor is the last of the 37 men assessed at Upton and paid 12sh 1d.<sup>303</sup>

On 10 February 1327 Thomas West puts Simon de Wyly in his place to prosecute a recognisance for £80 made to him in chancery by Peter de Skydemore.<sup>304</sup> This presumably stemmed from the bond that West had given in 1322 for Peter's good behaviour.

John de Kingeston acknowledged on 6 June 1327 that he owed Peter de Skiddemore £100 to be levied in default of payment on his land and chattels in Wiltshire.<sup>305</sup>

At Trinity term of 1328 Peter Escudemor sued John Peyter of Monkton Deverill for the possession of certain waste lands in Upton Knoyle.<sup>306</sup>

Edward III, the new king, after hearing trustworthy testimony on 2 September 1329 cancelled and annulled the bond that Peter Skidemore and his mainpernors had given to the elder Hugh Despenser in 1322, noting that Peter had been detained for a long time in the late king's prison.

Thomas North, senior, of Bratton, Wilts., granted and confirmed to Peter Escudemour, Margery his wife, and Walter their son, for the whole of their lives and to their executors for 40 years after their deaths, all his lands and tenements in Bratton, Stoke (or Littlestoke), and Melbourne in Westbury Hundred on the Wednesday next before the feast of St. Peter ad Vincula (31 July) 1331. Also included were the reversions of several other leaseholds (which are enumerated) and the whole subject to an annual rent of 52sh to be paid quarterly together with certain quantities of wheat and barley. In addition

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<sup>301</sup>*Close Roll*, 1323-7, 554.

<sup>302</sup>*Institutiones clericorum in comitatu Wiltoniae*, ed. Sir Thomas Phillipps (1825) 23. A copy of this extremely rare publication is at the Wiltshire Record Office. Cited hereafter as *Institutiones*, etc.

<sup>303</sup>PRO, E. 179/196/7, mem. 19.

<sup>304</sup>*Close Roll*, 1327-30, 93.

<sup>305</sup>*Ibid.*, 200.

<sup>306</sup>PRO, CP 40/247, mem. 97b.

North and his wife Matilda were each to have a garment at Christmas worth 5sh.<sup>307</sup>

On 10 October 1331 Peter Scudamore was licenced by a fine of 100sh to give lands in mortmain to found a chantry in the north aisle of the church at Upton Scudamore. He promised to endow it with a house for the chaplain, 39 1/2 acres of arable land, three acres of pasture, 20sh in rent, and 12 1/2 acres of pasture for two horses, four oxen, 60 sheep, and six pigs, in Warminster and Upton Skydemore. The chaplain at St. Mary's in Upton was to celebrate thereafter a mass every day forever for the souls of Peter Skydemore and his ancestors and successors and to keep the house and chantry in good repair.<sup>308</sup>

In the lay subsidy of 1332 for Wiltshire Peter de Skydemore is the only man of his surname assessed at Upton Scudamore. He also paid 5sh 1 1/4d at Upton in East Knoyle (where only seven men were assessed) and 5sh 10 3/4d at Tytherton.<sup>309</sup>

Peter Escudemore had a pardon on 16 June 1335 for having failed to take the order of knighthood by Trinity, 7 Edward III, pursuant to the proclamation in Wiltshire, since he had taken it at Dunstaple soon after the same feast.<sup>310</sup>

At the *inquest post mortem* of William de Grandison taken 15 July 1335 it was found that Peter de Scydemor held the manor of Upton Scydemor as 3 1/2 fees

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<sup>307</sup>*Wiltshire Notes and Queries*, II, 452. Melbourne and Little Stoke are presently hamlets in Bratton parish. On 22 September 1331 Thomas North gave a release and quitclaim on the reversion (*ibid.*, 453). He was dead by 18 July 1333 when John North, his son and heir, gave a similar quitclaim to Peter Escudemore, his wife, and his son (*ibid.*, 500). Maud, the widow of Thomas North, married William fitz Warin of Littlestoke.

<sup>308</sup>*Inq. p. m. Wilts.*, 1327-1377, 74. There would remain to Peter the manor of Upton Skydemore held of William Grandison in free socage by the service of £30. See also the *Patent Rolls*, 1330-4, 185. When the manor of Upton Scudamore passed to the Hungerford family a license was obtained to use the endowment of the Scudamore chantry for the Hungerford chantry (later hospital) at Heytesbury. The hospital retained the endowment until well into the present century.

<sup>309</sup>PRO, 179/196/8. Since I looked at the original the subsidy for 1332 has been published as the *The Wiltshire Tax List of 1332*, edited by D. A. Crowley (Wiltshire Record Society, volume 45, 1989). Peter is likely to have been the Peter *de Hardeneheusiche* who was assessed with only three other men at Hardenhuish.

<sup>310</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1334-8, 126.

and by paying 6sh 8d yearly at Michaelmas for the ward of the castle of Ewyas Harold.<sup>311</sup>

On 16 March 1336 Peter Skydemore and Richard Penleigh were ordered to survey the castle at Salisbury where it was reported that the king's prison was in so ruinous a state that the prisoners might escape, and to establish by whose neglect it had fallen into such decay.<sup>312</sup>

The king appointed his cousin Henry, duke of Lancaster, to command an army against the Scots on 15 April 1336. John Mauduit, Richard Dauntsey, and Edmund Gascelyn were named commissioners to forward this in Wiltshire on 6 May 1336. Dauntsey and Gascelyn were soon found to be too infirm to serve, and were replaced by Peter de Skydemore and Oliver de Seryngton.<sup>313</sup> On 3 October 1336 Peter de Skidemore (and four others) were named in Wiltshire to levy 2500 men to repulse the armada expected momentarily from France.<sup>314</sup>

On 10 February 1338 Sir Henry Percy (who had married Eleanor Scudamore) settled the manor and advowson of Great Chalfield on William Burgayn, the perpetual vicar of Upton Scudamore, and John de Chaldefield, the parson of Great Chalfield. On 28 June of the same year they enfeoffed Sir Henry and Eleanor and their heirs with the same properties. Eleanor died sometime soon after this date. Henry died at Cologne in Germany on the way to Jerusalem, driven to this pilgrimage by "the naughty lyf the said Constance his second wyf lyved in with the bishoppe Wayvile and with others."<sup>315</sup>

At the Trinity term of 1338 Roger Bavant II (a grandson of Alice Scudamore) brought a suit to recover Upton Skydemore from Sir Peter de Skydemore, claiming that Walter de Skydemore (Peter's father) had unjustly disseised an earlier Sir Peter Skydemore (the plaintiff's great-grandfather). Bavant's claim as heir to his great-grandfather did not persuade the court however, and the Scudamores continued undisturbed in their possession of Upton Scudamore.<sup>316</sup>

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<sup>311</sup>*Inq. p. m. Wilts.*, 1327-1377, 110.

<sup>312</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1334-8, 283.

<sup>313</sup>*Rotuli Scotiae* (Rec. Com., 1814) 423.

<sup>314</sup>*Ibid.*, 461, 470. The town of Salisbury was excepted from their commission.

<sup>315</sup>*Tropenell Cart.*, I, 277. Robert Wyville was bishop of Salisbury; Constance had a bastard son by him.

<sup>316</sup>*PRO*, CP40/315, mem. 70. See also Wrottesley, *Pedigrees from the plea rolls*, 37, and *Rot. Parl.*, I, 408. Roger Bavant I was still living on 15 July 1335 when the *inquest post mortem* of William de Grandison was taken.

Peter de Skydemor, lord of Upton Skydemor, presented Richard atte Wood of Cheverell to the chapel at Hardenhuish about the year 1340.<sup>317</sup> He was commissioned a justice of the peace in Wiltshire on 30 August 1339 and is mentioned on 20 October 1340 as still a member of the same commission of peace.<sup>318</sup> He disappears from the bench thereafter, and was dead by 23 May 1342 when Margery “who was the wife of Sir Peter Escudemor” granted to William and Maud fitz Warin of Littlestoke her dower interest in all the lands of Bratton, Melbourne and elsewhere in Westbury Hundred which the Scudamores had acquired from Thomas North in 1331.<sup>319</sup>

Such evidence as we have, presented in Appendix V, suggests that his is the more recent of the two military effigies which survive in the church at Upton Scudamore.

Margery presented Nicholas, the son of Walter de Parker, to the chapel at Thoulstone in 1345; he resigned the year following and she then presented John Blanchard. Lady Margery survived her husband by many years and was still living as late as 26 November 1358.<sup>320</sup> Sir Walter Scudamore, their son and heir, is the only known child.

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<sup>317</sup>*Institutiones*, etc., 34. Richard Atte Wode was assessed at Little Cheverell in 1332.

<sup>318</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1338-40, 280, also 1340-3, 99.

<sup>319</sup>*Wiltshire N. & Q.*, II, 555. Maud fitz Warin was previously the widow of Thomas North, as the charter recites.

<sup>320</sup>*Hist. Mss. Com.*, Hastings I, 221. See also Appendix I, no. 78. We have no clue to the parentage of Margery Skydemore.

## CHAPTER XI

### SIR JOHN SCUDAMORE (DEAD 1350), AND HIS BROTHER WALTER SCUDAMORE (LIVING 1346)

John Scudamore, who was in holy orders, was probably born shortly before 1275. There is considerable evidence which suggests that he was the eldest son of Sir Walter Scudamore.<sup>321</sup> We hear of him much earlier than we do of Peter Scudamore (Sir Walter's heir), John is mentioned ahead of Peter in the release of 1315, and John is named executor of his father's will in 1318. If this is so he must have renounced his right as heir to his brother Peter.

John de Escudemor is first mentioned in Berkshire in 1297. William de Boxhore had received 60sh from John which he was to pay at the Exchequer, together with a tally recording Escudemor's earlier payment of five marks. Boxhore, an attorney before the bench, converted the 60sh to his own use and wrote it on the tally as paid in. His falsity was discovered and Boxhore was committed to prison for a year and a day from the feast of St. Edward the Confessor (5 January) 1297. Scudamore was ordered to petition the Treasurer in person to get his tally renewed.<sup>322</sup>

While the parish in Berkshire is not stated we are safe in assuming that John Scudamore was already the rector of the church at Speen in that county, a living in the gift of the Knights Templar. He vacated at Speen in 1305, and was presented in the same year to the church of St. Mary's in Upton Scudamore as a subdeacon.<sup>323</sup> On 19 December 1307 he had a license from Simon de Gandavo, bishop of Salisbury, to study for five years at Oxford.<sup>324</sup> He was rector on 17 September 1311 at Upton when he had letters dimissory to be ordained a priest.<sup>325</sup>

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<sup>321</sup>The relationship is proven by the suit of 1327.

<sup>322</sup>*Memoranda Roll*, Michaelmas Communia, 25/6 Edward I, roll 22a. See also Madox, *History of the Exchequer*, II, 260. The nature of John Scudamore's debt to the exchequer is unstated; it could doubtless be recovered from the Pipe or Memoranda Rolls which are not printed for this date.

<sup>323</sup>*Reg. of Simon de Gandavo, Sarum.* (C. Y. S.) II, 677, 683.

<sup>324</sup>*Ibid.*, II, 871.

<sup>325</sup>*Ibid.*, II, 903.

He had served in the wars in Scotland previous to this, perhaps mustering with his father. In 1311 John, the parson of Skydmore's Upton, had the king's pardon for good service in Scotland for breaking out of prison at Tarrant Gunville in Dorset.<sup>326</sup> What his offense had been is not mentioned but possibly it stemmed from the dispute with the Barbeflet family. On 11 May 1315 he, his father, and his brother Peter were released from any further action for trespass on their lands at South Wells (near Romsey) in Hampshire.

John, the son of Walter Escudamor, was named the defendant in an action brought before the King's Bench in Hampshire at the Trinity Term of the court in 1327. The plaintiff was William, the son of Roger de Wancy, who had some grievance over the rent of a tenement at Woobury near South Wells. The case was continued through several terms and was still in litigation at Michaelmas 1328. It would seem from this that Sir John was already in possession of his father's lands in Hampshire.<sup>327</sup>

On the octave of Trinity (21 May) 1329 John Escudemor settled his lands in and about South Wells on William Gelle, parson of the church at Fonthill Giffard, and on Walter Escudemor. This was later known as the manor of South Wells in Romsey, and in 1329 it included 13 messuages, two mills, one and a half carucates of land, 25 acres of meadow, five acres of wood, and 47sh 11 1/2d of rents at Wells, Woobury, Ashfield, More and Little More, presumably all hamlets in and about Romsey. If John were to die without heirs of his body, which of course was likely (or at least commendable) in a priest, then the tenements were to remain to his brother Peter Escudemor.<sup>328</sup>

The family gave their name to Skidmore Farm at South Wells and it seems likely that this was Sir John's place of residence. Sir Walter Scudamore succeeded his uncle there and sometime after 1345 had a license from William de Edington, bishop of Winchester, to celebrate mass in the oratory of his manor at Wells.<sup>329</sup> These Hampshire lands passed to Katherine Reynes (Sir Walter's granddaughter) and from her to the Street family. In 1412 Sir Robert Corbet (who had married the widow of the last Sir Peter Scudamore) had lands and rents at *Skydmore* (in Romsey) worth 60sh.<sup>330</sup>

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<sup>326</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1307-13, 394.

<sup>327</sup>PRO, CP 40/270 mem. 77; CP 40/272 mem. 99d; CP 40/274 mem. 118d; CP 40/275, mem. 325d.

<sup>328</sup>*Feet of fine, Hants.*, Trinity term, 3 Edw. III. See also VCH, *Hants.*, IV, 459.

<sup>329</sup>*Edgerton MS* 2033, fol. 67. William was bishop from 1346 to 1366; his register (not seen) should supply a precise date.

<sup>330</sup>*Feudal Aids*, VI, 453. The name survives applied to three dwellings, now

John de Sully had the wardship of Nicholas, the young heir of Edmund de Plescy, and the custody of his lands by a grant from the crown. On 17 May 1328 he sold the wardship at Northampton to Sir John Beaumont; John de Eskidemour was one of the witnesses to the transaction.<sup>331</sup> Scudamore seems to have been indebted to Plescy previous to his death for £40 for on 17 August 1329 Beaumont named an attorney to prosecute a recognizance for that sum made to him in chancery by John de Escudemour.<sup>332</sup> The debt was still unpaid on 18 April 1331.<sup>333</sup>

Sir John was probably living in 1344. He is a witness as Sir John Eskidemor to a defective deed (now at the Public Record Office) wherein John, the son and heir of Sir Richard de Beaufoy, grants to Richard de Beaufoy, a clerk, his manor of [ . . . ] (nibbled away by a rodent) together with a tenement in the parish of Millbrook, Hants. The deed is dated the Monday after the feast of St. Edmund the Bishop (16 November) but the regnal year of Edward III is also eaten away. It must date, however, from soon after the death in 1344 of Sir Richard de Beaufoy of Nursling Beaufoy, Hants.<sup>334</sup>

He was dead by 18 January 1350 when Sir Walter Escudemor, his nephew and heir, settled his messuages, mills, lands, pastures, woods and rents in South Wells, Romsey and Woobury and elsewhere in Hampshire on Sir Robert Fulborn, vicar of the church at Upton Scudamore, and on Sir John de Hengham, vicar of the church at Warminster. This charter, otherwise lost to us, is copied into a suit brought at Michalmas term in 1441 by John Ansty, and Joan his wife (she was a great-granddaughter of the last Sir Peter Scudamore), who claimed the manor at South Wells from Thomas Horner.<sup>335</sup>

Walter, the third and youngest son of Sir Walter Scudamore, was perhaps born about 1285. He was, with his brother Peter, a follower of Sir John Giffard, and had a pardon with him on 20 August 1321. He seems to have refrained, however, when his brother and the ill-fated Giffard resumed their hostilities against the king later in the same year.

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converted to two, known as Nos. 1 and 2 Skidmore Cottages let by the Broadlands Estate to residential tenants at Romsey.

<sup>331</sup>*Close Roll*, 1327-30, 388.

<sup>332</sup>*Ibid.*, 567.

<sup>333</sup>*Ibid.*, 1330-3, 302.

<sup>334</sup>*Cat. ancient deeds*, VI, 356. This has been used at the *PRO*, C. 146/C.6525. For Nursling Beaufoy see *VCH, Hants.*, III, 435. Milbrook was then a dependent manor of Nursling Beaufoy.

<sup>335</sup>*PRO*, CP 40/723, mem. 320.

Walter, happily described as a "son of Sir Walter Escudmor, Knight," had a grant of certain lands and tenements on 26 December 1327 in Upton Scudamore from John Petit; Petit held them from the enfeoffment of Peter Escudemor as his deed notes.<sup>336</sup>

On 16 June 1327 Walter de Skydemor and Robert Sawoury of Wiltshire, and William Ayet of Hertfordshire, were mainpernors in chancery for Maud, widow of Sir Edmund de Plescy (1286-1327), who had a license from the new king to marry whom she wanted.<sup>337</sup> She had married Edward de Plescy about 1314 and her son Nicholas was born about 1317. Maud Plescy also petitioned the king to restore her dower in the manor of Barnsley, Glos., which her late husband had granted in 1322 (some eight years after their marriage) to Hugh Despenser the elder.<sup>338</sup> We have already noticed that Sir John Scudamore of Hampshire appears to have been indebted to the estate for £40. It is not unlikely that Maud de Plescy was nearly related to Sir John and Walter Scudamore, but we cannot document this from data available at the present time.

Walter Escudemor was a witness at Upton Scudamore on 16 February 1332 to a grant from Walter de Park to Walter le Scut for certain lands in Upton.<sup>339</sup> Later in the same year on 26 September 1332 Isaac de la Mare of Upton Scudamore granted Walter "son of Sir Walter Escudemor, Knight," several small pieces of land there totalling 15 1/2 acres.<sup>340</sup> By 1334 his nephew of the same name had come of age and married, and this Walter is called *senior* thereafter. On 23 October 1334 Walter de Park gave to his son Walter the reversion of certain lands at Upton Scudamore held by Walter Escudemor, senior.<sup>341</sup>

We have no mention of this Walter Scudamore at Upton Scudamore after this date. Despite his conveyancing at this place it does not seem to have been his abode, for he is not taxed there in the subsidies of either 1327 or 1332. Taking this negative information we suspect that he is the Walter Scudamore (who had a son John) that we hear of in the Chippenham/Malmesbury area soon after. It may be that he was seated at either Tytherton or Hardenhuish, or perhaps at

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<sup>336</sup>WRO 490, *Hungerford Cart.* See Appendix I, no. 39.

<sup>337</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1327-30, 126; *Fine Roll*, 1327-37, 49.

<sup>338</sup>*Glos. inq. p. m.*, (Index Library) V, 203, 236. Edmund de Plescy was a son of John de Plescy. His son Nicholas was 14 and more when the inquest was taken on 18 February 1331 at Cirencester.

<sup>339</sup>Hist. Mss. Com., *Hastings*, I, 220. See Appendix I, no. 42.

<sup>340</sup>WRO 490, *Hungerford Cart.* See Appendix I, no. 43.

<sup>341</sup>Hist. Mss. Com., *Hastings*, I, 220, no. 47.

Somerford Mautravers (now Great Somerford) about halfway between Malmesbury and Chippenham.<sup>342</sup>

If this is so then he is the man named in a complicated suit brought by Thomas d'Aldon and his wife Maud against Walter de Skydemore as guardian of his young son John Skydemore at the Hilary term of 1340. Maud was previously the widow of Walter de Pavely of Hilperton, Wilts., who died in 1327 leaving a seven year old son also named Walter. Her first husband was the son of still another Walter de Pavely (died 1323) who was certainly kith if not kin to the Scudamores of Upton Scudamore. The Aldons were claiming Maud's dower in certain lands at Great Somerford and at Seagry consisting of one messuage, one carucate of land, 12 acres of meadow and 10sh of rent in Somerset Mautravers and Seagry. John de Bockington appears at court as the attorney for the Skydemors. He said that the lands consisted of 6sh in rent and two parts of one messuage and one carucate of land in the vill' of Somerford Mautravers, and that the Aldons are owed nothing in dower because a certain Nicholas Murdak of Burton Hill in Malmesbury had all of the right which they had in the same lands, but had been disseised by Walter de Pavely while he lived. Nicholas had then brought an action against Walter, the minor son of Walter de Pavely of Hilperton, an assize of *novel disseisen*, on 5 September 1328 at Salisbury naming also Sir John de Seagry, Philip Bacon, Alice de Sterkele, Maud de Sterkele, and William Chiper; this assize found that Murdak should recover his seisin. The Aldons (by their attorney William de Waver) said that it was not so that Nicholas Murdak had been disseised by Walter Pavely, and the case was continued until after the octave of Holy Trinity.<sup>343</sup>

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<sup>342</sup>All of these places are very nearly contiguous. Malmesbury is about eight miles north of Chippenham; both were important market towns in the 14th century. Tytherton is now a hamlet in Chippenham, and Hardenhuish adjoins Chippenham to the north. Great Somerford is south of Malmesbury; and Seagry is next to Great Somerford. It is tempting to identify this Walter, senior, with the man of his name mentioned about 1330 at Hardenhuish (*Feudal Aids*, VI, 574) but it seems that this entry is misdated and actually stems from about 1361. See also *Feudal Aids*, V, 252.

<sup>343</sup>PRO CP 40/321, mem. 185d. An abstract appears in the *Yearbook of Edward III*, 13/4, (Rolls Ser.) 314. The original has been seen which supplies a great many more useful details. Walter de Pavely (died 1327) was an M. P. for Kent (where his wife had important possessions) in 1324. Maud was born in 1304, the daughter and sole heiress of Stephen Burghersh (G. E. C., *Complete Peerage*, II, 426). Her son, Walter Pavely, K. G., was a considerable soldier and died in 1375 (*DNB*, XV, 545). For the Pavelys of Hilperton see VCH, *Wilts.*, VII, 87 (where the Walter who died in 1327 is overlooked). For the Pavelys of Westbury see VCH, *Wilts.*, VIII, 149. Walter Pavely who died

It seems clear that the John Skydemor was heir to the land at Great Somerford, presumably through his mother. The fact that he claims only two parts suggests that there were other heirs, who should have been named in the suit if this is so. The assize taken on 5 September 1328 at Salisbury has not been located at the Public Record Office. It should be more helpful in documenting the descent of John de Skydemor when it can be found.<sup>344</sup>

Another John Skydemore went up to London as a young man, fell in with evil companions, and came to a sad end. On the night of Monday after Epiphany (6 January) 1345, Hugh de Reding, a taverner, John Bussard of Thacchesham, John de Wysbech, a fishmonger, and John Skydemore of *Malmesbury* broke into the shop of William de Dustone, a hosier in Cordwainer's Street in London. They took away several pieces of cloth of different colors to the value of 100 shillings which was found later in their possession. At the petition of Dustone they were delivered on 13 January 1345 to a court presided over by John Hammond, then mayor of London. On being asked how they would acquit themselves, Reding and Bussard said that they were clerks and were imprisoned. Wysbech and Skydemore did not take the benefit of clergy, but pleaded not guilty and put themselves on the mercy of the court. The jury of 12 men came and after deliberation they said on their oath that Wysbech and Skydemore were guilty; "therefore let them be hanged."<sup>345</sup>

It seems likely that Walter, senior, was still living as late as 28 June 1346. On that day his nephew, Sir Walter Escudenor, had written letters of protection while serving in France with the Black Prince. These letters give the names of Sir Walter's father (Peter) and grandfather (Walter) presumably to differentiate him from some other living man of the name.

Westerleigh and Malmesbury are only about 12 miles apart, and the Skydmores may owe their presence at Westerleigh to Sir Walter Gascelyn who had died before 6 May 1333 holding the manor of Norridge in Upton Scudamore of

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in 1323 was a witness to deeds for both Sir Walter Scudamore (died 1318) and his uncle Sir Peter Scudamore (died 1293). When Walter Pavely died in 1323 William Gacelin, the rector of Street and Walton in Somerset, had a leave of absence on 11 February 1323/4 to complete the executorship of Pavely who was no doubt closely related. [*Register of John de Drokenesford, bishop of Bath and Wells* (Somerset Rec. Soc., i, 1887) 140, 229.] William Gascelyn was probably a younger brother of Sir Walter Gascelyn who will be noticed shortly.

<sup>344</sup>There were defendants other than the young Pavely in the suit which should be named in the original roll.

<sup>345</sup>*Calendar of the letter-books preserved among the corporation of the city of London at the Guildhall*, ed. Sharpe (1904), Letterbook F, 261.

Peter Eskydemour. It included the hall with its chambers, the chapel, the kitchen, half a dovecot, the east orchard adjoining, and 14 1/2 acres of arable land, five acres of meadow, three acres of woods, two acres of pasture, and 34sh 2d in annual rents by the service of half a knight's fee and 13sh 4d which he paid by the year.<sup>346</sup> He also had other lands at Norridge which he held from the earl of Salisbury.

Gascelyn was a man of middling circumstances, not a great magnate, and the only other land he owned apparently was in Gloucestershire where he had, with some other small holdings, 18 acres of pasture at Westerleigh.<sup>347</sup> Walter Gascelyn had testified frequently for the Scudamores at Upton, and was over 60 at the time of his death. Not long before his death Sir Walter Gascelyn, aged 60 and more, testified at Warminster on 5 May 1332 when John Manduit proved his age. Gascelyn testified that he, Sir Walter Pavely (and his wife Joan), and Richard Dansey all came together from Brook House in Westbury to Warminster to attend the christening of John Manduit in 1309.<sup>348</sup> All of these people, the Gascelyns, the Manduits, the Danseys and the Scudamores were no doubt related in some unknown way. He left two children, a son William born in 1322, and a daughter Julian born in 1325. William died unmarried in 1346, and the Gascelyn lands went to his sister Juliam who had married Geoffrey Stawell (died 1362)

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<sup>346</sup>*Wilts. inq. p. m.*, 1327-1377, 94. See Appendix I, no. 43A. A stone cross of the 13th century found at Norridge may have come from the chapel. It is now in Scudamore chantry in the church at Upton Scudamore according to R. G. Woodman.

<sup>347</sup>*Glos. inq. p. m.*, (Index Library) V, 246. He had acquired this land (then in Pucklechurch parish) in 1313-4. [*Register of John de Drokensford*, (Somerset Rec. Soc., i, 1887) 168.]

<sup>348</sup>*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1327-1377, 85.

## CHAPTER XII

### SIR WALTER SCUDAMORE, LORD OF UPTON SCUDAMORE (DEAD 1362)

Walter Scudamore was probably born a few years previous to 1310. He was of full age before 21 May 1329 assuming that he is the man of his name who was a feoffee to uses for his uncle John's settlement of his Hampshire lands on this date. (It may very well be that the Walter Scudamore named there was his uncle of the same name.) He had married by 11 November 1334 for on that day Peter Escudemor, his father, gave to Walter and Alice, his wife, all of his lands in Warminster and Bishopstrow excepting only those lands there which he had already promised to the church of St. Mary's in Upton Scudamore to found a chantry there.<sup>349</sup>

Nothing is known for certain about the family of his wife Alice, but a clue may be found in the heraldry on the tomb of the Reynes family at Clifton Reynes in Buckinghamshire. The arrangement of the heraldic shields there suggests that Alice's family may have borne arms described as "three plain crosses fitchy [or crosses formy fitchy] and a chief with a demi-lion." These arms belonged, according to a small modern plaque displayed on the tomb, to the Stokes family of an unstated place.<sup>350</sup>

Sir Walter, already styled a knight, had succeeded his father as lord of Upton Scudamore by 1342 when he presented John Benet to the church there. On 29 September 1343 he was a witness to a quitclaim of Sir John le Blount for lands at Newnham and at Sutton Veny.<sup>351</sup> William fitz Warin and Maud, his wife, had all his lands on 8 December 1343 at Bratton, Melbourne and Stoke. His deed notes that Margery, his mother, had previously granted to fitz Warins her dower in the same lands and they now paid £50 7sh in silver to Sir Walter for the major interest.<sup>352</sup>

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<sup>349</sup>WRO 490, *Hungerford Cart.* See Appendix I, no. 48.

<sup>350</sup>If this is correct Alice may have been a kinswoman to the Sir John Stokes who witnesses the deed from Sir Walter Escudamor dated 23 June 1353 (Appendix I, no. 71). For further account of the tomb see chapter XIII, note 1.

<sup>351</sup>British Lib., *Add. Ch. 17409.*

<sup>352</sup>*Wiltshire N. & Q.*, II, 555. Maud was previously the widow of Thomas North. It has been said that these lands at Bratton are the same as those Sir Godfrey held from the Dauntsey serjeantry by 1250. However there is nothing

He had a letter of protection on 27 April 1344 (identified as the son and heir of Sir Peter Skydemor, Knt.) with *clause volumus* for one year as he was going over to Ireland as a man-of-arms on the king's service with Sir Ralph de Ufford, the justiciary of Ireland.<sup>353</sup> Ufford had engaged 40 men-at-arms and 200 archers before leaving England so as to rule his office in Ireland more quietly.

