

ANTIQUITIES
IN
CAMBRIDGESHIRE, SUFFOLK,
SCOTLAND, AND WALES.

BEING
THE FIFTH VOLUME
OF THE
BIBLIOTHECA TOPOGRAPHICA BRITANNICA.



LONDON:
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MDCCXC.



COLLECTIONS

TOWARDS

THE HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES

OF

ELMESWELL

AND

CAMPSEY ASH,

In the County of SUFFOLK.



LONDON:

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MDCXC.

Concerning the Almes-houfe in ELMSWELL*, given by Sir ROBERT GARDENER, of Pakenham, in the county of Suffolk, knight, Anno Dom. 1614.

A true Copy of the Indenture followeth:

THIS INDENTURE Tripartite, made the first daie of January, in the yeer of the raigne of our most gracious Sovereigne Lord James, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. the twelfth, and of Scotland the eight and fortieth: betweene Sir Robert Gardener, of Pakenham, in the county of Suffolk, knight, of the first partie; and John Hart, Robert Buckle, and John Marsh, of Elmswell, in the said county, yeomen, of the second partie; and Edward Crosse, Richard Russell, and John Raignold, of Wolpett, in the said county, yeomen, of the third partie: witneffeth, That whereas the said Sir Robert Gardener hath, out of his charitable devotion and christian zeale and care, and at his only proper costs and charges, founded, erected, and set up, within the manor and lordship of Elmswell, within the said county of Suffolk, one convenient Almes-houfe, conteyning five severall roomes, houses, or chambers, and sett and placed the same in and upon one parcell or peece of ground near unto the east end of the church or church-yard of Elmswell aforesaid; and hath also assigned, limmited, and appointed to everie of the said five severall roomes, houses, or chambers, a convenient parcell of ground for a garden plott, and a yard to set wood, and for other necessary uses, in all conteyning, by estimation, neare about half an acre of ground; and hath placed in each or every of four of the roomes one poore aged widdow woman: and in the fift, being somewhat greater then the rest, two poore aged women, likewise widdows; which sayd almes-houfe the said Sir Robert Gardener hath seated and placed neare unto the parish church of Elmswell aforesaid, to the intent that the said poore aged women during their naturall lives, and all such as should succeed them, and now or heerafter placed, or to be placed, in the said house, might the better attend the service of Almighty God. And that, and for a remembrance by whom and at whose charges the said house was builded and erected, the said Sir Robert Gardener doth by these presents ordaine, lymit, and appointe, that the same house, roomes, and chambers, by him so builded, with the before remembred severall parcells of ground, by him so assigned to everie of the same, shall be named and called, "Sir Robert Gardener his Almes-hous." And so for ever to be called, and for ever heerafter used, imployed, and continued for an Almes-houfe, for the habitation, dwelling, ease, and use, of sixe poore aged

* Extracted from a book in the possession of Mr. Hodgkin, the present rector of Elmswell, intituled, "An Accompt Booke of the Moneys payd to the poore Women in the Almes-houfe in Elmswell, since the Death of Gardener Webbe, Esq; who payd the poore Widdows in the Alms-houfe duringe his life." But the Feoffees havinge now the trust since in their hands, they thinke it necessarie to have an Accompt ready to answer all objections which may be made against them."

B

women,

1769, June 8. Received, by Mr Edward Smith, of Mr. Baldwin, for two loads and thirteen feet oak timber, felled from the lands in Combs, belonging to the alms-house in Elmswell,	6l. 2s.
Received per Ditto of Mr. Green, for tops and bark,	4 4
	<hr/> 10 6
June 24. Distributed to the six widows, being part of the above ten pounds six shillings,	4 0
J. Hodgkin, Rector of Elmswell.	
Edward Smith.	
William Jackson.	
1770. Sept. 24. Distributed to the six widows the further sum of	3 3
J. Hodgkin.	
Edward Smith.	
1771. March 26. Distributed as above, the remaining sum of	3 3
J. Hodgkin.	
Edward Smith.	<hr/> £.10 6

The names of the six poor widows, inhabitants of the alms-house founded by Sir Robert Gardiner, in the parish of Elmeswell, as taken Sept. 24th, 1770.

Elmeswell.
Sufannah Day.
Elizabeth Smith.
Mary Southgate.

Woolpit.
Mary Gibson.
Ann Crofs.
Sarah Baker.

Successors to the alms-house.