Two years later he was in France with the Black Prince on his first campaign there; on 20 April 1346 he was serving in the retinue of William de Kerdestone when he had a writ exonerating him from the assessment of his lands in Wiltshire.<sup>354</sup> Sir Walter Escudemor had another letter of protection in France on 20 June 1346 until Michaelmas next as one of the retinue of Edward, prince of Wales.<sup>355</sup> He was undoubtedly with the Black Prince at the battle of Crécy on 26 August 1346 when the prince won both his spurs and his famous ostrich plumes. He was still in France on 10 June 1347 when he had a further exoneration from an assessment in Wiltshire, but he may have been home within the month as he granted a little piece of land in Upton Scudamore on 7 July 1347.<sup>356</sup>

In the same year (1347) John, the son of Walter Park, was at variance with his lord, Sir Walter Scudamore, over the payment of a heriot due on the death of his father. It was found that John Park held his land at Upton Scudamore by a yearly rent of 40sh and he was excused from the heriot if he would pay the rent which was in arrears.<sup>357</sup> The Parks had held a third of Upton for over a hundred years; their house Parkescourt was on the site presently occupied by Manor Farm.

Sir Walter was a member of the jury which took the *inquest post mortem* in Wiltshire on 14 January 1348 after the death of Richard Dauntsey, his kinsman,

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in the deeds from North in 1331 which would support this statement; North apparently held them freehold and not as some previous tenant of the Scudamore. Nor do the lands held earlier by Sir Godfrey appear to have been as extensive or valuable as these, and moreover they should have gone to the Bavants.

<sup>353</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1343-5, 227, 244. Sir Ralph de Ufford was appointed justiciary in February 1344 and died in office on 9 April 1346 (*DNB*, XX, 10).

<sup>354</sup>*Crécy and Calais (1346-7) from the public records*, ed. George Wrottesley, Wm. Salt Arch. Soc., *Coll.*, XVIII, ii.

<sup>355</sup>This letter names his father Peter Escudemor and grandfather Walter Escudemor, probably to distinguish him from his uncle Walter.

<sup>356</sup>*Hist. Mss. Com.*, *Hastings*, I, 220. See Appendix I, no. 57.

<sup>357</sup>WRO 490, *Hungerford Cart.*, fol. 118v. See Appendix I, no. 54.

and he was named to a commission of oyer and terminer in Wiltshire on 23 June 1348.<sup>358</sup> Mathew de Brisele, a clerk, complained that several men had carried away his goods and assaulted his servants in Salisbury. The commission was to establish the truth of these charges.

On 20 January 1349 he fulfilled the promise made by his father to found a chantry in the church at Upton by conveying 30 acres of land in Warminster and a tenement there worth 30sh by the year to Robert Borguyn, the chaplain, and thereafter mass was said daily for the souls of the Scudamore family in the church of St. Mary's. He also granted the advowson of the same church and two acres of land in Upton Scudamore in 1352 to a canon and two vicars of Wells Cathedral in return for a payment of 40sh and the inclusion of the Scudamor family in the prayers offered at the cathedral.<sup>359</sup>

Walter Eskudemore, Knt., granted all his lands and tenements in Upton Scudamore which had lately been held of him by Margaret Bastard during the minority of her kinsman and heir Robert, to Walter, son of Jordan de Park, and his wife Agnes on 18 February 1350.<sup>360</sup> The chief interest of this charter, which survives, is a fine impression of Sir Walter's seal engraved with his shield of three stirrups.<sup>361</sup>

On 23 June 1353 he settled the whole of his manor of Upton Knoyle (in East Knoyle) in Wiltshire, his manor of Wells in Hampshire, and an annual rent of 40sh due from John and Agnes Scarlet for their lands at Norton (with the reversion of the same) on himself and his wife Alice Scudamore.<sup>362</sup>

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<sup>358</sup>*Wilts. inq. p. m.*, 1327-1377, 174; *Patent Roll*, 1348-50, 168.

<sup>359</sup>WRO 490, *Hungerford Cart.*, fols. 115v, 118v. See Appendix I, nos. 62, 66.

<sup>360</sup>*Hist. Mss. Com.*, *Hastings*, I, 220. See Appendix I, no. 63. There may be some error here for Margaret's young heir seems to have been *William Hopgrass*, aged six in 1349. For the Hopgrass family see the VCH, *Berks.*, IV, 193.

<sup>361</sup>This is a small circular seal with three stirrups, the shield couchée from the mantled helm surrounded by a panache crest. To the right of the helm is the letter A (no doubt for his wife Alice) and to the left the letter W (for Walter). The border reads S' WALT'IDE SCYDEMOR. About the year 1410 Thomas Jenyns compiled his *Book of Armes* in which he arranged the coats of 1595 gentlemen by the subject matter of their designs. Number 92 is *Wautier Skydmor* who bore "de gouls, a trois estepes d'or oue les cuires [with their leathers]."

<sup>362</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 245. Sir Thomas Seymour, Peter Pipard and William Payne are named as feoffees. On 25 February 1354 an inquest into the lands of Henry de

On 17 May 1355 he was on the point of returning to Brittany with the Black Prince as Edward III was determined to renew the war in France. On this day Sir Walter Skidmore and Sir John de Stokes (perhaps his wife's kinsman), knights, had letters of protection intending to go to Brittany.<sup>363</sup> Walter Skidmore, Knt., "staying beyond the seas" had letters on 4 July 1356 nominating Richard de Sodbury and Thomas Drew as his attorneys in England for two years.<sup>364</sup> He was doubtless with the Black Prince at Poitiers on 19 September 1356 when he won his most famous victory over the French.

In 1358 John Bavant, the son and heir of Roger Bavant II, who had just come of age gave an important series of releases to the Scudamores at Upton. In return for 100 silver marks he resigned to Sir Walter and Alice Scudamore all his claim to the manor of Upton Scudamore, giving at the same time a similar quitclaim to Margery who was formerly the wife of Peter Skydemore.<sup>365</sup> This ended effectively the contention that had lasted for over 60 years between the Bavants and Scudamores over the possession of Upton Scudamore. The young John Bavant, the last of the male posterity of Alice Scudamore, wife of Sir Adam de Bavant, left for Italy soon after to become a Franciscan friar.<sup>366</sup>

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Wells in Hampshire mentions that he held a messuage, five acres of land, and 25 acres of meadow from Sir Walter Scudamore, Knt., in Wells by Romsey by the service of 4sh by the year. (*Cal. of Inq. Misc.*, X, 6).

<sup>363</sup>*Catalogue des rolles Gascons, Normans et Francois*, London, 1743, II, 57.

<sup>364</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1354-8, 410. Thomas Drew figures largely in the affairs of the next Peter Scudamore and may have been a kinsman in some unknown way. This is the first mention yet found of him in connection with Scudamores. It is not unlikely that he was a brother-in-law of Sir Walter Scudamore but we have no evidence to prove this.

<sup>365</sup>WRO 490, *Hungerford Cart*. See Appendix I, nos. 73, 74.

<sup>366</sup>*Close Roll*, 1369-74, 421. John Bavant was born about 1337 and succeeded to an estate completely wasted by his father who had run up debts to an incredible £5000 before his death on 23 April 1355. John probably took up his habit unwillingly. Hawise, his mother, had forged during the lifetime of her completely estranged husband a deed entailing the lands of Sir Roger Bavant to their son John. After Sir Roger's death she was caught out by his creditors and confessed how she had forged the deed and applied a false seal to it. She consented that John should bind himself to become a Friar Minor "and so it was done." John was dead by May 1374 when his heir, his sister Joan, wife of Sir John Dauntsey of Winterbourne Dauntsey, sued the priory at Dartford to recover the ancient Scudamore fees at Fifield Bavant and Trow. [*Select cases concerning the law merchant*, ed. Hubert Hall (Selden Soc., 1932, vol. 47) 115-6.]

On 16 March 1359 it was found after the death of Walter de Park that he held 60 acres of land in Upton Skydemor from Sir Walter Skydemor by service of one rose yearly, and that Sir Walter Skydemor held the same from Sir Thomas de Grandison of the honour of Ewyas Harold by the service of 50sh yearly.<sup>367</sup>

Sir Walter Skidemor was living on 21 June 1360 when he granted certain lands at Bishopstrow to Thomas Hungerford, Eleanor, his wife, and Thomas, their son, for the term of their lives.<sup>368</sup> He was (by implication) still alive on 16 July 1361 when he is mentioned as holding a third part of a knight's fee at Hardenhuish, Wilts., but he had died before 5 July 1362.<sup>369</sup> He was survived, so far as we know, by an only son Peter.

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<sup>367</sup>*Wilts. inq. p. m.*, 1327-1377, 258.

<sup>368</sup>*Hist. Mss. Com., Hastings*, I, 225. See Appendix I, no. 80.

<sup>369</sup>*Close Roll*, 1360-4, 208.

## CHAPTER XIII

SIR PETER SCUDAMORE IV, LORD OF UPTON SCUDAMORE (DIED 1382)

This man, the fourth of his name in the succession of the lords of Upton Scudamore, may have been born as early as 1335. He married Joan, the daughter and sole heiress of Henry Brissley by his wife Agnes de Broc [Brook]. Joan Scudamore brought the manors of Maudeleyns in Northchurch, Herts., and the manor of Brooks at Stevenage in the same county to her husband.<sup>370</sup> They descended after her death to the Reynes family.

Peter Scudamore had succeeded his father by 5 July 1362 when it was found at the *inquest post mortem* of Geoffrey Stawell (whom we have mentioned earlier as the son-in-law of Walter Gascelyn of Norridge and Westerleigh, Glos.) that he held a moiety of Norridge "next Upton Skydemor" from Peter Skydemor, Knt., by service worth 63sh 4d by the year.<sup>371</sup> On 24 December 1363 Peter Escudemor, lord of Upton, granted a close called *Baggebrigge* for which the grantee was to do suit at Peter's court at Warminster.<sup>372</sup>

He was preparing to go abroad on 30 November 1364 when he made over all of his lands in several counties to six trustees.<sup>373</sup> Six of these are of sufficient size and value to be styled manors, all in Wiltshire except for the last:

Warminster [Scudamore]

Upton Scudamore

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<sup>370</sup>VCH, *Herts.*, II, 247; III, 144. Also useful is Thomas Shepherd, "The shields from Clifton Reynes" (*The Ancestor*, XI, 90) which examines the heraldry on the tomb of Sir John Reynes and the arms of Scudamore and Broc, found in the church there. There is probably a clue to the family of Alice, Sir Peter's mother, in the arms of a Stokes family carved next to Scudamore as noticed elsewhere. The arms of the Broc family (on the other side of Scudamore) was "a chief with a lion passant thereon."

<sup>371</sup>*Inq. p. m. Wilts.*, 1327-1377, 317. See also VCH, *Wilts.*, VIII, 82. For the inquest on Stawell's death in Gloucestershire see the *Glos. inq. p. m.* (Index Lib.) VI, 32.

<sup>372</sup>Hist. Mss. Com., *Hastings*, I, 219. See Appendix I, no. 82.

<sup>373</sup>*Ibid.*, I, 245. The trustees were Sir Thomas de Kingston, Knt., Sir John de la Mare, Knt., Thomas Drew, John de Mersston, Nicholas Bonham, and Sir Thomas Heryng, vicar of the church at Warminster. See Appendix I, no. 83.

Tytherton  
Stockton  
Upton Knoyle, in East Knoyle  
Wells, in Romsey, Hants.

The reversion of three other tenements are listed, all of them in possession of Thomas Drew for the term of Drew's life:

Stonehouse, Glos.  
Hardenhuish  
Holslade, a place name now lost, but probably once in Rodden, Soms.

His lands were made over with the proviso "that he reserves the right to dispose of his manors, etc., as he shall think fit, and that if the said Peter shall die beyond the seas, or before he obtains reseisin, then the feoffees shall dispose of the said manors according to a deed tripartite and indented, and lodged by the said Peter in the treasury of New Sarum together with his will."

The trust remained in force for six years and was not revoked until 26 December 1370 when Sir Peter Escudemor, Knt., issued a defeasance to the same six trustees. It would appear that he may have had second thoughts about lodging his last will and other papers in the treasury at Salisbury for we read here: "in which indenture the grantor reserved the right to reenter when he pleased upon the lands, provided that if he died before doing so the feoffees should deal with the premises in accordance with intentions expressed in a certain tripartite indenture enclosed with his will and other muniments in a small sealed chest in the custody of his wife Joan. In the event of their failing to do so, the feoffment was to be void and the heirs might enter the premises."<sup>374</sup>

He settled the manor of Upton Scudamore on himself and his wife Joan in 1368, and "all my manor of Warminster" on Sir Thomas Hering, vicar of Warminster, and Sir William Forster, rector of the chapel at Corsley, in 1372 so that they might reenfeoff him.<sup>375</sup>

On 27 April 1369 Peter Escydemore, Knt., and Joan his wife, had a grant of a tenement on Mark Lane in the parish of Allhallows, Barking, in London, from

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<sup>374</sup>Hist. Mss. Com., *Hastings*, I, 245. Thomas Drew had previously ceded back to Scudamore all those lands in Upton Scudamore, Warminster, Tytherton, Stockton, and Upton Knoyle in 41 Edward III. See Appendix I, no. 88.

<sup>375</sup>WRO 490, *Hungerford Cart.*, fol. 116v. See Appendix I, nos. 89, 90.

William Hankey, a clerk, and others as attorneys to Hankey.<sup>376</sup> Later in the same year on 30 September 1369 Peter Escudemore was a witness at Seagry, Wilts., to a deed from Thomas Drew and Emma, his wife, to John Cary for Emma's dower in certain lands at Kingsdon in Somerset which had belonged to Sir John Cary, her previous husband.<sup>377</sup>

On 22 October 1371 he had a writ addressed to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer directing them to search the *Red Book of the Exchequer* and also the records of the aid taken at the knighting of the Black Prince. In due course both were extracted from the rolls, and returned to him. What use he made of this information does not appear, and it is difficult to see any connection between the lands of Sir Godfrey Scudamore in 1166 and the assessment made against his father in 1346.<sup>378</sup>

Peter Skydmore was appointed on 6 December 1373 a collector of the subsidy of a fifteenth and a tenth which had been granted by Parliament for two years to the king, a commission that was renewed to him on 14 November 1374.<sup>379</sup>

A number of deeds survive to and from Sir Peter and his tenants at Upton Scudamore and elsewhere. In one of these, bearing the date of 22 November 1377, Peter Escudemor, Knt., lord of Upton Escudemor, granted to Thomas atte Brigge, a blacksmith, and Christina his wife, for the term of their lives certain premises and privileges in the common pasture at Upton. These had formerly been held by Walter Halfacre, another smith, presumably recently dead. In return atte Brigge was to provide iron coulter and shares sufficient for Sir Peter's five ploughs, to mend their chains and rings, and to shoe three horses belonging to his lord whenever necessary.<sup>380</sup>

On 20 May 1378 Sir Peter was on the point of departing for France once again. Sir John de Kingeston and Sir John Hopton, knights, and Peter Escudenor, *armiger*, going overseas had letters of protection.<sup>381</sup> When he returned is

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<sup>376</sup>*Visitation of Hunts*. (Camden Soc., 1st ser., XLIII) 83. See Appendix I, no. 86.

<sup>377</sup>*Coll. Top. et Gen.*, VI, 358.

<sup>378</sup>*Inq. p. m. Wilts.*, 1327-1377, 366.

<sup>379</sup>*Fine Rolls*, 1369-77, 228, 268.

<sup>380</sup>*Hist. Mss. Com.*, *Hastings*, I, 221. See Appendix I, no. 91.

<sup>381</sup>*Catalogue des rolles Gascon, Normans et Francois*, II, 125. There is a small error here for Sir Peter had taken up knighthood by this date. There is perhaps a larger error in the same roll; on 1 February 1378 a Sir *Hugh* de Skidmore and Sir Richard Redman, knights, had similar letters (*ibid.*, II, 123). If there was a Sir Hugh Skidmore we have no other mention of him elsewhere

uncertain, but as Sir Peter Escudemour, he set up another trust on his lands on 5 July 1380 naming Sir William de Lucy; Thomas Drew; Robert, a parson of the church of Aston; and Richard de Lillehull, parson of the church at Upton Scudamore; as feoffees of all his lands and tenements in Warminster, Upton Scudamore, Thoulstone, Tytherington, Upton Knoyle, and Stockton, together with the advowson of the chapel at Thoulstone.<sup>382</sup> He was at London later in this year, having a release there on 1 November 1380 from William Street and John Pyrell for a debt of £80 owed them.

Sir Peter died on Thursday before All Saints (29 October) 1382. On 14 November a writ was issued directed to the escheators in Wiltshire, Hampshire, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, and London to take inquests into any lands held in chief by Sir Peter Skidmore in their bailiwicks.<sup>383</sup> Two days later a commission was given to Thomas Sayville and Nicholas Adam, serjeants-at-arms, to bring before the king and council Katherine, the daughter and heir of Peter Skidmore, Knt., a tenant-in-chief (this was an error) whose marriage was now in the king's hands by reason of her minority.<sup>384</sup> The executors of Peter Escudemour were Sir William Lucy, Sir John Kamelyn, John Gaweyn and John Auncel together with the widow (and her second husband) on 30 June 1385.<sup>385</sup>

Katherine Scudamore, the daughter and sole heir of Sir Peter, was aged 14 and more at her father's death. Her marriage was arranged within the year to John Reynes, of Clifton Reynes, Bucks. John and Thomas Reynes, his father, settled the manors of Clifton and Newton (Blossomville) on Joan, who was the wife of Sir Peter Escudamor, and Katherine their daughter.<sup>386</sup> She took to Sir John Reynes all of the Scudamore lands in Wiltshire and Hampshire, and elsewhere, subject to the dower interest of her mother Joan during her lifetime.

Katherine was the first of the three wives of Sir John, who fought at Agincourt

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and we suspect that this is a clerical error. The roll survives at the PRO, C.76/61 (not seen).

<sup>382</sup>Hist. Mss Com., *Hastings*, I, 225. See Appendix I, no. 92.

<sup>383</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1377-83, 374. The escheator in Hampshire returned that Sir Peter held nothing there in chief of the king. We can not trace any lands in Bedford or Essex and assume that this was an error.

<sup>384</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1381-5, 202. We learn no more of this since Sir Peter held no lands in chief of the crown.

<sup>385</sup>*Close Roll*, 1385-9, 80.

<sup>386</sup>*Vis. of Hunts.*, 83. See Appendix I, no. 94.

and died in 1428.<sup>387</sup> She was living in 1388, and was survived by three children.<sup>388</sup> Thomas Reynes, her heir, died in 1417 leaving an infant son John who died in 1421. Ralph Reynes, Katherine's second son, entered on the Scudamore lands at the death of his nephew and on 30 March 1422 granted them to his father and Sir John's third wife Alice, probably for the purpose of some settlement.<sup>389</sup> Ralph Reynes died soon after without issue, and was succeeded by his nephew William Street, the eldest son of Cecily Reynes and her husband Henry Street. He conveyed the manor of Maudeleyns in 1426 to Humphrey, duke of Gloucester, John Escudemor, Knt., and others.<sup>390</sup> It comes as no small surprise to find that this Sir John Scudamore is not a close kinsman out of Wiltshire, but is instead from Kentchurch Court in Herefordshire.<sup>391</sup>

Joan, the widow of Sir Peter Scudamore, had married Sir Robert Corbet, Knt., of Tubney, Berks., as her second husband before 30 June 1385.<sup>392</sup> She was still a widow on 11 June 1383 when Joan Eskudamour, lady of Maudeleyns, granted certain lands there to Richard Weathered, his wife Alice, and their son John for the term of their lives.<sup>393</sup> The Corbets sold the tenement on Mark Lane in London in 1386 noting in their grant that it had been acquired by Joan and her first husband.<sup>394</sup> The manor of Maudeleyns was settled on Sir Robert

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<sup>387</sup>He had married secondly Joan Betby, and thirdly Alice Hartwell.

<sup>388</sup>*Feudal Aids*, V, 273.

<sup>389</sup>*Close Rolls*, 1419-22. This settlement mentions lands in Upton Scudamore; Warminster; Hardenhuish (and the advowson of the church there); South Wells, Hants.; Rodden, Soms.; and the chantry in the church at Upton Scudamore. The land at Tytherton is missing, but it may have been held by the Corbets in 1412.

<sup>390</sup>*Harl. Chart.*, 56F.30; *Patent Roll*, 1422:9, 441. See also Cussan's *Hertfordshire* (Dacorum Hundred) 87-8, where many of these record evidences are printed in full.

<sup>391</sup>In 1423 Sir John Scudamore, of Kentchurch Court, had difficulties over his son's inheritance from the Bryt family. Henry Street of Barsingham, Cambs, and Thomas Cheyne of Chalfont, Bucks., were sureties in the sum of £100 that Sir John Skidmore would do no harm to Robert Bryt (*Close Roll*, 1422-9, 133). Henry Street, the husband of Cecily Reynes, was of Meldrith and Melborn, Cambs. It would be interesting to know how this relationship developed; Sir John would have known that he was not closely related to the Streets.

<sup>392</sup>*Close Roll*, 1385-9, 80.

<sup>393</sup>*Harl. Chart.*, 56B47.

<sup>394</sup>*Husting Roll*, 114/135.

Corbet at Easter 1387, and Brooks manor was held by the Corbets in 1400.<sup>395</sup> Joan was probably still living in 1412 when Sir Robert Corbet is found holding *Skydmore* in Romsey, Hants. (worth 60sh); Upton Scudamore, Warminster, Norridge, and Thoulstone, Wilts. (worth collectively £40); and *Tuderyngton Caillewey*, Wilts. (worth 5 marks). He also had his own lands in Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Hertfordshire, which need not concern us.<sup>396</sup>

With death of Sir Peter Scudamore on 29 October 1382 the male succession at Upton Scudamore came to an end, having survived there for nearly 300 years. He was no doubt buried in the church at St. Mary's in Upton, close to his ancestors. According to the best received opinion the more recent of two stone effigies still remaining in the church is likely to represent him.<sup>397</sup>

Michael S. C. Brudenell-Bruce, the eighth marquess of Ailesbury, is the present representative of the senior branch of the Scudamores by virtue of his descent from Thomas Brudenell (died 1663), the first earl of Cardigan. Brudenell was eighth in descent from Sir John Reynes and his first wife Katherine Scudamore through the Reynes, Street, Ansty, Taylard and Brudenell families. In 1613 Sir Thomas Brudenell (then a baronet) had a part of the charters once at Upton Scudamore at Deene Park, his seat in Northamptonshire. An ardent Royalist during the civil war, Sir Thomas spent a part of his time when imprisoned at the Tower studying the ancient chancery rolls which were then stored there.

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<sup>395</sup>*FF, Herts.*, Easter Term, 10 Richard II; *Close Roll*, 1392-6, 181; *Close Roll*, 1405-9, 443.

<sup>396</sup>*Feudal Aids*, VI, 453, 532.

<sup>397</sup>*Pevsner, Wiltshire* (Blds. of England ser.) 484.

## CHAPTER XIV

### THE SCUDAMORES OF POSTON, HEREFORDSHIRE; WALTER DE SCUDEMERE AND HIS SUCCESSORS

The Scudamore family in Herefordshire was seated at Poston in Vowchurch parish in the 12th and 13th centuries, a fee that they held from their cousins at Upton Scudamore in Wiltshire.<sup>398</sup> That both families were of the same stock is proved by record evidence.<sup>399</sup> In addition to Poston they held Corras in Kentchurch and Little Hatfield as has already been noticed. To this we must add the lands at Whitewall held later from the Lacy family.

The family probably built a fortified house at Poston about one mile north of St. Bartholomew's church at Vowchurch. From this windy promontory they could look down the Golden Valley to Garway Hill rising above Corras in Kentchurch.<sup>400</sup> The fabric of this house disappeared centuries ago. Whatever

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<sup>398</sup>It has since largely eradicated Poston which probably once referred to a somewhat larger area than the present civil boundaries of Vowchurch parish. According to Bruce Coplestone-Crow the lost place-name *Edwardestune* in the Domesday Book was below Poston in Vowchurch parish at the reference coordinates 366 362 on the Ordnance Survey maps. About 1160-70 *Edwardestune* was known as the *villa Huardi* while the tenant at Poston is given as *W. Huard*. Clearly Howard, of whom nothing else is known, was a tenant of the Lacy honour of Weobley and had no interest in the Scudamore land at Poston. See the *Herefordshire Domesday circa 1160-1170*, ed. V. H. Galbraith and James Tait (Pipe Roll Society, 1950) 96, 106. *Edwardestune*, a deserted medieval village, was known as *Walterstone* in 1224 and 1249. (This *Walterstone* is not to be confused with the present parish of the name on the Monmouth border.) *Fowchirche* is first noticed in the *Taxatio ecclesiastica* of 1291 (Rec. Com., 1802).

<sup>399</sup>Whatever may be the origin of the name *Scudemer* (to use the most ancient spelling) it was unique to this family. In every instance of the surname yet found until at least the mid-14th century is in one of these two counties. Until the time of Edward III, and perhaps much later, Scudamore was Scudamore's cousin everywhere.

<sup>400</sup>Royal Com. Hist. Mon., *Herefordshire*, I, 245-6. This site was visited in 1970 on the suggestion that it was the former seat of the Scudamores. It is located at 358 377 on the Ordnance Survey maps where it is classified as a fort at Lower Park Wood. There does not seem to be any proof that it dates from

may have once been there in the way of charters are now wholly lost, although a few Poston deeds have found their way to the Public Record Office in London probably at the time of the dissolution of Dore Abbey by King Henry VIII.<sup>401</sup> There are enough evidences that do survive to show that the succession at Poston in the 12th century went through a series of three men all named Walter Scudamore. In the same way that the two Godfreys at Upton melt together in the same period it is impossible to divide exactly the references among the three Walters.

To the eldest of these, Walter de Scudamore I (born in the last quarter of the 11th century) and the son of Ralph, we attribute all of the records yet found before 1139. He is, with his brothers Reginald and Hugh de Scudemor, a witness to the grant of Harold de Ewyas to St. Peter's, Gloucester, about the year 1120. Walter Escudemor had some time after this from his brother Reginald a grant of Corras in Kentchurch, a third part of Upton, and a messuage in the vill' of Ewyas [Harold], for which Walter agreed to do ward at the castle of Ewyas each year or pay one mark.<sup>402</sup> What happened to his third

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the proper period or that it was in fact a fortified mansion, but it may be taken as certain that it was on land once held by the family. On the fortified mansions in the county it has been said "that life and liberty were held on such insecure tenure in the Welsh manors that every lord regarded his house as his castle and invested it with many of the characteristics of the latter." (C. J. Robinson, *The castles of Herefordshire and their lords* [1869] iv).

<sup>401</sup>The five printed volumes of ancient deeds have been continued with typed supplementary catalogues to be found in the Round Room at the Public Record Office. These are largely without indexes as yet to persons or places. There may be other Poston deeds there, or in the feet of fine for Herefordshire which have not been printed in abstract as they have been for Wiltshire.

<sup>402</sup>In addition to the references hereafter cited, Mathew Gibson (*A view of the ancient and present state of the churches of Door, Home-Lacy, and Hemstead, etc.*, 1727) cites "an old Scudamore charter" from which he learned that "Walter de Scudamore was Lord of the Manour of Upton Scudmore in the Reign of King Stephen." This would refer to Walter I or II if accepted. Thomas Hearne, in his diary under the date of 25 October 1721, notes that he called by request on Dr. John Gibson, provost of Oueen's College. Hearne, a noted antiquary, found "when I came it was about his Brother Mathew's Design upon L<sup>d</sup> Scudamore. It seems Mathew desired him to consult the Bodleian Library for Materials about the Scudamores, & the Provost had a mind to ask me whether there are any such there. I told him there are. He then said he would go to it, & have it search'd. I had told Mathew of this in a Letter I writ to him." (*Hearne's Collections*, Oxford Record Society, XLVIII, 288). Very likely this reference came from some secondary compilation, perhaps

of Upton Scudamore is not definitely known, but it might be identical with the third of a fee held in 1243 at Upton Scudamore by the Park family from Sir Godfrey Scudamore.<sup>403</sup> We have heard more of Corras in Kentchurch elsewhere. The messuage in the shadow of the castle at Ewyas Harold disappears from view, but it was probably similar to a burgage on King's Street attached to Pontrilas which Henry, son of Baldwin Martil, sold to Gilbert de Boys in the middle of the 13th century. These burgages within the village of Ewyas Harold were probably meant to sustain the knights while they were doing their hereditary service at the castle.

As Walter de Scudemor he was a witness about 1138 to a grant by Sybil de Lacy, probably already the widow of Pain fitz John, who gave to her uncle Walter de Lacy, abbot of St. Peter's, Gloucester, and to the monks at Ewyas Harold, land near the church at Ewyas Harold and such timber as they might require for building or for other purposes from her forest at Maescoed.<sup>404</sup> It is likely that Walter de Scudemor already held land from Sybil de Lacy at Whitewall in the present parish of St. Margaret's and elsewhere about the Escley Brook across the Dore River from Poston. Gilbert "de Esketot" (Scotot), the other witness, was from a family who were important tenants of the Lacy family in the Golden Valley and perhaps much earlier in France.

The Scudamores at Poston were early benefactors of Dore Abbey which had been founded in 1147 by Robert de Ewyas, the elder. Our knowledge of this corner of Herefordshire would be much improved if the cartulary of this abbey survived with its deeds and lists of witnesses. Mathew Gibson, the first

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Dodsworth's *Collections* then at the Bodleian, and might refer to an undated charter from the time of Walter (died 1318), "lord of Upton" after 1293.

<sup>403</sup>William de Parcho, Peter de Scudamore, Peter de Puntintona, William de Kenetta, William Malbanc, knights, and others were witnesses to a charter of Robert de Ewyas on 23 February 1195. Simon de Park was at Upton by 1236, and held a third of a fee from Sir Godfrey de Scudamore there in 1243. Simon de Park seems to have been dead by 1270 leaving a widow Lettice, and was succeeded by a Walter de Park who was presumably his son and heir. The Parks were the chief tenants at Upton for over the next 200 years. (VCH, *Wilts.*, VIII, 83). The land at Upton Scudamore held by Alice, widow of Robert Mauduit, may possibly have descended to her from a Scudamore ancestor.

<sup>404</sup>*Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies* (Wales University) IV (1928) 166-8. Since Pain fitz John was slain by the Welsh on 11 July 1137 (*DNB*, VII, 184) and Walter de Lacy was buried 8 February 1139, this charter can be rather closely dated. If Sybil de Lacy was not yet a widow then this charter might be as early as 1130.

historian of the abbey and the Scudamore family, searched for it in vain before 1727.<sup>405</sup> Two years after the founding, in 1149, one of the Scudamores, probably Walter II gave Fulke's Meadow to the abbey. This was later confirmed by his son Walter: "Walter de Scudemore gave land called Fulke's Mead to the abbey of Dore just as his father formerly had done by a charter dated 14 Stephen to which he appended the following seal."<sup>406</sup> This land may have been in or about the Treville Forest.<sup>407</sup>

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<sup>405</sup>Gibson, *A view, etc.*, 4-5. He writes "for after long and diligent Enquiry after the Leiger Book I give it up for lost . . . 'tis little to be doubted, but Sir Henry Spelman had this Leiger Book. His MSS. 'tis said, were sold, first to Sir Simonds D'ews, and after to the late Earl of Oxford. But I was sent from the Harleian to the Lambeth Library, without any manner of success." It is just possible that the records were lost in 1398 by the actions of certain descendants of the family once at Poston. On 6 February 1398 the abbot complained that Thomas and John Skidmore came armed to the abbey, and with other mischief took away the great seal of the abbey and its charters and muniments. However it is likely that they were returned after the abbot was replaced, or we would hear more of the matter.

<sup>406</sup>*Harl. Ms.* 4028, fol. 78. *Walterus de Scudemore dedit quondam terram vocatam foulkes meade Abbatiae de Dore ut pater per cartam datam 14 Regis Stephani cui appendit tale sigillum.* There are other manuscripts at the British Library which appear to have been derived from the original charters of the abbey (*Add.* 5937, fol. 173; *Harl.* 5804, fos. 18, 258-63; *Cotton Julius C.* VII, fos. 252ff). All of these have been checked for references to Scudamore. The seal copied into *Harl. MS* 4028 is a *cross paty fitchy* and bears the legend *S: WALTERI ESCUDAMORE MILITIS*. This seal is from a much later date than the grant to Dore Abbey and, while genuine, probably belonged to Sir Walter Scudamore (died 1318) of Upton Scudamore. The pedigree where this is illustrated is unsigned but it is probably the work of the herald John Guillim (1565-1621) noticed earlier who did some genealogical investigations for the Scudamores of Holme Lacy. A letter from Guillim dated 4 June 1606 to Sir John Scudamore (1542-1623) mentions "Peter de Scudamore who was nominated the first of many witnesses of good note [to a charter] and the seal of the same as your seal." Guillim grafted the Thomas Scudamore (who was probably the earliest ancestor known to Sir John by hearsay) onto the *Upton Scudamore* family. (PRO, *Duchess of Norfolk deeds*, C.115/Box M18, no. 7514.)

<sup>407</sup>Possibly it is identical with the place called Agnes' Meadow in 1213, containing 7 1/2 acres near the Dore River in the forest of Treville. The monks at the abbey said that they held it of Peter de Skidemore of the honour of Ewyas Harold. See *Rot. claus.* (Rec. Com.) I, 165.

In 1166 Walter de Scodimore held one of the knight's fees of his cousin Godfrey of Upton Scudamore, who in turn held it from Robert de Ewyas.<sup>408</sup>

He was succeeded by Walter de Scudamore III, to whom we attribute the confirmation of his father's gift to Dore Abbey at some unknown date after 1149. He was with Robert de Tregoz (who had married Sybil, the daughter and heir of Robert de Ewyas II) in Normandy in 1195.<sup>409</sup> Tregoz was bailiff for King Richard at the Cotentin Forest, and had a castle there on the Vire River. The roll of the Norman Exchequer records that Philip de Estapedon, Walter de Escudemore, and Elis de Chigeham had the king's writ for £8 (to be defrayed out of the farm of Barfleur) for their expenses in bringing their companies of Welsh horse and foot-soldiers across the channel in two ships.<sup>410</sup> How long Walter de Scudamore III remained in Normandy is unknown; Tregoz never returned to England and continued to serve King John in France after the turn of the century.<sup>411</sup>

At the death of Walter III the continuous sequence of men of his Christian name at Poston came to an end, although Walter IV appears in the next generation. Walter III was succeeded by Ralph de Scudamore, presumably his son and heir. He was an even greater benefactor of Dore Abbey than his ancestors had been. He gave two acres of his demesne at Poston to the abbey, but more importantly the whole of his grove in Escley which was at a spring or well called *Whitewell*, presently in the northern part of St Margaret's parish,

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<sup>408</sup>It is not known if this man is Godfrey I or II. The fee is likely to have been Corras in Kentchurch.

<sup>409</sup>G. E. C., *Complete Peerage*, XII, ii, 17. Tregoz had, of course, even larger estates in England particularly in the right of his wife.

<sup>410</sup>Societe des antiquars de Normandy (Caen), *Memoris*, V, 84. J. H. Round mentions this entry, but in a rare slip gives the date as 1180 (*The Ancestor*, VI, 145).

<sup>411</sup>A non-existent Sir Walter Scudamore of Upton Scudamore in this period should be laid to rest. Sir Richard Colt Hoare, *Modern Wiltshire* (Warminster Hundred) 56, suggests that Sir Walter, son and heir of Elis Scudamore, might have gone on a crusade: "Walter, the elder brother, may have gone to the Holy Land with Richard Coeur de Lion . . . it would seem that this Sir Peter was enfeoffed in the Wiltshire lands by his elder brother [Sir Walter], or got possession of them by some other means, for in the 1 King John he paid five marks for the five fees held of Ewyas." Elis Scudamore, and his nephew Sir Walter (died 1318), flourished later in the next century. Here, as elsewhere, his dating of deeds found in the Hungerford Cartulary are highly suspect. Hoare dates all deeds not specifically identified as from the reign of Edward II or III as Edward I which produces all kinds of difficulties.

and the whole of his cultivated land below the land which had belonged to William fitz Emma and near the land of Richard Belsire. He also gave the monks the right of common pasture on all his other lands, and the right of entry and egress across his lands to the lands which the abbey held in Escley close to these pastures.<sup>412</sup>

All of these lands, excepting the two acres at Poston, were on the west side of the Dore River and were held from the Lacy family. We do not know how the Scudamores came by Whitewall but it is the proper size to have been a *maritagium* that came to them with the bride of one of the Walters, perhaps Walter I. At the moment we know nothing of her family except that her father is likely to have been a tenant of the honour of Weobley if this should be so.

Whitewall was still in the hands of the abbey when it was suppressed by Henry VIII and the rent of Hytewall Grange [*sic*] was worth £1 6sh 8d by the year in 1536. Four years later the principal lands belonging to the abbey were granted by the king to John Scudamore (1486-1571) of Holme Lacy.

The original of this charter is lost, but it can be safely dated at about 1220 or soon after. Gilbert de Lacy gave a confirmation of his tenant's gift of the lands to the monks "which they have as a result of the gift of Ralph de Scudemore in Escley and the common pasture through all the lands of Escley, the same wholly and freely, which they had by the charter of the aforesaid Ralph de Scudemor."<sup>413</sup> His confirmation makes no mention of the two acres at Poston, which did not belong to the Lacy honour of Weobley.

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<sup>412</sup>*Mon. Angl.*, V, 555; *Charter roll*, 1226-57, 59. The *inspeximus* of the lands of Dore Abbey was given by Henry III on 15 December 1232 when he was at Hereford. Whitewell survives as Whitewall Farm between Turnastone and Michaelchurch Escley. (See the Ordnance Survey maps, coordinates 325 364.) Escley then included all that large area about Escley Brook.

<sup>413</sup>Gilbert de Lacy died in 1230, during the lifetime of his father, and can not have been an adult long before 1220. (Sanders, *English baronies*, 95). He had the managing of the Lacy estates in England during this decade as his father was almost continuously occupied in Ireland. In addition to the Scudemor gifts he also confirmed to the abbey lands given by charters of his father and grandfather. There is a later *inspeximus* of these abbey lands from Edward III in which it is said that Gilbert de Lacy confirmed them "with the consent of his wife." (*Charter roll*, 1327-41, 14). There is also a 14th century copy of the confirmation of Gilbert de Lacy at Hereford Cathedral. (*A calendar of the early Hereford Cathedral muniments and a list of Hereford Cathedral account rolls, court rolls, rentals and surveys*, comp. by Penelope E. Morgan (typescript), National Library of Wales, 1957, ref. 3240].

Ralph de Scudimor also granted a part of his lands at Whitewall to Edmund Canum of Poston, by a deed also now lost.<sup>414</sup> He had died before 1243 leaving Walter IV, his heir, and probably a younger son John (to be noticed under the Scudamores of Abergavenny and Rowlstone).

Our earliest mention of Walter de Scudemore IV is a deed (after 1232) from his neighbor Robert “de Wilmeston,” a son of Roger de Chandos, who gave a part of his lands in the present parish of Peterchurch to Dore Abbey. This land was between the land of Ganvilde “de Maubache” on both sides of the road and was bounded by a meadow called *Wetemore* (which the monks already owned) and as far as the land of Walter de Chandos.<sup>415</sup>

Walter IV held Poston and Little Hatfield, near Leominster, at the time of the *Testa de Nevill* (1243). Poston was rated at half a knight’s fee, and Walter de Scudimor held it from Godfrey de Scudimor (who died in 1266 at Upton), and Godfrey de Scudimor held it from Godfrey de Gamage “of the honour of Broughrood.”<sup>416</sup> This last statement proves to be an error, for Poston belonged not to the honour of Boughrood (made up of the lands which Gamage held in chief from the king), but rather to the honour of Castle Maud which was in Gamage’s keeping during the minority of Roger de Tony, the heir, then a child about seven years old.

Little Hatfield in Leominster Hundred was held in the same way as Poston (from Godfrey de Scudimor and Godfrey de Gamage) of the honour of Castle Maud, but Walter de Scudemor IV had enfeoffed his son-in-law, Richard de Kinnersley, with Little Hatfield, and he in turn had granted it to a certain Andrew “of Little Hatfield.”<sup>417</sup> It was rated as only tenth of a fee, and the

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<sup>414</sup>Referred to in the deed at the PRO (E.326/B.8542) noticed subsequently.

<sup>415</sup>*Harl. MS.*, 2044 fol. 160v. The witnesses were Robert de Chandos, lord of Wilmeston, Walter de Scudimor, William Crumpe, William le Paumer, and Sym[on] de Wilmeston. Wilmeston Farm survives in Peterchurch and Mowbach is a hamlet there. Walter “de Ebroicis” (Devereux) gave a confirmation of this gift for land in his fee to the abbey on 6 December 1251.

<sup>416</sup>*Book of fees*, 811. Henry III had given the scutage on the Tony lands during the minority of the heir to Queen Eleanor. (*Close roll*, 1237-42, 422). This is correctly noted in the *Testa* at Poston: *Regina habet breve*, which effectively exposes the Boughrood error. The Gamage family were from Gamaches in the department of Eure. Tosny, which gave its name to the Tony family, and Gamaches are about ten miles apart which suggests that the two families were associates before the conquest.

<sup>417</sup>*Ibid.*, 799.

scutage on both it and Poston was paid to the queen.<sup>418</sup>

The wardship of the Tony heir and the custody of his lands was sold soon after by the king to Walter de Avenbury; Gamage did not die until 1253. In 1249 Avenbury also had the keeping of half a fee in Poston, but the name of the tenant is not given.<sup>419</sup> Avenbury acquired in May 1250 the custody of the lands of Richard Dauntsey II, aged about 12, a nephew of Maud Scudamore of Upton.<sup>420</sup>

Unfortunately we learn nothing of Corras in Kentchurch or Whitewell in St. Margaret's in the *Testa de Nevill* in 1243 for both of these places were then regarded as being in Wales and outside the scope of the survey.

By 1244 a certain Isolda, a widow with no surname but described as “the lady of Corras,” leased the manor to Sir William de Tregoz, the rector of Kentchurch.<sup>421</sup> Her identity is not certainly known, but it seems likely that she was the widow of Ralph Scudamore.<sup>422</sup> Her charter was done “with my complete power of disposition possessed by a widow” and granted Tregoz the whole of her manor of Corras with its pertinencies reserving only the royal service that pertained to it. Tregoz was to render a pound of cumin annually to Isolda at Michelmas. The deed notes, curiously, that she “had caused all of

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<sup>418</sup>*Ibid.*, 813.

<sup>419</sup>*Ibid.*, 1479. Roger de Tony came of age in 1256. (Sanders, *English baronies*, 118).

<sup>420</sup>*Ibid.*, 1261.

<sup>421</sup>A *schedule of the Kentchurch court papers and documents*, comp. by B. G. Owens (typescript), National Library of Wales, 1957 (hereafter cited as the *Kentchurch schedule*), I, 3, (no. 1025). Yseuda [Isolda], lady of *Kaueros*, grants to Sir William de Tregoz the manor of Corras. The witnesses were Sir Hugh de Kilpec; Sir Walerans Teutonicus, the steward of the three castles of the king; Sir Richard Fuke; Richard, his son; William, then constable of Ewyas Lacy; William Walens'; John Codach; Seysel, son of Kederec; Gwyn, son of Gneythur; and Nicholas de Saint Keyne. The deed can be dated to a ten year period; Waleran Teutonicus had his office in 1234 and Hugh de Kilpec died in or before 1244. Seysel, son of Kederec, was the largest tenant at Kentchurch in this period as we know from other evidences.

<sup>422</sup>I am not completely happy with this identification; her charter specifies that she was granting “all the liberties possessed by me and my ancestors [*antecessores*] in the same manor with its pertinencies.” She is specifically identified as a widow and can hardly have also been descended from the ancient lords of Corras. The Latin *antecessores* can also be translated as “predecessors” and perhaps this is the meaning intended.

the boundaries of the said manor to be walked about” no doubt to formally determine and preserve them. Her grant to the rector of Kentchurch was probably a legal fiction to arm herself with some written evidence to fight the trespass of the king’s men across the Monnow River at Grosmont Castle who were driving their beasts across the river to pasture at Corras. If her deed dates from either 1242 or 1243 she may have picked Sir William de Tregoz as the lessee in place of his brother John, the lord of the honour of Ewyas Harold, who was then in Gascony.<sup>423</sup>

On 1 June 1247 Henry III ordered an inquest to be taken in Herefordshire to see if his men at Grosmont Castle had not enjoyed the right of common pasture in the manor of *Cauros* “in the time of Walter Scudemor or his ancestors or heirs.” It was found that the land had been given to the master and brothers of the Templars at Garway and Henry III, a great benefactor of the Templars himself, ordered the sheriff to see that his men did not trespass thereafter at Corras.<sup>424</sup> It would appear that Isolda had won her plea against the king, and doubtless Tregoz surrendered Corras back to Isolda or her heir soon after. When (and by whom) some part of Corras had been given to the Knights Templar is unknown. It would have been after 16 July 1199 when King John gave a confirmation to the Templars at Garway; Corras is not mentioned there.<sup>425</sup> On 16 August 1546 the John Scudamore of Kentchurch of that day purchased back his ancestor’s gift from the crown after the commandery of the Knights Hospitallers (who had succeeded the Templars) was dissolved. From this deed it would appear that the Scudamore benefaction to the Templars consisted in 1546 of 110 acres of pasture called Kentchurch Park and four other small pieces (of 10 acres, another pasture containing three acres, and two even smaller pieces) and some buildings “almost prostrated” all within the same park. The boundaries are given for the park; it was between the back of Garway Hill “and the mansion called Kentchurche late of James Scudamore on the west.” On the south the park was bounded by *the manor of Cowrose*, Garway Hill on the east, and lands called “Lanhethocke and the lordship of Kylpeke” on the north, and on the west “towards the lordship of Ewes Harrolde.”<sup>426</sup> The present deer park at Kentchurch was presumably augmented

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<sup>423</sup>G.E.C., *Complete Peerage*, XII, 19. The king lent Sir John de Tregoz 20 marks in 1242 to cross to Gascony, and he was still there in 1243 and perhaps later. It may be that Walter Scudamore IV, her son, was also in Gascony with Tregoz and his absence would explain Isolda’s action in his stead.

<sup>424</sup>*Close Roll*, 1242-7, 515.

<sup>425</sup>Matthews, *Hundred of Wormelow, Lower Division*. pt. 1, 41.

<sup>426</sup>*Letters and papers, Henry VIII*, xxi, 763. John Scudamore was then living at Nuneham Courteney, Oxfordshire, with his brother-in-law Sir John Pollard. Pollard was subsequently Speaker of the House of Commons.

with other lands; in 1913 J. H. Matthews notes that it contained 250 acres and that 130 fallow deer grazed there.<sup>427</sup> The 123 acres once in the hands of the Templars must have been a very small part of Corras, and it is useful to note that in 1546 the Scudamores already owned the *manor* of Corras. The greater part of Corras seems to have gone in some unknown way to the Wroth family and then to John Skydmore “of Kencherge” who was living there before 8 August 1386.<sup>428</sup>

Walter IV had died before 1264 leaving a daughter Sybil de Scudamore as his sole heiress. She had married Richard Kinnersley before 1243, as we have seen. There are several Poston deeds at the Public Record Office mentioning Sybil. In the first of these, dated the Saturday before the feast of St. Mary Magdalene (18 July) 1264, is an acknowledgement of a lease of a tenement in Poston to Mathew Pathelard from Matilda [*sic*], a daughter of Walter de Scudimor, and the wife of Richard de Kynardesley. For his tenement Pathelard rendered a Welsh arrow yearly, and Matilda bound herself to give him a seam of corn and one of oats.<sup>429</sup> The other is undated, but is clearly later since Sybil is now a widow. John Canum, son of Edmund Canum, granted to Sybil de Scudimor “formerly the wife of Richard de Kynardesle,” all that land which his father had from Ralph de Scudimor at Whitewell.<sup>430</sup>

Sybil, the lady of Poston, was apparently childless. She is spoken of also as a benefactor to Dore Abbey, but the evidence for this seems to have disappeared.<sup>431</sup> Late in life she leased all of her lands at Poston to John de Pembridge (died 1331) for the term of his life. On 12 November 1291 Pembridge granted all his right at Poston which he had from the demise of

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<sup>427</sup>Matthews, *Hundred of Wormelow, Upper Division*, pt. 2, 12.

<sup>428</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1385-9, 257.

<sup>429</sup>PRO, E.326/B.2961. The witnesses were Sir Henry, abbot of Dore; Master Richard de Terdebig, official of the archdeacon of Hereford; Walter le Seculer; Robert Wroth; Richard Dansey; Ralph the priest; Philip Bras; and Roger Ragun. Two of the witnesses should be noted: Robert Wroth we will meet later in Abergavenny as a possible father-in-law of Vincent de Scudamore; Richard Dansey (or Dauntsey) was a kinsman of the Scudamores in Wiltshire (Dansey became the more usual spelling in Herefordshire).

<sup>430</sup>PRO, E.326/B.8542. The witnesses were Sir Nicholas Evereus; Richard Fuke; Henry de Baldesane; Hugh Ragun; Philip Bras; Roger Ragun; Ralph the priest; Nicholas son of Ragun; and Philip Wyn.

<sup>431</sup>Perhaps it may be related to an ancient deed at the Public Record Office (E.326/B.4331) where Sybil de Kinnard [*sic*] gave to the abbot and convent of Dore a grange in Kingstone with all the hay therein for 26 marks. The original is in wretched condition and the date and the witnesses cannot be read.

Sybil de Schydmore to Roger Ragun for 40sh rent by the year.<sup>432</sup> Ragun probably had other deeds from Sybil (or Roger Bavant) for in the *Nomina Villarum* of 1316 we find him certified as “lord of Poston.”<sup>433</sup> If we believe hearsay evidences collected in 1373 (some 80 years after) then Sybil was living as late as 1293. In 1293, on the death of Sir Peter Scudamore of Upton Scudamore, the overlordship of Poston passed to his Bavant heirs. Roger de Bavant II granted it to the king on 1 July 1344 together with all of the other lands which he had inherited from the Scudamores. His motive is left unstated, but this grant to the crown may have been an effort to thwart his creditors who were owed far more than his estate was worth. An inquest was taken at Ewyas Harold on 13 December 1373 about these lands and the jurors found that *Tibota* (for which we must read *Sybil*) Scudmor had held Poston from Roger Bavant by the yearly service of a sore sparrow-hawk or 2sh but who held Poston (in 1373) the jurors did not know.<sup>434</sup> Poston disappears after 1373 from the crown lands, and it is not mentioned in the foundation grant by the king to the priory at Darford in 1382.

With the death of Sybil de Kinnersley the representation of the family at Poston presumably passed to her kinsman Vincent de Scudamore of Abergavenny.

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<sup>432</sup>The witnesses were Sir Robert le Rous; Sir Henry de Solariis; Sir John de Kirkecote, Knts.; Walter de Evereus; Bartholomew Dansey; Henry de Pembridge; Richard de Cleaungre; Walter Ragun; and John de Huntelaw. John de Pembridge was a grandson of Godfrey de Gamage (met earlier) who died in 1253. His mother Elizabeth (died 1309) was the eldest daughter and heir of Godfrey; she married Henry de Pembridge who died in 1272 long before his wife.

<sup>433</sup>*Feudal Aids*, II, 388. On 20 June 1300 the jurors at the *inquest post mortem* of John de Tregoz, lord of Ewyas Harold, found that Roger Ragun held Poston in Straddel as half a knights fee of Tregoz and that it was worth 30sh by the year. This was an error. It was caught rather quickly for Poston does not appear among the lands divided by the heirs of Tregoz in the following year (Bannister, *Ewias Harold*, 113).

<sup>434</sup>*Cal. of Inq. Misc.*, III, 337-8. The original of this inquest has been seen at the Public Record Office; *Tibota* is correctly transcribed. The jurors were recalling events from the previous century, and they do have it correctly that the last of the Scudamores at Poston was feminine. Roger Bavant I proved his age 6 October 1301 and entered on his lands; it would seem unlikely that Sybil lived this late as the inquest implies. Little Hatfield was held two years later in 1303 by William de Weston as a tenth of a fee from the honor of Castle Maud, but the intermediaries (if any) between himself and the honour are not given. (*Feudal aids*, II, 381).



## CHAPTER XV

### THE SCUDAMORES OF ABERGAVENNY AND ROWLSTONE; VINCENT DE SCUDAMORE (LIVING 1281) AND HIS SONS ROBERT (LIVING 1299) AND JOHN SCUDAMORE (DEAD 1340)

The paternity of Vincent de Scudamore is not proven, but he is likely to have been a son of John de Scudimor living about 1230 in Herefordshire.<sup>435</sup> Vincent was beyond doubt a cousin of Sybil de Scudamore, the last of her name at Poston, in some unknown degree. He was ancestor to all of the Scudamores who came after him in Herefordshire and Monmouthshire.

He seems to have married soon after 1250 in Herefordshire, perhaps to a daughter of Robert Wroth.<sup>436</sup> Both families later went to Abergavenny in

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<sup>435</sup>Only one reference to this John Scudimor, who perhaps died as a young man, has yet been found. The name John had not been used previously by the Scudamores and it may be significant that Vincent gave it to one of his sons. As for the record evidence: Thomas de Caples, of [How] Caple in Herefordshire, gave to the hospital at St. Bartholomew in Bristol about 1230 three acres of his demesne, an acre in Willersley and Kinnersley near the land of Walter de Laulle, another acre in Ailey “nearer Kinnersley,” and a third “on Bradulum” near the land of Henry son of Elfrich’. The witnesses to this grant are Richard de Caples; John de Scudimor; Walter Muchgros of Caple; Mael son of Daniel, the priest; Richard Burgess; David Donninc; John de Gosedic; John le Draper; and all of the hallmote of Caple. [*Records of the corporation of Gloucester*, comp. by W. H. Stevenson (1893) 136]. Stevenson dates it as about 1230; Thomas de Caples is mentioned in the pipe roll for this year but was dead by 1243 leaving William de Caples as his heir.

<sup>436</sup>Robert Wroth, as has been noted elsewhere, was a witness on 18 July 1264 to a deed from Sybil de Scudamore of Poston. He is undoubtedly the Robert Wroth who begins the pedigree of Wroth of Abergavenny in the *Llyfr Baglan*. It is said of him there (spelling modernized and punctuation added), “Sir Robert Wroth of the county of Herfordshire, knight, lineally descended from Wroth, a noble man who lived in the time of Edgar, king of England. This Robert Wroth was beneficial to the house and abbey of Dore, and builded a great part thereof as appeareth by his name graven in the pillars of the church in these words, *Robertus Wroth, miles, me fecit*. The said Robert Wroth, knight, married and had issue; he beareth *gules*, true love’s knot *or*, in the

Monmouthshire, and on 6 August 1273 Vincent de Scudemore, called “a merchant of Abergavenny” had a license to export wool from that place.<sup>437</sup> While we do not have as yet any proof of the Wroth alliance it is certain that they and the Scudamores were never far apart for most of the next century.

He purchased three small pieces of land about Abergavenny from Philip, son of Herbert Malewas, by an undated charter.<sup>438</sup> These included a meadow below the pond in the vineyard of Abergavenny (excepting the dower interest that Alice, the grantor’s mother, held during her lifetime), three acres below the town at *Voule Sloth*, and other lands from Philip, son of William Juvenis of St. Michael’s lying near a lane from Abergavenny towards *Kevennyys Ford*.<sup>439</sup> On 24 September 1279 Vincent de Scudemor, Macy Wroth, and 12 others were distrained at the assizes sitting in the church of St. Michael Crucorney “not to confer with the other men of vill’ of Abergavenny in prosecuting trespasses and injustices, etc.”<sup>440</sup> Presumably this somewhat cryptic entry referred to the matter next above which was later erased from the roll. Vincent de Scudemore was living as late as 14 May 1281 when he testified at Abergavenny that the bishop of Llandaff had held the church of Llancilio Pertholey from time immemorial.<sup>441</sup>

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upper scutcheon two lions rampart *argent*.” [*Llyfr Baglan*, ed. J. A. Bradney (1910) 139].

<sup>437</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1271-81, 24. This is the first reference yet found to the family at Abergavenny unless the deed from Malewas should prove to be earlier. Very little work has been done on the Scudamores in Monmouthshire.

<sup>438</sup>*Kentchurch schedule*, I, 3. This is the oldest deed mentioning Scudemore until recently at Kentchurch Court. The Rowlston deeds were taken to Kentchurch some time after the marriage of Philip Scudemore (1489-1544) of Rowlstone and Joan Scudemore (1497-1538) of Kentchurch. The Kentchurch papers (including those formerly at Rowlstone) were at the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth where an exemplary typed schedule was made of them in chronological order. They have since been transferred to the record office in Hereford.

<sup>439</sup>The witnesses are Peter Lof, steward of Abergavenny; Adam de Lantesl’; Herbert *camerarius*; William Juvenis of St. Michael’s; Beethyn ap Meurig; Seycil ap Meurig; Walter son of Peter; [Macy?] Wroth; and Robert Wroth. Henry de Bray was steward of Abergavenny by 1274 and presumably this grant dates from before that year.

<sup>440</sup>*Welsh Assize Roll*, 1277-84 (1940) 273.

<sup>441</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1272-81, 434. Also present were Robert and Macy Wroth. See also *Chancery miscellany*, C. 260/2 no. 18 at the Public Record Office for the proceedings in the court of the steward of Abergavenny, 6 Edward I (Rex vs. Bishop and chapter of Llandaff) as to the church of Llantillio Pertholy.

Robert de Scudamore, his son, was probably born soon after 1250, a namesake perhaps of Robert Wroth.<sup>442</sup> Whether he or his brother John was the elder son of Vincent de Scudamore is not known.

On Thursday next before the feast of St. Ambrose, bishop (2 April) 1299, Agnes and Gladys, daughters of Peter de Oke of Rowlstone in Herefordshire, released all the lands and tenements which their father held in the fee of Rowlstone to Robert, son of Vincent Scudemor of Abergavenny.<sup>443</sup> Soon after (possibly on the same day) Robert Scudemor granted to his brother John certain lands and bondsmen at Rowlstone which he had by the deed of Robert son of Richard de Oke (to be noticed in greater detail elsewhere). How long Robert de Scudamore lived after 1299 is presently unknown.

His brother John of Abergavenny and Aberystwyth, was probably born soon after 1250. He was an adult by about 1276 as we infer from the following: the assizes sitting at St. Michael Crucorney on 24 September 1279 were entirely concerned with the complaints of the burgesses of Abergavenny against the administration of Master Henry de Bray, the king's steward there, who was very much a martinet.<sup>444</sup> In one of the plaints presented we learn that several of Bray's officials had come to Abergavenny in or before a date in 1276 to see a certain game called "la Quinteyne" played.<sup>445</sup> There was a dispute between Bray's men and John Scudemore, a burgess, in his own house. During this Adam Woodcock, an uncle of John Scudemore, took a dagger from the sheath of Robert Scot, one of the men, struck him in the middle of the body, and left him for dead. The official's friends took Scudemore and his uncle prisoner and led them to Abergavenny Castle where they were kept in prison until they

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<sup>442</sup>The Wroths may have returned the honor. In 1300 the abbot of Llanthony presented John Wroth to the church at Cusop, Herefs., and in 1316 Vincent Wroth to the same benefice. (John Duncumb, *Collections towards the hist. and antiq. of the county of Hereford*, ii, 288). The name Vincent is uncommon enough to suggest that this Vincent Wroth may be the Vincent "de Bergevenny" who was name a canon of Llandaff on 14 July 1327 and who was succeeded in 1330 by Thomas Skydemore. (*Cal. of Papal Reg.*, ii, 259, 308).