1771. April 1. Ann Major, aged 76 years, succeeded Mary Southgate, deceased, in the alms-house, as a parishioner of Elmeswell.

1772. May 10. Mary Burroughs, aged 69 years, succeeded Sufannah Day, deceased, aged (*ut aiunt*) 105 years, as a parishioner of Elmeswell.

Oct. 10. Mary Goodman, aged 63 years, succeeded Mary Gibson, deceased, from Woolpit.

1774. Apr. 5. Oxer, aged years, succeeded Ann Major, resigned, as parishioner of Elmeswell.

August 29. Susan Baker, aged 67 years, succeeded Ann Crofs, deceased, from Woolpit.

1776. May 1. Markall succeeded Elizabeth Smith, deceased, as a parishioner of Elmeswell.

Oct. 16. Mary Baker, aged 76, succeeded Markall, deceased, as a parishioner of Elmeswell.

1777. Aug. 27. Ann Bailey succeeded Susan Baker, deceased, as a parishioner of Woolpit, æt.

1778. March 17. Mary Kemp, aged 76, succeeded Mary Burroughs, deceased, as a parishioner of Elmeswell.

1779. Candler, succeeded Ann Baily, deceased.

The

The memory of the pious founder of this alms-house is preserved by a monument at the east end of the fourth aisle of Elmestwell church, where he is represented as large as life, reclining his head on his left arm; a book in one hand, his gloves in the other; under him his armour; at his feet his crest, a rhinoceros, which has given birth to a ridiculous story, *that his son* (who is kneeling by him) *was devoured by a wild boar.* The inscription is this:

“ In hope and expectation of a blessed resurrection, here is interred the body of
 “ Sir ROBERT GARDENER, an honourable Knight; who was, in the reign of Queen
 “ Elizabeth, Chief Justice of Ireland eighteen years, and for two years Lord Justice
 “ there: in all which time, such was his integrity in justice, his wisdom and valour
 “ in personal services in the wars against rebellious Tyron, and the Spanish army
 “ besieging Kinfale*, as gained him everlasting love and honour in the kingdome.
 “ And after his returne into England, he was sent by King James into the Isles
 “ of Jernsey and Gernsey; where having settled their estate in peace and good
 “ government, he retired into his native home; and, affecting a more private life,
 “ wholly devoted himself to the good acts of piety, justice, and charitie. He
 “ founded the adjoining alms-house; and gave liberal sums of money to purchase
 “ lands for the relief of the poore in diverse towns for ever.

“ He married three wives: Anne Cordall, Thomaline Barker, and Anne the
 “ widow of John Spring, Esq; son and heir of Sir William Spring, Knt. He had
 “ issue by his first wife WILLIAM, a son of good hope, who died unmarried at the
 “ age of 24 years. His effigies is placed hereby.

“ This noble Knight departed this life Feb. 12, 1619, aged 80 years.

*Solus ille sapiens ac Deo
 carus, qui vivens sedulo
 meditatur opus suum.*

*Qui posteris proffit,
 Et se vixisse testatur.*

Arms, Three griffons heads erased. Crest, a rhinoceros.

PART of an article† for erecting a tomb for Sir Robert Gardener,
 in Elmestwell Church, in Suffolk.

..... and gracefully as it is in the Plotte and beautifull from
 as direction shall be given, with two pedestalls, inlayed
 with tutch on each side of the arche, as the maner is in the Plott, and on the
 top, for strength; and to adorne the worke is to be two pillasters terme wise, of the
 reddest and richest raunte, and is to be fairely well pullished and glassed, with two
 maskes heads on the freeze thereof, as it is in the Plott. And the spandrells of alla-
 baster. And in it is to be two swellinge rounds of tutch, gracefull, and the cor-
 ners thereof tryangle wise, of tutch, as it is in the Tutch Plott, to be well pul-
 lished and glassed, with a cherubim in the medle thereof. And a cornishe moulede
 of allabaster on the same. And on the topp of all, on the cornishe, is to be the
 cheife coate of armes, with mantle, helme, sheild, and creast, with deathes heade on
 the topp of all, with a crowne, signifyng his happye immortalitie. The same

* The rebellious Irish, assisted by the Spaniards, took Kinfale, 1601; but were besieged by Charles Blunt Lord Montjoy, the Lord Deputy, and forced to capitulate, Jan. 2, 1602.

† From an original, penes T. Martin, 1751.