<sup>443</sup>*Kentchurch schedule*, I, (Ref. 1022). The witnesses are John Chayneel, steward of Ewyas Lacy; Richard Wroth, then constable there; John de Wynneston; William le Barry; William ap Philip Vychan; Ivor ap Philip; Iorweth ap Nicol; John ap Ivor; and Henry, clerk. It is dated at Ewyas Lacy and was perhaps done at a sitting of the hundred court at that place.

<sup>444</sup>The honour of Abergavenny was in the king's hands by reason of the minority of the heir, John de Hastings (1262-1313). In 1281 the king gave the custody of the honour to William de Valence and Bray was then presumably employed elsewhere. (Sanders, *English baronies*, 8).

<sup>445</sup>Quintain was the sport of tilting at a mark with poles or lances.

found 24 mainpernors to guarantee their appearance at the hundred court.

No mention was made of the matter for three years, when unexpectedly the steward had both men called at the hundred court. Neither was present and for this default Scudemore and his uncle and the mainpernors were all imprisoned. The jury found for Bray and the burgesses were to be amerced for a false claim.<sup>446</sup>

The assizes sitting a fortnight later (6 October 1279) ordered the bailiff of Abergavenny to distrain Robert Wroth, Miles Wroth, John Scudemore (and 13 others) to be before the bench at Montgomery three weeks from St. Martin to make full security to Henry Bray, steward, to insure the king's peace and so that no harm might happen to either the life or limb of the steward.<sup>447</sup>

It is probable that John de Scudamore was with the expedition of Edward I in the fall of 1277 against Llewelyn ap Griffith, and next to certain that he served in the Welsh wars of 1282-3 and 1294-5.<sup>448</sup> His reward for this good service was the constabulary of Llanbadarn Castle at what is now Aberystwyth. He is probably the John de Skydemore nominated on 28 June 1278 by Maurice fitz Maurice Fitzgerald to serve as his attorney in England.<sup>449</sup> Maurice had served as justiciar in Ireland, but held extensive lands in England in the right of his wife.<sup>450</sup>

His early prominence of Abergavenny is indicated by the taxation of 1292 in which he appears fifth below the lord and was assessed 31sh as a fifteenth of the value of his possessions.<sup>451</sup>

John Scudemore acquired an estate in Rowstone, Herefordshire, in 1299 which remained with his direct descendants at Kentchurch until 1922. By an undated charter (but perhaps witnessed on 2 April 1299) Robert, son of Vincent

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<sup>446</sup>*Welsh Assize Roll, 1277-84, (1940) 170-80.* This is drawn from the *Miscellanea of the Exchequer*, PRO, ref. E. 163/2/38 headed "*De Querelis Bergensium de Bergeveny contra Henricum de Bray Senescallum.*" The original roll has been used to prepare this account.

<sup>447</sup>*Ibid.*, 293.

<sup>448</sup>John E. Morris, *The Welsh Wars of Edward I* (1901) 270.

<sup>449</sup>*Patent Roll, 1272-8, 273.*

<sup>450</sup>Maurice fitz Maurice (Fitzgerald) died in 1286. See the *DNB*, vii, 139 (where his death is wrongly estimated), and G. H. Orpen, *Ireland under the Normans* (1920) iv, 129

<sup>451</sup>*Bulletin of the Board of Celtic Studies* (Wales University) XIII (1950) 225.

Scudemore, granted to his brother John the lands and bondsmen in Rowlstone which he held by the deed of Robert, son of Richard de Oke.<sup>452</sup> Very possibly on the same day Robert de Oke himself gave another deed to John “son of Vincent Scudemore of Bergaveny” for a capital messuage in Rowlstone.<sup>453</sup>

It appears to have been several generations, however, before his descendants settled permanently at Rowlstone. John himself spent most of his later life in Cardiganshire. Rowlstone became eventually the seat of the senior branch of the Scudamores in Herefordshire and remained so until 1521, although by the early 15th century two junior branches at Kentchurch and Holme Lacy eclipsed the main stem in prominence.<sup>454</sup>

At Michaelmas 1298 John de Skidemore, styled “the king’s yeoman,” had an appointment during pleasure to keep the castle of Llanbadarn Fawr at Aberystwyth together with its armaments and munitions. Two years later he had an appointment to the same office for life. The office was a lucrative one, and he was to have £60 a year payable out of the exchequer at Carmarthen. He was to keep 50 defensible men in the castle, 18 archers and 24 crossbowmen. The original patent to him seems to have gone unrecorded since it was not from the king. From a later memorandum we find that it was sealed with the seal of Edward II while he was still the prince of Wales.<sup>455</sup> He was installed at the

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<sup>452</sup>*Kentchurch schedule*, I, 1 (Ref. 1019). The witness list is exactly the same as the deed from Agnes and Gladys de Oke to Robert Scudemor cited elsewhere except that Jevan ap Philip testified in place of Henry, clerk.

<sup>453</sup>*Ibid.*, 2 (Ref. 1021). The witness list is identical to the above except that William de Carravel has replaced Henry, clerk. Obviously all three of these deeds stem from about the same date, possibly the same day (2 April 1299). The Oke family had acquired at least a part of these lands from the Feipo family. By an undated charter Richard de Feypo granted land in Rowlston to Richard, son of Robert de Oke (Noka). The witnesses to this deed were Sir Walter de Baskervil; Sir Ralph de Baskervil; Sir John de Tregoz; Roger de Hayer(?); Sir Gervase, then deacon of Ewyas; Robert Tubervil; William Landum; Walter de Eynesford; Griffin Goh; and Gervase son of John. (*Notes from the Hill Mss. forming part of the collection of the late Robert Biddulph Phillips of Longworth, Herefs.*, (The City Library, Hereford) ii, 261. Hereafter cited as *Hill Mss.*)

<sup>454</sup>John Duncumb, *Collections toward the hist. and antiq. of the county of Hereford*, ii, 199. Duncumb writes that the family mansion stood near the church at Rowlstone but no traces of it were then (1812) visible.

<sup>455</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1307-13, 71, 116. On 20 May 1309 this patent was renewed by Edward II, now king, and these facts were on the information of Hugh Despenser. Richard Wroth had the keeping of Emlyn Castle, a somewhat

castle by 24 October 1300 when John de Skydemore, constable of Llanbadarn Fawr Castle in county Cardigan, had letters of protection for one year.<sup>456</sup> The accounts for West Wales show that the garrison was later reduced to 30 men (15 archers and 15 crossbowmen), and that supplies for the castle (on one occasion “Skydmore’s robes”) were brought in frequently from Hereford.<sup>457</sup>

About the year 1306 Robert de Oke granted the manor of Rowlstone to John, son of Vincent Skydemor of Abergavenny, for £100. John had paid £40 of the consideration, and £30 was to be paid in two installments at the church of Ewyas Harold on the feast of St. Ethelbert, king (20 May) 1307 and again on the same feast day in 1308. If John Skydemor should default he was to lose the monies paid unless he is disturbed by the general war in West Wales. He also agreed to support Robert de Oke with horse and groom for life and “as often as he may wish to live in the company of said John and Cicilia, his wife,” and to provide him with a suitable robe with fur yearly.<sup>458</sup>

During this period he had the lease of the royal pastures between the rivers Einion and Llyfnant in the commote of Genau’r Glyn, and in May 1308 was engaged in improving the fortifications at Llanbadarn castle. Shortly thereafter John Skydemore was accused by Margery, the widow of Geoffrey Clement, of taking her husband’s records and tallies and levying them to the value of £200 as well as keeping £300 from the issues of her husband’s office collected before his death in 1294.<sup>459</sup>

He was appointed constable of Mefenydd at Michaelmas 1307 and served there until 1321, and for another term beginning at Michaelmas 1327 until his death. On 24 September 1315 an order was sent to Henry Martyn, justiciar of West

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smaller establishment, at 40 marks by the year. He is doubtless the same man who was constable at Ewyas Lacy earlier, and witness to the Scudemore deeds there in 1299.

<sup>456</sup>*Ibid.*, 1292-1301, 541. This protection was renewed to John de Skidemor “employed on the fortification of Llanbadarn Castle in Wales” on 4 May 1308 until Michaelmas. (*Ibid.*, 1307-13, 71).

<sup>457</sup>*Ministers’ accounts for West Wales, 1277-1306*, ed. Myvanwy Rhys (Cymmrodion rec. ser., 1936).

<sup>458</sup>*Kentchurch schedule*, I, 4. John also agreed to defend Robert de Oke against an action by Iorwerth ap Nichol for 23 marks, and if Iorwerth recovered this sum to reimburse Robert for them. The witnesses were Sir Richard de Baskerville; Sir Gerald de Eynesforth, Knts.; Thomas de Moneye; John de Wynneston; Wiliam son of Philip; William le Barry; and William ap Griffith.

<sup>459</sup>PRO, Special Collections 8/104/5192.

Wales, that an inquisition of a dispute between John de Skydemore and the Welsh of Genau'r Glyn in Cardiganshire should be taken by Englishmen and not by Welshmen "as the Welsh hate the said John because he inflicted so much damage upon them during the war in the late king's time."<sup>460</sup> Three days later an order was sent to Martyn that John de Skydemore, the king's yeoman and constable of Llanbadarn Fawr Castle, was to continue to hold the constabulary of Mefenydd. He had held the farm of this since the late king's reign which had been paid in full, but the present king had learned that the justiciar intended to remove him from that constabulary at the procurement of other persons.<sup>461</sup> Skydemore survived all these conspiracies for the moment and in March 1321 was ordered to return to Llanbadarn castle in person.<sup>462</sup>

The keeping of the castle of Llanbadarn was given, during pleasure, to Rhys ap Gruffydd on 31 October 1326, and John de Skydemore was ordered to deliver it to him with all things in his keeping by an indenture to be made between them.<sup>463</sup> It is likely that John, now perhaps over 70, no longer had the confidence of all his associates in Wales. But again the order seems to have been rescinded by the king, probably after he protested that he held the office for life. He was still in command at Llanbadarn on 27 February 1328 when an order was issued to the prior of Kaermerdyn, the chamberlain of South Wales, to pay John Skydemore (constable of Llanbadarn) the arrears of his usual fees for the time of the prior's office as chamberlain and thereafter.<sup>464</sup> Later in the same year (24 November 1328) the reversion of the office was given for good service to John de Montgomery, the king's yeoman and usher of the chamber, which John de Skidemore holds for life to hold after Skidemore's death as he holds the same.<sup>465</sup> Montgomery had succeeded to this appointment by 8 December 1330 when the chamberlain of Kaermerdyn had an order to pay him.<sup>466</sup>

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<sup>460</sup>*Close Roll*, 1313-8, 249.

<sup>461</sup>*Ibid.*, 249. For Mefenydd see Ralph A. Griffiths *The principality of Wales in the late Middle Ages* (Wales University, 1972) I, 227-8, 533.

<sup>462</sup>*Close Roll*, 1318-23, 290-1.

<sup>463</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1319-27, 422. For Rhys ap Gruffydd see *Dictionary of Welsh Biography* (1959) 839. He was a supporter of the Despencers and fled to Scotland on their downfall.

<sup>464</sup>*Close Roll*, 1327-30, 268.

<sup>465</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1327-37, 112.

<sup>466</sup>*Close Roll*, 1330-3, 79. John Skydemore, "now deceased it is said," vice Montgomery, is mentioned on 3 January 1340 (*ibid.*, 1339-41, 341). It should be noted that Rev. C. Moor, *Knights of Edward I* (Harl. Soc., 1931) iv, 233, identifies the constable of Llanbadarn Castle with John, the son of Sir Walter

John de Scudamore appears to have left several sons in holy orders in addition to John, his son and heir. He was ancestor to all of the Scudamores who came afterwards in Herefordshire.

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Scudamore of Upton Scudamore. There are many reasons why it is unlikely that the parson in Wiltshire was not the constable in Cardiganshire, but the fact that Sir John of South Wells was living in 1340 puts the final quietus to this thesis.

## CHAPTER XVI

### JOHN SCUDAMORE II, LORD OF ROWLSTONE, AND HIS YOUNGER SONS PHILIP AND THOMAS SCUDAMORE.

John Scudamore II was born in the period about 1280 and seems to have been living as late as 1349. He is apparently the John Skydemore who married Alice, a daughter and co-heiress (with her sister Sybil, wife of John ap Gerald Sitsylt) of Sir Robert Ewyas. Her sons and grandsons are frequently known as Ewyas or *alias* Ewyas in her right.

Rowlstone belonged to the great Lacy honour of Weobley. At the death of Walter de Lacy in 1241 the honour had been divided among his two granddaughters as co-heiresses.<sup>467</sup> Rowlstone was among the lands awarded to Margery, the wife of John de Verdun. Her grandson, Theobald de Verdun II of Ewyas Lacy, died in 1316.<sup>468</sup> On the Monday after Epiphany (13 January) 1337 an inquest was taken on his lands in Herefordshire and the jurors found that John Skydmor held half a knight's fee at Rowlston from Verdun.<sup>469</sup>

John Skydemore is a witness in 20 Edward III (1346) to a deed dated at Ewyas Lacy from Llewellyn de Ewyas, who was no doubt a kinsman of his wife. In it Llewellyn, a son of Thomas de Ewyas, granted and released to his mother Alice and his brother John and his wife Margaret all his lands in Ewyas Lacy which he held in fee from Joan Mortimer, countess of March, and Bartholomew Burgherst. The witnesses were John de Wyneston and John Skydemore.<sup>470</sup>

John Skydemore, "lord of Rowlstone," granted certain lands at *Kayr Wared* (now Cae-newydd Wood) and an acre at *Puteis* (Paradise Wood) and two other crofts to his son Philip on the Monday next after the feast of St. Benedict, abbot (23 March) 1349, the witnesses including his eldest son and heir John. The charter notes that these places adjoined land that had once belonged to

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<sup>467</sup>Sanders, *English baronies*, 95. They were the daughters of Gilbert de Lacy (died 1230) who is noticed earlier as confirming the gift of Whitewall by Ralph de Scudamore to Dore Abbey.

<sup>468</sup>*DNB*, XX, 218.

<sup>469</sup>*Cal. of inq. p. m.*, VII, 501.

<sup>470</sup>*Hill Mss.*, II, 262. For the interest that Joan and Bartholomew had in the Lacy honour of Weobley see Sanders, *English Baronies*, 95-6.

Walter “*de Pedwardyn*” (Bredwardine).<sup>471</sup> We have one other reference to Philip Scudamore in the cartulary of the priory of Ewyas Harold. In a release dated in the feast of St. Augustine, confessor (28 August) 1357 Bernard Bras resigned to Walter de Monmouth, the prior, all his claim to Holy Cross acre for which he had paid 4d by the year. The witnesses were John ap Gwylym, Philip Scudamor, and others.<sup>472</sup>

So far as is presently known Philip left no heirs. The deed of 23 March 1349 had provided for this eventuality, and his brother Thomas Skydmore was given the reversion of the lands if Philip died without male heirs. Thomas Skydmore *alias* Ewyas is said by an early herald’s visitation to have married his cousin, an unnamed daughter and co-heiress (with her three sisters) of Clarice de Ewyas by her husband Jevan Llewellyn (or Whelan). Whelan is described as “a gentilman of the King’s Court.”<sup>473</sup>

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<sup>471</sup>*Kentchurch schedule*, 5 (Ref. 1026). The witnesses were David ap Iorweth; John, his son; John ap William, John Run, and Thomas ap Symond. It is dated at Rowlstone.

<sup>472</sup>Bannister, *Ewias Harold*, 53. John Hunt suggests that he may be the Philip de Ewyas who is mentioned as recently dead on 1 July 1360 in the Close Rolls.

<sup>473</sup>Thomas Skydmore was probably the father of another Philip Skydmore (“otherwise called Philipe Evias” who was the first of the family to seat himself at Holme Lacy. (See that place in my forthcoming book tentatively titled *Thirty generations of the Scudamore/Skidmore family in England and America*; the text of the herald’s visitation (copies are to be found in the library at Kentchurch Court and at the British Library) will also be found there under Rowlstone.

## CHAPTER XVII

[SIR] JOHN SCUDAMORE *alias* EWYAS III, LORD OF ROWLSTONE,  
AND HIS SONS RICHARD, JOHN IV, AND ROBERT SCUDAMORE.

John Skydmore *alias* Ewyas III was probably born by 1310 and seems to have been living as late as 1370. He is first noticed on 23 March 1349 when he was a witness to a deed of his father granting land at Rowlstone to his brother Philip.

John III held Rowlstone but appears to have lived at Abergavenny. References are abundant to him in the Welsh pedigrees where he is usually styled a knight and called “of Abergavenny.” He is the first of his name in Herefordshire who is said to have used the familiar Scudamore stirrups; the *Llyfr Baglan* notes that he bore arms “gules 3 steroppes orr.”<sup>474</sup> He is also said to have married Joyce, the daughter and heir of Sir Robert Merbury, an alliance which is not proved by any record evidence yet found.<sup>475</sup>

On 11 June 1369 John Skydmore “of Herefordshire” was a mainpernor (with others) for brother Ralph Maylock, proctor of the abbot of Lire, to hold the lands and possessions of the alien abbey in Normandy on account of the rupture of the peace made lately at Calais by the French.<sup>476</sup> The same commission was renewed to him a year later on 1 May 1370.<sup>477</sup> We are now approaching that period (the last quarter of the 14th century) when a plurality of John Skydmores makes it difficult to distinguish among them. It seems likely that these entries refer to John III for neither his son or nephew of the name would yet have the status in either years or possessions to make him

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<sup>474</sup>*Llyfr Baglan*, ed. J. A. Bradney (1910) 140.

<sup>475</sup>However, the Merburys and the Scudamores of Kentchurch were certainly kith (if not kin) in the next century. An early charter at Berkeley Castle in Gloucestershire dated 21 August 1429 from John Merbury and Agnes, his wife (and others), demised the manor, vill, and regalian lordship of Talgarth in Wales, to James de Berkeley, knight, lord of Berkeley. The witnesses were Robert Whytney, and John Skydmore, knights, and John Havard, John Solers, Thomas ap Philip Vaughan, Philip ap William Lloyd, and Howell ap Llewellen ap Howell.

<sup>476</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1368-77, 14.

<sup>477</sup>*Ibid.*, 74.

useful to Maylock as a mainpernor.

Richard Skydmore *alias* Ewyas was his eldest son and heir. He may have been born as early as 1335. He was an adult by 4 June 1368 when he appears as a witness to a grant by Robert Yues, penitentiary of the cathedral church at Hereford, to Henry Cachepol for life of certain lands at *Lutteley* in the environs of Hereford city.<sup>478</sup>

He was a witness on 27 March 1379 for John St. Manifee who granted all his lands at Turnaston and Chanston in Herefordshire [which had descended to him from his uncle Walter Dansey] to John Colyngbourne, a clerk, and to Henry Pyres of Tilshead in Wiltshire. On the day following St. Manifee gave Richard Skydemor a letter of attorney to deliver seisin of the same lands to Colyngbourne and Pyres.<sup>479</sup>

Richard Skydmore, Thomas Dansey of Webton, and others, were named on 27 May 1384 to collect the subsidy of a fifteenth and a tenth in Herefordshire.<sup>480</sup>

Sir William Furnival, a son of Joan de Verdun and heir to a part of the honour of Weobley, died in 1383. On 12 February 1385 the escheator in Herefordshire and the marches of Wales was ordered to give livery to his widow Thomasine of certain fees and advowsons as her dower in the lands of her late husband. Among these was a half fee in Rowlstone pertaining to Ewyas Lacy Castle held by Richard Skidmore at 50sh by the year.<sup>481</sup>

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<sup>478</sup>*A calendar of the early Hereford Cathedral muniments and a list of Hereford Cathedral account rolls, rentals and surveys*, comp. by Penelope E. Morgan (typescript, National Library of Wales, 1957) ref. 80. The place *Lutteley* is probably Litley on the north side of the Wye east of the city. Cachepol was mayor in 1383 and 1384. The witnesses are Richard Skydemore; John Wrotham; and Walter le Webb. There are a great many other documents calendared here between 1380 and 1396 to which Richard Skydemore testified, particularly during those years when he was mayor of the city. *Yues* would seem to be a phonetic spelling of *Ewyas* and it is likely that Robert was a kinsman in some degree.

<sup>479</sup>*Close Roll*, 1377-81, 238, 243. The witnesses were Sir John Bromwich; Sir John Eynesford, Knts.; William David, clerk; John Bodenham; and Richard Skydemore. Walter Dansey had died in 1369 leaving his sister Margaret, wife of Sir Ralph Norton, and his nephew John St. Manifee (son of another sister Joan) as his heirs. (*Wilts. Inq. p. m.*, 1327-77, 351; *Close Roll*, 1377-81, 179).

<sup>480</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1383-91, 46.

<sup>481</sup>*Close Roll*, 1381-5, 527. Joan Furnival, his mother, was another of the daughters and co-heirs of Theobald de Verdun II. (Sanders, *English baronies*),

Richard Skydmore held Rowlstone, but seems to have spent the greater part of his life at Hereford. He was mayor there in 1385, 1386, 1387, and again in 1389 and 1394. On other occasions he is called bailiff of the city.<sup>482</sup> On 8 August 1387 Richard Skydmore, the mayor of Hereford, John Skidmore of Kentchurch (probably his brother), and William Jouet had an order to arrest several men who had been paid to accompany Robert de Vere, marquess of Dublin, to Ireland but were not preparing to go.<sup>483</sup> He is probably the Richard *Ewyas* who was a mainpernor on 3 November 1396 for John Skydemore (probably his son in this instance).

An order was given on 8 October 1403 to the keepers of the peace and the justices of oyer and terminer in Herefordshire not to trouble Richard Skydmore (and others) who had been released as mainpernors for the appearance of Jordan Bykelswade, the abbot of Dore, who had been indicted for certain felonies and was now under arrest.<sup>484</sup>

An extremely useful charter survives from Richard Skydmore dated on the vigil of the apostles Simon and Jude (27 October) 1404. Richard Skydmore is styled a citizen of Hereford, and he joins Philip Ewyas of Holme Lacy [his nephew beyond any doubt], Philip Cope, and John Bugge of Holme Lacy, in granting a tenement in *Kilpodys* (Killforge in Ballingham) to George Ewyas, and to John Ewyas “brother to the aforesaid Philip Ewyas.”<sup>485</sup> Richard Skydmore *alias* Ewyas was dead by 30 September 1409.<sup>486</sup> His younger brother John Skydmore *alias* Ewyas, the fourth of his name, was born about 1340 and was living as late as 1407. John IV would have had no great prospects and seems to have attached himself early in his career to the Mortimers who were local magnates. He may be the John Skidemore in 1370 who was sent with Robert Monk to Hamble (near Southampton) in Hampshire

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<sup>482</sup>Duncumb, *Collections*, I, 364; Hist. Mss. Com., *Rye and Hereford corporations* (1892) 290-1.

<sup>483</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1385-9, 257.

<sup>484</sup>*Ibid.*, 1401-5, 257.

<sup>485</sup>*Holme Lacy Mss. book at Kentchurch Court*. A later conveyance of these lands dated 6 July 1407 will be noticed elsewhere. The John Ewyas of this deed is John Skydmore *alias* Ewyas IV of The Fern and George Ewyas is the son of Philip Skydmore *alias* Ewyas of Holme Lacy.

<sup>486</sup>*Kentchurch schedule*, 6 (Ref. 484). The name of his wife is unknown. He left sons Thomas Skydmore, who was lord of Rowlstone by this date, and a son John Skydmore of Kilpec who died in 1399. For his posterity at Rowlstone see *Thirty generations of the Scudamore/Skidmore family in England and America* (in preparation).

with £200 to be delivered to Robert de Ashton for his wages and the wages of his men-at-arms and archers in the war beyond the seas. Skidemore and Monk were to have £2 for their expenses.<sup>487</sup> It seems also likely that he was the John who was bailiff at Radnor borough (a Mortimer fee), Comberwyne, Eardisley, and a forester in Radnor Forest.<sup>488</sup>

He had also acquired by 1383 an estate at The Vern in Bodenham, Herefordshire, but how he came by it is unknown. The Vern descended to his grandson John VI who was killed at Agincourt in 1413.<sup>489</sup>

Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, died at Cork in Ireland on 27 December 1381. John Skydmore served on the jury which took the *inquest post mortem* on Mortimer's lands in Herefordshire early in the next year.<sup>490</sup> On 5 March 1383 John Skydemore was given the keeping and income from the fishery and mills on the Usk River in Wales until the heir of the late earl of March came of age.<sup>491</sup> Roger Mortimer was seven years old at his father's death; John Skydemore (now conveniently identified as "of Ferne") served once again as a juror when Roger, earl of March, died as a young man in 1398.<sup>492</sup>

On 28 November 1383 John Skidmore "of la Ferne," Philip Ewyas (probably his kinsman at Holme Lacy), Thomas Dansey of Webton, and others, were commissioners in Herefordshire to collect the subsidy of half a fifteenth and a tenth granted to Richard II by parliament.<sup>493</sup> John Skidmore of la Ferne had a similar commission on 16 November 1388, and again (in association with Philip Ewyas) on 19 November 1404.<sup>494</sup>

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<sup>487</sup>*Issue of Thomas de Brantingham, bishop of Exeter* (1835) 492. If this John Skidemore was a Herefordshire man this attribution is likely. He might be from elsewhere (Sheepstor, Devon, being a good possibility). For Robert de Ashton see *DNB*, I, 651.

<sup>488</sup>This was in 6-7 Richard II (1382-4) but he may have served outside this period as well.

<sup>489</sup>By what can only be coincidence the manor of The Vern was granted to John Scudamore of Holme Lacy after the attainder for treason of William Shelley in 1587 (Duncumb, *Collections*, II, 44).

<sup>490</sup>*Cal. inq. p. m.*

<sup>491</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1377-83, 356.

<sup>492</sup>*Cal. inq. p. m.* Edmund Mortimer, a younger brother of Roger, married a daughter of Glendower and the Mortimers and Scudamores of Kentchurch were related in this way in the next generation.

<sup>493</sup>*Fine Roll*, 1383-91, 20.

<sup>494</sup>*Ibid.*, 1391-9, 267; 1399-1405, 398.

John Ewyas, *Senior*, and George Ewyas on 6 July 1407 granted the same lands at Killforge in Ballingham which they had had earlier by the gift of Richard Skydmore, citizen of Hereford, to Philip Ewyas [his nephew of Holme Lacy] and others.<sup>495</sup> This is the last mention yet found of John Skydmore *alias* Ewyas of The Vern.

According to the *Llyfr Baglan* it was this John [IV] who acquired Kentchurch and Thruxton.<sup>496</sup> No deeds have been found to support this statement, but both manors are found in the hands of his sons in the next generation. Either he (or his son John V) is called of *Kencherge* on 8 August 1386.<sup>497</sup> The fortified tower (late 14th century) and some other surviving parts of Kentchurch Court clearly date from this period.

Leland, quoting Skidmore of the Court (John Scudamore of Holme Lacy, died 1571), writes of him “Jenkin [Skidmore] was a stoute felow and had al the rule of the countrey there aboute” which seems to be substantiated by the records.<sup>498</sup>

There is, happily, a general agreement in all of the Welsh pedigrees that he married Alice, a daughter and co-heiress of the Bredwardine family.<sup>499</sup>

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<sup>495</sup>*Holme Lacy Mss. book now at Kentchurch Court.*

<sup>496</sup>*Llyfr Baglan*, 242.

<sup>497</sup>*Patent Roll*, 1385-9, 257. Robert Wroth, who was a witness to a deed of Sybil Scudamore of Poston, had a grandson Myles Wroth who is called “of Kentchurch” in the *Llyfr Baglan* (pages 139-40). His son Thomas Wroth married Jane, daughter of Sir John Skydmore of Abergavenny, and their son John Wroth died 16 October 1384. He sold Kentchurch according to *Llyfr Baglan*, presumably to either his brother-in-law (or nephew) John Skydmore before his death. The *inquest post mortem* of John Wroth says that he held *Brustonesland* in Howton, and other lands called *Mylesland*, *Danielsland*, and *Corriesland* held of the honor of Weobley and from Richard de la Warre and his wife Elizabeth. John Hunt has seen the original document at the PRO, ref. C.137/75/57.

<sup>498</sup>*Leland's itinerary, 1535-43* (London, 1909) IV, 82. He is probably the man of his name who was appointed farmer of the alien priory of Craswell on 23 October 1387 and to the same office for the priory of Abergavenny a few weeks later according to the *Fine Rolls*. The keeping of the priory at Abergavenny was renewed to him as late as 3 July 1398.

<sup>499</sup>Her Christian name is frequently left blank but when found is always given as Alice. Her father is sometimes Sir Walter Bredwardine (*Llyfr Baglan*, 191), Sir Piers Bredwardine (*ibid.*, 242), or Sir Edward Bredwardine (*Harl. Mss.* 1434, f. 25b, 26). Sir Walter Baskerville of Eardisley is also said to have married Alicia, a daughter of Sir Pires [*sic*] Bredwardine (*Llyfr Baglan*, 77).

His brother Robert Skydmore, of Abergavenny, was probably the youngest son of [Sir] John III of Abergavenny and Rowlstone. There is no proof of this, but Robert is clearly of the same generation as Richard and John Skydmore *alias* Ewyas, is in the proper place, and may have been named for Robert Merbury who was (by our reckoning) his maternal grandfather. He may have had some part of Sir John's accommodations in Abergavenny for we find no mention of him elsewhere.

He was adult by the vigil of St. Thomas, apostle (20 December) 1379 when he appears last among the witnesses to a grant by Hywel ap Hichecok of a messuage in Abergavenny to Thomas Gregory and his wife. This tenement was between John Bonde on the one side and John Wroth on the other, and extended to the High Street as far as the land of Robert Skydemor.<sup>500</sup>

On the Tuesday next after the feast of St. Hilary (15 January) 1398 Robert Skydemor, Sara his wife, and Agnes their daughter, gave a quitclaim to John le Barre for a tenement on Monk Street in Abergavenny running lengthwise between the High Street at the one end and the tenement of William Wroth at the other end. Breadwise it was between the tenement of the same William Wroth on the one side and the tenement of John Skydemor on the other side. Neither Robert, his wife, or his daughter were to have any further right or claim in the tenement and all three attached their seals to the charter.<sup>501</sup> The John Skydemor who appears first among the witnesses (by virtue of his office as steward of Abergavenny) and who occupied an adjoining tenement is not certainly identified. He was probably a nephew of Robert Skydmore and we are inclined to think that he was John V of Kentchurch who served the Beauchamps, lords of Abergavenny, as steward at that place soon after.

Nothing is known of Robert Skydmore, or his wife and daughter, after 1398.

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It is tempting to identify Sir Walter Bredwardine with the man who held land at Rowlstone (noticed elsewhere) adjoining the Scudamores by 1349.

<sup>500</sup>*Harl. Chart.*, 85F.45. Gregory's wife was Eve, daughter of Gwylm Vychan as the deed recites. The witness were John Sargeant, then steward of Abergavenny; Jevan Vychan, master sergeant; John Wroth, bailiff; Thomas Hokyndon, bailiff of the same town; Robert ap Gwylm, Thomas Carponter [*sic*]; Robert Skydemor and many others (not named).

<sup>501</sup>*Ibid.*, 86E.14. The witnesses were John Skydemore, then steward of Abergavenny; Walter ap Henry, chief sergeant of the same; Thomas Brocby, bailiff; William Wroth, bailiff of the same town; Master Hoell and others. Two of the three seals are still intact on the original charter at the British Library; one of these, shield-shaped, has a legend on a quasi chief "*MIVE*."

In addition to his three sons noticed above Sir John Skydmore is said to have had three daughters. One (whose Christian name is not recorded) married Gwilym ap David [Morgan] of the Chapel in Abergavenny; Margaret Skydmore married his cousin Roger ap John [Proger] of Wern-ddu in Llantillo Pertholey; and Jane married Thomas Wroth of Abergavenny.<sup>502</sup>

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<sup>502</sup>*Llyfr Baglan*, 140, 217, 221. The first of these these is called a daughter of Sir John Scudamore of Abergavenny, but is elsewhere said to have been a sister of Philip Scudamore of Holme Lacy. She and Gwilym ap David were ancestors of the Morgan family of Cillwch in Llantilio Crosseny, Monmouthshire, and of Arkeston in Kingstone, Herefordshire. Her husband was a first cousin to Roger ap John (both were grandsons of Gwilym ap Jenkin of Wern-ddu who died in 1377) and their wives were presumably of the same generation of Scudamores and nearly related. Sir Thomas ap Gwilym [ap Jenkin] an uncle to these gentlemen was ancestor to the Herberts, earls of Pembroke.

## APPENDIX I

### CHARTERS RELATING TO UPTON SCUDAMORE, AND ELSEWHERE.

1. Know men now and in the future that I Reginald Escudemor give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Walter Escudemor my brother for his homage and service *Kaveros* [Corras] with all its pertinencies and a third part of Upton with all its pertinencies and one messuage in the vill' of Ewyas. To have and to hold of me and my heirs to him and his heirs freely, quietly, well and in peace forever doing guard annually in Ewyas [Castle] or paying one mark. Witnesses: Godfrey Mauduit, Mathew Escudemor, Reynald son of his mother, Warner Giffard, Walter Giffard, Walter de Kenete, Ernald Mareshcall, Ancelin Mauduit, Roger fitz Alain, and many others. (No date, Henry I) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1080)

2. To all his men French, English, and Welsh, and his friends, and to all persons to whom this writing may be seen or heard, Robert Ewyas sends greetings. Know that I have given, granted and by this writing confirmed, to Godfrey Escudemor and his heirs for his homage and service and for a white war-horse all the vill' of Upton Escudemor and its pertinencies, to have and to hold freely and quietly, well and in peace, and fully, all woods, plains, meadows, pastures, ways, paths, waters, mills, with the keeping of hunting dogs for hares, foxes, wild cats, badgers, and wolves throughout the county of Wiltshire so that he will see his hunting more pleasing, with all the liberties and free customs in which I, Robert, am vested and well seised, doing thereafter by service of one knight's fee at the castle of Ewyas, to keep guard at the castle beginning at the Purification of the Blessed Mary lasting until the Invention of the Cross in May at his own cost except that the lord will properly provide sufficient firewood, straw and water during the said term with his hunting in the whole of our demesne during the aforesaid guard, and if he does not do guard then he will owe half a mark by the year and the do royal service that pertains. These being witnesses: Earl Patrick [d'Evereux] and Countess Isabel, Warin de Lusors, William fitz John, Richard de Canvil, Richard fitz Gilbert, Alexander de Lynesey, Henry de Pom[er]o, Philip de Hulm, Gerard Giffard *page de campo*, William Caple, Guy fitz Te[s]con *page*, Henry Maut[r]avers, and Hugh de Frennes, Vinfred fitz William, Michell chaplain, William Contevele, William Symenel and others. (No date, ca. 1148) (Hungerford Cart., fol. 111)

3. Know men present and future that I Robert Mauduit, chamberlain to the lord King, give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Robert Mauduit my son, all that tenement held by Gilbert *Knight of Warminster*, to hold by the service of an 1/8 of a knight's fee. Witnesses: Robert de la Mare, William de la Mare, Roger de la Mare, Nicholas de la Mare, Anketill Lupo, Robert fitz Bern' Ernald, Henry Reginald, Walter de Everle, William Lupo, Godfrey chaplain. (No date, before 1192) (Hungerford Cart., fol. 113)

NOTE: Perhaps *Le Dryehey* in Warminster? This charter is presumably earlier than no. 5 below.

4. Know men present and future that I Gilbert, son of Gilbert Giffard, Knt., give, grant and remise and quitclaim to Simon de Park one virgate of land with its pertinencies, to wit, the virgate which Agnes Banetune my sister formerly held of the said Gilbert my father for the term of her life in the fields of St. George. To have and to hold the said virgate with all of its pertinencies everywhere [with a great many exceptions, described] [. . .] paying each year to me or my heirs or assigns 4sh at the feast of St. Michael for all services. Witnesses: Mathew de Boville, Everard de Lutlecote, John le Cinstre, Thomas le Cu, John le Cu, Richard le Cu, Richard le Frye of Tilshead, Walter de Hacham, Robert Ydwyne of Tilshead, Warren de Hupptune, Herbert of the same, Walter Bernard, Roger Crumhale, John de Marketo, and others. (No date, early Henry III) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1039)

5. Know men present and future that I Thomas Mauduit give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Robert Maudut, my brother, for his homage and service pasturage for four beasts in my common pasture in the vill' of Warminster quit of any herbage charge. To have and to hold with that which the said Robert or his heirs hold or will hold in the same place, to wit, a messuage which is between the house of Thomas Nichuls and the house of Cecil, daughter of Osbert Petyt, rendering annually to me or my heirs one pair of white gloves at Easter. Witnesses: Sir Henry de Kareville, Richard de Anesye, Walter fitz Richard, Adam de Bugelese, William fitz Henry, Philip Skiper, and others. (No date, before 1245) (Hungerford Cart., fol. 112 v.)

6. Know [men] present and future that I Walter Thodrich, son of Herbert Thodrich of Upton, give and by this present charter confirm to John, my son, for his service four acres of land and all its pertinencies in Warminster. To wit: three acres of land at *ferncumbe* called *Brechia mea*, and one acre above *Hole Watcumbe* between the land of Robert fitz Walter, clerk of Warminster, and the land of Richard Ramsholt. To have and to hold [. . .] paying annually to Walter or his heirs a halfpenny at the feast of St. Michael for all services, etc. These being witnesses: James [Jacobo] le Jovene, William le Northerne, John Smith [*Fabro*], John Winebold, William of the Mill [*de Molendino*], William Blundel. (No date, Henry III) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1009)

7. Know men present and future that I Edward Stiward, son of Herbert Stiward, give and grant and by this my present charter confirm to Robert Mauduth two acres of land lying wholly in the field of *Chodelhangare* [Chadlanger in Warminster] between the land of Ralph Aventure and the land of Thomas de la Righe and extending above the land of said Robert on the one part and the meadow of John Bernard on the other part, for which Robert has exchanged 1 1/2 acre in the field of Warminster above *Walers* between the land of John Bernard and my land and extending above the land of Adam sub Oly towards the west and the land of Geoffrey clerk towards the east [. . .] for which I Edward Stiward above named or my heirs and assigns will do yearly at the feast of St. Michael one day of plowing for the said Robert and his heirs and assigns forever. These being witnesses: John de Sonnynges, Enardo Sully, James Juvene, Robert Botyllir, Simon Nordman, and many others. (Henry III) (Hastings Deeds no. 1009a)

8. Know men present and future that I John Burel of *Fugelwyke* give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Elis Escudemor, son of G. Escudemor, for his service one acre in the east field of *Langely* namely in *Lengeforlonge* between the land of Walter Galwey and the land of William de Cruce, to have and to hold rendering one pair of gloves at Easter annually to me or my heirs. Witnesses: Elis de Kailewai, William de Haywude, William de Kaileway, Robert de Bannton, John de Gardino, Nicholas Lucas, Simon de Wrokeshale, and others. (No date, ca. 1260) (Hungerford Cart., fol. 112 v.)  
NOTE: *Fugelwyck* survives as Fowlswick Farm about two miles north of Chippenham. *Langely* is Langley Burrell, Wilts.

9. Know [men] present and future that I Leticia, who was the wife of Simon de Park, having my complete powers of disposition possessed as a widow, give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to John de Upton, clerk, two acres of land with pertinencies in the fields of Upton. To wit: one acre at *Langesaghe* close to the land of Peter Escudemor in the southern part. And one acre at *Heyfurlange* which Ranulph Punchun formerly held. To have and to hold [. . .] rendering 1d each year at the feast of St. Michael for all services. These being witnesses: Philip Marmyun, John Bernard of Warminster, Walter de Brecwei, Herbert Stiward, Walter Colstan, Ralph Frankalano de Upton, John de Sunningges, Roger de Upton, William Maundevile of Thoulstone, and others. (No date, after 1265) (Hastings Deeds no. 1015)

10. Know [men] present and future that I Walter de Park give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Nicholas, son of Herbert Stiward of Upton, two acres of land with pertinencies in the northern fields of Upton on *la Hulle* land of Hugh Thedrich [. . .] [decayed] [. . .] between the land of Randulph Punchun and the land belonging to the church of Upton. To have and to hold [. . .] rendering 6d in silver each year at Easter for all services. These being

witnesses: John Bernard of Warminster, John de Sunninges of the same, Herbert Stiward of Upton, Walter Colston, William de Upton of Lye, William Colsweyn, William le Maundevile of Tholueston, and many others. (No date, late Henry III or Edward I) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1018)

NOTE: Walter de Park was probably the son and heir of Simon de Park who was living in 1242.

11. Know all men to whom these presents may be seen or heard that I Peter Apsalon give, grant and by this present writing confirm to Peter Symenel, vicar of Upton, for his service seven acres of land with appurtenances in the vill' and fields of Upton Eschudemor. Whereof one acre lying in *la Medlonde* next to the land of Hugh Thedriho in the eastern part and the other lying in *la Brodeone* next to the land of Walter Colstan in the eastern part. And one acre lying at *Burnefurlang* next to the land of Thomas Stiward chaplain of the western part. And one acre lying at *Brerzfurlang* next to the land of Walter Colstan in the western part. And three virgates of land lying above *Bishulle* next to the land of Walter Park in the western part. And another three virgates of land lying above *herehulle* next to the land of the chapel of Thoulston in the western part. And 1/2 acre of land lying in *Henxine* next to the land once Adam le Bulimer's in the northern part. To have and to hold, rendering 3sh of silver at the two annual terms of the year at the Nativity of our Lord and at Easter in equal portions for all services. These being witnesses: Walter de Park, Walter Colstan, Walter Stiward, Edward Stiward, John Mor(ris?), Walter Mor(ris?), John le Free, Robert Forestar', Thomas Frankelano, and others. (No date, Edward I?) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1013)

12. Know [men] present and future that I Peter [?Symenel], vicar of Upton Escudemore, give grant and by this my present charter confirm to Peter Escudemore 11 acres of arable land with pertinencies. Of which two acres are at *Lydes Breche* below *Coppedethorne*. And two acres are opposite the mill of *Bisse sub Clive*. And 1 1/2 acre at the eastern head of the vill' of Upton between the land of Peter Bulimer on the west side and Arnulph le Acreman on the east side. And one acre of land above *Mydenham* next to the land of Adam Lug. And 1/2 acre in *la Waterff[or]de* next to the land of the parson of Upton on the east side. And one acre in the same cultivation between the land of the chaplain of *Thoulston* that at one time was Isabel Abselon's that was exchanged for one acre above *Berzhforlang* which Edward Mayssei now holds. And 1/2 acre of land in *Waterside* between the land of the chaplain of Thoulston on the west and the land of the Rector of the church of Upton on the east. And one acre in *Huderside* on the north side of the land of Thomas, chaplain of Upton. And 1/2 acre in *la Ryde*. And one rod at *la Kynoh* next to the land of John Bastard. And one rod above *Bettlesgore* next to the land of the chapel of Norridge. And one rod in *Berzhforlang* between the land of the rector of the church of Upton on the East. And one rod above *les Brocheles*. And one acre above *Calcastel* which Eudo Bulymer held in exchange for one

acre above *Waltherhs*. To have and to hold, etc. These being witnesses: [Sir] Robert de Vernon, [Sir] Robert de Inmere, [Sir] Eustace de Deverel, Knts.; John de Cromhale, William de Witheclive, John de Babinton, Robert Cole, Nicholas Malemeyns, Walter de Park, Peter de Rodhurst, Simon Colston, Edward Styward of Upton, and others. (No date, Edward I?) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1014)

13. Know all men to whom this present writing may be seen or heard that I Robert Apsalom for me and my heirs remise and wholly quitclaim to Sir Peter Eskudemor his heirs and assigns all the right and claim that I have in any way in all the lands, tenements, and rents with all their pertinencies which I held from the said Sir Peter in Upton, Northrigge, and Tholueston without any reservations. Moreover I grant and confirm to the said Sir Peter and totally quitclaim 2d in annual rent which Peter Bolymer is obligated to me for *la Red Acre* without any reservation, forever. Witnesses: [Sir] Robert de Vernon, [Sir] Eustace de Deverel, [Sir] John de Deverel, [Sir] Robert de Inmere, Knts.; Walter de Park, Simon Colston, Edward Truweman, Peter de Rodhurste, Nicholas Malemeyns, William de M[er]tock and others. LATER, I Robert Apsalom for me and my heirs remise and wholly quitclaim to Sir Peter Eskudemor and his heirs and assigns all right and claim which I have in all the lands and tenements which were Thomas Apsalom's, and the lands and tenants which were Peter Apsalom's in Northton, Tholueston, Northrigge, and Upton, with all their pertinencies, forever. (Witnessed as above) Given at Warminster on St. Edmund's day, 12 Edward I (20 November 1283). (Hastings Deeds no. 1038)

14. Know men present and future that I Peter Escudemore give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Robert Hereman of *Seghulle* [Sedgehill, Wilts.] one messuage and one virgate of land with its pertinencies in Norton Escudemor which Thomas Absalom at one time held in the same vill'. Moreover I give and grant to the same Robert eight acres of land lying separately in the fields of Norton Escudemor whereof three acres lie in that cultivation called *Utfurlang* between my land and the land of Ralph le Monche in the western field, and one acre lying at the eastern head of *la Staclonde* next to the land of Peter de Rodhurst. And in the eastern field two acres lying in *la mehorte Londe* next to the land of William le Wolmangere. And two acres lying in the same field in *La Butine* at the head of the eastern furlong *Atte Wythewe*. To have and to hold the said messuage, virgate, and eight acres of land paying annually 3sh in silver at the four principal terms of the year in equal portions for all services and ward of Ewias [Castle] and other taxes and secular demands excepting suit at my court of Norton and the royal service which pertains. And the said Robert and his heirs and assigns are to have [pasture] for six cattle and six pigs in the common pasture of Norton free of herbage and pannage and for beasts [*afros*] and sheep without number forever.

Witnesses: [Sir] Robert de Vernon, [Sir] Eustace de Deverell, [Sir] Robert de Inmere, Knts.; John de Kingeston, John de Cromehale, Walter de Park, Peter de Rodhurst, William de M[er]tok, and others. (No date, Edward I after the charter of 20 November 1283) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1035)

15. Know men present and future that I Sir Peter Escudemore, Knt., give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Walter Eskudemore, my nephew, for his service all my manor of Upton and all my land in Norrigge, Tholueston and my woods in Clerwode and my woods in Norrigge which woods Godfrey Eskudemore, my father, had from Hubert Huse of Stapleford. Witnesses: Richard Combe, sheriff of Wiltshire, Richard de Coleshull, Walter de Pavely, Robert de Vernon, John de Kingeston, Philip Strugg, Knts.; Warin Mauduyt, Nicholas de la Mare, Richard Dansy, Nicholas Malemeyns, Walter de Park, Robert Plokenet, Simon Colston, and others. (No date, ca. 1289-93) (Brudenell Deeds)

16. Know men present and future that I Robert Hereman of Norton Escudemore, give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Walter Escudemore, lord of Upton, and his heirs, all of my tenement with all my land which I had of Peter Escidemore in the vill' and fields of Norton Escudemor. Witnesses: Walter de Pavely, Warin Maudut, Robert de Vernon, Reginald de St. Martin, John de Ingham, John de Kingeston, Knights, and Walter de Park, Nicholas Malemains, Nicholas de la Mare, Robert Cole of Doninton, Hobert Gocelin, Robert Swoting, and many others. (No date, but soon after 1293) (Brudenell Deeds)

17. Final concord in the court of the Lord King at Westminster, on the octave of Trinity, 22 Edward I (30 May 1294), before John de Metyngam, William de Beresford, Elis de Bokyngham, and Peter Malorre, Justices, between Walter de Escudemor, quer., and Alice, who was the wife of Robert Maudut, def. Alice grants to Walter 160 acres and ten acres of land, eight acres of meadow, and eight acres of pasture in Upton, and at the same time Walter grants to Alice two messuages, one carucate of land, four acres of Meadow, four acres of pasture, and £50 in rents in Stockton, Upton, Norygge, Thoulstone, Chalnescote, and Chapmanslade, for the term of her life, with reversion to Walter or his heirs, paying to Alice £20 annually, half at the feast of St. Michael and half at Easter. (Hungerford Cart., fol. 125)

NOTE: Compare the Mauduit charter of 23 June 1306 (no. 19).

18. Know men present and future that I Peter Stiward son of Edward Stiward of Upton, surrender and wholly quitclaim to Walter de Sckudemor all right and claim which I have in any way in two acres of arable land whereof one acre is above *Chypacre* under *la Lynche* and extends above the cultivation of the lord. And the other acre is in *La Stonyelonde* between the land of Luke Benauai and

William Godesiay which two acres I had by the gift and feoffment of the said Edward, my father, [who held them for the term of his life] and which the aforesaid Walter holds in chief. These being witnesses: [Sir] Robert Vernoun, [Sir] Peter fitz Warin, Knts.; John le Rous of Inmere, Robert Plogenet, Robert Cole, John Mathi, Nicholas Malemayns, and others. Given at Upton the Wednesday next after the feast of St. Mark, evangelist, 34 Edward I (27 April 1306) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1016)

19. To all the Christian faithful to whom this present writing may be seen or heard, Alice, who was the wife of Robert Mauduit, greets in the Lord. Know that I release and quitclaim to Sir Walter de Skudemor an annual pension of £20 which Sir Walter was obligated to pay by a fine levied in the Court of the lord King from the coffers in his manor at Upton for the term of my life. Witnesses: Nicholas Malemayns, Walter de Park, Richard Cotele, Lambert de Wyly, Henry Paas, Robert Maudut, and others. Given at New Sarum on the Thursday in the vigil of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, 39 [sic] Edward I [34 Edward I being probably correct] (23 June 1306). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 113)

NOTE: Compare the charter of 30 May 1294. Edward I did not reign 39 years.

20. Know [men] present and future that I Peter Styward, son of Edward Styward of Upton Skydemor, give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Sir Walter de Skydemor, lord of the same vill' of Upton, one [mes]suage with one place of land which I hold by the gift and grant of the said Edward, my father, and which messuage and place is located between the tenement of John Styward, son of the late Walter Styward, and [. . .] [decayed]. These being witnesses: Nicholas [Malem]ayns, Jordan de Park, Robert Ma[dui]t of Warminster, John Bernard, John Stiward and others. Given at Upton Skydemor on the Sunday next before the feast of the Translation of St. Martin, 35 Edward I (2 July 1307). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1017)

21. Know men present and future that I Walter Moribus, parson of Lullington [Soms.] give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Isaac de la More of Upton half a virgate of land in Upton Escudemor [field names and boundaries given] with one messuage which William Colston and Alice his wife hold for the term of their lives in the same vill' to have and to hold, etc. Witnesses: Jordan Park, John Styward, Robert Swetynge, Robert Maudut, John Bernard, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor the Thursday next after the feast of St. Michael, archangel, 7 Edward II (4 October 1313). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 111)

NOTE: Compare the charter of 26 September 1332 (no. 43).

22. To all those to whom this present letter may be seen or heard Richard de

Barbeflete, son of Nicholas Barbeflete, greets in the Lord. Know that I have released and completely quitclaimed to Sir Walter Escudemor, John Escudemor, Peter Escudemor, John de Moudenard, Gaillard de Moudenard, Collard de Moudenard, John Wrangy, Gosseberd Fabre, Nicholas de Canterton, Andrew de Canterton, John Upehill, Richard de Farlegh, and Gereveys atte Bech, and to all those who aided in the taking and maintaining for John de Moudenard of the possession of the lands which he had in *Welles, Wepabury, Aschfolde, Wodlegh, More, and petite More* and in *Romesey*, of all manner of actions against them now or in the future by reason of their trespass by them to me “fet denainte la conseccion de cestre l[ett]re.” In witness of which things I have put my seal to this present letter. Given at Winchester on 11 May, 8 Edward II (11 May 1315). (French) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1005)

23. Know men present and future that I Walter Escudemor, lord of Upton Skydemor, give, grant and by this present charter confirm to William Styward, son of Nicholas Styward, and Alice his wife and Peter their son, land in Upton Skydemor and two acres of arable land with its pertinencies in Upton. Witnesses: Nicholas Malemains, John Styward, John Colston, John Bastard, Roger Styward, and others. Given at Skydmore, 10 Edward II (1316-17). (Brudenell Deeds)

24. To all Christian faithful to whom this present writing may come Robert Maudut of Warminster greets in the Lord. Know that I have demised, granted and by this present writing confirmed to John Potle of Samburne [in Warminster] and Margerie his wife, one piece of arable land in the fields of Warminster in the southern part of *la Rhip* between the land of Richard atte Holeweye and *coppam de la Rip* and extending to a head towards the east above the land of Thomas Maudut. To have and to hold [. . .] rendering annually 6d in silver at the four principal terms of the year in equal portions. These being witnesses: Nicholas Malemayn, Thomas Maudut, John Bernard, John Mauger, Walter Cuttynges, Goscelyn le Tanner, and others. Given at Warminster on the Sunday next after the feast of St. Katherine, virgin, 11 Edward II (27 November 1317). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1010)

25. Know men present and future that I Nicholas Malmeyns of Warminster, give grant and by this my present charter confirm to Sir Walter Escudemor, Knt., lord of Upton Escudemor, for £100 sterling, all his lands and tenements, etc., in Warminster and Bishopstrow. Witnesses: Sir Walter de Pavely, Sir John Mauduit, Sir William de Wauton, Knts.; Thomas Mauduit, Robert Mauduit, Robert le Bor, Elis de Deverel, John clerk of Chippenham, and Adam clerk of Warminster. Given at Warminster the Sunday next after the feast of St. Augustine [of Canterbury], 11 Edward II (28 May 1318). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 113)

26. Same as the above, except given at Upton Escudemor, the Tuesday next after the feast of St. Augustine, 11 Edward II (30 May 1318). Witnesses: Sir Walter de Pavely, Sir John Holte, Sir Peter fitz Warin, Knts.; Thomas Maudyt, Robert Mauduit, Robert Plokenet, Roger Mermyon, John Waspayl, Robert Swetynge, and others. (Hungerford Cart., fol. 113v.)

27. Final concord at Westminster, on the octave of St. John the Baptist, 11 Edward II (1 July 1318) between Walter de Escudemor, quer., and Nicholas Malemayns, def., of two messuages, 108 acres of land, six acres of meadow, and pasture for eight oxen, two bulls, and eight cows, 25 pigs, and 200 sheep, for 13sh 4d in rent and eight cartloads of firewood in Warminster and Bishopstrow. And later on the morrow of the feast of St. Martin, 12 Edward II (12 November 1318) after the death of said Walter, the same grant from Peter, the son and heir of Walter, for the annual service of one red rose at the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, with reversion at the death of Nicholas to Walter and his heirs. (Hungerford Cart., fol. 111 v.)

28. Let all men know that on the Saturday next after the feast of All Saints, 12 Edward II (4 November 1318), Peter de Skydemore, son and heir of Sir Walter Skydemore, came to the manor of Sir William Grandison at Oxenhall [Glos.] and did homage and fealty there for his 3 1/2 fees in Upton Skydemore, surrendering the said fees for his relief, Sir William returning them on the same day quit of all demands and services then due. And Peter will henceforth render all rents and service due by custom on the same fees. Given at Oxenhall. (No witnesses) (French) (Hungerford Cart., fol. 111 v.)

NOTE: Sir Walter had died shortly before 11 September 1318.

29. Know men present and future that I Agnes, who was the wife of Jordan de Park of Upton Escudamore, give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Peter Escudemor, son and heir of Sir Walter Escudemor, one curtilage which I had by the grant of Walter le Forester in the vill' of Upton, and also the curtilage that I had by the grant of Robert le Forester in the western part of Upton between the tenement formerly Alfrid de Forester's and the tenement of Thomas de Boisse. To have and to hold, etc. Witnesses: Nicholas Malemayns, Thomas Maudit, Robert Maudit, John Bastard, John Styward, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor on the Saturday in the feast of St. Hilary, bishop, 12 Edward II (13 January 1319) (Hungerford Cart., fol. 112)

30. Know men present and future that we Roger le Coke "of Honebrygge" and Cristina his wife, give, grant and by this our present charter confirm to Peter Escudemor, one messuage with curtilage and close adjacent in the western end of the vill' of Upton bounded on the north with the King's road. To have and to hold, etc. Witnesses: Thomas Maudit, Robert Swetynge, John Styward, John Colston, Roger Styward, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor the

Wednesday in the feast of St. Mark, evangelist, 12 Edward II (25 April 1319)  
(Hungerford Cart., fol. 112)

NOTE: Honeybridge Farm survives in North Bradley, Wilts.

31. To all Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come Peter Escudemor, son and heir of Sir Walter Escudemor, greets in the Lord. Know that I have granted, released and quitclaimed for me and my heirs and assigns to John Baldewine, son and heir of Thomas Baldewine of Milton Knoel, that he is quit and absolved of the office of bailiff and tithing-man in respect of a tenement and one virgate of land which Peter Kine once held of me in the vill' and fields of Upton Escudemor. I grant to the same John Baldewine [?pasturage, for] two cattle, 12 sheep, and two pigs in my common pasture of Upton Skidemor quit of herbage and pannage for the term of his life. These being witnesses: Nicholas Malemans, Osbert Gosselyn of *Bisschoppestre* [Bishopstrow in Warminster], John Styward, John Colston, Roger Styward, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor on the Saturday on the Morrow of the feast of St. Margaret, virgin, 13 Edward II (21 July 1319). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1019)

32. Let it be known to all men by these presents that I Alice, the daughter of William de Northman of Warminster, and Edith, my sister, heirs of the said William, quitclaim to Peter Escudemor all the right and claim to 1 1/2 acres of arable land in Samborne above *La Lese* opposite the tenement of Richard Attestyghele and next to the land of Sir John de Kingeston. (No consideration) Witnesses: Sir John de Kingeston, Sir William de Wauton, Knts.; Robert le Bor, Walter de *Cheygny*, Robert Swetyngge, and others. Given at Warminster, the Thursday next after the feast of St. Bartholomew, 15 Edward II (27 August 1321). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 114)

33. To all the Christian faithful to whom the present writing may be seen or heard Peter Escudemor, son and heir of Sir Walter Escudemor, Knt., of Upton Skidmor [*sic*] greets in the Lord. Know that I have surrendered, granted, and by this my present writing confirmed to Thomas Warston and Alice Dancy of Norton Skidemor all the land and tenements with their pertinencies everywhere that the aforesaid Sir Walter, my father, formerly acquired of Robert Hereman in the vill' and fields of Norton Skidemor. And I also surrender and grant to the same Thomas Warston and Alice Dancy 13 acres of arable land which the aforesaid Sir Walter, my father, recovered from Lady Alice de Bavent in the Court of the Lord King by writ warranty. To have and to hold for the terms of their lives [ . . . ] rendering annually to Peter and my heirs and assigns 40sh at four terms of the year equally, viz. at the feast of Purification, at Easter, at the feast of Nativity of St. John the Baptist, and at the feast of St. Michael, for all services, taxes and secular demands saving the royal service which pertains. Witnesses: Robert Swoting, Peter Scarlet, Edward le Botiller, Thomas de

Helmesford, William de Muntemulle, and others. Given at Upton Skidemor on Wednesday in the feast of St. Bartholomew, apostle, 17 Edward II (24 August 1323). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1036)

34. To all the Christian faithful to whom the present charter may be seen or heard, Nicholas Malemens of Warminster, greets in the Lord. Know that I surrender, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Sir Walter Escudemor, Knt., all those lands, tenements, and rents which Nicholas held for the term of his life by a fine levied on the Court of the Lord King, in Warminster, Samborne, and Boriton, to have and to hold, etc. (No consideration) Witnesses: Mathew Owayne, Robert le Bor, John de Babinton, William Gerard, Robert Swetynge, Walter Cuttynge, and others. Given at Warminster, the Thursday in the vigil of SS. Simon and Jude, 17 Edward II (27 October 1323). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 113 v.)

35. Know men present and future that I John Bernard of Warminster give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Peter Escudemor one acre of arable land in the fields of Warminster lying in *La Rydeforlonge* between the land of Adam Arneton on the north and the land of John Criket on the south to have and to hold, etc. (No consideration) Witnesses: Robert Swetynge, Walter de Park, Robert Maudit, John Waspail, Walter Cuttynge, and others. Given at Warminster on the Sunday before the feast of All Saints, 18 Edward II (27 October 1324). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 112 v.)

36. Let it be known to all men by these presents that I Agnes, who was the wife of John Bernard, in my full powers as a widow release and quitclaim to Robert Maudut of Warminster and Isabel his wife and their heirs and assigns all of my right and claim which I have in any way in a tenement with its pertinencies that Goscelin le Tanner held from the aforesaid Robert in the same vill'. Witnesses: William Cuttynge, Robert Swetynge, John Corpery, Adam Arneton, Adam clerk and others. Given at Warminster on Saturday in the vigil of Trinity, 19 Edward II (14 June 1326). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 114)

37. Let it be known to all men by these presents that I Edith, the daughter and heir of William Northman, give grant and quitclaim to Peter Escudemor all my right and claim in 2 1/2 acres of arable land at Samborne above *La Lese* between the land of the lord of Warminster and the land of Walter de Cheigny. Witnesses: Robert le Boor, John Waspayl, John Mauger, Walter de Cheigny, John Petyt, and others. Given at Warminster, the Monday next before the feast of St. Mathew, 1 Edward III (14 September 1327). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 114 v.)

38. Let it be known to all men by these presents that we Roger le Mortymer and Juliana my wife, release and wholly quitclaim to Peter Escudemor all our

right and claim to four acres of arable land in the fields of Upton Escudemor, whereof one acre lies in *Berghforlange* between the land of John Kene on both sides; one acre near the land of Walter de Park at *Middelforlange*; and two acres above *Fforsthele* near the fields of Dilton. Witnesses: Thomas Mauduit, Walter de Park, John Styward, Roger Styward, John Kene, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor, the Sunday next before the feast of St. Matthew, apostle, 1 Edward II (17 September 1307?). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 114 v.)

NOTE: There is probably some confusion in the date “Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi *tercii* [cancelled] primo.” The correct date (1 Edward III) is almost certainly 20 September 1327.

39. Know men present and future that I John Petyt, son of Thomas Petyt of Upton Escudemor, give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to Walter, son of Sir Walter Escudemor, Knt., one messuage with curtilage located in the western part of Upton Escudemor near the cultivated land called *Oldebury*, which messuage and curtilage I had from the feoffment of Peter Escudemor, lord of Upton Escudemor; and I give and grant to the same Walter one acre of arable land and all its pertinencies in Upton above *La Lye* between the land of Walter de Bys and the land of Ralph formerly the chaplain. To have and to hold by the service of 2sh annually at the four principal terms. Witnesses: Walter de Park, John Bastard, John Styward, John Kene, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor, the Sunday next after the Nativity of the Lord, 1 Edward III (26 December 1327). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 114 v.)

40. To all those to whom these presents may be seen or heard Robert Mauduit of Warminster, greets in the Lord. Know that I have attorned John Uphulle to give seisin to Peter Escudemor, lord of Upton Escudemor, of one meadow in *La Burnestowmede* in Warminster. In witness of which things in my letters of attorney I have put my seal. Given at Warminster, the Monday next after the, feast of St. Bartholomew, apostle, 2 Edward III (29 August 1328). (French) (Hungerford Cart., fol. 115)

41. Know men present and future that I Robert Maudit, of Warminster, to Peter Escudmor, lord of Upton Escudemor and son and heir of Sir Walter Escudemor, Knt., give, grant and by this my present charter confirm all my lands and tenements in the vill’ and fields of Warminster, with meadows, pastures, curtilages, gardens, closes, rents, and services from both freemen and villeins, with all wards, dowries, reliefs, heriots, and escheats, etc. Witnesses: Sir Reginald de Pavely, Sir William de Wauton, Sir Walter Gascelyn, Knts.; Robert le Bor, John Waspaill, Walter de Park, John Mauger, and others. Given at Warminster, the Sunday next after the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, 2 Edward III (17 September 1328). (Hungerford Cart., fol 115)

41A. *Inquisition ad quod damnum*. Writ dated 20 September, 5 Edward III

(1331). Inquest held at Werminstre before [William Trussel] the king's escheator on 10 October, 5 Edward III, subsequent upon a writ issued to hold an inquest convened under the oath of William de Muntemull, John Colstan, Robert Swoting, Richard de Langeford, Walter le Goscelyn, Walter Cutting, Thomas de Helmsford, John le Sometter, William le Frye, John Stiward, Roger Stiward, and Walter de Park. Who say that it is not forbidden, neither is it prejudicial to the king or to any other person, for Peter Skydemor to grant and assign one messuage, 40 acres of land, three acres of meadow, 20sh rent, and pasture for two horses, four oxen, 60 sheep and six pigs, with their pertinencies in Werminster and Uptone Skydemor for a chaplain to celebrate divine service every day for all time for the soul of the said Peter, and for the souls of his ancestors and successors and for the souls of all the faithful departed, in the church of Blessed Mary of Uptone Skydemor. To have and to hold the same to the said chaplain and his successors for the celebration of divine service forever. And the jurors say that the said messuage, land, meadow, rent and pasture are held of John Maudut in free socage by service of 1d annually rendering the same at the feast of [rubbed away] for all services. And they say that the said messuage is worth 18d yearly, and that the said 40 acres of land are worth 13sh 4d yearly assessed at 4d an acre, and that the three acres of meadow are worth 5sh yearly assessed at 20d an acre, together with 20sh rent. And that the pasture for two horses is worth 2sh yearly, and that the pasture for four oxen in the adjoining pasture for 60 sheep is worth 10sh yearly assessed at 2d a head, and that the pasture for six pigs is worth 12d yearly. The total, in all issues, amounts to 34sh 10d. The jurors say that John Maudut is mesne tenant between the king and the said Peter for the said messuage, land, meadow, rent and pasture. And they say that the said Peter continues to hold the manor of Uptone Skydemor in the said county which is held of William de Grandison in free socage by service of a single penny rendered annually at the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist for all services. And they say that the said manor of the said Peter remains sufficient to support customs and services as much as to support the said messuage, land, meadow, rent and pasture thus granted, as well as to support other lands and tenements retained by him. And that it is sufficient also to support customary duties such as suits of court, views of frankpledge, aids, tallages, wards, fines, redemptions, amerciaments, contributions or whatever kinds of emergencies may arise. And they say that the said Peter will be able to perform his duties in assizes, juries, and other recognitions such as pertained before the gift and assignment. And that he will not default in the areas covered by the gift and assignment in rendering these duties and dues. In witness whereof the jurors have set their seals to this writing at Werminstre on the day and year aforesaid. (PRO, C.143/214)

42. To all the Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come Walter de Park, son of William de Park, of Upton Escudemor greets in the Lord.

Know that I have surrendered and granted by this my present writing confirm to Walter le Scut of the same place one messuage with curtilage and a virgate of land with pasture there. To have and to hold for the term of his life paying 5sh yearly for all services at three annual terms, viz. at the feast of the Purification 20d, at Easter 20d, and at the feast of St. Michael 20d. Witnesses: Walter Escudemor, John Bastard, Richard de Wicombe, John Colston, John Styward, and others. Given at Upton the Sunday next after the feast of St. Valentine, 6 Edward III (16 February 1331/2). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1030)

43. Know men present and future that I Isaac de la More, of Upton, to Walter Escudemor, son of Sir Walter Escudemor, Knt., give, grant and by this my present charter confirm 15 1/2 acres of arable land in Upton Escudemor, whereof one acre lies in cultivation at *Didelond* between the land of the rector of Norygge and the land of Matill' Halyman; one acre lies at *Heghsmere* between the land of John Bastard and John le Somer; 1/2 acre lies at *Le Langetanhonge* between the land of William Lucas, chaplain, and the land of Matill' Halyman; one acre at *La Lane* between the land of the same William and Walter Haye; one acre at *Le Chipaker* between the land of Peter Trewman and William Halnak'; 1/2 acre at *Le Benteland* between the land of the rector of Upton and John Colston; one rood at *Le Thurstbrak* between the land of the rector of Upton and William Halnak'; one acre at *Heyforlonge* above the land of John Colston, Junior, and is "terr' capit"; three roods at *Ffayrelege* near the land of Walter *Scutte* [cancelled] le Scut; one acre in *Berghforlonge* between Agnes Jordan and William Halnak' 1/2 acre at *Solowforlonge* next to the land of Richard le Bakerer of Norrigge and is "terr' capit"; 1/2 acre at *Middleforlonge* between Walter de Park and John Bastard; 1/2 acre in *Medforlonge* between John Styward and John Attemors; 1/2 acre at *Reggewey* between Peter P'late and the land of Peter Iwon; 1/2 acre at *La Rydelond* between the rector of Upton and William Lucas, chaplain; 1 1/2 acres at *Crewnhange* between John Baldewyn and William Champion; one rood between the rector of Thoulston and William Champion; one rood which Joan who was the wife of Thomas le Francleyn formerly held; and two acres and one rood which was formerly Edward Styward's, whereof one acre lies in *Medforlange* between the land of Agnes Jordan and the land of Peter Iwon, and one acre lies at *Hengsmere* between the land of John le Someter and the land of William Champion; 1/2 acre at the same place between the land of the rector of Thoulston and the land of William Champion; 1/2 acre at *La Linche* between John Styward; one acre between Richard Cutel and land lately William P'in [?Perin] de Norridge; one acre at *La Ride* between Nicholas Cole and John le Someter; three roods at *Dekelgore* near the land pertaining to the church at Upton which extends above *Rigwey*. To have and to hold the said 15 acres of land with all their pertinencies to the said Walter and his heirs and assigns, etc. Witnesses: Walter de Park, John Mauger, John Colston, John Styward, John Bastard, Richard de Wycombe, John Kene, and others. Sunday next after the

feast of St. Matthew, apostle, 6 Edward III (26 September 1332). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 115 v.)

43A. *Inquisition post mortem* on the lands of Walter Gascelyn taken at Wermestre [Warminster] before the king's escheator, 16th May, 7 Edward III (16 May 1333), by the oath of John Mauger, Robert Swotung, Walter de Park, John de Lauyngton, William Montemulle, Richard de Langford, John Leuerich, Gosselin atte Mulle, John Sereci, Nicholas de Fitz Waryn, John le Gol, and Reynold de Uptone, who say that the said Walter de Gascelyn held on the day that he died in his demesne as of the fee of the manor of *Norrigge* of the earl of Salisbury and Peter Eskydemour, to wit, he held of that manor from Eskydemour the hall with the chambers, the chapel, kitchen, and half a dovecot, and "le Est Orchard" adjoining, with 14 1/2 acres of arable land, five acres of meadow, three acres of wood, two acres of pasture, and 34sh 2d annual rents by the service of half a knight's fee, and 13sh 4d yearly. The premises are worth 51sh 11d yearly beyond the said rents; to wit, the hall, etc., and "le Est Orchard, 12d yearly; the half dovecot, 12d; the arable land, 7sh 3d when sown; the meadow 7sh 6d; the wood, nothing, because it lies in common; the pasture, 12d. The rents and services as well of free tenants and villeins at Hokeday and Michaelmas are worth 34sh 2d. He held from the earl of Salisbury, of the said manor, the grange, the ox-shed, and "le West Orchard," and half the dovecot, 88 1/2 acres of arable land; three acres of meadow, four acres of pasture, 47sh 6d of annual rents, by the service of half a knight's fee and suit at the court of *Schyreneton* [Sherrington, Wilts.] every three weeks. These premises are worth, with the pleas and perquisites of the court £4 4sh 2d, to wit, the grange, ox-shed, and "le West Orchard" 18sh beyond the reprise; the half dovecot, 12d; the arable land, 24sh 4d, 8 1/2 acres being worth 6d when sown, 40 acres 4d an acre, and 40 acres 2d an acre; the meadow is worth 4sh 6d; the pasture, 2sh; the rents and services of free and villein tenants, 47sh 6d at Hokeday and Michaelmas in equal portions; the pleas and perquisites of the courts are worth 3sh 4d. William Gascelyn, son and heir of the said Walter, is aged 11 and more. (PRO, C.135/35/32).

44. To all the Christian faithful to whom the present charter may come John *Cerzy*, of Warminster, greets in the Lord. Know that I give grant and by this my present writing confirm to Sir Peter Escudemor, Knt., for a certain sum of money, all his lands and tenements, together with all rents, meadows, pastures, together with all the profits of a certain stall in the market place of Warminster which he had from Isabella, formerly the wife of Robert Maudit, in the vill' and fields of Warminster. To have and to hold, etc. Witnesses: John Maudit, John de la Mare, William Maudyt, Walter de Park, John Kene, and others. Given at Warminster, the Thursday next after the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, 8 Edward III (24 March 1334). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 116)

45. Know men present and future that we Letitia, who was the wife of Richard Bithewode of West Ashton, and Walter my son, release for us and for our heirs forever and quitclaim to Walter, son of William de Park of Upton Escudemor, and his heirs or assigns, all our right and claim in one messuage, 16 acres, and three virgates of arable land and pertinencies in Upton aforesaid which Thomas Silvestr' held for the term of his life, with 18d annual rent from one cottage and three rods of land which John Robert and Maud his wife hold in the same vill' of Upton for the term of their lives. These being witnesses: Thomas de Langeford, John Eysel, William de G[r]imstede, Henry Tyny, John Kene, and others. Given at West Ashton on the 10th day of April, 8 Edward III (10 April 1334). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1020)

46. To all the Christian faithful to whom this writing may come Roger le Wolmanger of Westbury and Agnes his wife greet in the Lord. Know that we have demised and granted and by this our present writing confirmed on the payment of a certain sum to us to Sir Peter Escudemor, Knt., one meadow called *Crokeretrowe* with an adjacent close and all its pertinencies at Honeybridge; which meadow Roger Mayguard formerly the husband of the said Agnes and the same Agnes had from the conveyance of Alice who was the wife of William de Honeybridge. To have and to hold [. . .] from the feast of the Purification next until the five years next following are fully completed. Witnesses: Walter de Schirveton, Nicholas fitz Waryn, John de Werdoure, Roger de Coterigge, John de Gol, and others. Given at Westbury the Friday next before the feast of St. Barnabas, apostle, 8 Edward III (10 June 1334). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1087)

47. To all the Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come Walter de Park of Upton Escudemore greets in the Lord. Know that I have given granted and by this present writing confined to Walter, my son, one acre of arable land in the fields of the same Upton in *le costes* next to the land of Peter T[r]uman. I grant to the same Walter, my son, 4sh of annual rent from one messuage, 16 1/2 acres of arable land in Upton which John Kene and Edith his wife hold of me for the terms of their lives with the reversion of the same messuage and land whenever that may happen. I grant to the same Walter, my son, one rose yearly in rent from 7 1/2 acres and two perches of arable land which Walter Escudemor, senior, holds from me in Upton for the term of his life and the reversion of the same whenever that may happen. I grant to the same Walter, my son, for the term of his life “yerdlynggesanese” of all his sheep in the common pasture of the said Upton. To have and to hold [. . .] rendering to me, my heirs or assigns, 12d at the two terms in the year, viz. at the feast of St. Michael and at Easter. These being witnesses: John Mauger, John Bastard, John Colston, John Styward, Roger Styward, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor the Sunday next after the feast of St. Luke, evangelist, 8 Edward III (23 October 1334). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1021)

48. To all Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come Peter Escudmor, Knt., greets in the Lord. Know that I grant and by this my present charter confirm to Walter my son and Alice his wife, all my lands and tenements in Warminster and Bishopstrow, excepting a place called *Le Dryehey*, 39 1/2 acres of arable land, 2 1/2 acres of meadow, pasture for two horses, four oxen, six pigs, 60 sheep, and 20sh in rents, viz.

4sh annually for the tenement of John Jeks  
3sh from William Ganynge  
4sh 6d from John Criket  
4sh 6d from Nicholas, chaplain  
5sh from Adam le Fre  
18d from Davy Hungun  
18d from William Bischof

with wards, dowries, escheats, and all other services due, for the terms of their lives, excepting the place of land, with meadows, pastures, and rents already given by me and my successors in perpetual alms. Witnesses: Sir William de Wauton, Sir Richard de Penleigh, Sir John de Pavely, Knts.; John Mauduit, John de Mere, John Mauger, Walter de Park, and others. Given at Warminster, the Friday in the feast of St. Martin, 8 Edward III (11 November 1334). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 116)

49. To all Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come Peter Escudemore, Knt., greets in the Lord. Know that I have given, granted and by this my writing confined to John Colston, son of Peter Colston of Upton Escudemor, and Agnes his wife and Isabel his daughter, pasture in the common of Upton for one beast [*averium*], one pig, and 12 sheep free of herbage and pannage. I grant to the same John, Agnes and Isabel all the reversion of two tenements with curtilages and crofts adjacent to the said vill' of Upton and all their pertinencies which Edward Cook [*Cocus*] holds of me for the term of his life after the death of the aforesaid Edward. To have and to hold rendering 6sh 7d by the year, viz. at the feast of Easter 3sh 3d; and at the feast of St. Michael 3sh 3d, and at the feast of the Purification 1d. Witnesses: Walter de Park, John Colston, Edward Styward, Peter Priketo, John Kene, and others. Given at Upton the Thursday next before the feast of St. Hilary, 11 Edward III (14 January 1338/9). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1022)

50. Know men present and future that I John Styward, senior, of Upton Escudemor, give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to John, son of Walter de Park my lands and tenements in the villis of Upton Escudemor, Wermenster, and Tholueston. To have and to hold, etc. Witnesses: Sir Thomas de Kingeston, Knt.; Richard de Anesye, John Colston, William Ywon, John Kene, Hugh Mody, Peter Pryketo, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor

the Friday next after the feast of St. Barnabas, apostle, 14 Edward III (16 June 1340). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1031)

51. To all the Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come Peter Escudemor, Knt., greets in the Lord. Know that I have granted and by this my present writing confirm to Walter son of Jordan de Park and Agnes his wife, and Alice their daughter, two acres of arable land lying in the eastern field of Upton Escudemor, whereof one acre is in *La Wateside* next to the land of Hugh Mody on the east; 1/2 acre at *Croucho forlonge* next to the land lately John Styward's on the west; and 1/2 acre lying in *La Henlonde* next to the land of William Lucas, chaplain, on the west. To have and to hold [. . .] paying 6d at the four principal terms of the year in equal portions. Witnesses: Walter son of William de Park, John Colston, John Keyne, Edward Styward, Peter Pryketon, and others. Given, the Sunday after the feast of St. Gregory, 15 Edward III (18 March 1341). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 116 v.)

52. To all Christian faithful to whom this writing may come Walter Skydemor, Knt., lord of Upton Skydemor, greets in the Lord. Know that I have surrendered, granted and by this my present charter confirmed to John Scarlet, son of Peter Scarlet of Norton Skydemor, all my land and tenements with their pertinencies everywhere in the vill' and fields of Norton aforesaid which Walter Skydemor, my grandfather, once acquired from Robert Hereman. And I also surrender and grant to the same John Scarlet 13 acres of arable land in the fields of the same vill' of Norton which the same Walter, my grandfather, recovered from Lady Alice de Bavent in the Court of the Lord King by writ warranty. To have and to hold for the term of his life rendering each year to me or my heirs 40sh at the four annual terms of equal portions, viz. the feast of the Nativity of the Lord, at Easter, at the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, and at the feast of St. Michael. Witnesses: John Waspail, John le Botiller, Thomas de Helmesford, John Kene, Richard de Lavynton, and others. Given at Norton Skydemor the Saturday before the feast of St. Martin, 17 Edward III (8 November 1343). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1037)

53. To all the Christian faithful to whom these presents may come, Walter Escudemor, son and heir of Sir Peter Escudemore, Knt., greets in the Lord. Know that I have given, granted and confined to Mercy de Saltune, sister of Julian the wife of Robert Halyman of Tholueston, for 8sh 4d annual rent one messuage and curtilage, crofts and land in Norrige and Tholueston which John Wilet held of me for the term of his life. Witnesses: Walter de Park, John Colston, John de Park, Edward Styward, William Fraunkelin, and others. Given at Upton Skudemore, 19 Edward III (1345-6). (Brudenell Deeds)

54. This indenture made at Warminster the Thursday in the eve of St. Thomas, apostle, 21 Edward III (18 December 1347), witnesses that whereas there was

a disagreement between Sir Walter de Escudemor of the one part, and John son and heir of Walter de Park of the other part, by reason of a heriot and relief due after the death of said Walter [de Park] on certain lands and tenements in Upton Escudemor with a rent of 40sh by the year from the same lands and tenements, it was agreed in the presence of Sir Henry de Percy, Sir William fitz Waryn, John de Roches, John de Edyndon, George Celyman, John de la More, Robert Cole, John Talbot, and other good men, that the said John holds all the lands and tenements in Upton Escudemor by the same right that the said Walter had, by successive inheritance after the death of Walter, and by homage, fealty, and the service of 40sh by the year and by paying a relief and heriot to the aforesaid Sir Walter which was due him by the death of Walter de Park. At the request of the aforesaid good men, John is pardoned of the relief and heriot providing that he will pay the rent of 40sh which is in arrears, etc., and in witness of this the said Walter and John have put their seals at Warminster on the above day. (French) (Hungerford Cart., fol. 119)

55. To all Christian faithful to whom this present writing may come William Maudut, son and heir of Thomas Maudut of Warminster, greets in the Lord. Know that I have remised and released and forever quitclaim to Sir Walter Escudemor, Knt., all my right and claim in all lands, tenements, rents, services, which Walter Escudemor, grandfather of the aforesaid Walter, had from Nicholas Malemayns in Warminster, Samborne, and Bishopstrow. Witnesses: Sir Reginald de Pavely, Sir Roger de Penlegh, Knts.; Richard de Danesye, John Waspayl, Walter de Parke, William de Whiteclyve, William fitz Waryn, and others. Given at Warminster, the Wednesday in the feast of St. Margaret, virgin, 19 Edward III (20 July 1345). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 119)

56. Know men present and future that I Nicholas Nobount of Warminster, give grant and by this my present charter confirm to Walter de Escudemor, Knt., and Alice his wife, one messuage, curtilage, and croft in Warminster and Samborne adjoining to the tenement of the said Walter on the south, with one acre of arable land lying beyond the same croft in the close of the said Sir Walter, together with the reversion of one acre of land in the fields of Warminster which Edith Hobbes, and Andrew her son, hold for the term of their lives from demise of Richard Nobount, my brother. Witnesses: Walter de Park, John Waspayl, John Mauger, Richard de Langeford, Edward le Boteler, and others. Given at Warminster, the Sunday next after the feast of St. Hilary, 19 Edward III (15 January 1346). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 119 v.)

57. To all Christian faithful to whom this writing may come, Walter Escudemor, Knt., lord of Upton Escudemor, greets in the Lord. Know that I have given, granted and by this my present writing confirmed to Nicholas atte Mulle two acres of arable land lying in the fields of Upton aforesaid near *Odyndone* and next to the land of John Colston and extending to a head above

the land of John de Park. To have and to hold rendering each year to me and my heirs two capons at the feast of St. Michael for all services and secular demands. Witnesses: Walter de Park, Walter son of John de Park, John Colstan, Edward Styward, Hugh Frankelayn, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor on the Saturday in the feast of the Translation of St. Thomas, martyr, 21 Edward III (7 July 1347). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1023)

58. To all Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come, Margaret, daughter of Robert Hoppegras of Charlton near Hungerford [Berks.] greets in the Lord. Know that I have given, granted to Robert Hoppegras my father 40sh of rent due annually at the feast of St. Michael, archangel, from my lands and tenements in Upton Skidmor to him and his heirs forever and he is firmly bound to me, my heirs and executors, etc. In the presence of Walter de Hungerford, William de Stockes, Thomas de Harden, Nicholas Homeden, William Waryn, John O[. ]en [stained], and Thomas fitz John Dyere of Hungerford. Given at Charlton near Hungerford on the Friday next after the feast of St. Michael, archangel, 21 Edward III (5 October 1347). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1024)

NOTE: See no. 63 which may pertain.

59. To all Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come Walter Escudemor, Knt., of Upton Escudemor, greets in the Lord. Know that I have granted to Nicholas at Mulle and Alice his daughter the reversion of all those lands and tenements with their pertinencies that Walter Wodeham of Tholueston and Alice his wife hold of me for the term of their lives in Tholueston. To have and to hold for the term of their lives paying after the death of Walter Wodeham and Alice his wife the same yearly rent of 5sh 10d at the four annual terms of the year in equal portions, and a bushel of nuts, three hens and one cock at the feast of St. Martin for all services and demands. Witnesses: John de Park, John Danzsy, John de Lygh, John Colston, Thomas Brokwey, Hugh Frankeleyn, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor the Tuesday next after the feast of St. Dunstan, bishop, 22 Edward III (20 May 1348). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1030a.)

60. Let it be known by these presents that I Walter Escudemor, son and heir of Peter Escudemor, grant and demise to Sir William de Fulbourne vicar of the church of Upton Escudemor, Peter Pypard and William Whyteclive, all my rents and services which I was accustomed to receive of Robert Uppehulle and Goda his wife for various lands and tenements, meadows, pastures and rent with all their pertinencies which they hold for me for the terms of their lives in Upton Knowel, Milton Knowel and *la legh* [?Leigh in East Knoyle] by my demise with the reversion of all lands and tenements, meadows, pastures and rents with all their pertinencies in the aforesaid villis which after the death of the said Robert and Goda should revert to me and my heirs. After the deaths

of the said Robert and Goda to wholly revert to the aforesaid William, Peter, and William de Whyteclive and their heirs and assigns. I grant to the same William, Peter, and William de Whyteclive the reversion of all lands and tenements, meadows, woods, pastures, rents and services that Peter de Burton and Goda his wife holds as the dowry of the said Goda in the aforesaid vill' of my heirs [*sic*]. Moreover I grant to the said William, Peter, and William de Whyteclive all my rents and services which I was accustomed to receive from John Scarlet and Agnes his wife for various lands and tenements which he holds of me in Norton Skydemor with the reversion of all the lands and tenements which he holds of me in the aforesaid vill' after the deaths of the said John and Agnes which should revert to me or my heirs after the deaths of said John and Agnes wholly to revert to the said William, Peter, and William de Whyteclive and their heirs and assigns. Witnesses: [Sir] John Mauduyt, [Sir] Thomas Kingeston, [Sir] Richard de Penlegh, Knts. Adam Inge, John de Wyke, John de Upton, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor, the Friday next after the feast of St. Matthew, apostle, 22 Edward III (26 September 1348). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1082)

61. Be it known to all men that I Walter Escudemore, lord of Upton, Knt., give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to John Wyeth of Upton, all that messuage and its pertinencies and a croft in the woods called Garston. Witnesses: Walter de Park, John Franklin, John Colston, and others. Given at Upton Scudamore in the year 22 Edward III (1348-9). (Brudenell Deeds)

62. Know men present and future that I Walter Escudemor, Knt., for the salvation of my soul and the souls of my ancestors and successors, give, grant and by this my present charter confirm grants to Robert Bourgwyn, chaplain, in perpetual alms to celebrate divine service daily in the church of St. Mary's at Upton Escudemor, one messuage called *le Dryeney* and 39 1/2 acres of arable land and 2 1/2 acres of meadow in the vill' and fields of Warminster. Whereof 20 acres in the northern field, to wit: one acre at *le Sanewynode*, one acre at *le Weterigges*, one acre above *le Westrigges* [*sic*], one acre behind *le Ryp*, one acre at *le Oxeneput*, one acre extends from above *le Oxeneput*, one acre at *Haselgue*, one acre at *le Whiterethe*, one acre above *blakebulle*, one acre called *le wowacre*, two acres at *Nurebergh*, three acres at *Mainecombe*, one acre at *Schapcombe* and called *le Scherpacre*, one acre at the same place which extends above the road that leads towards Devizes, two acres behind *le Ryp* next to the land of John de Cheigny, one acre at *Kenescombe*. Item in the southern fields lies 19 1/2 acres, to wit: one acre above *le Welle*, one acre at *le Laybenths* one acre at *le grove*, one acre above *Churchwey*, one acre at *le Putte*, one acre above *Morligh*, one acre above *Korbergh*, one acre at the same place, two acres above the King's Road at *Marlyngputte*, three acres at *farlegh*, two acres at the same place, two acres above *Holewater combe*, one acre at *Nonnepath*, two acres at *Bournestowe*, two and one half acres of meadow at *le*

*Brodemedede* just as is clear from the boundaries. I give to the same chaplain pasture for two horses, four oxen, six pigs, and 60 sheep on the hills and in the fields of Warminster. I give to the same chaplain 20sh in rent by the year pertaining to the tenement of Edith Jekes, 4d; of the tenement of William Ganynge, 3 sh; of the tenement of John Criket, 4sh 6d; of curtilage which Nicholas the chaplain holds, 6d; of the tenement of Adam le Free, 5sh; of the tenement of Davy Hugon, 18d; of the tenement of William Byssshop, 18d; in Warminster, to have and to hold to the said Robert, chaplain, and his successors who are to celebrate divine service every single day in the said church forever. Witnesses: Walter de Park, John Waspail, John de la Mare, John Cheigny, John Dansy, William Mauduit, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor on the date of SS. Fabian and Sebastian, martyrs, 22 Edward III (20 January 1349). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 118 v.)

63. To all the Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come Walter Eskudemore, Knt., greets in the Lord. Know that I have given, granted and by this my present charter confirmed to Walter, son of Jordan de Park, and Agnes his wife, and the heirs and assigns of Walter himself, the custody of all the lands and tenements which were Margaret Bastard's in the vill' of Upton Eskudemore during the minority of Robert kinsman and heir of the said Margaret. To have and to hold of me and my heirs for the service of one red rose to be paid at the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist for all services and secular demands until the said heir comes to legal age. Witnesses: John Dansy, John de Westbury, Walter de Park junior, John Maugier, John Frankelen, John Colston, George Priketo and many others. Given at Upton Eskudemor on the Thursday next after the feast of St. Valentine, 24 Edward III (18 February 1349/50). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1025)

NOTE: It may be suggested that Margaret Bastard was the daughter of Robert Hoppegras (see no. 58).

64. This agreement was made the Monday next before the feast of St. Michael in the 24th year of the reign of King Edward III between Sir Walter Skydemor, Knt., and Alice his wife, of the one part, and Adam atte Borgh and Thomas atte Borgh, brother of said Adam, of the other part, viz. that said Sir Walter and Alice give to said Adam and Thomas pasture sufficient for 240 sheep on *Odyndon* and in the other pastures of the said Sir Walter and Alice in their manor of Upton Skydemor. To have and to hold to Adam and Thomas for the term of their lives rendering annually to Sir Walter and Alice or their heirs for the next three years after the date of these presents at the feast of St. John the Baptist one rose, and then after these three years are fully completed rendering to the same Sir Walter and Alice or their heirs 100sh at the same feast of St. John the Baptist. Witnesses: John de Westbury, Walter *le* Park, Walter Jurdan, Richard Godefrey, Edward de Cneuke, clerk, and others. Given at Skydemor the day and year above said. (26 September 1351). (Hastings Deeds, no.

1026)

65. To all Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come Walter de Park, brother and heir of Nicholas Park, greets in the Lord. Know that I have surrendered, granted and by this my present charter confirm to Walter son of Jordan de Park, pasture in Upton Skidemor for six oxen, two horses, 120 sheep, and 12 pigs free of herbage and pannage. Together with the reversion of all the land and tenements in the vill' of Upton Skidemor and Norygt that Edith Kene and John Kene lately her husband held and which the said Edith holds for the term of her life. To have and to hold for the term of his life paying annually to me or my heirs or assigns 6sh in silver at two annual terms, viz. at Easter and at the feast of St. Michael in equal portions. And after the death of Walter son of Jordan [de Park] the reversion to John le Clerk and Alice and his wife, and after their deaths the reversion to Walter son of the said John [le Clerk] and Alice, etc. Witnesses: John Dansey, John Waspail, Robert Cole, William Mauduyt, John Mauger, John Colston, George Priketo, and others. Given at Upton Skidemor the Sunday next after the feast of SS. Phillip and James, 26 Edward III (6 May 1352). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1033)

66. This indenture, dated the Friday next after the feast of St. Dunstan, archbishop, 26 Edward III (25 May 1352) witnesses that between Sir Walter Escudemor, Knt., lord of the manor of Upton Escudemor in co. Wilts., on the one part, and Sir Robert Calwe [*sic*], perpetual vicar of the (cathedral) church at Welles, on the other part, that the said Sir Walter grants two acres of arable land in Upton Escudemor which formerly was Gosselin Bolumer's together with the advowson and patronage of the church of St. Mary's at Upton Escudemor in the diocese of Salisbury, in return for which Robert has paid 40 marks and he and all who follow him as vicars in the church at Welles will remember Sir Walter and Alice his wife, and their ancestors and successors in their prayers. Given at Upton Escudemor. (Hungerford Cart., fol. 121 v.)

67. Deed with text almost identical to the above, but given at Bristol, the Friday in the feast of St. Alban, martyr, 26 Edward III (22 June 1352). Witnesses: Sir John Maudit, Sir John de Pavely, Sir Thomas de Kingston, Knts.; Walter atte Burgh, Walter de Park, John de Hampne, and John Seymour, clerk of Bristol and others. (Hungerford Cart., fol. 122)

68. Know all men that I Walter Escudemor, merchant [*mercator*], lord of Upton Escudemore in the county of Wiltshire, is bound to Sir John de Hywysth, canon, William de Cudworth and Robert Calne, vicars of the church of St. Andrew's at Welles, in the whole sum of £100 sterling, etc., etc., (relative to no. 44). Witnesses: John de Colyncton, John de Hampne, John Gevernay, Walter Stokkeshawe, burgesses of Bristol. Given by the hand of John le Spycer, then mayor, and John Seymour, clerk. 22 June, 26 Edward III

(22 June 1352). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 122)

69. To all the Christian faithful to whom this present writing may come Walter de Escudemor, Knt., lord of Upton Escudemor, greets in the Lord everlasting. Know that I remise and release forever by me and my heirs and assigns and quitclaim to Sir John Hywth, canon, William de Cudworth and Robert Calne, vicars, etc., etc., two acres formerly Gosselin Bolymer's and the advowson of the church at Upton. Witnesses: Sir John Maldut, Sir John de Pavely, Sir Thomas de Kingeston, Knts., Walter atte Burgh, Walter de Park, Jun., and others. Given at Upton Escudemor, the Sunday next after the feast of SS. Peter and Paul, apostles, 26 Edward III (1 July 1352). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 122-1-23 v.)

70. To all Christian faithful to whom this present writing may come Edith who was the wife of John Keyne greets in the Lord. Know that I in full power and of good mind surrender to Walter son of Jordan de Park all my lands and tenements in Upton Escudemor, Norrigge, Tholvestone and Warminster which I hold for the term of my life from the feoffment of Walter brother of Nicholas de Park and William Mauduyt. To have and to hold all of the aforesaid lands and tenements to Walter or his heirs of the chief lords of that fee forever. Witnesses: Walter de Park, junior, William Mauduyt, John Mauger, John Colston, John de Upton, citizens and burgesses of New Sarum, John de Hanetk', George Priketo, and many others. Given at New Sarum the Sunday next after the feast of St. Matthew, apostle, 26 Edward III (23 September 1352). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1034a)

71. To all the Christian faithful to whom the present writing may come Walter Escudemor, Knt., greets in the Lord. Know that I give grant and by this my present charter confirm to Thomas Seymour, Knt., Peter Pipard, and William Payn all my manor of Welles and its pertinencies everywhere in the county of Southampton, and also my manor of Upton Knoel with all its pertinencies in the county of Wiltshire, and also 40sh of annual rent paid by the year by John Scarlet and Agnes his wife for the term of their lives together with the reversion of the lands and tenements with their pertinencies which the aforesaid John and Agnes his wife hold me for the term of their lives in the vill' of Norton. To have and to hold to the said Thomas, Peter and William for the term of the life of Alice my wife from me and my heirs [. . .] rendering annually to me and my heirs one garland of roses. Witnesses: [Sir] John Mauduyt, [Sir] John Stokes, Knts.; Walter de Park, John Waspail, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor the Sunday in the vigil of the feast of St. John the Baptist, 27 Edward III (23 June 1353). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1124)

72. Sir Peter de Grandison, Knt., to Sir John Hywysth, canon, William de Cudworth and Robert Calne, vicars, etc., consents to the gift of the advowson

of the church at Upton Scudamore. Given at Wells, 16 April, 31 Edward III (1357). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 123)

NOTE: See the charter of 1 July 1352. Grandison was the lord of Ewyas Harold to whom Walter Scudamore owed homage for his lands at Upton Scudamore.

73. Know men present and future that I John Bavant, son and heir of Roger Bavant, remise, release for me and my heirs and forever quitclaim to Walter Skydemour, Knt., and Alice, his wife, and their heirs and assigns all my right and claim in the manor of Upton Skydemour and its pertinencies. Witnesses: Sir John Mauduyt, Sir John de Pavely, Sir Edward de Clivedon, Sir Thomas de Kingeston, Sir Richard de Penlegh, Knts.; Peter Pypard, Walter de Park, John Talebot, John de Westbury, and others. Given at Warminster the Thursday next before the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Mary, 32 Edward III (6 September 1358). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 117 v.)

74. Know men present and future that I John Bavant, son and heir of Roger Bavant, remise, release for me and my heirs and forever quitclaim to Margery who was the wife of Peter Skydemour, all my right and claim in the manor of Upton Skydemour which Margery holds in dower. (Same date and witness list as the above.) (Hungerford Cart., fol. 117 v.)

75. Michaelmas term *Anno 32 rotulo 262*. John Bavant by Willam de Houghton, his attorney, plaintiff, vs. Walter Skidemor and Alice his wife. The manor of Upton Skydemor and its pertinencies which is by right his [John's] hereditament and in which the said Walter and Alice had no lawful entry except after Walter Skydemor [not the defendant] had unjustly and without right disseised Peter Skydemor, kinsman of said John and whose heir he is, etc. And from Peter himself it descended by right to a certain Alice as his daughter and heir, etc. And from Alice herself it descended to a certain Roger [Bavant] as her son and heir, etc. And of Roger himself it descended to a certain Roger as his son and heir, etc. And from Roger himself it descended by right to this John who is the plaintiff as his son and heir, etc. And in that, etc. And who therefore brings suit, etc. And Walter and Alice by Richard de Sobbury, their attorney, come and defend their right, etc. And they say that said John has by his writing released all his right and claim to the manor of Upton Skydemor to the said Walter and Alice. [Recites the full text of the charter of John Bavant dated 6 September 1358]. And the said John is to receive nothing by writ but to be in mercy for making a false claim. (Hungerford Cart., fol. 118)

76. Final concord of the Court of the lord King at Westminster, Michaelmas in three weeks, 32 Edward III (8 September 1358) before Robert de Thorp, John de Stonford, Henry Greene, Thomas de Seton, Henry de Motelew, justices, between Walter Skydemour, Knt.; and Alice his wife, querent, and

John Bavant, deforciant, a release and quit claim to the manor of Upton Skydemour and its pertinencies, for 100 marks of silver. (Hungerford Cart., fol. 118)

77. This indenture, made at Upton Skydemor on the Saturday in the feast of St. Giles, 32 Edward III (1 September 1358) between Walter Skydemour, Knt., and Alice his wife, and John Bavant, an agreement that John Bavant will release by a fine with warranty all his right and claim to the manor of Upton Skydemour and all its pertinencies, and in all the lands and tenements that John Skarlet and Agnes his wife hold from the said Walter and Alice for the term of their lives in Norton Bavant, the fine to be made before All Saints next [1 November 1358]. Witnesses: Sir John Mauduyt, Sir John Pavely, Sir Edward Clivedon, Sir Thomas de Kingeston, Sir Richard de Penleigh, Knts.; Peter Pypard, John Talebot, John Westbury, and others. (Hungerford Cart., fol. 117)

77A. *Inquisition ad quod damnum*. Writ dated 22 September, 32 Edward III (1358). Inquest held at Warminster before John de Eastbury, escheator in the county of Wiltshire, on the Saturday next after the feast of St. Gregory, 33 Edward III (16 March 1358/9) under the oath of John Colston, Thomas Gosselyn, Nicholas Saghere, Walter atte Mille, Richard Langeford, John Frankleyn, Walter Estmond, John Gosselyn, John Thommes, John Laad, Robert Dorhoger, and John Cosyn junior. Who say that it is not forbidden, neither is it prejudicial to the King or to any other person, for Walter de Park to grant and assign 60 acres of land and 13sh 4d rent with the pertinencies in Upton Skydemor for a chaplain to celebrate divine service in the church of the Blessed Mary of Upton for the good of the estate of the said Walter while he lives and for his soul when dead, and for the souls of his ancestors and heirs. To have and to hold the same chaplain and to his successors for the daily celebration of divine service for all time. And they say that the said 60 acres of land are worth in all issues approximately 40sh. And that the said land and rent are held of Sir Walter Skydemor as of his manor of Upton Skydemor by service of a rose annually for all services. And that the said Walter holds the manor of Sir Thomas de Grandison as of the honour of Ewyas Harold by service of 40sh yearly. And that the said Sir Thomas holds of the king in chief. And they say that there remains to the said Walter Park, over and above the said gift and assignment, two carucates of land in Upton Skydemor which are held of Sir Walter Skydemor by service of 40sh yearly and that they are worth in all issues approximately £10 per annum. And the jurors say that the said land and tenements remaining to the said Walter are sufficient to support customs and services as well as to support the said land and rent thus donated, as well as other land and tenements retained by him. And that they are sufficient also to support customary duties such as suits of court, views of frankpledge, aids, tallages, wards, fines, redemptions, americiaments, contributions and whatever kinds of emergencies may arise. And that the said

Walter will be able to perform his duties in assizes, juries and other recognitions such as pertained before the gift and assignment. And that he will not default in the neighborhood covered by the gift and assignment in rendering these duties and dues. In witness whereof the jurors have set their seals to this document. (PRO, C.143/332)

78. To all Christian faithful to whom this present writing may come Margery who was the wife of Peter Skydemor, Knt., greets in the Lord. Know that I have given, granted, and by this my present charter confirm to Walter de Park, junior, Emma his wife, and Alice their daughter, one messuage, curtilage, croft, and all that virgate of land with all its pertinencies in Upton Skydemor which Nicholas Beylend held of me. I grant to the same Walter, Emma his wife, and Alice their daughter, one messuage, curtilages, crofts and all that virgate of land with all its pertinencies in Upton Skydemor which John Keyne held of me. To have and to hold the said 2 messuage, curtilages, crofts with the said 2 virgates of land to the said Walter, Emma and Alice for the rest of my life [ad tota vitam meam]. Rendering annually to me or my heirs 20sh at the four annual terms of the year in equal portions for all services and secular demands. Witnesses: Walter de Park, senior, John Wappayl, John Cheyne, John Boteler, John Colston, Walter atte Mulle, George Prikton, and many others. Given at Upton Skydemor on the Monday next before the feast of St. Andrew, apostle, 32 Edward III (26 November 1358). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1027)

NOTE: Unusual in that the grant is for the life of the *grantor* and not the grantees.

79. This present indenture witnesses that I Walter Skydemor, Knt., lord of Upt[on Skyd]emor grant and demise to Nicholas atte Mulle and John his son all that place of arable land [in the] fields of Norrige above *la hulle* between the land of the Rector in the said vill' in the northern part [. . .] [torn] [. . .] which was formerly Walter Bysse's in the same vill' To have and to hold for the terms of their lives rendering to me or my heirs annually 12d in silver for all services and demands. Witnesses: Walter de Park, John Colstan, Thomas Brocwey, Walter atte Mulle, George Pr[iketo], and others. Given at Upton aforesaid, the Monday on the Morrow of Trinity, 34 Edward III (1 June 1360). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1032)

80. Grant by Sir Walter Skidemor, Knt., to Thomas Hungerford and Eleanor his wife and Thomas their son, of a little land in Bishopstrow for the annual rent of a rose. Witnesses: John Cheyny, John Mauduyt, John Botiler, and others. (21 June 1360) (Missing) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1045)

81. Know [men] present and future that I John Gosselyn of Warminster give grant and by this my present charter confirm to Walter, son of Judany du Park of Upton Escudemor, John le Clerk of Upton and Alice his wife, and Walter,

the son of John and Alice, their heirs or assigns of the said Walter du Park, one acre of arable land formerly Edward atte Nassche's in Warminster lying next to *Fornens Grove* next to the land of Thomas de Kingstone on the south side, which acre of land descended to me at the death of John Gosselyn, my father. These being witnesses: John Waspayl, John Cheyny, John Mauduyt, Thomas Lanfolle, John Colston, John le Botiler, George Preketo, and many others. Given at Warminster the Monday next after the feast of St. Michael, 34 Edward III (5 October 1360). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1011)

82. Know all men that I Peter Escudemor, lord of Upton Escudemor, give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to John le Sunytch of Warminster one close called *Baggebrigge* lying between the croft called *le Virnhulle* on the one part and meadow St. Laurence on the other part. To have and to hold for the term of his life rendering annually to Peter or his heirs 7sh of silver at the four principal terms and doing suit at his court in Warminster. These being witnesses: Thomas Cotting, John Mauger, William Langeford, Thomas Lassule, Thomas Deone, and others. Given at Warminster the Sunday next before the feast of the Nativity of our Lord, 37 Edward III (24 December 1363). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1012)

83. Know men present and future that I Peter Escudemor, lord of Upton Escudemor, give, and grant and by this my present charter confirm to Sir Thomas Kyngeston, Knt., and John de la Mare, and Richard Rous all my manors of Upton Escudemor, Warminster, Tudryngton, Stokton and Upton Knoel in Wiltshire, and my manor of Welles next to Romesie in Southampton. And also all of my lands and tenements, rents and services with their pertinencies which I have this present day in the said counties of Wiltshire and Southampton. I also grant all the lands and tenements with their pertinencies that Thomas Drew holds of me in Stonhouse, Hardenhywishch and Holslade and which after the death of the said Thomas Drew ought to revert to me or my heirs, with the reversion after the death of the said Thomas Drew to Sir Thomas de Kingeston, John de la Mare, and Richard Rous and their heirs and assigns forever. To have and to hold, etc. Witnesses: Sir Thomas West, Sir Laurence St. Martin, Knts.; Henry Stormy, Ni[cholas] Bonham, John de Rodes, Michael Skylling, Walter atte Bergh, Thomas de Hungerford, Andrew de Stratford, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor the Saturday in the feast of St. Andrew, apostle, 38 Edward III (30 November 1364). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1125)

84. To all Christian faithful to whom the present writings may come Thomas Dru greets in the Lord. Know that I remise, release and in every way for me and my heirs forever quitclaim to Sir Peter Escudemor, Knt., all right and claim in the manors of Upton Escudemor, Warminster, Tuderyton, Stokton, and Upton Knol in Wiltshire, and in the manor of Welles in Southampton,

which I had by the feoffment of the said Peter Escudemor by a certain deed to Sir Thomas de Kingeston, Knt., John de Upton, John de la Mare, Sir John Waltham (vicar of the church at Warminster), Richard le Rous, and myself, the said Thomas Dru. Witnesses: Sir Robert de la Mare, Knt.; Walter de Haywode, John de la More, John de Upton, Michael Skyllynge, Nicholas Bonham, Roger de Whitechurch, and others. Given at Devizes, Monday next after the feast of Epiphany, 41 Edward III (10 January 1368). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 116 v.)

85. To all Christian faithful to whom these presents may come Peter le Frankeleyn of Coulston, Wilts., feodary to Sir John de Grandison, bishop of Exeter, greets in the Lord. Know that I have received of Sir Peter Escudemor, lord of Upton, 25sh of good money rendered for his manor of Upton pertaining to the castle of Ewyas as far as the time of the Purification of the Blessed Mary last past. (No witnesses) Given at Upton, the Monday next before the feast of St. Valentine, martyr, 42 Edward III (7 February 1368). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 116 v.)

86. Be it known to all men that I William Hankey, clerk, have appointed Henry de Brisele, John de Assheford and Thomas de Cressingham, beloved to us in Christ, my attorneys to deliver in my name seisin to Peter Escydemore, Knt., and Joan, his wife, and their heirs one tenement and its pertinencies in Martelane in the parish of Berkingchurch in the city of London. (No witnesses) Given at London, 27 April 1369. (Brudenell Deeds)

87. To all those, etc. Know that I Peter de Skydemor, Knt., lord of Upton, have granted to Robert Coumbe of Frome all that pasture at a place called Odyngton in my manor at Upton. (No witnesses) 43 Edward III (1369). (French) (Brudenell Deeds)

88. This indenture witnesses that Peter Escudemor, Knt., lord of Upton Escudemor, did formerly give, grant and by his charter confirm to Sir Thomas de Kingeston, Sir John de Mare, Knts.; Thomas Drew, John de Mersshton, Nicholas Bonham, and Sir Thomas Heryng (vicar of the church of Warminster) all his manors of Upton Escudemor, Wermenstre, Tyderyngtone, Stokton, and Upton Knoel in Wiltshire, and his manor of Welles next Romesey in Southampton, and also all his lands and tenements, rents and services in the said counties with the reversion of all the lands and tenements which ought to revert to the same Peter or his heirs after the death of Thomas Drew in Stonhouse, Hardenehywych and Holslade. To have and to hold to the said Sir Thomas, John, Thomas, John, Nicholas, and Thomas and their heirs and assigns forever, in which indenture Peter reserved the right to re-enter when he pleased upon the premises provided that if he died before doing so then the feoffees should deal with the premises in accordance with his intentions

expressed in a certain tripartite indenture which was enclosed with his will and other muniments in a small coffer sealed with his seal in the custody of Joan his wife. In the event of their failing to do so the feoffment was to be void and his heirs might enter upon the premises. Witnesses: Sir Lawrence de St. Martin, Knt.; Henry Stormy, Thomas Hungerford, Roger Manyngford, Michael Skyllyng, Andrew de Stratford, and others. Given at Upton Escudemor the Thursday next after the feast of St. Thomas, apostle, 44 Edward III (26 December 1370). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1126)

89. Know men present and future that I Peter Escudemor, Knt., lord of Upton Escudemor, give grant and by this my present charter confirm to Sir Thomas Heryng, vicar of the church at Warminster, and William Forster, rector of the chapel at Corsley, all his manor in Warminster and all that pertains to it. To have and to hold, etc. Witnesses: Sir Thomas de Kingeston, Sir Robert de la More, Sir John de la More, Knts.; Richard le Clerk, William Waspayl, and others. Given at Warminster, the Wednesday next before the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul, 45 Edward III (21 January 1372). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 117)

90. Know men present and future [. . .] that we Heryng and Forester (see next above) give, grant and by this our present charter confirm to Peter Escudemor, Knt., and Joan his wife, in the manor of Warminster which we had by the grant and feoffment of the said Peter. Witnesses: Sir John de la More, Knt.; Thomas Dru, William Waspayl, Nicholas Bonham, Michael Skyllyng, and others. - Given at Warminster, the Monday next after the feast of St. Gregory, 46 Edward III (15 March 1372). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 117)

91. Know all men by these presents that I Peter Escudemor, Knt., lord of Upton Escudemor, surrender, grant and demise to Thomas atte Brigge, smith, and Christine his wife, all that tenement and pertinencies formerly held by Walter Halfacre, smith, viz. two messuages with curtilages and one croft adjoining, 18 acres of arable land with all pertinencies, and a cartload of thorns once a year for enclosing the said curtilages, together with pasture for two horses, six beasts [*averia*], 40 sheep, and four pigs in the common pasture of Upton free of herbage and pannage. To have and to hold providing each year from the iron of the grantor coulthers and shares sufficient for his five ploughs, to shoe three horses when necessary with their own iron, and to mend the chains and rings of the said ploughs without remuneration unless the iron should exceed £1 in value, and to do suit of court. With provision for reentry in the case of default. Witnesses: Ralph Clerk, George Priketo, Walter Colston, John Pilton, David Tailor, and others. Given at Upton the Tuesday next before the feast of the Birth of our Lord, 1 Richard II (22 December 1377). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1028)

92. Grant by Peter Escudemour, Knt., to Sir William de Lucy, Thomas Drew, Robert parson of the church of Aston, and Richard de Lilleshull parson of the church of Upton Scudamore, of all of his lands and tenements in Warminster, Upton Scudamore, Thoulston, Tytherton, Upton [in East] Knoyle, and Stockton, together with the advowson of the chapel of Thoulston. Witnesses: Sir William de Beauchamp, Knt., Sir Mathew de Gourney, Knt., Benet de Botesbale, and others. Given the Thursday after SS. Peter and Paul, apostles, 4 Richard II (5 July 1380). (Missing) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1044)

93. To all those to whom this letter of acquittance may be seen or heard William Strete and John Pyell greet in the Lord. Whereas Sir Peter Escudemor was to us obligated and bound for £160 sterling by a bond [*reconissance*] made before the mayor of the Staple of Westminter whereby the said Peter was to pay the said William and John or their heirs, executors or assigns £80 sterling. An acknowledgment from William and John that the debt has been paid. No witnesses. Given at London, 1 November, 4 Richard II (1380). (French) (Hastings Deeds, no. 1121a)

94. 6 Richard II. This indenture made between Lady Joan, who was the wife of Sir Peter Escudamor, Knt., and Katherine, her daughter, of the one part, and Thomas Reynes and John, his son, of the other part. In witness whereof the said Lady Joan has granted to the said John in marriage Katherine, her daughter, etc., and the said Thomas has granted and given to the said John and Katherine and their heirs which the said Joan [*sic*, correctly *Katherine*] may have, etc., the manors of Clifton and Nowentone, etc. (No witnesses) Given at Clifton [Reynes] in the aforesaid year in the reign of our lord the King Richard the second since the conquest (1382-3). (French) (Brudenell Deeds)

95. Know all men by these presents that I Joan who was the wife of Sir Peter Escudemor, Knt., lady of the manor of Upton Escudemor, surrender, grant and demise to Sir Richard de Lullehull, chaplain, and Margery, his sister [. . .] [. . .] in Norrigge and 5 1/2 acres of arable land in the fields of Upton Escudemor that John [?Mahel] [. . .]. Given at Escudemor, the Wednesday in the feast of St. John the Baptist, [7] Richard II (24 June 1383). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1034) NOTE: This charter is largely illegible from damp stains. The regnal year is gone but can be supplied from other evidences: Sir Peter Escudemor died 29 October 1382 and Joan had married before 30 June 1385 to Sir Robert Corbet. The feast of SJB fell on a Wednesday in 1383. The witness list cannot be read.

96. Be it known to all men that I Thomas Reynes, lord of Upton Escudemor have appointed and set up in my place John Osberne and others, beloved to us in Christ, my true attorneys to deliver full seisin in my name to John Reynes, my father, Robert Reynes and others, all my manors, lands and tenements in

the counties of Wiltshire, Southampton, Hertfordshire, and Buckinghamshire. Given at *Terinham* [Tyringham, Bucks.], 4 Edward V (1416-7). (Brudenell Deeds)

97. Be it known that I Sir John Reynes, Knt., give, grant and by this my present charter confirm to John Baysham, clerk, John James of Olney, and Henry Hertwell, their heirs and assigns, all my manors, lands and tenements in the counties of Wiltshire, Southampton and Somerset, etc. Witnesses: John Osberne, John Billington, Roger Sherewyn, Robert Richard, Edward Dyere, and others. Given at Upton Escudemore, 10 October, 9 Henry V (1421). (Brudenell Deeds)

98. To all Christian faithful to whom these presents may come, Sir John Reynes, Knt., and Alice, his wife, greet. Know that we have assigned to John de Westbury, senior, William Westbury, his son, and John Westbury, son of the said William, all our pasture in Upton Escudemour in Wiltshire called Odyngton. Given 1 Henry VI (1422-3). (Brudenell Deeds)

99. This indenture testifies that John Osberne and Alice my wife and Walter Park, son of said Alice, grant and demise to John Persones of Opton and Isabella his wife, one messuage and 26 acres of arable land with pertinencies in Opton called *West place*. To have and to hold paying 20sh yearly at the four principal terms in equal portions and doing suit of court. Witnesses: Sir John Reynes, Knt., John Westbury, senior, John Rouse, Henry Hille, Richard Spingot of Upton, and others. Given at the feast of the Purification, 3 Henry VI (2 February 1424/5). (Hastings Deeds, no. 1029)

100. Alice, late the wife of Sir John Reynes, Knt., to John Baysham, clerk, John Masseday, clerk, John Poleyn, clerk, John Hertewell, Sen., Thomas Horner, and John Anery. Grants the *manor* [*sic*] of Hardenhysshe, and 16 messuages, four carucates of land, 12 acres of meadow, 40 acres of pasture, and their pertinencies in Rusthale, Wiltshire. Given the Thursday in the feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, 6 Henry VI (24 June 1428). (Hungerford Cart., fol. 124 v.)

101-5. Five deeds dated from 11th to 17th July, 13 Henry VI (1435) wherein the manor of Upton Escudemore also known as Skydemoresupton in Wiltshire, and also six messuages, one carucate and six virgates of land in Warminster, Norygge and Tholueston in the county, and also one third of the manor of Hardenhuwyssh, are taken in execution of a judgement for the debt of £1000 of Sir John Reynes and delivered to John Hertewell, Sen., and John Hertewell, Jun., two of his creditors. (Not abstracted further) (Hungerford Cart., fol. 120-121 v.)

## APPENDIX II

### FEET OF FINE FOR WILTSHIRE

A foot of fine (sometimes called a final concord) records a binding agreement made in a court of law about the tenure of land. In the 12th and 13th centuries fines were often settlements of genuine legal disputes, but by the time of Edward III they were often fictitious disagreements so that some preexisting condition would be ratified and put on record by the court.

They are preserved at the Public Record Office in London and sorted by case, file, and number. None of these fines has been seen and we have depended on the printed abstracts done for Wiltshire by E. A. Fry, R. B. Pugh, and C. R. Elrington.

Wilton. Monday after the octave of Easter, 12 Henry III (9 April 1228). Adam son of Baldwin, plaintiff, and Godfrey de Schudimor, defendant. Lands in Mersgrave [?Marshwood in Dinton]. (Case 250, file 8, no. 2)

Westminster. St. Michael in 15 days, 14 Henry III (14 September 1230). Ralph fitz William, pl., and Godfrey de Scudmor, William le Bastard and Alice, defs. Lands in Herthig [not identified] and Upton [Scudamore]. (19/8/12)

Wilton. Octave of Trinity, 33 Henry III (7 June 1249). Henry de Bath, pl., and Godfrey and Matilda de Escudimor, imped. Land in Up Lamburn, Berks., which Godfrey and Matilda warrant. For this Henry grants to Godfrey and Matilda, and the heirs of Marilda, 40sh of land in Hardenhuish, Wilts., at a rent of 18sh per annum and will warrant. (283/12/237)

Westminster. Trinity in three weeks, 36 Henry III (5 May 1252). Godfrey de Escudimor, pl., and William le Fevere of Norton [Bavant], def. William acknowledges that he holds 64 arable acres and 300 acres of pasture by rent and ward of Ewyas Castle from Godfrey in Rodhurst and Norton. (251/17/20)

Westminster. Easter in 15 days, 46 Henry III (25 March 1262). Godfrey de Escudemor, pl., and John de Clavill and Margery, imped. Lands in Chalke and rents in Fifield [Bavant]. (252/20/23)

Wilton. Purification in 15 days, 52 Henry III (18 January 1268). Peter de Schidemor, pl., and William le Botiller, imped. Messuage in Wilton, attached

to Fifield [Bavant]. (251/21/43)

Octave of Trinity, 22 Edward I (30 May 1294). Walter de Escudemor, pl., and Alice who was the wife of Robert Maudut, def. 170 acres of land, eight acres of meadow and eight acres of feeding in Upton [Scudamore]. Remise and quitclaim to plaintiff. For this, plaintiff has granted to defendant two messuages, one carucate of land, four acres of meadow, four acres of feeding and £15 of rent in Stockton, Upton, Norridge, Thoulstone, Chalcot and Chapmanslade. The defendant to hold during her life of the plaintiff, rendering yearly one rose at the feast of St. John the Baptist. (Warranty) Reversion to plaintiff. Moreover, the defendant has granted that he will render yearly to the plaintiff during her life only, £20 in moieties at Michaelmas and Easter severally. If the plaintiff shall default, it shall be lawful for the defendant to distrain upon the goods and chattels of the plaintiff in the premises until the full payment of the sum in arrear. Endorsed: Alice, who was the wife of Adam de Bavant, puts in her claim.

Octave of Martinmas, 34 Edward I (18 November 1306). Walter Escudemor, pl., by John Percehay in his place, and Thomas Baldewyne and Agnes his wife, impd. One messuage and one carucate of land in Upton Knoyle. To hold to plaintiff. (Warranty) Consideration, £40.

Octave of Michaelmas, 32 Edward III (6 October 1358). John Scarlet and Agnes his wife, pl., by John Frome in Agnes' place, and Walter Skydemore, Knt., and Alice his wife, def. One messuage, 50 acres of land, and one acre of meadow in Norton Bavant. Right of John, by the gift of defendant, remise and quitclaim to the plaintiff. (Warranty) Consideration, 20 marks. (255/49/34)

Three weeks from Michaelmas, 32 Edward III (8 September 1358). Walter Skydemour, Knt., and Alice his wife, pl., and John Bavant, def. Manor of Upton Skydemour. Right of Walter by the gift of the defendant, remise and quitclaim to the plaintiff. Consideration, 100 marks. (255/49/33)

Quindene of Michaelmas, 34 Edward III (13 October 1360). Thomas Brokewey, plaintiff, and Walter Skidemor, Knt., and Alice his wife, def. 12 acres of meadow in Brokwey [Brockway in Westbury, Wilts.]. Right of Thomas, remise and quitclaim to him. (Warranty) Consideration, 20 marks. (255/50/8)

Octave of Purification, 33 Edward III (9 February 1359). John Mautravers, of Lychet Mautravers, Dorset, and Agnes, his wife. [Mentions, with much else, the homage and service due from Walter Escudemor, Knt., probably for his messuage at Stonehouse, Glos.] (288/47/636)

Quindene of Easter, 42 Edward III (9 April 1368). John Leie and John Kirchill, chaplain, pl., and Mathew Stawell, def. Manors of Flambardeston [Flamston in Bishopstone] and Norridge [in Upton Scudamore]. Right of John Leie, grant to the plaintiff of the reversion of the manor of Flambardeston which William Stawell holds for the term of his life, and the manor of Norridge which Peter Escudamour, Knt., holds for the term of his life. (Warranty) Consideration, 300 marks. (255/52/33)

## APPENDIX III

### EXTENT OF THE LANDS OF ROGER BAVANT, 1362

On 1 July 1344 Roger Bavant granted all of his lands (except the manors of Chiltington and Slougherterford, Sussex) to the King, who subsequently gave the income from them to Bavant for life with reversion to himself. Bavant's motive for this does not appear, but it may have been an effort to confound either his estranged wife Hawise or more likely his creditors. He died on 23 April 1355; on the day before his death he gave all of his lands once again to the king.

An extent of his lands in Wiltshire was made on 5 July 1362 (some seven years after his death) and it is the best account to be found anywhere of the lands which once belonged to Sir Peter Scudamore (died 1293). The extent is filed with the *inquisitions post mortem* at the Public Record Office. Many years ago these were "improved" by treating the files with a solution which has made them now extremely difficult to read. Some of the gaps can be filled in from other sources, and an acceptable text can be presented of most of the extent (*Chan. misc. inq.*, file 185):

"Extents of certain manors recently granted to the Crown, made by inquisition at New Sarum, 5th July, 36 Edward III (1362), before the abovesaid escheator, by the oath of John de Harnham, William Waspail, Nicholas Botiler, John Mauer, William Moris, John Ha[. . .], John [. . .]lton[?], Roger Stourton, Thomas Crok, John Swyn[?], John Alewyne, John Russel, John Lyngyner, Robert Botiler, William Criceman[?], John Gowyne, John Ga[. . .], William Calne, John Trowe, Richard Lambert, John Cancepe, John Yonge, John Goldston, and William Chaldecote of Semeleyth, who say that

The manor of Norton Bavant, with the advowson of the church of that vill' and a chantry in the same church belonging to the manor, which were lately granted by Sir Roger de Bavant, Knt., to the King and his heirs forever, were held, when they came to the King's hands, of Sir Peter Grandison, Knt., as of the honour of Ewyas in Wales, as 1 1/2 knight's fees, and by the service of 17sh 3 3/4d, and with suit every three weeks at the hundred of Warminster. There is in the said manor a capital messuage with divers buildings, worth nothing a year beyond the reprise; a garden, the fruit and herbage of which are worth 12d a year; a watermill and fishery, worth 13sh 4d; 400 acres of

land, worth 3d an acre; ten acres of several meadow, worth 18d an acre; and 20 acres several from the feast of the Purification till the hay is carried, worth during that time 12d an acre; 30 acres of several pasture worth 1d an acre. There is a custom of the bond tenants called *Nhoteelver* [Nutsilver] at Martinmas, worth 4sh and another called 'Chirchshut' payable at the same feast, worth [. . .]. There are divers free tenants, who pay £4 a year, and due suit at the manor court every three weeks; eight[?] bond virgatars, each of whom pays 3sh[?] a year; ten half-virgatars, whose rents and services are worth 3sh 4d each; [. . .] whose rents and services are worth 20d. The said manor is charged yearly to John Waspail, lord of Smallbroke [in Warminster], in 5d for a right of way over his meadow called *Gloueham* throughout the year. The pleas and perquisites of court are worth 20sh. The church is valued at 20 marks yearly; the chantry is worth 20sh.

The hamlet of Emwell [a detached part of Norton Bavant], which the said Sir Roger gave the King, is parcel of the manor of Norton. There is a toft with a garden in the said hamlet, worth 6d a year; ten acres of land, two which are held of the prior of the Hospital of St. John of Winchester by the service of 12d yearly; the remainder of the manor of Norton; worth 2d an acre. There are 60 acres of wood containing no underwood; the pasture is worth nothing, because it lies in common. There is one free tenant, who pays [. . .] and does suit every three weeks at the court of Norton.

There is a certain tenant holding freely a messuage and curtilage in Warminster from the said manor of Norton, by the service of 10sh and suit of court every three weeks. [This probably is the estate known later as Butler's Combe in Warminster.]

A toft and eight acres of land and two acres of meadow in West Widhill [in Cricklade] are parcel of the same manor, on which suit of court is owed every three weeks to the hundred of [Dun]worth. The land is worth 3d an acre; the meadow, with the pasture after the hay crop, 18d an acre. There is one free tenant there paying 2sh 6d.

The manor of Fifield [Bavant] with the advowson of the church of that vill', and a parcel of land and meadow and rents in Gurston [in Broad Chalke], to the same manor belonging, were held of the said Sir Peter [Grandison] by the service of one-fifth of a knight's fee and 9sh yearly; and it owes suit to the hundred of Chalk at Stowford. There is a capital messuage in the same manor with divers buildings, worth nothing beyond the reprise; two gardens, the fruit and herbage of which are worth 12d, and not more on account of the multitude [. . .]. There are two carucates of land with the parcel of Gurston aforesaid, containing 200 acres; half can be sown every year, and is then worth [. . .], the rest lying fallow. There are five acres of several meadow

worth, with the pasture after the hay crop, 1d an acre; 34 acres of wood, from which one acre of underwood worth 2sh can be sold every year; the [pasture] is worth only 18d a year, on account of the multitude of brambles [*veprium*]; a grove containing eight acres, from which one acre of underwood can be sold every other year, worth [. . .]; there is a custom called *Nhuteselver* [Nutsilver], 4sh as above, and `Churshut' [. . .]. Divers free tenants pay £4 3d yearly; there are 11 virgatars, whose rents and services are worth [. . .], and [. . .] half virgatars, 2sh 6d. The pleas and perquisites of court are worth 10sh. The church is valued at 100sh yearly. [The advowson of the church] of St. Michael in South Street in Wilton, and 9sh 6d rents there issuing from two tenements, were held above as parcel of the manor of Fifield, worth 20sh yearly.

The hamlet of West Billhay was held from the lord of Segrave as of the manor of West Hatch [in West Tisbury] by the service of 4sh 2d and owes suit to the King's hundred of D[unworth]. There is a toft there with a garden, the herbage of which is worth 12d a year; ten acres of several meadow worth nothing on account of the multitude of brambles and the shade of the trees. There are divers free tenants, who pay 5sh and one pound of pepper. The perquisites of court are worth 6d.

There is a messuage and 57 acres of arable land in Trow [Trow Farm in Alvedison], held of the abbess of Wilton by the service of 15sh yearly and suit at the two legal hundreds of Ch[alke], and 12 1/2d yearly at the two sheriff's tourns. The messuage is worth nothing beyond the reprise; two-thirds of the land can be sown every year, and is then worth 4d an acre, the rest lying in common. There are 1 1/2 acres of meadow several from the feast of the Purification till [the hay is carried], and worth during that time 18d an acre, and common of pasture for two working cattle, four oxen, 200 sheep, and [. . .]. There are 20 acres of underwood worth nothing, because they were wasted before they came to the King's hands.

There is a messuage in Bridmore [in Berwick St. John] held of the abbess of Wilton [. . .] worth 12d a year. The said Roger had warren in all the said manors and demesne lands, etc., under charter of Edward I to [Adam] de Bavant, grandfather of the said Roger dated at Wolvemere 1st August [. . .].

The said Roger had in the borough of Wilton an annual rent of 20 1/2d out of the tenement [. . .] which Hubert Corderay now holds, which rent the same Herbert and Edith Pycotes have withdrawn from the time of the making of the said grant to the King, viz. 1st [. . .] up till the present. At the time of the said grant the said Roger also had a rent of 5sh in the said borough, from a messuage in West Street, which Henry C[. . .], [. . .] of Robert Curtais, which rent the said Henry and William Melemengere have withdrawn as

above.

A water-mill [. . .] called *Mulacre* in West Widhill [in Cricklade], which are now in the King's hands by reason of the minority of John, son and heir of Sir John Lovel, Knt., were held on the said 1st day of July of the said Roger Bavant as of his manor of Norton aforesaid. One messuage, a dovecot, 74 acres of land, and 7 1/2 acres of meadow in Blunsdon [in Broad Blunsdon] late belonging to James de Grundeswell, were likewise so held, by the service of one-sixth of a knight's fee, 8sh, and a 1/2 pound of cumin. Roger entered into these tenements on the death of the said James in [. . .] Edward III without lawful issue, and occupied them until one Joan [. . .], late lady of *Blunsdon Gay*, and John Lovel, her son, [. . .] occupied them [. . .].”

## APPENDIX IV

FOUNDATION GRANT BY EDWARD III TO DARTFORD PRIORY,  
1372.

Extracts, Scudamore-Bavent lands.

Edward, by the grace of God, king of England and France, and lord of Ireland, to all whom these present letters shall come, health. Know ye, that we of our special grace have given, granted and assigned for ourselves and our heirs to our beloved in Christ, MATILDA, prioress of the monastery of St. Mary and St. Margaret the Virgins in Dertford, by us founded, and the convent of the sisters of the order of St. Augustine according to the institutes and under the cure of the brethren of the order of Friar Preachers of the monastery aforesaid, TO WIT [. . .] the manor of Norton [Bavant] with its appurtenances, the advowson of the church of the manor with the chantry in the church, and certain members of the same manor belonging, to wit: Billeigh [Bilhay in West Tisbury], Emewell [Emwell in Norton Bavant], Trowe [in Alvedison], and West Withhill [West Widhill in Cricklade]. And also all rents and services with the appurtenances of all of our tenements in the parishes of Weremenetre [Warminster], Rolveston [Rolleston], and Madyngton [Maddington], with their appurtenances in the county of Wilts; and all rents and services which they hath in Burton-atte-Nash, and atte-More, with all appurtenances of our manor of Norton, in the county of Dorset.<sup>503</sup> The manor of Fiffehide [Fifield Bavant] with its appurtenances, lands, tenements, rents, services, escheats, reversions, and all other things pertaining to the said manor of Fiffehide which were formerly belonging to the prioress and convent in Gerardston [Gurston], Wilton, Digehampton [Ditchampton], Foulston [Fugglestone St. Peter], and Little Derneford [Little Durnford] in the county of Wilts; and all lands and tenements, meadows, rents and services with their appurtenances, which they have in Purbeck [Bradle at Church Knowle in the Isle of Purbeck] in the county of Dorset, pertaining to the same manor of Fiffehide with all other manors of this manor, and the advowson of the church of Fiffehide and St. Michael, in West Street, in Wilton, also the knight's fee, and all other lands and tenements belonging to the same. And the manor of Colwenston [Colwinston], with its appurtenances in the county of Glamorgan, in Wales, together with all lands and tenements with their appurtenances, in Moldeston [Molteston in Ewyas Harold], in the marches of Wales, in county Hereford, with the knight's fee,

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<sup>503</sup>Presumably this is *Bourton* in Dorset, which is close to Mere in Wiltshire. There is also a *Burton* in Mere. This was not a Scudamore fee so far is known.

belonging to the manor of Coldwenston or appurtenances, to have and to hold all the aforesaid manors, lands, tenements, rents and services, fees, reversions and liberties as is aforesaid, with appurtenances; and the advowsons to the said prioress and convent, and their successors in dowry and foundation of the monastery aforesaid as the same were anciently delivered to our hands, to hold of the same lord by the same services by which they were anciently held and by our hands given forever -- notwithstanding the statute of mortmain; in testimony of which we have made these our letters patent. Witnessed at Westminster, the 20th day of July, in the forty-sixth year of our reign over England, and the thirty-third of our reign over France [1372].<sup>504</sup>

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<sup>504</sup>John Dunkin, *History and antiquities of Dartford* (1844) 112-6. No cartulary survives for the priory. Colwinston was still in the hands of the nuns at the dissolution when it was worth £21 2sh 5 1/2d. There is no mention in the records of any lands belonging to the priory in either Herefordshire or Gloucestershire. Alas, six membranes of the account were “rent” [torn] out of one roll “being found in a private man’s hands ere the Auditor received it” according to a note added to the roll in the 17th century. It would seem certain that Moltleston had been disposed of early on; there does not appear to be any mention of it in the Augmentation Office papers at the Public Record Office.

## APPENDIX V

### TWO MEDIEVAL MILITARY EFFIGIES AT UPTON SCUDAMORE, WILTSHIRE

The two military effigies in the north chapel of the church of St Mary the Virgin, Upton Scudamore, are both mutilated and badly worn but sufficient detail remains, in each case, to identify aspects of the design and style of the figures, and to suggest approximate dates for their carving. Traces of thick paint remain in local areas on both effigies, probably as the result of more than one repainting of the figures. The original polychrome may still be preserved underneath this. The types of stone from which the effigies have been carved have not yet been determined. The worn condition of the two figures suggests that they were outside in the churchyard for a considerable period. Handsome new plinths have recently been made for the effigies paid for both by the parishioners and visitors to the church (which frequently include members of the family).

The earlier figure depicts a knight wearing a long, sleeveless gown over a mail shirt (hauberk). He carries a long kite-shaped shield on his left side, supported by a strap (guige) over his right shoulder. He is shown with his left hand lying on the scabbard of his sword and his right arm, which is mostly lost, probably lay alongside the body with the hand resting on his right thigh or hip. The legs, which are broken off above the knees, were shown cross-legged (see the greater height of the right thigh above the base slab). The knight's head rests on a single cushion set diagonally. The base slab is badly broken, but on surviving portions of three edges it can be seen that it originally had a deeply hollowed chamfer. Widely separated along this are worn sprigs of foliage known in an architectural context as "stiff leaf". These features are consistent with a date of carving in the third quarter of the 13th century. The cross-legged attitude became increasingly popular from about the middle of the 13th century but around 1280 the fashion in ornamental foliage changed in favour of naturalistic leaves, where a multitude of real plants were represented. The relaxed hand positions and long, narrow shield would both be acceptable features of a figure of about 1270, a date which is about right for this effigy.

Another important detail is the carving of the mail, which can be seen on the top of the right shoulder. This is shown as curved links in parallel lines which run vertically down the arm instead of in the more usual, horizontal direction. This direction is commonly found on military effigies of the 13th and early

14th centuries made in south-west England. The feature has been claimed as a characteristic of work produced by masons associated with Wells and Bristol, but appears to have been somewhat less specific than this being rather a trait of work done in south-western England in general. It is even found on Irish effigies, such as that at Kilfane in County Kilkenny, at a time when there were strong trading links between southwest England and Ireland. The earlier Upton Scudamore effigy was recorded by Dr Tummers in his book *Early Secular Effigies in England: The Thirteenth Century* (Leiden, 1980), where he dated it to the late 13th century. Nikolaus Pevsner in his popular *Buildings of England: Wiltshire* also dated it to the late 13th century. It seems reasonably safe to identify it as a representation of Sir Godfrey Scudamore III who died in 1266.

The other figure belongs to a different tradition of effigy carving. Its badly mutilated and worn state obscures its artistic merit. The body is shown with the hips swayed to the left, creating graceful flowing lines. The small beater-shaped shield is held well to the left so that it does not mask any of the figure. The right arm is broken off at the shoulder but it probably lay diagonally across the centre of the body, the hand resting in the region where the sword hilt must once have been. The lack of any scar across the body suggests that this arm was originally completely undercut. The head rests on two cushions, the lower large and oblong and the upper cushion smaller and oval shaped. The mail was marked out by means of crescent-shaped lines incised onto the surface and areas remain on both hides of the head, the right thigh and the left shoulder. The effigy is shown wearing a close-fitting bascinet (helmet) which has its lower edge at about ear level. At this point, it is joined to a camail, which covers the neck and most of the shoulders. The bascinet has a slightly pointed ridge at its crown. There are traces of a sword-belt sloping across the figure's hips, from right to left.

The skirt of the knight's gown is particularly interesting as it is split at the right (and probably also the left) side. The material falls away at the split over the right thigh, revealing part of the mail hauberk. The skirt falls in deep folds at the centre, where it dips between the thighs. Although they are missing below midthigh, the line of the legs indicates that they were straight rather than crossed. During the 1340's, the English fashion of depicting effigies with crossed legs sharply declined and there was a general return to straight legs. The swayed stance is strongly reminiscent of a number of monuments, particularly the military brasses at Wimbish (Essex) and Elsing (Norfolk), both believed to commemorate knights who died in 1347. The gathering of the skirt in deep folds between the legs is paralleled on a mid-century effigy at Aldworth (Berkshire). There are few other effigies which show the side-split skirt. Two of them, at Tollard Royal in Wiltshire and at Dodford in Northants, have recently been newly updated from about 1310 to about 1340. Another example is the mutilated effigy at Wimborne Minster (Dorset). Again we have

a likely identification for Sir Peter Scudamore (living 1340) was recently dead in 1342.

Between 1352 and 1361, the church at Edington (Wiltshire), only a few miles from Upton Scudamore, was being rebuilt under the patronage of William of Edington, Bishop of Winchester and Chancellor of England. The chancel retains much fine carving from this period (which may bear some similarity to this figure) and it is tempting to suggest that this might have been the workman who did the later effigy at Upton Scudamore. It is possible that Sir Peter de Skydemore, who had founded the chantry in the north aisle of the church, had also provided his own effigy for it during his own lifetime.

## **APPENDIX VI**

### **GLOSSARY OF UNCOMMON WORDS**

**ABBAY:** A society of monks or nuns ruled by an abbot or abbess; the church or buildings belonging to a monastery or a nunnery.

**ADVOWSON:** The right to present a clergyman to a church when a vacancy occurs.

**AID:** A payment due to the crown on a specific occasion or granted to meet a special emergency.

**AMERCEMENT.** A payment by an offender “in the mercy” of the court.

**APPEAL: APPEALED:** A form of criminal accusation; a person so accused.

**ASSART:** To grub up trees and brush to make land arable; a piece of land so converted.

**ASSIZE:** A procedure to establish the possession of land or an itinerant court

designed to judge such a procedure.

**ATTORNEY:** A person appointed to represent another at court.

**BORDAR:** A villein of the lowest rank who rendered menial service in return for a cottage on a manor.

**BURGAGE:** A freehold property in a town.

**BURGESS:** An inhabitant of a borough possessing full municipal rights; a citizen.

**CANON:** A clergyman living with others within the precincts of a cathedral.

**CARTULARY:** A manuscript book of copies of charters kept for a religious institution or a landed family.

**CARUCATE:** Originally as much land as a team of eight oxen could plough in one season, generally reckoned at 120 acres; *see* PLOUGH.

**CHANTRY:** An endowment whose income was used for the singing of masses for the souls of the dead named by the donor..

**CHAPEL:** A place of worship subordinate to the parish church.

**CHATTELS:** Any movable possession, in effect anything other than real property.

**COMMON PASTURE:** The use of grazing land by the beasts of a number of owners within a community.

**DEMESNE:** The land held by a feudal or manorial lord for his own use.

***DIEM CLAUSIT EXTREMUM:*** A writ ordering an inquiry into the lands held by a deceased tenant-in-chief on information that he “has closed his last day.”

**DISSEISIN:** The dispossession of land.

**DOWER:** The portion of a deceased husband’s estate which the law allowed to his widow during her lifetime.

**ESCHEAT:** The reversion of a tenement to a feudal lord or the crown for treason, felony, or in default of heirs.

**ESTREATS:** The copies of a record, particularly amercements, which created crown debts to be collected by the Exchequer.

**EXCHEQUER:** The office charged with the receipt and custody of money owed to the crown.

**EXTENT:** The formal valuation of lands or goods.

**EYRE.** The king's judges who had roving commissions to hear cases.

**FARM:** To hold a property or an office for a term at a fixed payment. Anything collected over the sum paid was the farmer's profit.

**FEE:** A tenement held by feudal service by a vassal from his lord; a fief.

**FURLONG:** An eighth part of an English mile (220 yards); the length of a furrow in a common field.

**GAOL-DELIVERY.** *See* JAIL-DELIVERY.

**GELD:** A tax paid by Saxon landholders to the crown and retained by the Normans after the Conquest.

**GLEBE:** The land assigned to a clergyman for his use and as a part of his benefice.

**HALMOTE:** A manorial court.

**HERIOT:** The rendering of the best live beast or chattel of a tenant due by custom to his lord on a tenant's death.

**HOMAGE:** A ceremonial acknowledgement by a feudal tenant in return for his land that he is the lord's man.

**HONOUR:** A seignory of several manors held by or under one lord.

**HUNDRED:** A district forming a part of the county originally large enough to support a hundred families.

***INQUISITIONES POST MORTEM:*** The inquiries made by the crown on the death of a tenant-in-chief as to the sums due before the heir could enter on his inheritance.

***INSPEXIMUS:*** Literally "we have inspected." A certification that an earlier

document has been read and accepted as correct.

**JAIL-DELIVERY (GAOL-DELIVERY).** The trial of prisoners held on criminal charges.

**KNIGHT'S FEE:** The amount of land capable of supporting a mounted knight and his retinue. Usually given as two carucates or 240 acres.

**KNIGHTS TEMPLAR:** A military and religious order founded about 1118 for the protection of the Holy Sepulchre and the Christian pilgrims visiting the Holy Land.

**LAY SUBSIDY.** A tax on laymen; there were also clerical subsidies on ecclesiastical preferments.

**LEGATE:** An ecclesiastic sent out to represent the Pope; head of a legation.

**MAINPERNORS:** The sureties for the appearance of a prisoner at court.

**MANOR:** A district over which a lord held authority and subject to the jurisdiction of his court, composed of lands divided among his peasants in return for rent of some kind or reserved for the lord's own use.

**MARITAGIUM:** A marriage portion; dowry.

**MARK:** 2/3 of a pound sterling (13sh 4d).

**MESSUAGE:** A dwelling with its outbuildings and adjacent lands.

**MICHAELMAS:** The feast of St. Michael on 29 September; an English quarter or term day.

**NOVEL DISSEISIN:** The recent dispossession of lands as grounds for an assize.

**OCTAVE:** The eighth day after a feast or festival.

**ORATORY:** A small chapel or a room for private family worship.

**OYER AND TERMINER:** A commission of justices to "hear and determine" specific felonies and misdemeanors, or all that were committed in a particular district.

**PEACE, COMMISSION OF:** The appointment of a panel of justices to hold

sessions for the keeping of the peace in a specified county.

**PIPE ROLL:** The great roll of the Exchequer for a financial year.

**PLEA:** An action at law.

**PLOUGH:** The area capable of being tilled by one team of eight oxen in a year; *see* CARUCATE.

**PRESENTATION:** The nomination of a clergyman to be instituted at a church.

**PRIORY:** A monastery or nunnery governed by a prior or prioress, usually the offshoot of an abbey on which it is dependent.

**SCUTAGE:** A money payment in commutation of personal military service due from a tenant-in-chief.

**SEISIN:** The possession or occupation of freehold land.

**SERF:** A bondsman on a manor who could not be removed except by manumission, and who was transferred with it when the land passed to another owner.

**SERGEANTRY.** The feudal tenure of land by some service to the crown other than by normal military or knight service; also the land so held.

**SHERIFF:** The principal agent for the crown in the county for administrative and financial purposes.

***SUPERSEDEAS:*** A writ ordering a stay of proceedings.

**TALLAGE:** An arbitrary tax on customary tenants living on the ancient demesne belonging to the crown.

**TENANT-IN-CHIEF:** A feudal tenant holding directly from the crown.

**TERM:** One of the four judicial terms of the year for the sitting of the courts; Hilary, Easter, Michaelmas, and Trinity terms.

**TITHE:** A tenth of the produce and live-stock paid to the church for the maintenance of the parish priest.

**VERDERER:** An officer appointed to protect growing trees, shrubs and

venison in the forest.

**VILL:** A township or local community, frequently co-extensive with the parish.

**VILLEIN:** A bondsman; a peasant subject to a lord and attached to a manor.

**VIRGATE:** An English term for a quarter of an acre (a peasant tenement), but sometimes as a quarter of a carucate or 30 acres.

**WARD:** A minor in the keeping of a guardian; also an obligation to aid in the defense of a castle.

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